

Village of Lake Placid / Town of North Elba

Comprehensive Plan

ADOPTED BY THE TOWN OF NORTH ELBA - JULY 8, 2014

ADOPTED BY THE VILLAGE OF LAKE PLACID - AUGUST 4, 2014



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Supporting Organizations

North Elba Town Board: Robi Politi (Supervisor), Derek Doty, Jack Favro, Bob Miller, Jay Rand

Lake Placid Village Board: Craig Randall (Mayor), Zay Curtis, Art Devlin, Peter Holdereid, Jason Leon, Scott Monroe

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North Elba Lake Placid Building and Code Enforcement Office

Community Development Board

Dean Dietrich (Chairperson), Helga Balestrini, Julie Ball, Krissa Beamish, Bill Borzilleri, Jean Brennan, Pat Gallagher, Georgia Jones, Kelly Kennedy, Karen Mergenthaler, Jim Morganson

Participants/Key Informants

Government Structure and Function: Pat Gallagher (chair), Chuck Finley, Charlie Rascoe, David Nicola, Jamie Rogers, Julie Ball, Ted Blazer, Ernie Stretton, Jim McKenna

Economy and Tourism: Karen Mergenthaler (chair), Sue Cameron, Scott Delehant, Dave Genito, Kari Hoffman, Nita Holley, Wayne Johnston, Jim McKenna, Diane Miller, Tim Robinson, Heidi Holdereid, Jim Murphy

Community Facilities and Services: Bill Borzilleri (chair), Heidi Roland, Don Krone, Donna Beal, Andrea St. John Farrell, Mary Dietrich, Tim Maxwell, Jared Steenberge, Greg Dennin, Tony Goodwin, Brad Hathaway, Craig Randall, Art Devlin, Peter Kroha, Butch Martin, Ted Blazer, Shannon Porter, Chandler Ralph, Bill Moore, Brad Jacques, Larry Brockway

Mobility: Krissa Beamish (co-chair), Jean Brennan (co-chair), Josh Wilson, Frank Lascinsky, Kenny Boettger, Meghan Parker

Environment: Georgia Jones(chair), Tim Chick, Connie Cross, Ray Curran, Bob Hanna, John Hopkinson, Betsy Lowe, Mark Wilson, Bill Billerman, Audrey Hyson, Jamie Rogers, Larry Master

Housing: Dean Dietrich (chair), Doug Brownell, Denice Fredericks, Emily Kilburn, Larry Master, Paul Reiss, Peter Roland, Tina Leonard, Jamie Rogers, Jessie Schwartzberg, Eli Schwartzberg

Land Use and Design: Kelly Kennedy (chair), Jennifer Tufano, Ray Cassavaugh, Christian Weber, Dean Dietrich, Elizabeth Clarke



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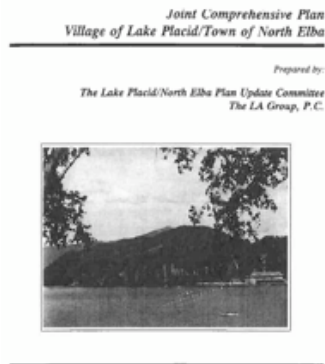
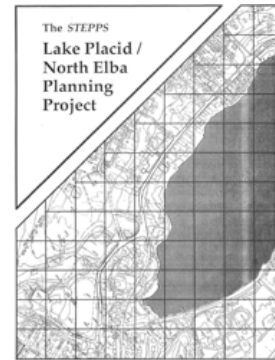
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Introduction

Background

The 1980 Winter Olympics were a watershed moment for the Village of Lake Placid and the Town of North Elba. A new arena, ski jump, bobsled run, and speed skating oval were built, while the skiing facilities at Whiteface Mountain and Van Hoevenberg were expanded. A wave of new residents flooded the community and visitors flocked to see where the "Miracle on Ice" had just occurred. The community also faced an 11 million dollar debt and the question of how to continue using those new facilities.

In the face of these challenges a grass roots community organization began to ask the question, "What do we do now that the Olympics are over?" The group took the name S.T.E.P.S. (Solutions Through Elba-Placid Planning) and created a prototype of a Comprehensive Plan. The immediate challenge was how to maintain economic growth. The STEPPS report called for "shoulder season" activities such as conventions, concerts and special events to create a more solid economic base. It also recommended the expansion of recreational opportunities, preservation of open space, and coordination between the existing government structures and the newly created Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA).



The development of the region continued. Many residents were now concerned that the community was losing its unique character. At the same time the State of New York provided funding and incentives for communities to develop comprehensive plans. In 1995 the Town of North Elba and the Village of Lake Placid took advantage of the opportunity and appointed a joint steering committee to create the first Comprehensive Plan. They also provided funding for a consultant.

