

# TOWN OF HALFMOON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Comprehensive Plan  
Update Committee (CPUC)

Meeting #7

February 15, 2024

Town Hall



# AGENDA



- Welcome
- Project Scope & Schedule Update
- Preliminary Recommendations Discussion
- Proposed Future Land Use Map Draft Discussion
- Upcoming Public Engagement Update
- Next Steps



# SCHEDULE OF MILESTONES



\*CPUC Meetings – Every other month

# PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

## Remaining Committee Meetings (Anticipated)

- **April 18, 2024 - CPUC #8**

- **Purpose:**

- Discuss public feedback
- Refine Future Land Use Map

- **Materials Submitted:**

- Public Meeting summary in advance
- Draft Comprehensive Plan following meeting

- **June 20, 2024 - CPUC #9**

- **Purpose:**

- Draft Comprehensive Plan Review
- Potentially schedule CPUC Public Hearing

- **Materials Submitted:**

- Draft Comprehensive Plan in advance

- **August 15, 2024 - CPUC #10**

- **Purpose:**

- Discuss Refinements to Draft Plan based on Public Input

- **Materials Submitted:**

- Public Hearing highlights in advance

- **September 19, 2024 - CPUC #11**

- **Purpose:**

- Consider forwarding Draft Plan to Town Board

- **Materials Submitted:**

- Revised Draft Plan in advance



# PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS DISCUSSION

**Reminder:**  
Recommendations  
are **action items** that  
help to **implement**  
the goals

- Topic-based aligned with goals
- Developed through initial Committee feedback on the current Comprehensive Plan, survey, public meetings, public comments etc.
- Goals and draft recommendations may overlap and be interrelated



# PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS DISCUSSION

- These recommendations have now been updated through recent public engagement (Public Meeting #3), as well as committee member feedback via email
  - mostly wordsmithing/language refinement
  - some additional recommendations provided



# QUALITY OF LIFE, PLACEMAKING, AND PEOPLE

## GOALS:

**Growth Management:** Create a land use management system that mitigates the adverse impacts of sprawl, addresses concerns of conflicting land uses, responds to community needs, and protects and enhances Halfmoon's resources, unique features and quality of life.

**Town Character:** Preserve and enhance Halfmoon's identity, image, and quality of life in accordance with the vision for the future.

**Civic Duty:** Nurture and support the civic environment so that input from Town residents is considered a customary and integral component of the Town's ongoing planning and implementation process.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Update streetscape on main routes and important thoroughfares.
- Strengthen and promote access and connectivity between public spaces.
- Identify and market a location for a well-connected public space that supports gatherings, cultural performances, and events.
- Update waterway and trail maps and provide residents and visitors with resources promoting the gems of Halfmoon.
- Consider adopting new Zoning Ordinances or Overlay Districts that encourage or incentivize of open space and access to recreation and places of interest through multi-modal access points.



# HISTORY AND CULTURE

## GOAL:

**Cultural Resources:** Recognize, protect, and celebrate Halfmoon's historic and other cultural resources.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Consider undertaking an inventory of historic sites within the Town in partnership with the Historic Society.
- Promote Halfmoon's historic places through preservation and marketing methods such as signage and markers.
- Develop a formal history trail that emphasizes the historic significance of notable locations in Halfmoon.
- Consider guidelines to protect historic structures and character of historic hamlets in the Town.





# RECREATION

## GOAL:

**Recreation:** Provide sufficient, well-located, and fully accessible, active and passive recreational opportunities for all Halfmoon residents.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Continue to maintain and expand opportunities at the Town Park and other Town-owned recreation spaces such as but not limited to a public swimming facility.
- Ensure accessibility to all Town-owned locations that offer recreation space.
- Maintain and promote inclusion and equity efforts in Town sports and recreation programs.
- Update and promote resource-access mapping that assists residents in learning about recreation opportunities in the Town.



# ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

## GOAL:

**Fiscal and Economic Health:** Promote diverse economic development that provides goods and services, employment opportunities, and tax revenues in commercial, office, and industrial districts, compatible with the community character, residential neighborhoods, and vision for the future.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Continue to encourage and support all manners of businesses, small and large, to establish, stay, and expand in Halfmoon.
- Survey existing business owners about challenges and opportunities.
- Emphasize clean light-industrial/21<sup>st</sup> Century Industry and locally-owned businesses as staples of the local economy in appropriate areas.



# INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## GOAL:

**Community Facilities and Services:** Continue to provide and/or support adequate community facilities and services - including fire protection, police protection, emergency services, solid waste collection, education facilities, healthcare services, libraries, services for youths through seniors, and social services - that are responsive to the community's expected level of service and safety and that continue to enhance the quality of life.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Inventory future demands on electricity to help plan for sustainability and resiliency in the future.
- Build partnerships with the Halfmoon-Clifton Park Library to increase access to services and resources.
- Continue to foster a relationship with Town and County Emergency Services during the site development plan review process, building and construction and post-construction processes.
- Construct a Community Center that provides an accessible, common meeting space for community events and meetings.
- Consider incentivizing the undergrounding of private and public utilities lines where appropriate.



# INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES (cont.)



## GOAL:

**Utilities:** Provide a utility infrastructure system that meets the demands of current residents and businesses and that will support future development in carefully planned areas of the Town.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Prepare water infrastructure replacement plan to replace and upgrade outdated water infrastructure to maintain adequate and reliable service.
- Coordinate with Saratoga County to maintain and upgrade wastewater systems as needed.
- Maintain high standards for required development driven infrastructure improvements.
- Support Green Initiatives where possible.



# HOUSING

## GOAL:

**Housing:** Provide a balanced blend of quality housing opportunities, including price ranges that are affordable for all income levels and housing types that consider the needs of older residents, young families (first time homeowners) and those with disabilities. Properly plan for and locate housing based on density and purpose to take full advantage of existing and future community services, alternative transportation opportunities, and recreational facilities.



## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Continue to support new construction and redevelopment of housing town-wide to support growing demand while balancing environmental concerns and growth management efforts.
- Provide optional incentives to builders to provide a mix of housing types (single-family, multi-family, senior, etc.) serving a range of income levels and age groups in areas of Town where infrastructure exists.
- Consider undertaking an affordable housing study of the Town to better understand the community supported types of housing.



# TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

## GOAL:

**Transportation and Mobility:** Provide safe, convenient, and efficient transportation options for people and goods within, through, and around the Town of Halfmoon, which minimize the impact of traffic on the Town's character and quality of life.



## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Establish and/or maintain pedestrian and bicycle (multi-modal) connections between neighborhoods, open spaces, and recreation spaces through sustainable building practices.
- Continue to support vehicular circulation improvements throughout the Town.
- Prepare a study evaluating major intersections within the Town through collaboration with neighboring municipalities, Saratoga County and the New York State Department of Transportation.
- Incorporate public transportation elements specifically within the Town Plan.
- Continue coordination with local/state/and regional transportation such as but not limited to Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) and Capital Regional Transportation Council (CRTC) to promote existing public transportation options.



# AGRICULTURE, OPEN SPACE, AND RESILIENCY

## GOAL:

**Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Open Spaces:** Maintain the viability of existing agricultural operations and preserve important natural and open space resources that contribute to the diversity, character, aesthetics, economy, and general health, safety, and welfare of the community. Resources such as the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers and their watersheds, viable farmland, mineral resources, ravines, woodlots, streams, aquifers, wetlands, floodplains, the escarpment, and viewsheds are recognized for their role in drainage, water supply, agriculture, aesthetics, recreation, and wildlife habitat.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Offer optional incentive programs to encourage new farm enterprises and support active farms through efforts to maintain operations and lower costs.
- Provide optional incentive programs to conserve open space and habitat.
- Protect and maintain viewsheds of the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers and surrounding ranges.
- Complete a Natural Resource Inventory that identifies natural resources and open spaces within the Town.
- Increase awareness surrounding open spaces, trails, preserves, motorized and non-motorized boat access, etc.
- Develop a working relationship with Saratoga PLAN and other regional organizations/groups to promote practical and creative open space/agricultural uses i.e. agritourism etc.
- Review zoning to ensure consistency with regulations that are compatible with agricultural activities under the Agriculture and Markets Law (AML).



