



TO: Paul Conner, Director of Planning and Zoning, South Burlington
Jessica Louisos, Chair, South Burlington Planning Commission
Dana Hanley, Director, Community Development, Essex Town
Dustin Bruso, Chair, Town of Essex Planning Commission
Matt Boulanger, Director of Planning and Zoning, Williston
Jake Mathon, Chair, Williston Planning Commission
Charlie Baker, Executive Director, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
Faith Ingulsrud, Planning Coordinator, VT Department of Housing and Community Development

From: Robin Pierce, Village of Essex Junction, Community Development Director

Date: April 22, 2019

Re: Adoption of the 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan and the Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan

Please find the proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan, the planning commission report, and the Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan at the following link:

<https://www.essexjunction.org/departments/planning/compplan/>

The Village of Essex Junction will hold a public hearing on the proposed plans on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 6 pm at 2 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction.

Please ensure this communication is forwarded to the chairs of your respective Planning Commissions. Submit any communications for the Planning Commission's consideration at the hearing to me by close of business on May 21, 2019.

Thank you.

CC: David Nistico, Chair
John Alden, Vice Chair
Diane Clemens
Andrew Boutin
Amber Thibeault
Steven Shaw

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
2019 update of the Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan
Adoption of the proposed Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4384, 4387 and §4432, notice is hereby given of a public hearing by the Essex Junction Planning Commission to hear comments on proposed amendments to and re-adoption of the Village of Essex Junction's Comprehensive Plan.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4302(c)(7), notice is hereby given of a public hearing by the Essex Junction Planning Commission to hear comments on the proposed Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan.

The public hearing will take place on **Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 6:00 pm** at 2 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction.

Statement of Purpose

2019 Comprehensive Plan

The Village of Essex Junction's Comprehensive Plan is an official public document adopted by the local government to guide decisions about the physical development or redevelopment of the community. The comprehensive plan outlines how the Village wishes to develop in the next eight years. The plan intends to manage growth and represents the community's goals and aspirations for the future and provides justifications for avoiding or preventing certain outcomes and to accommodate what the community expects to happen. Therefore, the Plan is the foundation for additional plans, zoning regulation changes, and a basis for public and private investment need to achieve the goals of the community. The Plan also incorporates the Essex Community Enhanced Energy plan by reference.

The purpose of the 2019 update is to refresh maps and data tables with current information related to demographics, housing, economic development, natural resources, and transportation; and ensure that it references other relevant plans and projects. These include the Design Five Corners study, the draft Town of Essex and Village of Essex Junction Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan, the 2015 Town of Essex and Village of Essex Junction Bicycle Pedestrian Plan, the draft 2019 Parking Study, and Green Mountain Transit's NextGEN Plan. Additionally, the 2019 proposed plan is brought into full compliance with state flood resilience, neighborhood development area designation and forest integrity requirements.

Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan

The proposed Energy Plan is a vision for the Essex Community to advance the State of Vermont's Comprehensive Energy Plan and to align energy planning with local land use policies. This plan will be considered for adoption by Essex Junction during the hearing process for the 2019 Comprehensive Plan and will be incorporated by reference in the 2019 Essex Junction

Comprehensive Plan. This plan was developed according to the Department of Public Service's energy planning standards for municipal plans. When this plan is given a determination of energy compliance from the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission it will have substantial deference in the Public Utility Commission's (PUC) review of whether an energy project meets the orderly development criterion in the Section 248 process. The Energy Plan is consistent with all policies of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan, as discussed in the planning commission report.

Geographic Areas Affected

The proposed 2019 Comprehensive Plan is applicable to all areas within the Village. The proposed Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan is applicable to all areas within the Village.

Sections Affected

The 2019 update is a comprehensive update of all sections of the plan. The update refreshes content to some degree in all chapters, appendices, maps, and references. The energy section is replaced by the proposed energy plan and references it accordingly.