The 1997 Comprehensive Plan adopted many of the initiatives of the STEPPS document. The basic philosophy was not to limit the quantity of development but to insure quality development. It suggested changes in the Land Use Code that included architectural review, storm water management, visual overlays, and sign regulations as a way of working toward that goal. It also called for the consolidation of the Village and Town Review Boards and Zoning Boards of Appeal. A new Land Use Code that incorporated these suggestions was adopted in 2000.

Introduction

The 2000 Land Use Code also created a Joint Planning Commission charged with monitoring community development. Eventually that Commission decided to revise the 2000 Code. The goal was to create a document that integrated the old Village and Town regulations a bit more, recognized that the municipal boundaries were blurred, and also addressed a few new issues such as the proliferation of larger homes, lack of income-based housing, and development encroaching upon ridgelines.

The Joint Code Revision Process started in 2006 and the new, revised Land Use Code was adopted in January of 2011. That code eliminated the Joint Planning Commission and created a new Community Development Board. The mission of the Community Development Board is to coordinate and spearhead community development initiatives and also serve as a resource for the Town and Village Boards. In 2011 the Community Development Board decided that their first action would be to write a new Comprehensive Plan.

The existing Comprehensive Plan was completed in 1997. Since then, many of the proposals from that document have been put into practice. One focus of the Revision Project was to identify and re-examine the goals from the 1997 Plan that remain unrealized. These would include parking and vehicular circulation issues along with a chronic shortage of worker housing and a diversification of economic activities available in the area.

The inventory and statistics associated with the 1997 Plan are also somewhat outdated and may not reflect new challenges facing the community. These involve the creation of a new conference center, marketing of the region, the escalation of land values, and recognition of the emerging role of historic and ecological preservation in sustainable economic development. Other new challenges include the expansion of broadband for commercial use, demographic changes, and a rise of vacation rentals.



Introduction

Community Planning Process

The North Elba - Lake Placid Community Development Board, consisting of 10 volunteers appointed jointly by the Village of Lake Placid and the Town of North Elba, initiated a project designed to renew and revise the existing Joint Comprehensive Plan for the Town of North Elba and Lake Placid Village. The initiative was completed in 3 phases spread over approximately 30 months.

During the first phase of the initiative the Community Development Board created volunteer committees that examined development issues, met with key informants, and drafted subcommittee reports. A Public Forum was held in September of 2011 to create an inventory of issues facing the community and to recruit volunteers. This was followed up by an Orientation meeting in February of 2012 that organized those volunteers into 7 subcommittees. Each subcommittee was charged with developing a report on a different area. All reports included a summary of existing conditions along with goals and implementation measures designed to incorporate the vision of the community that emerged from the Public Forum. Approximately 70 individuals were involved either as working members of a subcommittee or as key informants. The Community Development Board acted as a steering committee. The subcommittee reports were completed in the fall of 2012.

The Community Development Board along with the Town of North Elba and the Village of Lake Placid also contracted with Elan Planning, Design & Landscape Architecture, PLLC, of Saratoga Springs. Some funding was supplied through New York State Department of State, Local Waterfront Revitalization Program under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund. Elan was charged with collating and editing the seven subcommittee reports to create one document. They reviewed the subcommittee reports, requested additional information, and developed a rough draft of the Comprehensive Plan. This was presented to the Community Development Board in the spring of 2013.

The Cornell School of Public Affairs was also involved. Three graduate students were assigned to work with the Community Development Board as part of their master's degree program. The students teleconferenced with the Development Board and focused their work upon areas of mutual concern and interest. The students investigated the issues of invasive species, rental permit systems for vacation rentals, and transportation. They also agreed to develop GIS map files that would be useful in future planning initiatives. In order to accomplish these tasks the students visited Lake Placid in January of 2013 and met with key informants. They presented their report to a Public Forum in May of 2013.

Introduction

In 2014 a second group of students worked with the Community Development Board on creating a GIS geo-database. This database included North Elba and APA Zoning Maps along with environmental features such as watersheds, steep slopes, wetlands, vegetation and soil composition. These maps will be posted on the North Elba Building Office website for public access.

Information from these Cornell initiatives will be used in the implementation phase of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Community Development Board reviewed the draft created by Elan Planning, did some further editing, and produced the Public Review Draft of the new Comprehensive Plan. That draft was the focus of a series of Public Informational Hearing held in September of 2013. Input from those hearings was utilized to create a Comment Draft. The Comment Draft was submitted to the Essex County Community Development Office, the Adirondack Park Agency, and the New York State Department of State. The Community development Board reviewed those suggestions and created the final Comprehensive Plan Update Draft.