# PROPOSED FUTURE LAND USE MAP DRAFT DISCUSSION

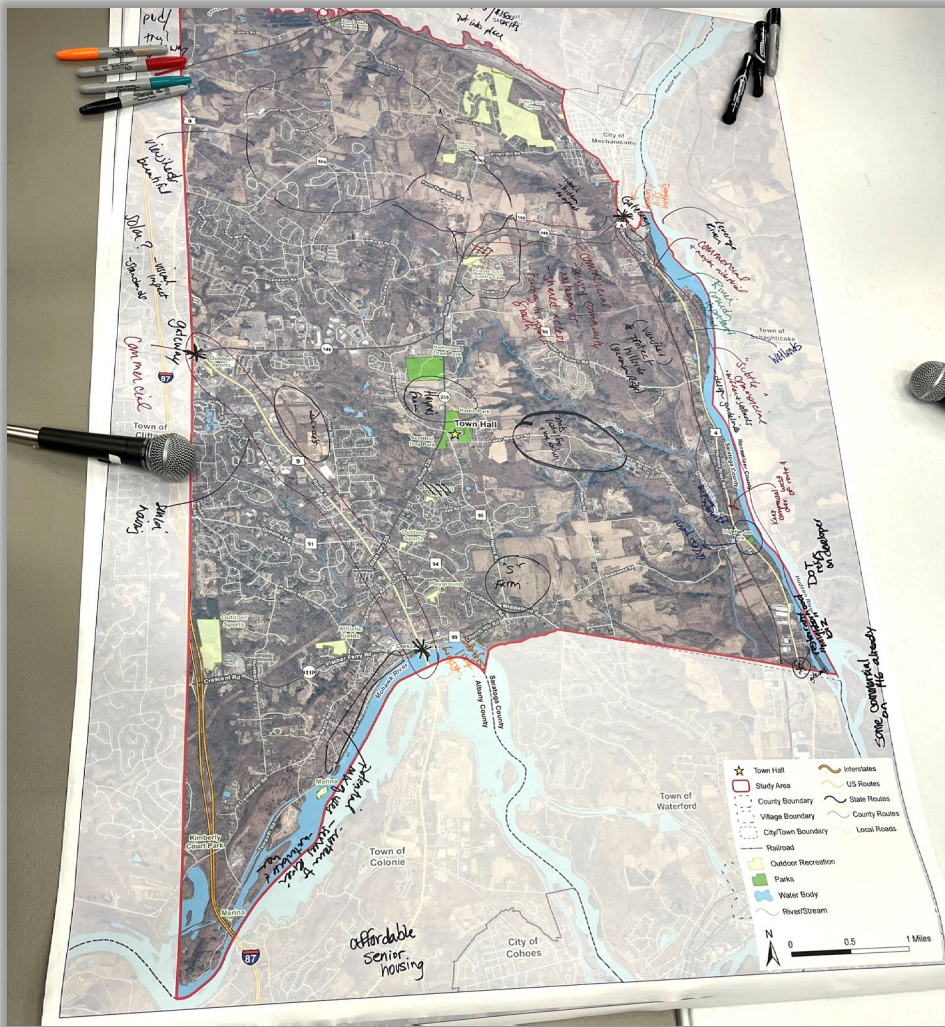
## What is a Future Land Use Map?

- Graphic and written representation of potential future land uses
- Provides framework and direction for future land use regulations and decision making in the community
- Reflects vision for the community in the future





# PROPOSED FUTURE LAND USE MAP DRAFT DISCUSSION



A future land use map is a critical component of the Comprehensive Plan.

- It is not parcel specific but identifies where general types of land uses may occur over the next 10-20 years.
- It helps support the Comprehensive Plan thus supporting future zoning updates but is **NOT zoning**.



# PROPOSED FUTURE LAND USE MAP DRAFT DISCUSSION

Draft map was developed based on:

- Committee draft map exercise at CPUC Meeting #5
- Public feedback during engagement activities

