

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Accomplishments

March, 2016

THE DOWNTOWN

Objectives	Activities/Accomplishments
1. Promote and enhance Downtown amenities and social character	Downtown Advocate hired October, 2014
1.2 Enhance the number and quality of permanent Downtown outdoor gathering/ sitting areas.	1. Working on improvements to VFW park to improve attractiveness and utility. 2. Improved Juniper Plaza on Warburton Avenue with planters and tree; benches refurbished by adjoining restaurant owner.
2. Create an inviting dining and shopping destination to attract the Village's residents and visitors to the Downtown.	
2.2 Expand and diversify the selection of retail stores and restaurants.	More new restaurants, retail stores, and services have opened since Oct. 2013.
2.3 Retain and strengthen calendar of events.	Traditional events have continued including the annual Take me to the River Music Festival and Friday Night Live. A number of new events have been developed by the Parks & Recreation Department including "Friday Night Dead." "Destination Hastings - Downtown Crawl" Dec. 2014, May 2015, Dec. 2016
2.7 Support and promote efforts to encourage tourism in the Rivertowns.	1. The Rivertowns Tourism Board has been active in promoting the Village throughout 2013. 2. Farmers Market and Flea Market bring people to the Village. 3. "Destination Hastings" 4. Hastings was major venue for RiverArts Music Tour June 6, 2015
3. Protect and enhance the Downtown's historic scale and character.	
3.1 Promote compatibility in scale, density, design, and orientation between new and existing development.	The <i>Design Guidelines for the Central Commercial District</i> promote compatibility in scale, density, design, and orientation between new and existing development.
3.2 Adopt design guidelines, with appropriate Village enforcement, to supplement and be consistent with zoning standards.	<i>Design Guidelines for the Central Commercial District</i> were adopted by the Board of Trustees at its Feb. 15, 2011 meeting upon the recommendation of the Architectural Review Board.
3.4 Provide a consistent palette of lighting, signage, landscaping and sidewalks throughout the Downtown's public domains.	<i>Design Guidelines for the Central Commercial District</i> provide a consistent palette of lighting, signage, landscaping and sidewalks.
4. Improve, where possible, possibilities for parking.	
5. Improve and enhance connections between the downtown and the rest of the Village.	
5.1 Improve pedestrian/bicyclist circulation to and throughout downtown.	Board of Trustees adopted Complete Streets policy 10/21/14.
5.4 Protect view sheds of Hudson River and Palisades.	Board of Trustees intervened with Westchester County to provide more transparent fencing on Warburton Avenue bridge.

LARGE TRACTS

Objectives	Activities/Accomplishments
<p>1. Protect and enhance gateways into the Village and the Downtown.</p>	<p>1. Hastings Vine Squad has removed vines at the Farragut Avenue entrance to the Village. 2. "Golden Mile" of daffodils for spring, 2015 – public/private partnership.</p>
<p>1.1 Establish a scenic corridor overlay zone on major roadways through the Village and additional roadways, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Adopted Cluster Zoning Law Jan. 2016 to protect southern gateways.</p>
<p>2. Protect and enhance the environmental quality of the Village through preservation of environmentally sensitive areas.</p>	<p>1. Deer Management Program initiated 2014. 2. Deer Management Program expanded 2015; continues in 2016</p>
<p>2.5 Reevaluate the Tree Preservation Ordinance to ensure it is protecting significant trees.</p>	<p>Tree survey conducted with volunteers and <i>Street Tree Inventory Report</i> drafted and presented to Board of Trustees on October 1, 2013.</p>
<p>3. Preserve and improve the quality of existing parkland.</p>	
<p>3.1 The Village should work to improve existing parks.</p>	<p>1. Dan Rile Trail/park improved by a Village volunteer. 2. Hastings Vine Squad has removed vines at Draper Park and along the Aqueduct. 3. Quarry Improvement Grant. 4. Additional applications for more grants. 5. Upgrade to Reynolds Field playground; example of public/private partnership. 6. Tree replacement at Zinsser Park. 7. Cleanup and discussion begun of future use of Riverview Park. 8. Walkway to Sugar Pond improved by Eagle Scout volunteer.</p>
<p>4. Diversify the tax base.</p>	
<p>4.2 Require fiscal impact analysis.</p>	<p>1. The Planning Board ensured these concerns were taken into account in the plans relating to the proposed development on 9A.</p>
<p>4.3 Encourage fiscally neutral or positive development.</p>	<p>1. The Planning Board ensured these concerns were taken into account in the plans relating to the proposed development on 9A.</p>
<p>5. Provide transparent procedures for project review and approval.</p>	<p>Board of Trustees appointed Land Use Task Force to review and make recommendations for improvements to land use permitting processes.</p>
<p>5.3 Increase communication and coordination among Village Boards and Commissions</p>	<p>Board of Trustees amended View Preservation Law to allow Building Inspector and member from Planning Board and Zoning Board to waive Boards' approval in some cases.</p>
<p>6. Provide community members with adequate information on prospective developments.</p>	
<p>7. Enhance opportunities for public participation in the decision-making process.</p>	
<p>8. Preserve community character by protecting existing open space and public institutions.</p>	