That Plan Update was presented to the Town and Village Boards in February, 2014 who then scheduled a joint Public Hearing. As a result of those hearings the Boards passed a negative declaration of SEQR and adopted the new Comprehensive Plan by August 4, 2014 .

The Community Development Board will continue to exist. They will become the lead agency for implementing the Plan and also be responsible for proposing amendments as needed.

Resources Referenced

To gain a better understanding of the existing conditions in Lake Placid/North Elba, the project team conducted an inventory and analysis of the existing land use tools, local and regional planning studies. This analysis, combined with input from the Steering Committee, helped to shape the Lake Placid/North Elba Comprehensive Plan in a manner that meets the community's long-term vision and goals.

Existing Resources

As part of the planning process, the following local and regional planning studies were reviewed. All of these reports are available on the Development Board website or in other locations.

- 21st Century Local Government Report
- Aging in Place Action Plan (Adirondack Mercy Care -2010)
- AIG Report: Part 1 and Part 2 (GIS Study- 200
- Common Ground Alliance- ADK Workshop Report (2011)

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- High Peaks Revitalization Strategy (2010)
- Lake Placid/North Elba Community Development Board Memorandum from Cornell Student Consulting Group (2013)
- LGEC Report of the New York State Commissioner
- Local Government Efficiency and Competitions
- North Elba Statistics
- Solutions to Main Street: Conceptual Study
- Traffic Data
- Parking Garage Data
- Parking Garage Image
- STEPPS: Lake Placid/North Elba Planning Project
- Village of Lake Placid/Town of North Elba Shared Services Study

Comprehensive Plan Contents

The next section of the Plan includes chapters prepared by the following volunteer sub-committees:

1. *Government Structure and Function*
2. *Economy and Tourism*
3. *Community Facilities and Services*
4. *Mobility*
5. *Environment and Natural Resources*
6. *Housing*
7. Land Use and Design

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Background

The Government Structure and Function subcommittee began their process by reviewing the Government Structure and Function section of the previous Village of Lake Placid/Town of North Elba Joint Comprehensive Plan adopted in 1996. The subcommittee was encouraged by the



progress made by the local political process in achieving the former plan's goals. The previous subcommittee had a strong focus on "land use" in the Village and Town. The goals "to consolidate the Village and Town Comprehensive Plans and Land Use Codes" and "to restructure and consolidate the planning/zone-related entities" were successfully achieved. These accomplishments have played a major role in shaping the Town and Village's future as a leader in government efficiency and economic sustainability as well as making this town a place so beloved and

appreciated by residents, seasonal residents and visitors from around the world.

The Lake Placid/North Elba community is proud of what our elected officials, municipal employees and residents have already accomplished. The subcommittee's new goals aim to keep Lake Placid and North Elba at the forefront of developing policy that is economically sustainable, environmentally-friendly and geared to enhancing all season mountain and lakes resort town living. The subcommittee believes that by increasing the efficiency at which all levels of government function, the costs of government will decrease and in-turn decrease the costs to individual taxpayers. The subcommittee includes suggestions for sharing services and costs, modernizing positions, and streamlining the budget process.

In the past the Town, Village, and School District employed a grant writer. All of the stakeholders with which the current subcommittee spoke mentioned the void that eliminating this position has left. The stakeholders spoke enthusiastically about the infrastructure upgrades and other community projects that were funded utilizing monies secured by the grant writer. By creating the Community Development position, the subcommittee hopes to again have real time access to the grant cycles that can supplement funding, leverage tax dollars to secure grant monies, and bring additional amenities and services that the community might not be able to offer otherwise. All departments will also have the benefits of a staff member who has planning and mapping skills.

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Vision for Government Structure & Function

The community is committed to efficiency at all levels of government as a cost saving measure. In addition, the community will strive for energy efficiency and increasing the role of alternative, renewable, self-sufficient energy. The subcommittee sees the Lake Placid area as a model for other all-season mountain resort towns around the world. As a leader in smart growth and sustainable living, the community continues to provide an exceptional way of life for future generations.

Goals, Objectives and Implementation Measures

Goal #1: *To improve the operation of all village and town government departments to optimize efficiency.*

Objective 1: Explore the idea of a “Municipal Manager” position to serve as a liaison between departments and Town and Village boards.

Implementation Measures

- Conduct a feasibility study to identify costs and benefits associated with creation of a Municipal Manager position. Consider local examples such as the Village of Saranac Lake.
- Create a multi-department and multi-board member task force to consider implementing recommendations of the feasibility study.

Objective 2: Create a Community Development position.

Implementation Measures

- Seek funding that would allow for a shared position, possibly outsourced, to prepare and administer grants to advance the Comprehensive Plan including Smart Growth principles and Complete Street practices.