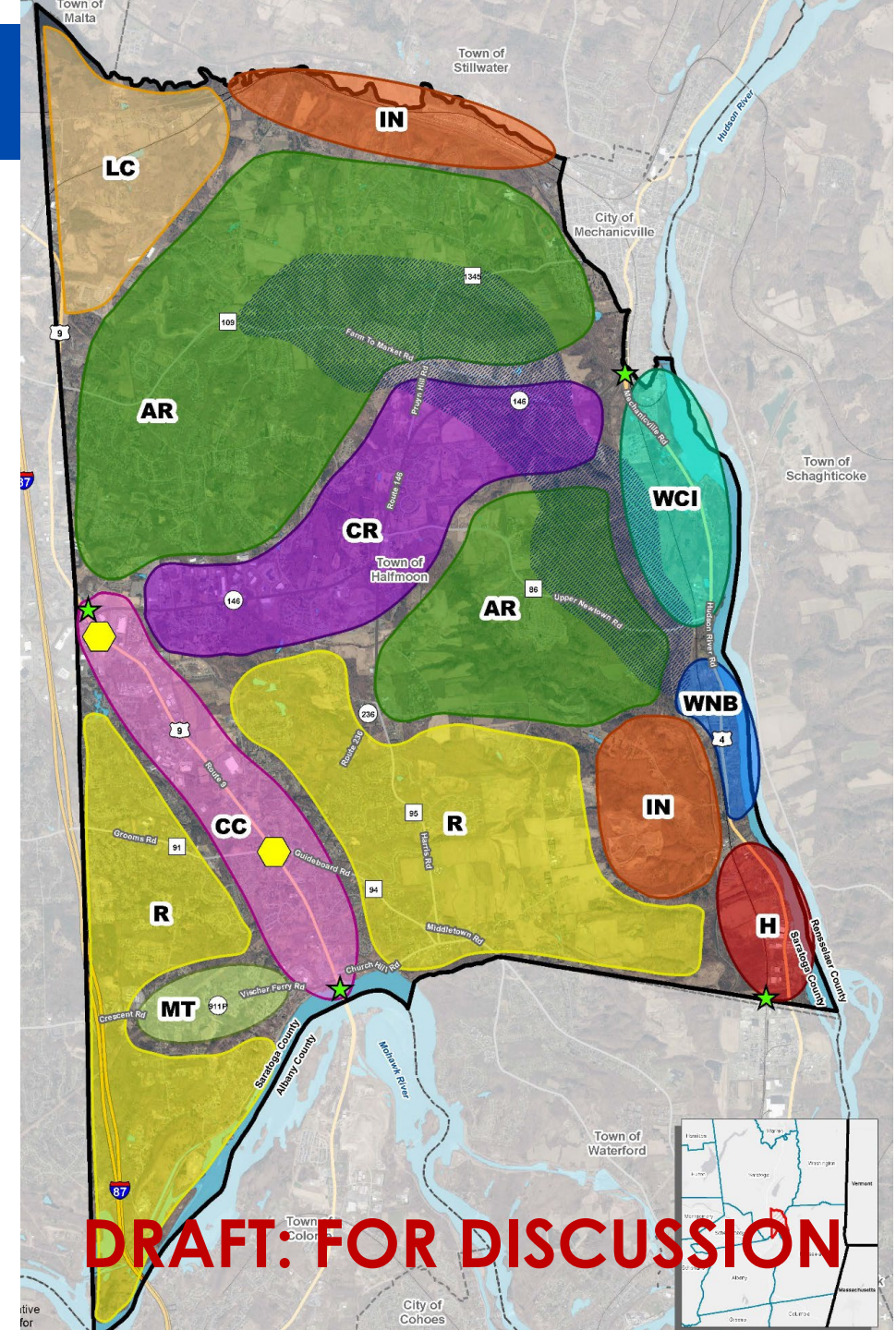
MJ has prepared a draft visual representation of feedback in the form of a “bubble map”, illustrating proposed future land use areas, gateways, scenic viewsheds, and activity nodes.



# FUTURE LAND USE

## Future Land Use

-  Key Activity Node
-  Gateways
-  Agricultural / Residential (AR)
-  Residential (R)
-  Commercial / Residential (CR)
-  Commercial / Corridor (CC)
-  Mixed Use Transition (MT)
-  Hamlet (H)
-  Industrial (IN)
-  Light Industrial / Commercial (LC)
-  Waterfront Commercial / Industrial (WCI)
-  Waterfront Neighborhood / Business (WNB)
-  Important Viewshed