Specific Objectives for the Waterfront:

<p>1. Ensure fiscally responsible development.</p>	
<p>2. Design a plan for the Waterfront that promotes appropriately scaled development that will provide economic support for the Village.</p>	
<p>2.5 Review implementation and management strategies for waterfront redevelopment and take steps necessary to ensure continuing village involvement.</p>	<p>1. Board of Trustees set up Waterfront Infrastructure Development Committee made up of local citizens; final report expected in early 2014. Committee held public meeting to present draft report. Final report submitted to Board for review Apr. 1, 2015. 2. Negotiated updated Consent Decree for waterfront cleanup. 3. Grant received and committee being formed to study waterfront shoreline design.</p>
<p>3. Maximize public enjoyment of the Waterfront.</p>	
<p>3.1 Determine areas for public uses on the Waterfront.</p>	<p>1. The Village undertook a survey of all citizens to gather ideas about what should be featured on the waterfront – there was a very high response rate. 2. Shoreline Advisory Committee appointed Mar. 15, 2016.</p>
<p>4. Ensure environmentally smart development.</p>	
<p>5. Preserve public views of the Hudson river, Palisades and New York City skyline.</p>	
<p>6. Preserve the architectural features in the area.</p>	
<p>7. Investigate improvements to circulation to and through the Waterfront.</p>	
<p>8. Proactively seek out opportunities for the Waterfront that are consistent with the goals and vision of the Plan and the (future) Form-Based Code for the Waterfront.</p>	
<p>9. Ensure that built areas do not create self-contained enclaves that impede public access to the Waterfront.</p>	

CIRCULATION

Objectives	Activities/Accomplishments
<p>1. Encourage the provision and maintenance of sidewalks, stairs and street intersections so pedestrians from all parts of the Village are able to walk safely to the Downtown, the Metro-North station, to schools and between neighborhoods.</p>	<p>1. Board of Trustees adopted Complete Streets policy 10/21/14. 2. Conservation Commission tasked with Complete Streets project. 3. Transportation Working Group appointed Mar. 1, 2016.</p>
<p>1.4 Improve the conditions of stairs throughout the Village.</p>	<p>Eagle Scout project to improve stairs between Hamilton and Prescott Place completed during the summer 2013. Village improved stairs between West Main Street and Southside Avenue.</p>

1.5 Improve pedestrian connections between neighborhoods.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eagle Scout project to improve stairs between Hamilton and Prescott Place completed during the summer 2013. 2. Village policy implemented construction of stairs between Warburton Avenue and Quarry Trail. 3. Planning in progress for Hillside sidewalk Rosedale to Farlane. 4. Approved charge to Transportation and Circulation Committee.
2. Improve roadways and intersections to reduce pedestrian and motorist conflicts.	
3. Provide and maintain Village streets and intersections so motorists can safely drive to the Downtown, the Metro-North station and schools; and safely access Broadway, Warburton and the Saw Mill River Parkway.	
3.1 Implement traffic calming measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorized engineering review of entire road network to better prioritize repair 2. Ran successful pilot contracting program with Pothole Killer truck.
4. Improve bridge connections for cars, bicyclists and pedestrians, particularly to Route 9A along Ravensdale Bridge, as well as Dock Street and Zinsser Bridges to the Waterfront.	
5. Provide and maintain trails so pedestrians can enjoy recreational walks, walk to the Downtown and walk to schools.	
6. Consider providing and maintain bike routes.	
7. Support use of public transportation, including the Bee-Line Bus and Metro-North railroad.	
8. Implement circulation changes in a fashion that permits drivers, pedestrians and bikers to adapt and keeps streets, sidewalks, intersections and trails safe.	

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Objectives	Activities/Accomplishments
1. Be aware of and implement best practices for mitigating and adapting to global climate change.	
2. Reduce energy consumption and the carbon footprint of the Village-owned and managed properties and resources.	
3. Encourage sustainable design and construction in the Village.	1. Conversion to LED street lighting completed throughout non-commercial areas of Village.
3.2 Enact a green building code for new constructions and substantial renovation.	The <i>Green Building Code</i> was adopted by the Board of Trustees October 1, 2013 upon the recommendation of the Conservation Commission.
4. Reduce energy consumption and carbon footprint of Village residents.	1. As member of Sustainable Westchester participated in Solarize campaign and Community Choice Aggregation program.

