



Welcome to
TOWN OF BALLSTON
A Farms First Community

Comprehensive Plan Update: Town Board Status Update

January 26, 2021

MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. has been advancing Phase 1, Tasks 1, 2 and 3 as per the current contract authorization. Below is a status update on each of tasks as well as an outline of next steps in the process.

Phase 1, Task 1: Project Coordination

- Town Board Workshop #1 held on July 16, 2020 via Zoom
 - Project overview
 - Public engagement techniques discussion
 - Mini visioning exercise with Town Board
 - Online community survey discussion
- Town Board Update held on September 29, 2020
 - Schedule overview
 - Online community survey discussion
 - Mobile Visioning Workshop discussion
- Town Board Update held on November 10, 2020
 - Highlights of community survey (803 responses)
 - Discussion of project tasks and next steps

Phase 1, Task 2: Public Engagement

- Project website management is ongoing: www.EnvisionBallston.com
- Community survey
 - Opened August 10 – October 9, 2020.
 - 803 online responses received.
- Mobile Visioning Workshops
 - *October 1, 2020, 5:00 – 7:00 pm*, Living Hope Christian Church parking lot at 978 Saratoga Road (Route 50), Ballston Lake
 - *October 3, 2020, 9:00 – 11:00 am*, Anchor Diamond Park parking lot on Middleline Road.





- **Virtual Focus Group Meeting**
 - February 4, 2021 at 6:00 – 8:00 pm
 - Focus on specific topics in virtual break out groups. Groups will be facilitated by MJ.
 - Topics include targeted growth/land conservation; community solar; hamlets
 - Registration available on website at www.EnvisionBallston.com

- **Middle School / High School Student Survey**
 - Online survey to gather input from students about the Town
 - Distributed to middle school and high school social studies classes week of January 25th
 - Survey will be live January 22 - February 5, 2021.
 - Ballston Spa CSD and Burnt Hills – Ballston Lake CSD have confirmed.

- **Ongoing: Residents and stakeholders can continuously provide input here:**
<https://www.envisionballston.com/contact>

Phase 1, Task 3: Comprehensive Plan Report Card Exercise (Town Board and MJ Team)

- Evaluate current comprehensive plan recommendations (status, relevance, etc.)
- Identify areas to target for Comprehensive Plan update

Next Steps

1. **Possible Initiation of Phase 2: Targeted Comprehensive Plan Update – Requires Town Board Authorization**
 - a. Identification Targeted Topic Areas for Update
 - i. Possible targeted topic areas - *To be refined following public visioning input, community survey results and comprehensive plan report card*
 1. Clean Energy (including Commercial Solar Installations)
 2. Targeted Growth (including where growth is desired, scale of development, infrastructure, land preservation discussions)
 3. Housing (type of housing, location)
 4. Hamlets (walkability, growth, each examined individually)
 5. Recreation and Trails (needs, public access, etc.)
 6. Transportation
 7. Other?

 - b. Existing Conditions update of targeted topic areas

 - c. Possible Additional Public Engagement:
 - i. Key Stakeholder Interviews

 - d. Draft Comprehensive Plan Update / Final Comprehensive Plan Update



- e. Adoption Process
 - i. Required Public Hearing (per Town Law 272-a)
 - ii. County Planning Board Referral (GML 239-m)
 - iii. State Environmental Quality Review Act compliance (SEQRA)

2. **Possible Initiation of Phase 3: Zoning Update** – *Requires Town Board Authorization*

- a. Zoning diagnostic can be initiated during comprehensive plan adoption process

Draft Schedule by Phase	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
Phase 1: Visioning & Engagement													
*Phase 2: Comprehensive Plan Update & Engagement													
*Phase 3: Zoning													
*Phase 4: GEIS Update													

**Not Yet Authorized*

Note: Schedule indicates start of GEIS process only