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Objective 3: Coordinate 5-year Capital Improvement Plans to better plan for future expenditures.

Implementation Measures:

Continue to prepare 5-year Capital Improvements Plans for both communities.

- Include an Asset Management Plan, which will track depreciation and maintenance costs of equipment in order to keep a replacement cycle / lease purchase plan for town/village property including trucks, police cars, and other equipment.
- Coordinate annually to maximize efficiencies and to reduce duplication of expenditures.

Objective 4: Move toward basing the Town and Village Park maintenance and capital improvements funding on assessed values.

Implementation Measures

- Conduct a Feasibility Study to evaluate a special district created for park maintenance and improvements.

Objective 5: Investigate the possibility of appointing, not electing, the Town Highway Superintendent in an effort to consolidate the Village and Town highway departments.

Implementation Measures

- Review related legislation to determine feasibility.
- Identify key stakeholders to review options.

Objective 6: Consider utilizing County Tax Collector for assessments and collection of all taxes.

Implementation Measures

- Convene meeting between Town Tax Collector and County Tax Collector to determine feasibility.

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Objective 7: Explore the idea of creating a shared “purchasing agent” position to organize joint bids and purchasing in collaboration with other towns, villages, school districts and NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA).

Implementation Measures

- Convene a meeting with elected officials, school districts and ORDA to discuss creation of a shared purchasing agent position.

Objective 8: Enhance Efficiency, Transparency, and Access to Municipal Information/Records.

Implementation Measures

- Increase transparency in government by providing “IT” capability at Village and Town Hall for various applications including web-based (GIS) mapping, live streaming of Village and Town Board meetings, meeting minutes and agenda, local laws, etc.
- Re-design meeting rooms with presentation technology.

Goal #2: Decrease Town/Village energy consumption and make existing usage more efficient.

Objective 1: Decrease Town/Village overall energy usage by 10% by the year 2015; 25% by 2020; 40% by 2025.

Implementation Measures

- Work with Superintendent of Electric Department to research the feasibility of these benchmarks.
- Apply for New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and New York Power Authority (NYPA) grants that will fund educating all town and village entities including ORDA, LPSD, business owners, and first and second homeowners on ways to decrease energy usage by responsible use and by improving building energy efficiency that will in turn decrease town's total consumption.
- Include a simple, easy-to-read educational pamphlet on responsible, efficient energy usage with Village of Lake Placid Electric Company bills on an annual basis.

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

- Increase awareness among elected officials and the public regarding the economic development benefits associated with alternative energy, including entrepreneurial opportunities and high paying skilled job opportunities.
- Require and enforce certain standards of energy efficiency in new construction of commercial and residential buildings.

Objective 2: Explore supplementing Lake Placid Electric Company energy sources with local renewable sources of energy including reopening local dams, solar panels, wind turbines, geothermal energy and biomass furnaces for individual school, municipal and ORDA buildings where appropriate.

Implementation Measures

- Conduct an inventory and review of Adirondack Communities who have successfully implemented cost savings measures. Consider the Town of Chester as an example.
- Partner with North County Regional Development Council and the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) to identify potential renewable energy funding opportunities.

Objective 3: Increase energy efficiency of school district and ORDA facilities.

Implementation Measures

- Continue to conduct energy efficiency audits of school district buildings, ORDA facilities and transportation systems.

Goal #3: *Continue to foster strong and cost-effective relationships among all government entities including the Village, Town, Lake Placid Central School District, surrounding Towns and Villages, Essex County, ORDA, and New York State*

Objective 1: Move toward sharing school administration positions with Saranac Lake Keene, and Tupper Lake whenever possible.

Implementation Measures

- Encourage talks between school districts to continue.
- Encourage School Board to keep in touch with Community Development Board.

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

- Have a Community Development Board member attend regularly attend School Board meetings.

Objective 2: Reduce the costs of government employee health care.

Implementation Measures

- Combine health care benefit bargaining of town, village, school district as well as other municipalities and school districts.
- Develop a health care consortium with other municipalities and school districts.
- Adjust ratios of employer/employee cost sharing by offering wellness programs and annually exploring other plans.

Objective 3: Explore reorganizing law enforcement, fire districts, and the judicial system to increase efficiency and reduce cost as per the Center for Governmental Research study.

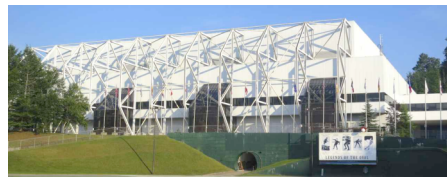
Implementation Measures

- Organize Village Police Department jurisdiction to align with water and sewage district lines. Increased tax base would decrease actual tax totals for all services.
- Consider Lake Placid Police Department becoming branch of Essex County Sheriff's Department.
- Consider the town constable system, which would include Ray Brook and Saranac Lake side of North Elba.
- Investigate the possibility of cost redistribution among Fire Districts.