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Chapter 2. Community Vision and Strategies
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Chapter 4. Comprehensive Plan Elements
Chapter 5. Implementation
Appendix A -Historic Sites
Appendix B - Underground Storage Tanks in Essex Junction
Appendix C -Maps
Appendix D-Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan

The full text of the proposed 2019 Comprehensive Plan, the proposed Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan, and the planning commission report is available for review at the Village Office at 2 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or on the Village's website at <https://www.essexjunction.org/departments/planning/compplan/>.

Planning Commission Report

Proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan

This report is submitted in accordance with the provisions of 24 V.S.A. §4384(c):

Consistency Statement

The proposed 2019 Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is fully consistent with the goals established in 24 V.S.A. §4302, as detailed in this report.

2019 Comprehensive Plan

The Village of Essex Junction's Comprehensive Plan is an official public document adopted by the local government to guide decisions about the physical development or redevelopment of the community. The comprehensive plan outlines how the Village wishes to develop in the next eight years. The plan intends to manage growth and represents the community's goals and aspirations for the future and provides justifications for avoiding or preventing certain outcomes and to accommodate what the community expects to happen. Therefore, the plan is the foundation for additional plans, zoning regulation changes, and a basis for public and private investment need to achieve the goals of the community. The proposed Comprehensive Plan is updated and adopted in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 4302 (Chapter 117). The following sections include a checklist and a discussion on how the Comprehensive Plan addresses the goals established in 24 V.S.A. 4382 (Chapter 117).

Essex Community Enhanced Energy Plan

The proposed Energy Plan is a vision for the Essex Community to advance the State of Vermont's Comprehensive Energy Plan and to align energy planning with local land use policies. This plan is incorporated by reference in the proposed 2019 Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan. When this plan is given a determination of energy compliance from the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission it will have substantial deference in the Public Utility Commission's (PUC) review of whether an energy project meets the orderly development criterion in the Section 248 process, further advancing the Village's land use policies. The proposed Enhanced Energy Plan is developed in accordance to the Vermont Department of Public Service's Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans and in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4302(c)(7). As discussed in the following section the proposed Energy Plan is consistent with all policies in the proposed 2019 Comprehensive Plan.

This form addresses the statutory requirements of the State of Vermont for town plans, as cited in the Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning and Development Act, Title 24 V.S.A Chapter 117 (the Act). It includes the 12 required elements found in § 4382 of the Act; the four planning process goals found in § 4302(b), the 14 specific goals found in § 4302(c); and the standard of review found in § 4302(f), which covers consistency with goals and compatibility standards.

| | Required Elements § 4382 | Met | Not Met |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Statement of Objectives, Policies, Programs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Land Use Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Transportation Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Utility and Facility Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Rare Natural Resources/Historic Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Educational Facilities Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Implementation Program | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Development Trends | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | Energy Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Housing Element | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Economic Development Element | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Flood Resiliency Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | State Planning Goals § 4302 | Met | Not Met |
| 1 | Development Pattern | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Economy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Transportation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Natural and Historic Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Quality of Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Energy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Recreation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | Agriculture and Forest Industries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Use of Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Housing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Public Facilities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | Child Care | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | Flood Resiliency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

TOWN PLAN REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Title 24 Chapter 117: Municipal and Regional Planning and Development

24 V.S.A. § 4382. The plan for a municipality

(a) A plan for a municipality may be consistent with the goals established in section 4302 of this title and compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region and with the regional plan and shall include the following:

(1) A statement of objectives, policies and programs of the municipality to guide the future growth and development of land, public services and facilities, and to protect the environment.

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goals (a) and (1).

Met

Pages: Chapter 1 Section 5, Chapter 2, and the goals and objectives of each section in Chapter 4

(2) A land use plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective land uses, that indicates those areas proposed for forests, recreation, agriculture (using the agricultural lands identification process established in 6 V.S.A. § 8), residence, commerce, industry, public and semi-public uses and open spaces, areas reserved reserved for flood plain, and areas identified by the State, the regional planning commission, or the municipality that require special consideration for aquifer protection; for wetland protection, for the maintenance of forest blocks, wildlife habitat, and habitat connectors; or for other conservation purposes; sets forth the present and prospective location, amount, intensity and character of such land uses and the appropriate timing or sequence of land development activities in relation to the provision of necessary community facilities and service; identifies those areas, if any, proposed for designation under chapter 76A of this title, together with, for each area proposed for designation, an explanation of how the designation would further the plan's goals and the goals of § 4302 of this title, and how the area meets the requirements for the type of designation to be sought; and indicates those areas that are important as forest blocks and habitat connectors and plans for land development in those areas to minimize forest fragmentation and promote the health, viability, and ecological function of forests.

