

meeting summary



Town of Pittsford Comprehensive Plan Update

Public Meeting #1 | November 5, 2015 |

Attendees

Approximately 75 people were in attendance. See attached sign-in sheet.

Project Team

Kimberly Baptiste	Project Manager, Bergmann Associates
Sue Hopkins	Planner, Bergmann Associates
Meagan Aaron	Planner, Bergmann Associates

Materials Provided

- Blank sheets of paper for creating a “rich picture”
- Comment sheets

Meeting Overview

Sue Hopkins of Bergmann Associates welcomed attendees to the project’s first public meeting. She outlined the agenda for the meeting and introduced the project team, including Steering Committee members. The meeting agenda included a presentation covering the Comprehensive Plan Update process and key findings from an analysis of existing conditions. The presentation was followed by an interactive visioning exercise. The meeting concluded with announcements about upcoming events and other opportunities for the public to stay involved in the project, such as visiting the project website for regular updates: www.PittsfordPlan.com.



A “Rich Picture” exercise showing the future of the Town of Pittsford

Presentation of the Comprehensive Plan Update

Sue explained that the purpose of the Comprehensive Plan update is to provide direction and guidance for the future of the Town of Pittsford. She also provided a brief overview of existing conditions, including demographic, economic, and land use information.

Interactive Exercise: Rich Picture Exercise

Sue Hopkins facilitated an interactive exercise designed to provide community members with a chance to contribute ideas about the future of the Town. There were twelve small groups of 6-7 community members; each were given a poster-size sheet of blank paper and invited to draw a Rich Picture of what they envision the Town of Pittsford will look like in ten years, using the following questions as a guide: (1) what are the things that make up a good community? (2) how will those things relate to each other? (3) what challenges will be resolved? (4) how will it all look and feel in Pittsford in 10 years?



Participants presenting their vision for the Town of Pittsford with a rich picture

Each group was then given a chance to describe the different elements of their Rich Picture. A few major themes that emerged from almost all groups was walkability, pedestrian/bicycle and safety, and overall connectivity. Many of the groups' Rich Pictures incorporated pedestrian/bicycle amenities and streetscape features, such as sidewalks and bike lanes as part of the future vision for the town. Other themes included the following:

- Managing future growth
- Preserving farm land and views
- Keep improving trails
- Leveraging the Canal (i.e. more canal amenities and connections to existing trails and sidewalks)
- Leveraging the community's good schools
- Preserving the community's historic character

Some groups included challenges to be addressed in the future, including the following;

- Traffic concerns, especially on Monroe Avenue and at key intersections in the Town.
- Parking issues/shortages in the Village
- Lack of affordable housing and a variety of housing types
- More convenient/useful stores in the Village (i.e Grocery Store, Drug Store)
- More programs for seniors

At the conclusion of the workshop, Sue explained that Town staff and the consulting team will incorporate the results of this exercise into a draft vision for the Comprehensive Plan Update. The

team will present the draft to the Steering Committee for discussion and will make modifications based on the Steering Committee's feedback.

Project Updates

Sue invited meeting attendees to visit the Town of Pittsford's Website (www.PittsfordPlan.com). From the website, residents and stakeholders can sign up for the project mailing list and review project materials.

Next Steps

Consultant Team:

- Complete Technical Analyses
- Refine the Vision and Goals
- Ongoing Website Updates
- Prepare a draft Plan

Upcoming Public Engagement Activities:

- Land Use Workshop (February 2016)

Presentation and Visioning Exercise – November 5, 2015