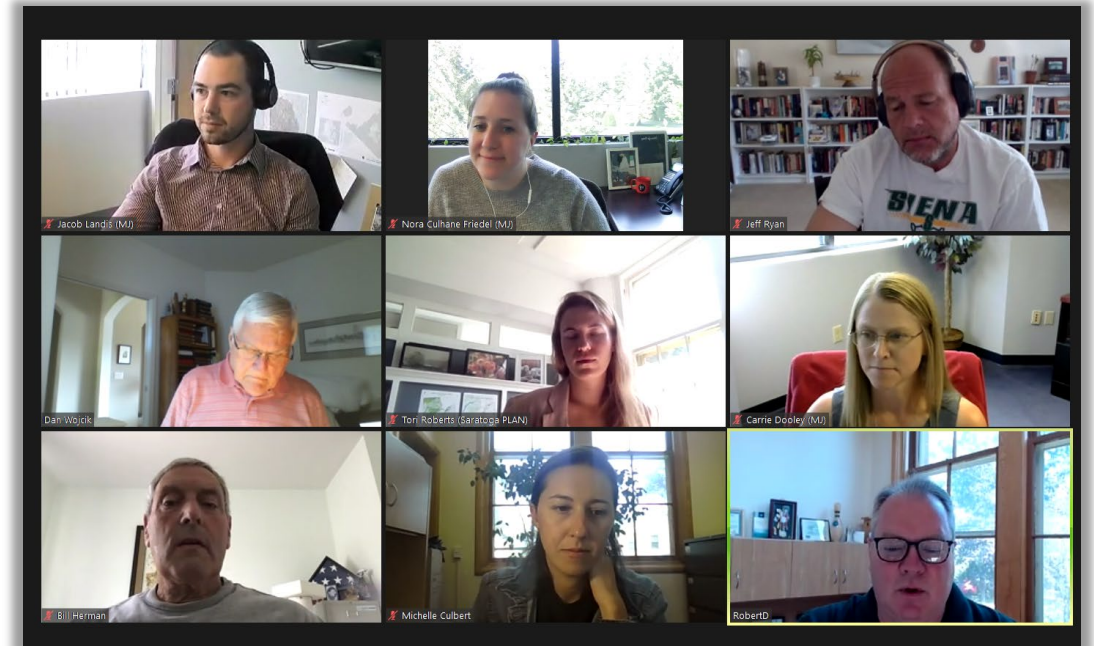
**DRAFT: FOR DISCUSSION**

**DRAFT: FOR DISCUSSION**

# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

## Remaining Public Engagement (Anticipated)

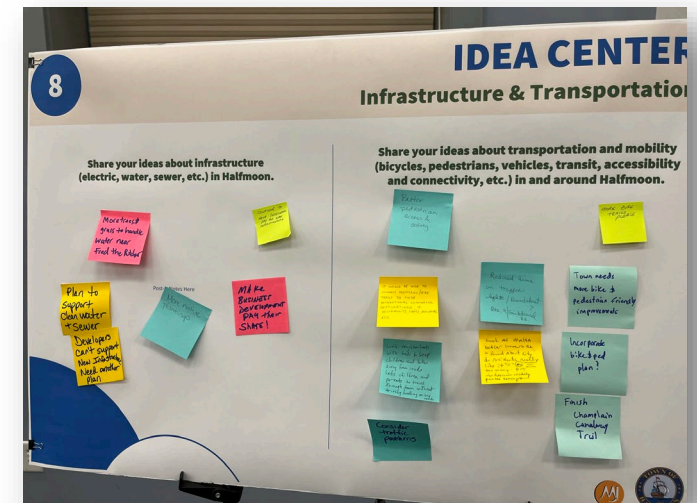
- **Winter 2024 – Focus Group Meetings**
  - Scheduled for late February
  - Hosted virtually via Zoom Meeting
  - Committee members welcome and encouraged to attend if available
    - *Neighborhoods/HOAs*
    - *Developers*



# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

## Remaining Public Engagement (Anticipated)

- Spring 2024 – Public Meetings #4 and #5
  - **Public Meeting #4 – Virtual – March 18<sup>th</sup>**
    - Share preliminary recommendations and future land use map; gather input
  - **Public Meeting #5 – In-person – March 19<sup>th</sup>**
    - Share preliminary recommendations and future land use map; gather input
- Summer 2024 – Public Meeting #6/CPUC Public Hearing
  - **Purpose:**
    - Requirement per Town Law 272-a
    - Gather public input on Draft Comprehensive Plan



# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

## Remaining Public Engagement (Anticipated)

- **Spring 2024 – Town Wide Business Survey**
  - Online questionnaire
    - 15 total questions
    - Paper copies will be made available at Town Hall
  - Distribute to all businesses within the Town
    - Utilize Town Business Directory (email)
    - Flyer distribution
    - Committee Assistance
    - Other?



# NEXT STEPS

- Draft Community Profile Review
  - Send any comments to MJ team via email
- Next Committee Meetings
  - 4/18
  - 6/20
  - 8/15
  - 9/19
  - 10/17 (*if needed*)

[www.planhalfmoon.com](http://www.planhalfmoon.com)