Met

Pages: Chapter 4 Sections 2,4-6,8,11

MAPS 1,9,10,11

Hazard Areas

Present Land Use Plan

✓

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (2).

(3) A transportation plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective transportation and circulation facilities showing existing and proposed highways and streets by type and character of improvement, and where pertinent, parking facilities, transit routes, terminals, bicycle paths and trails, scenic roads, airports, railroads and port facilities, and other similar facilities or uses, with indications of priority of need;

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (3).

Met

Pages: Chapter 4 Section 10

MAP 4,6

Transportation ☒

(4) A utility and facility plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective community facilities and public utilities showing existing and proposed educational, recreational and other public sites, buildings and facilities, including hospitals, libraries, power generating plants and transmission lines, water supply, sewage disposal, refuse disposal, storm drainage and other similar facilities and activities, and recommendations to meet future needs for community facilities and services, with indications of priority of need, costs and method of financing;

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (4).

Met

Pages: Chapter 4 Sections 1,4,7,8

MAP5,7,8

(5) A statement of policies on the preservation of rare and irreplaceable natural areas, scenic and historic features and resources;

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (5).

Met

Pages: Chapter 4 Sections 4 and 5

(6) An educational facilities plan consisting of a map and statement of present and projected uses and the local public school system;

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (6).

Met

Pages:

Chapter 4, Section 7

MAP

Educational Facility ☒

(7) A recommended program for the implementation of the objectives of the development plan;

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (7).

Met

Pages: Chapter 5,
Implementation Schedule

(8) A statement indicating how the plan relates to development trends and plans of adjacent municipalities, areas and the region developed under this title;

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (8).

Met

Pages: Chapter 1 Section 5,
Chapter 3 Section 3-4, Chapter
4 9,11

(9) An energy plan, including an analysis of energy resources, needs, scarcities, costs and problems within the municipality, a statement of policy on the conservation of energy, including programs, such as thermal integrity standards for buildings, to implement that policy, a statement of policy on the development of renewable energy resources, a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy;

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan, incorporated by reference, is consistent with the goal (9).

Met

Pages: Essex Community
Enhanced Energy Plan

(10) A housing element that shall include a recommended program for addressing low and moderate income persons' housing needs as identified by the regional planning commission pursuant to subdivision 4348a(a)(9) of this title. The program should account for permitted accessory dwelling units, as defined in subdivision 4412(1)(E) of this title, which provide affordable housing.

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (10).

Met

Pages: Chapter 4, Section 9

(11) An economic development element that describes present economic conditions and the location, type, and scale of desired economic development, and identifies policies, projects, and programs necessary to foster economic growth.

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (11).

Met

Pages: Chapter 4, Section 3

(12)(A) A flood resilience plan that:

(i) identifies flood hazard and fluvial erosion hazard areas, based on river corridor maps provided by the Secretary of Natural Resources pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1428(a) or maps recommended by the Secretary, and designates those areas to be protected, including floodplains, river corridors, land adjacent to streams, wetlands, and upland forests, to reduce the risk of flood damage to infrastructure and improved property; and

(ii) recommends policies and strategies to protect the areas identified and designated under subdivision (12)(A)(i) of this subsection and to mitigate risks to public safety, critical infrastructure, historic structures, and municipal investments.

(B) A flood resilience plan may reference an existing local hazard mitigation plan approved under 44 C.F.R. § 201.6.

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the goal (12).