Objective 4: Create a Community Advisory Committee to partner with ORDA.

Implementation Measures

- Hold quarterly meeting with Supervisor, Mayor, Sports Complex manager, representative from the School District and ORDA management to share information, have open communication, and collaborate on seasonal planning and event details.



GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Objective 5: Collaborate Between Town, Village and County to Obtain Grant Funding

Implementation Measures

- Partner with Essex County Planning Department to obtain grant funding and land use/planning technical assistance.
- To ensure a competitive grant application, seek opportunities for regional cooperation in obtaining grant funding.



Background

The economy of the Lake Placid / North Elba region, and Adirondack Park as a whole, has been dependent upon tourism since the turn of the 20th Century. During the early 1900's the region



marketed itself as a way to escape urban environments and the heat of summer. After the 1932 and 1980 Olympics, the marketing thrust changed and the emphasis was placed on athletic contests and challenging activities. Today, a primary driving force of tourism is outdoor activities in the Adirondack Park. Most of these activities take place during the summer and winter months. To help fill the void during the off-peak tourist seasons, the Town has been successful in drawing visitors to the region through special events and conventions. While this general strategy remains successful there are societal fluctuations that need to be addressed.

First, populations of the nation and the region are aging. As a result these older, more economically secure visitors tend to demand more value for their experience while at the same time the number of talented young people available to live and work in the community and provide that value decreases.

A second major change involves technology. New marketing tools and technologies allow businesses and areas to communicate and cooperate more effectively. This opens the door to regional and area marketing strategies, allows for penetration into new markets, and gives businesses new methods to reach consumers.

Finally, people have a heightened sense of their impact on the environment. Businesses and products are often promoted as "eco-friendly" and "sustainable." Since many visitors come to the region to enjoy the unspoiled environment this trend provides another challenge and opportunity.



43 William H. Chermant's store, c. 1904, Saranac Lake Free Lib.

Vision for Economy and Tourism

Lake Placid / North Elba continue to meet the changing demographics and expectations of today's traveler through enhanced customer services, and the use of new marketing technologies that are provided in an eco-friendly and sustainable way.

The community maintains a thriving economy comprised of small businesses that collaborate and utilize new technologies to provide opportunities for the next generation of entrepreneurs.

Goals, Objectives and Implementation Measures

Goal #1: *Enhance the customer and visitor experience by creating an educated workforce capable of meeting/exceeding our customers' expectations.*

Objective 1: Identify community-wide customer service training resources and needs.

Implementation Measures

- Create a *Tourism Readiness Committee* comprised of key stakeholders to conduct an assessment of existing customer service training.
 - Develop an inventory of public and private customer service training resources.
 - Identify gaps in existing inventory.

Objective 2: Implement recommendations of the Tourism Readiness Committee.

Implementation Measures

- Seek funding to establish a community-wide customer service training program.
- Create a Tourism Readiness Committee that develops and promotes a certification program for successful completion of training. Each business can create and implement a customized training program/package resulting in an enhanced employee resume.

Objective 3: Educate front line, customer service personnel with seasonal training relating to area experiences/activities/offerings, and training on how to access this information.

Implementation Measures

- *Tourism Readiness Committee* facilitates:
 - Bi-annual/seasonal events to inform front line service personnel of upcoming activities and community events.
 - Bi-annual/seasonal events to inform the community at large of upcoming activities and community events. Consider new marketing technologies such as social media.
 - Awareness about where and how to get information community-wide.

Goal #2: Continue to promote Lake Placid and the surrounding area as an eco-friendly residential, business, and tourism destination.

Objective 1: Enhance, promote and increase awareness of the eco-friendly offerings in the area.

Implementation Measures

- Educate businesses, residents and visitors on ways to implement eco-friendly practices and services.
- Acknowledge, promote and reward area businesses implementing green practices.
- Enhance waterfront access and run water-based tourism that coordinate with environmental concerns (See Environment - section 7)

Objective 2: Increase visitor awareness of area events, information and activities.

Implementation Measure

ECONOMY AND TOURISM

- Promote the destination website (<http://www.lakeplacid.com>) through local marketing campaign within Lake Placid area, reminding visitors and residents of where to find event/activity information.
- Utilize social media to promote area events and activities.
- Develop an "Master Plan for Marketing" that creates an integrated, efficient approach that establishes a cohesive message among all parts of the community.

Objective 3: Increase internet connection/access to encompass Lake Placid by 2015.

