

TOWN OF HALFMOON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Comprehensive Plan
Update Committee (CPUC)

Meeting #6

December 7, 2023

Town Hall



AGENDA



- Welcome
- Project Scope & Schedule Update
- Public Participation Update
- Goals Discussion
- Preliminary Recommendations Discussion
- Next Steps



SCHEDULE OF MILESTONES



*CPUC Meetings – Every other month

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Remaining Committee Meetings (Anticipated)

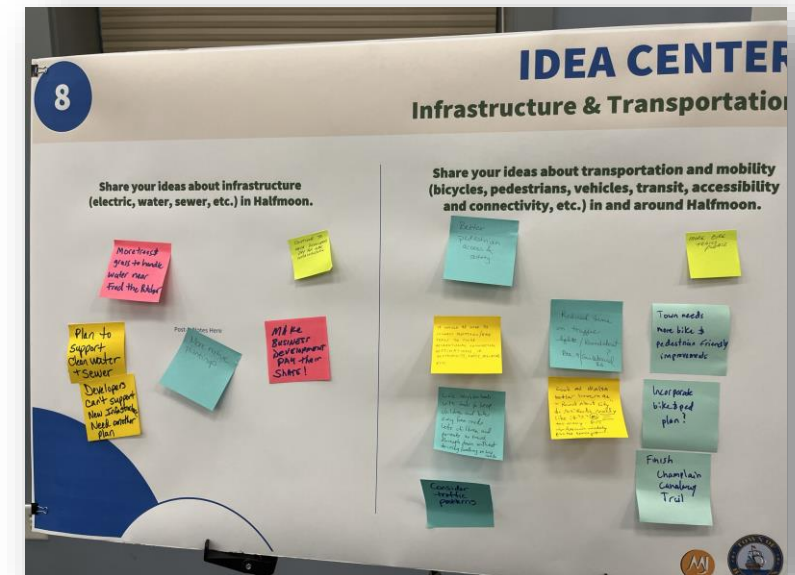
- **February 2024- CPUC #7**
 - **Purpose:**
 - Review Draft Recommendations
 - Discuss Future Land Use Map
 - Discuss Comprehensive Plan Organization
 - Public Meeting #4/#5 Preparation
 - **Materials Submitted:**
 - Refined draft recommendations in advance
- **April 2024- CPUC #8**
 - **Purpose:**
 - Discuss public feedback
 - Refine Future Land Use Map
 - **Materials Submitted:**
 - Public Meeting summary in advance
 - Draft Comprehensive Plan following meeting
- **June 2024- CPUC #9**
 - **Purpose:**
 - Draft Comprehensive Plan Review
 - Potentially schedule CPUC Public Hearing
 - **Materials Submitted:**
 - Draft Comprehensive Plan in advance
- **August 2024- CPUC #10**
 - **Purpose:**
 - Discuss Refinements to Draft Plan based on Public Input
 - **Materials Submitted:**
 - Public Hearing highlights in advance
- **September 2024- CPUC #11**
 - **Purpose:**
 - Consider forwarding Draft Plan to Town Board
 - **Materials Submitted:**
 - Revised Draft Plan in advance

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Remaining Public Meetings (Anticipated)

- **Spring 2024 – Public Meetings #4 and #5**
 - **Public Meeting #4 – In-person**
 - Share preliminary recommendations and future land use map; gather input
 - **Public Meeting #5 – Virtual**
 - 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

Public Meeting #3
November 13, 2023
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

- Zoom Webinar led by Consultant Team
- 40 registrants/35 unique users attended
- Discussion of Project Overview and Update on progress
- Introduced Draft Vision and Goals
- Future Land Use Discussion
- Q & A
- Post Meeting Land Use Questions

TOWN OF HALFMOON
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

You are in a practice session [Start Webinar](#)

Thank you for joining!