Met

Pages: Chapter 4 Section 6

§4382(c) Data:

Where appropriate, and to further the purposes of subsection 4302(b) of this title, a municipal plan shall be based upon inventories, studies, and analyses of current trends and shall consider the probable social and economic consequences of the proposed plan. Such studies may consider or contain, but not be limited to:

- (1) population characteristics and distribution, including income and employment;**
- (2) the existing and projected housing needs by amount, type, and location for all economic groups within the municipality and the region;**
- (3) existing and estimated patterns and rates of growth in the various land use classifications, and desired patterns and rates of growth in terms of the community's ability to finance and provide public facilities and services.**

Comments:

The proposed 2019 Village of Essex Junction Comprehensive Plan is consistent with goals 1-3.

Met

Pages: Chapter 3, Chapter 4
Section 9,11

GOALS AND STANDARDS OF REVIEW

GOALS

24 VSA § 4302

(a) General purposes . . .

(b) It is also the intent of the legislature that municipalities, regional planning commissions and state agencies shall engage in a continuing planning process that will further the following goals:

(1) To establish a coordinated, comprehensive planning process and policy framework to guide decisions by municipalities, regional planning commissions, and state agencies.

(2) To encourage citizen participation at all levels of the planning process, and to assure that decisions shall be made at the most local level possible commensurate with their impact.

(3) To consider the use of resources and the consequences of growth and development for the region and the state, as well as the community in which it takes place.

(4) To encourage and assist municipalities to work creatively together to develop and implement plans.

(c) In addition, this chapter shall be used to further the following specific goals:

Goal 1:

To plan development so as to maintain the historic settlement pattern of compact village and urban centers separated by rural countryside.

(A) Intensive residential development should be encouraged primarily in areas related to community centers, and strip development along highways should be discouraged.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4,
Section 11

(B) Economic growth should be encouraged in locally designated growth areas, or employed to revitalize existing village and urban centers, or both.

(C) Public investments, including construction or expansion of infrastructure, should reinforce the general character and planned growth patterns of the area.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The proposed Plan includes a discussion of the village center designation and the neighborhood development area. The village center is an area where economic growth is encouraged through zoning and other mechanisms such as the economic development component of the village budget intended to encourage private investment in the Village through outreach and education. Additionally, the implementation of the Design Five Corners study continues to bring vibrancy and economic growth to the Village as the area is more walkable and becomes a destination. The Village also has invested and upgraded their waste water facility and continues to invest in capital projects like sidewalk and streetscaping.

Goal 2:

To provide a strong and diverse economy that provides satisfying and rewarding job opportunities and that maintains high environmental standards, and to expand economic opportunities in areas with high unemployment or low per capita incomes.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The Village supports and encourages a favorable business environment. The Plan includes an economic development section which discusses the need to diversify Innovation Park to attract employers from multiple business sectors. The Village is engaged with existing businesses (Global Foundries and the Champlain Valley Expo) to maintain Essex Junction as a strong employment center for the region. The Village is also home to Excelerate Essex and incubator space for hi-tech startups. The Village Plan identifies its commitment to educate business on transit opportunities, recycling/composting, and energy efficiency programs to ensure that the businesses have the tools they need to be stewards of the environment.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4,
Section 3

Goal 3:

To broaden access to educational and vocational training opportunities sufficient to ensure the full realization of the abilities of all Vermonters.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The Village is fortunate to be home to the Center for Technology (CTE). An example of the Village's partnership with CTE is work the Village is doing with CTE to develop a nursery to raise street trees for the Village.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter
4 Section 7

Goal 4:

To provide for safe, convenient, economic and energy efficient transportation systems that respect the integrity of the natural environment, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians and bicyclers.

(A) Highways, air, rail and other means of transportation should be mutually supportive, balanced and integrated.

Consistent

Pages:

Chapter 4, Section
10

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The proposed Comprehensive Plan transportation section demonstrates the Village's commitment to a coordinated planning effort that is multi-modal and is respectful of natural resources. The Village's transportation network includes bicycle lanes, bus transit, rail, sidewalks, and plans to improve Five Corners. The Village is continuing to collaborate with regional agencies, consultants, and local committees to ensure that the residents, visitors, and employees have their travel needs met in safe, economic, convenient, and energy efficient way. The Five Corners Study, the parking study, and 2015 Bicycle Pedestrian Plan, and GMT's NextGEN plan are all exemplary efforts of the Village's process to further this goal. Goals related to transportation in the Energy Plan support the Town Plan's efforts in this regard.