Implementation Measures

- Assemble a committee to assess the availability and scope of area to be covered.
- Assess costs and affordability involved. Research/seek sponsorships, grants, paid advertising and using Lake Placid as an Olympic destination should be considered.

Goal #3: Grow and sustain our workforce focusing on all ages and abilities.

Objective 1: Encourage the creation of new business start-ups and/or the continuation of existing businesses.

Implementation Measures

- Build ownership of community by encouraging "under 40" age group to participate in community projects, attend town meetings, and participate on committees.
- Involve local education institutions, colleges, workforce boards, Lake Placid Business Association and career training centers to implement, ensure awareness, and encourage entrepreneurial training courses and mentoring programs.
- Partner with local employers to identify specific training needs of potential employees at all levels, and tailor educational offerings to meet those needs.

Goal #4: Help small businesses to develop and grow..

Objective 1: Enhance small business growth through increased connections, cross promotion and marketing.

Implementation Measures

- Establish an *Economic Development Committee* to advance Business to Business (B2B) communications, promotion of local businesses, organize events, and develop resources.
 - Implement a campaign to promote local small businesses - encourage buying locally in support of the community.
 - Develop, plan and execute a business-to-business expo promoting a community-wide awareness benefits.
 - Encourage cross promotion through social media and email blasts.
 - Develop a master directory of local businesses, including contact information, services offered and/or products available. Distribute to every home and business.
 - Promote and market the current availability of technological resources to the businesses and communities of Lake Placid and surrounding areas.
 - Continue to host educational seminars on how to use/increase awareness and availability of new and existing technological resources.
 - Determine product and service needs that can be shared and discounts offered to increase profits by buying in bulk.

ECONOMY AND TOURISM

- Promote benefits of being self-employed, but working outside the home.

Goal #5: Maintain a dynamic downtown business district and adjacent commercial areas.

Objective 1: Increase business and commercial activity along Main Street in the Central Business District (see Appendix 1).

Implementation Measures

- Work with business owners to explore establishing a Business Improvement District (BID).
- Create and maintain the cleanliness of public restrooms and other amenities.

Objective 2: Increase appropriate commercial development to extended business areas outside of Main Street – Saranac Ave, Mill Hill, and Sentinel Road.

Implementation Measures

- Encourage merchants in the various areas to continue to meet and discuss common concerns.
- Consider business and commercial activity that complement the central business district.

Objective 3: Encourage cooperation between commercial businesses located along Main Street and adjacent commercial areas.

Implementation Measures

- Encourage cross-promotion activities and events.



Goal #6: Promote sharing of services and office space to increase efficiency, productivity and success.

Objective 1: Utilize available empty real estate space to unite small business owners, entrepreneurs and/or visitors in need of temporary and/or 'away from home' work space.

Implementation Measures

- Create an Economic Development Committee to assess interest and opportunity to create a 'co-op' office space or utilize existing space for small businesses to share 'like' office needs.
- Identify and pursue underutilized existing sites with usage potential.
- Present opportunity of spending money to save money as a 'win-win' for both the private business owner, and the small business community.



COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Background

The Village of Lake Placid and the Town of North Elba, while perhaps viewed as rather static from an outsider's standpoint, are changing. Trends indicate that the population is aging, transportation needs have increased, affordable housing is becoming less prevalent, and the number of second homes is on the rise. Less visible and more subtle changes include an aging infrastructure, an eroding of basic services and the demand for new and improved technology to meet these changes.

These changes require the Village and Town to constantly reevaluate their approaches and vision directed toward these changes. Thus, the Comprehensive Plan.

In viewing those significant community facilities and services, an effort was made to evaluate past and present goals and objectives, establish their relevancy, describe present and future needs and offer approaches to meeting those needs. This vision helps provide some direction for the leadership of the Village and the Town.



Vision for Community Facilities & Services

By the year 2020, the Village of Lake Placid / Town of North Elba will further develop its Community Facilities and Services for people of all ages and abilities by:

- (a) Developing adequate and affordable utility services to position the community for present and future development in keeping with its regional and community character;
- (b) Providing adequate public safety services to protect residents and visitors;
- (c) Enhancing transportation services for those residing in or visiting the Community;
- (d) Offering intergenerational recreational, cultural, and artistic opportunities;

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- (e) Having an integrated system of health and community services to help people stay well, active, and civically engaged in the community throughout their lifespan;
- (f) Having available at all times a full complement of basic health care services and access to advanced care;
- (g) Offering excellence in its public education system and serving as home to a number of private educational and nonprofit institutions; and,
- (h) Promoting the concept and feasibility of a zero waste community through recycling, composting and reuse of building materials.

Goals, Objectives and Implementation Measures

Goal #1: Continue to ensure the efficient high quality operation and maintenance of the public water and sewer system.