4.1 Increase amount of waste diverted from landfills.	Board of Trustees adopted Local Law banning plastic checkout bags and Styrofoam containers June 3, 2014.
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SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Objectives	Activities/Accomplishments
1. Minimize storm water runoff.	
1.1 Review existing storm water management planning.	1. Storm water management planning is reviewed each year and the Village produces a comprehensive Stormwater Management Report annually.
1.6 Keep the community well informed on ways to minimize runoff.	1. Annual <i>Stormwater Management Report</i> is presented at a Board of Trustees meeting and is available on the Village Web site. Informational pamphlets are available and distributed at public events.
2. Preserve and protect floodplains and water bodies.	
3. Preserve, protect and restore wetlands.	
2.1 Restrict development within floodplains.	1. Planning Board ensured these concerns were taken into account in the plans relating to the proposed development on 9A.
4. Anticipate more intense storms and higher water levels associated with climate change.	1. The Planning Board ensured these concerns were taken into account in the plans relating to the proposed development on 9A. 2. Local laws including have been adopted and are continually enforced to ensure stormwater management best practices. 3. As part of the Village Capital Plan, catchment basins are being cleaned and repaired.
5. Conserve water.	

QUALITY OF LIFE

Objectives	Activities/Accomplishments
1. Ensure that the Village remains affordable to a wide variety of people.	
1.1 Continue to recognize the need and importance of affordable housing.	1. Affordable set aside was up-graded from 10% to 15%. 2. Three ownership units on Washington Avenue completed. 3. 9A development begun to include 12 units of affordable housing. 4. Building permit issued for two units of new affordable housing at 190 Farragut Avenue.
1.4 Protect existing affordable housing.	Increased income eligibility levels for Senior and Disabled Rent Increase Exemption program (SCRIE & DRIE).
1.5 Ensure that new affordable housing in the Village "complements and enhances" existing Village character.	Proposed 9A development has 12 new units of Affordable Housing that are attractive and similar in design to regular units.
1.6 Look at new models for senior residency.	1. Senior Citizen Advisory Committee investigating "Living in Place" initiatives in cooperation with Andrus on Hudson. 2. Enhanced opportunities for seniors with new Senior Brochure prepared by Senior Citizen Advisory Council.
2. Protect the Village's valuable historic resources.	

<p>3. Continue to explore opportunities for inter-municipal cooperation with neighboring communities and school districts for shared community services.</p>	
<p>3.1 Inter-municipal agreements with neighboring communities should be prepared and executed to make community service delivery more efficient and effective.</p>	<p>1. In October 2012, Village secured grant to undertake assessment of possibility of Inter-municipal agreement on combining DPW services with Dobbs Ferry to increase efficiency and reduce costs. Study completed; no appreciable benefits discerned. 2. Working with Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry and Irvington to pursue grants from the State to promote tourism and marketing. 3. Working with other villages to obtain better/lower contracts for asphalt and paving, air conditioning repairs. 4. Joint Parks and Recreation programming with Dobbs Ferry. 5. Participating in Solarize Westchester and Community Choice Aggregation program.</p>
<p>4. Work cooperatively to ensure that schools and other community services are sufficiently supported.</p>	
<p>4.1 Potential impacts of all types of development on school, library and Community Center capacity should be analyzed, as well as any implications from these impacts on local taxes.</p>	<p>1. In September 2013, Board of Education presented to Board of Trustees proposed plan for improvements to Reynolds Field, tennis courts and playground. 2. The Planning Board analyzed the impacts on community resources of the proposed development on 9A.</p>
<p>5. Recognize the value of volunteerism in the community and encourage residents to take an active role in the future of the Village.</p>	
<p>5.1 Support the efforts of the Village's all-volunteer fire and ambulance services.</p>	<p>1. Approved funding for upgraded protective clothing and communications equipment in the 2013-2014 budget. 2. Funded pumper engine for Protection Company.</p>
<p>5.2 Support and reward community volunteers.</p>	<p>A community event was held to recognize volunteers after Hurricane Sandy.</p>
<p>6. Promote opportunities for public art.</p>	<p>1. Village Arts Commission arranged outdoor sculpture installations, curated art exhibitions in Village Hall, and held several outdoor art events. Arts Commission continues to provide public art. 2. Village coordinated dedication ceremony and art exhibit honoring Jacques Lipchitz in Village Hall. 3. Board of Trustees increased membership of Village Arts Commission enabling expansion of activities.</p>
<p>7. Ease the property tax burden on Village residents.</p>	<p>1. Village kept tax increases under 2% for 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015, built up reserve fund to \$1,472,324, and introduced budget vs. actuals analysis. 2. Board of Trustees established Capital Reserve Fund Dec. 16, 2014 to fund capital improvements</p>
<p>7.1 Lobby State legislators to address the property tax burden.</p>	<p>Board of Trustees lobbied State legislators and the Governor to address the tax burden with letter sent by Mayor.</p>
<p>7.2 Work with neighboring communities to address the property tax burden.</p>	<p>1. Board of Trustees approved Inter-municipal agreement with Dobbs Ferry to study consolidation of public works departments. 2. Board of Trustees approved IMA Jan. 20, 2015 with six other villages for innovative pothole repair.</p>