Goal 5:

To identify, protect and preserve important natural and historic features of the Vermont landscape including:

(A) significant natural and fragile areas;

(B) outstanding water resources, including lakes, rivers, aquifers, shorelands and wetlands;

(C) significant scenic roads, waterways and views;

(D) important historic structures, sites, or districts, archaeological sites and archaeologically sensitive areas

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 3 Section
1-2, Chapter 4, Section 4-6

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The natural resources section discusses areas in the Village that are important for wildlife habitat/connectivity, wetlands, and scenic views. Moreover, the plan discusses the vital role of surface water and watershed planning to maintain and improve water quality. The two waterways passing through the Village, Indian Brook and Sunderland Brook, serve as habitat for fish and wildlife, as natural flood control features, and as an attractive scenic feature. The plan outlines numerous objectives for

continuing to protect important natural features. Chapter 3 includes an inventory of historic sites that exist within the Village. Goals related to constraints on renewable energy facilities in the Energy Plan support the Town Plan's efforts in this regard.

Goal 6:

To maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife, forests and other land resources.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The natural resources section explains air quality in terms of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and through a discussion on climate change. Many of the multi-modal transportation improvements and compact development actions in the Village will maintain and improve air quality. Water, wildlife, and forests are also discussed in the natural resources section and numerous goals stating the importance of preserved these resources are indicated. Given the urban nature of the Village, the Village is proactive in their land development code with the enforcement of stormwater treatment to protect water quality. Goals related to constraints on renewable energy facilities in the Energy Plan support the Town Plan's efforts in this regard.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4, Section 5-6

Goal 7:

To encourage the efficient use of energy and the development of renewable energy resources.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The Village developed an enhanced energy plan which discusses the foundation for advancing the State's energy goals of development more renewable energy, using less energy, and reducing fossil fuels/carbon emissions. The energy plan identifies numerous opportunities for implementation and maps potential areas for solar generation.

Consistent

Pages:

Chapter 4, Section 1, Essex
Community Enhanced Energy

Goal 8:

To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for Vermont residents and visitors.

(A) Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities.

(B) Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4,
Section 4

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The plan discusses the facilities and programs of the Essex Junction Parks and Recreation Department.

Goal 9:

To encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest industries.

(A) Strategies to protect long-term viability of agricultural and forestlands should be encouraged and should include maintaining low overall density.

(B) The manufacture and marketing of value added agricultural and forest products should be encouraged.

(C) The use of locally-grown food products should be encouraged.

(D) Sound forest and agricultural management practices should be encouraged.

(E) Public investment should be planned so as to minimize development pressure on agricultural and forest land.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: Agriculture is discussed in the agriculture and community forestry section. Agriculture is a part of the Village evidenced by the Whitcomb Farm and the community gardens. The Whitcomb Farm provides many valuable resources to the Village, including productive agricultural land and has been protected from development in perpetuity. The Whitcomb Farm also promotes agriculture education, open space, recreation and wildlife habitat. Although the Essex Junction farmer's market ended, the Village will work to reestablish it to market agricultural products and to encourage the use of locally grown food. The natural resources section calls for promotion of vegetative landscaping and protection of forests.

Consistent

Pages:

Chapter 4, Section 2, 5

Goal 10:

To provide for the wise and efficient use of Vermont's natural resources and to facilitate the appropriate extraction of earth resources and the proper restoration and preservation of the aesthetic qualities of the area.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4,
Section 5

If the goal is not relevant or attainable, how does the plan address why:
There are no sand and gravel operations or resources in the Village.

Goal 11:

To ensure the availability of safe and affordable housing for all Vermonters.