Objective 1: Upgrade distribution systems.

Implementation Measures

- Replace trunk lines under Mill Pond.
- Upgrade the sewer lines under Main Street/Mirror Lake.

Objective 2: Develop a Preventative Maintenance Plan of Water and Sewer System.

Implementation Measures

- Explore funding possibilities for GIS mapping of water/sewer with a record of upgrades and priority projects.
- Continue to develop biodigester capabilities.

Objective 3: Continue to improve diversion and infiltration of storm water.

Implementation Measures

- Establish a system to monitor run off during rainy and melt run off times of the year.
- Main Street and Mirror Lake Drive should receive special attention due to proximity to and effect on Mirror Lake.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- Promote emerging green infrastructure technology to absorb stormwater at the source

Objective 4: Continue to explore alternative uses for wastewater effluent.

Implementation Measures

- Establish an appropriate group to examine how Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA) venues, Horseshow Grounds, North Elba athletic fields, golf courses can make use of wastewater effluent.

Goal #2: Continue steady, cost efficient municipal electric for commercial and residential and anticipate future needs.

Objective 1: Develop Preventative Maintenance Plan of utility lines and components.

Implementation Measures

- Research and secure funding to map utility lines, including record of upgrades and priority projects, using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology.

Goal #3: Continue to improve visual impacts of utility lines and other components.

Objective 1: Require utility lines associated with new construction/development and/or located in sensitive view sheds to be buried as well as screening all electric meters.

Implementation Measures

- Monitor effectiveness of zoning changes that require burying utility lines and screening electric meters.
- Amend building permits to include these requirements.
- Assess present conditions of utility lines and electric meters and urge compliance by property owners.
- Offer partial subsidies to private property owners to offset some of the expenses.
- Explore grant funding for these expenses.
- Investigate use of right of way on Mirror Lake Drive to bury utility lines.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Goal #4: To provide quality and reliable protective services to area residents and visitors while ensuring the safety and security of those providing the services.

Objective 1: Upgrade the Village Police Department facility to accommodate staff and storage needs.

Implementation Measures

- Explore feasibility of consolidating the facilities of Village of Lake Placid Police Department with the Town of North Elba Fire Department.
- Explore options to relocate or expand the Police Department facility within the Village Center.

Objective 2: Support the requirements of the Lake Placid Fire Department in providing necessary services to the village and town.

Implementation Measures

- Compare requirements and services of other similar sized towns and villages in the North Country, especially those with considerable visitor populations.
- Establish a “best case” requirements as an objective and work toward meeting these requirements.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Goal #5: Lake Placid's recreational facilities and sports venues will be of the quality, quantity and design to serve national and international competitions along with athletes in training, residents, and visitors of all ages throughout the year and support a healthy, vigorous lifestyle in the community.

Objective 1: Ensure that the Olympic Facilities and Sports Venues are maintained and continually updated to meet the highest international standards in order to attract year-round training and competitions

Implementation Measures

- Continue to apply for Regional Economic Development Grants for funding to plan and implement the updating of all Olympic Facilities
- Establish a delegation of key stakeholders (local government officials, ORDA executives, OTC management, NYSEF and school officials) to advocate for funding and support from the state and federal governments, corporations, and non-profits

Objective 2: Sustain Lake Placid recreational facilities and services for residents and visitors of all ages.

Implementation Measures

- Coordinate the efforts of local, state and federal entities to fund the upkeep, improvement and promotion of recreational areas and venues.
- Investigate the establishment of a *Recreation Committee* comprised of volunteers to serve in an advisory capacity to the North Elba Park and Playground District Director.
- Continue to support and strengthen partnerships with the parks and service organizations within the Park District for the sponsorship and improvement of neighborhood parks.
- Hire or appoint a Recreation Program Specialist to coordinate programs for people of all ages and develop health and wellness programming.
- Support alternative non-sport recreation opportunities in the community – art, music, continued learning services, etc.
- Enhance waterfront access and water-based recreational opportunities.



Objective 3: Expand use and offerings at ORDA and North Elba town venues to include festivals, concerts, educational, sporting, artistic and other programs that engage large groups of residents and visitors.

Implementation Measures

- Hire or appoint a staff member responsible for soliciting and engaging appropriate individual and group organizations and performers.
- Revive the ORDA Advisory Board.
- Support and market artistic programs, activities and events

Objective 4: Ensure that every neighborhood and lodging facility is accessible (10-20 minute walk) to a trail.

Implementation Measures

- Identify and promote walking routes both into and out of the Village.
- Design an up-to-date mapping system that outlines routes and access points.
- Put into effect and publicize the existing Chub River Trail plan.
- Actively support the development of the railroad recreation path.
- Acquire funding through grants and legislative appropriations.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Objective 5: Continue to offer year-round recreational services to the local youth that support lifelong healthy recreational options.