(A) Housing should be encouraged to meet the needs of a diversity of social and income groups in each Vermont community, particularly for those citizens of low and moderate income.

(B) New and rehabilitated housing should be safe, sanitary, located conveniently to employment and commercial centers, and coordinated with the provision of necessary public facilities and utilities.

(C) Sites for multi-family and manufactured housing should readily available in locations similar to those generally used for single-family conventional dwellings.

(D) Accessory apartments within or attached to single family residences which provide affordable housing in close proximity to cost-effective care and supervision for relatives or disabled or elderly persons should be allowed.

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The housing sections summarizes the findings of the Town of Essex and Essex Junction Housing Needs Assessment which describes the need for housing for all income types. Additionally, the Village has and will continue to see multi-family development as allowed by zoning to meet the needs of an aging population, smaller families, and young professionals. The Village identifies strategies for increasing the safety of housing code. A variety of housing types is allowed where residential uses are permitted in the Village. Goals related to efficiency of housing in the Energy Plan support the Town Plan's efforts in this regard.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4,
Section 9

Goal 12:

To plan for, finance and provide an efficient system of public facilities and services to meet future needs.

(A) Public facilities and services should include fire and police protection, emergency medical services, schools, water supply and sewage and solid waste disposal.

(B) The rate of growth should not exceed the ability of the community and the area to provide facilities and services.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4, Section 8

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The utilities/facilities section identifies and discusses the means for providing current and future residents water, stormwater management, wastewater treatment, energy, waste disposal, telecommunications, library, fire, police, and rescue services. The Village accomplishes this through village services and with private providers.

Goal 13:

To ensure the availability of safe and affordable child care and to integrate child care issues into the planning process, including child care financing, infrastructure, business assistance for child care providers, and child care work force development.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4,
Section 7

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal: The childcare and education section discusses current capacity for child care and allows childcare facilities and home daycares in all zoning districts that permit schools and homes.

Goal 14:

To encourage flood resilient communities.

(A) New development in identified flood hazard, fluvial erosion, and river corridor protection areas should be avoided. If new development is to be built in such areas, it should not exacerbate flooding and fluvial erosion.

(B) The protection and restoration of floodplains and upland forested areas that attenuate and moderate flooding and fluvial erosion should be encouraged.

(C) Flood emergency preparedness and response planning should be encouraged.

Consistent

Pages: Chapter 4,
Section 6

How has the Town Plan addressed this goal:

The natural hazards resiliency section identifies flood hazards, the river corridor, and incorporates by reference the All Hazards Mitigation Plan. The sections also provide the foundation for the Village to consider strategies for mitigating property and infrastructure damage from floods and erosion hazards, as well as strategies to minimize flooding and erosion.

STANDARD OF REVIEW

24 V.S.A. § 4302(f)

(1) As used in this chapter, "consistent with the goals" requires substantial progress toward attainment of the goals established in this section, unless the planning body determines that a particular goal is not relevant or attainable. If such a determination is made, the planning body shall identify the goal in the plan and describe the situation, explain why the goal is not relevant or attainable, and indicate what measures should be taken to mitigate any adverse effects of not making substantial progress toward that goal. The determination of relevance or attainability shall be subject to review as part of a consistency determination under this chapter.

(2) As used in this chapter, for one plan to be "compatible with" another, the plan in question, as implemented, will not significantly reduce the desired effect of the implementation of the other plan. If a plan, as implemented, will significantly reduce the desired effect of the other plan, the plan may be considered compatible if it includes the following:

(A) a statement that identifies the ways that it will significantly reduce the desired effect of the other plan;

(B) an explanation of why any incompatible portion of the plan in question is essential to the desired effect of the plan as a whole;

(C) an explanation of why, with respect to any incompatible portion of the plan in question, there is no reasonable alternative way to achieve the desired effect of the plan, and

(D) an explanation of how any incompatible portion of the plan in question has been structured to mitigate its detrimental effects on the implementation of the other plan.

Details of CCRPC's review process can be found in "Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes, Approval of Municipal Plans and Granting Determinations of Energy Compliance," as amended on September 19, 2018.