Implementation Measures

- Maintain and explore alternative recreational opportunities such as a skateboard park, hockey box, etc.
- Develop partnerships with local organizations offering alternative recreation opportunities (i.e. Lake Placid Outing Club, LPCA Arts Camps, LP Fish & Game Club, NYSEF, LP Ski Club, PeeWee Association, the Skating Club).

Goal #6: Develop Lake Placid as a friendly community for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities across the lifespan.

Objective 1: Develop and promote Lake Placid as a place where residents can age in place successfully.

Implementation Measures

- Encourage new housing development projects to incorporate universal design principles. (See Housing - section 8)
- Explore programs to help seniors to stay in their own homes.
- Partner with local non-profits and agencies serving the senior population to enhance services through grants and legislative appropriations.

Objective 2: Integrate youth and senior services where appropriate to create intergenerational engagement opportunities.

Implementation Measures

- Identify opportunities for intergenerational engagement (i.e. coordinate community service requirements of schools and judiciary with community needs).

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Objective 3: Develop a Community Center to accommodate and engage people of all ages and abilities across the lifespan.

Implementation Measures

- Explore the feasibility of using the Mirror Lake Boat House as a Community Center.

Goal #7: To have available at all times a full complement of basic emergency and health care services and access to advanced care.

Objective 1: Provide emergency care, basic health services, rehabilitation services, nursing care beds and assisted living care in Lake Placid.

Implementation Measures

- Support Adirondack Health in providing the highest quality emergency and health care possible in Lake Placid.

Objective 2: Continue the operation of an ambulance service and access to advanced care.

Implementation Measures

- Support the Lake Placid Volunteer Ambulance Service and North Country Life Country Life Flight Services.

Goal #8: Maintain excellence in the public education system and serve as home to private educational and nonprofit institutions.

Objective 1: Increase and enhance offerings for continued learning and job opportunities.

Implementation Measures

- Establish continuing education programs during non-school hours offering short courses/experiences of cultural, career, and lifestyle natures.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Goal #9: Lake Placid will strive to be a zero waste community through recycling, composting and reuse of building materials.

Objective 1: Expand recycling opportunities.

Implementation Measures

- Continue to explore the feasibility and methods of composting all food waste from households and commercial establishments (Anaerobic Biodigestor).
- Explore the feasibility of a NO SORT system for recyclable glass, plastic, paper and metal materials for residential units, community facilities and special events as a community-wide service in selected locations.
- Determine stable markets for paper, glass, plastics, metals, electronics, etc.

Objective 2: Provide a system for reuse or recycling of used and new building materials.

Implementation Measures

- Establish a local warehouse to accept, store and distribute/sell usable building materials to residents as needed.

Objective 3: Educate, mandate and enforce the practice of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Implementation Measures

- Develop a set of guidelines for residential households and commercial properties and public departments.
- Require recycling and waste reduction plans for all large events.
- Require recycling and waste reduction plans for all public buildings, facilities and government departments.

Goal #10: Develop a Master Plan for utilizing and sustaining the Landfill and Transfer Station property to its most optimum potential.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Objective 1: Engage a professional assessment of the overall state of the property and plan for the future waste disposal needs of Lake Placid.

Implementation Measure

- Solicit grant funding to provide for assessment and development of a plan.

Goal #11: Provide healthy options by way of Community Gardens in residential neighborhoods.

Objective 1: Establish community gardens in residential neighborhoods to provide healthy food and lifestyle recreation opportunities for residents.

Implementation Measures

- Identify potential garden locations in residential neighborhoods.
- Explore funding possibilities for GIS mapping of potential locations and establishment of community gardens in residential neighborhoods on village/town lands.
- Develop a local model for sustainable community gardens that combines village land and services with residential needs.

Goal #12: Positively engage local residents.

Objective 1: Advance volunteer efforts in the Lake Placid community.

Implementation Measures

- Create a management plan to incorporate and engage volunteers in the local community.
- Seek to hire a Volunteer Coordinator to increase volunteer and expert services. The Volunteer Coordinator should work closely with the existing Events Coordinator position.
- Work with volunteers to identify potential projects, coordinate logistics, promote and market events to the media.
- Coordinate with existing volunteer organizations including the Rotary Club and the Key Club.
- Establish a program to officially recognize volunteer efforts.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- Continually monitor volunteer efforts for efficiency and effectiveness.

Objective 2: Promote a positive, welcoming community atmosphere

- Create a "Welcome Wagon" program that greets new residents
- Create campaigns that encourages a welcoming and friendly attitude among visitors and residents