The meeting will begin soon

Virtual Public Workshop #3

November 13, 2023
5:00 – 6:30 pm

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Comprehensive Plan Update Committee Members

- **Chair:** Richard M. Harris, AICP
- Jeremy Connors, *Town Board Liaison*
- Paul Hotaling, *Town Board Liaison*
- Lyn Murphy, *Town Attorney*
- Steven Kucskar
- Joseph Landy
- Michael D. Morand
- J. Daniel Wojcik
- William Herman
- Peter Bardunias
- Nancy Morris
- Deborah Curto
- Donald Roberts

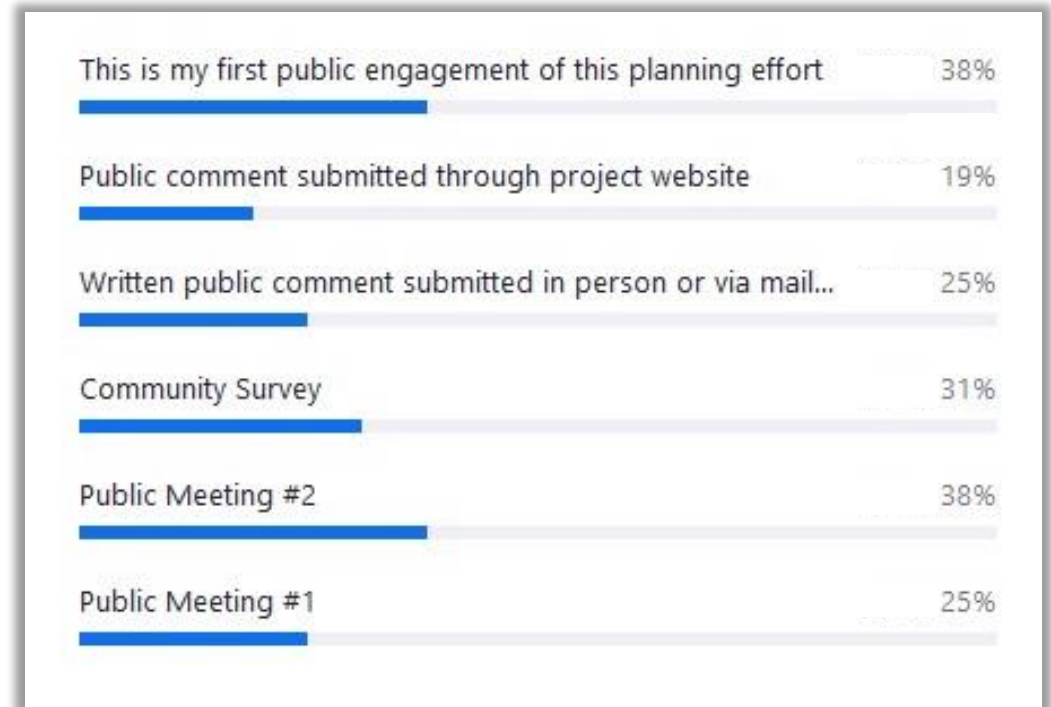
Rich Harris



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Key Takeaways:

- 38% of attendees were participating in the process for the first time
- Email blasts, news releases, Town and project websites, and word of mouth outreach proved effective
- Identified **most important** Draft Goals for the future of Halfmoon:
 - **Quality of Life, Placemaking, People: 73%**
 - **Agriculture, Open Space, and Resiliency: 47%**
 - **Transportation and Mobility: 40%**
- Want to see the following types of growth:
 - 1) Preservation of Land;
 - 2) Sustainable Growth;
 - 3) New Residential (single family) housing



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Key Takeaways (Continued):

Poll Question

What land uses do you want to see in Halfmoon in the future?

Response

- Open Space: 67%
- Residential: 58%
- Recreational: 50%
- Tech / Light Industry: 42%

FUTURE LAND USE DISCUSSION

Current Land Uses

- **Commercial uses:**
 - focused on Route 9 and Route 146 (west of Route 9)
- **Industrial uses:**
 - focused Northwest area and Southeast area of Town
- **Residential** generally throughout Town
- **Agricultural** generally throughout Town

Legend:

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Community Services
- Industrial
- Mixed Use
- Parks and Recreation
- Residential - High Density
- Residential - Medium Density
- Residential - Low Density
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Vacant Land



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Key Takeaways (Continued):

- Concluded with a Q&A period
- Attendees were sent five (5) land use questions following
- Meeting Summary is posted on www.planhalfmoon.com

FUTURE LAND USE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

Following the meeting, you will be prompted to answer 5 future land use questions. Please share your thoughts!

Legend:

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Community Services
- Industrial
- Residential - High Density
- Residential - Medium Density
- Residential - Low Density
- Transportation

The screenshot also shows a Zoom interface with a recording indicator at the top, a participant list on the right, and a meeting control bar at the bottom.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Post-meeting land use survey responses (sample):

Where would you like to see additional public recreation areas in Halfmoon?

“Hudson River corridor”

“Have at least one school facility of our Shen District located within the Town and have an associated recreational/playing field as part of that location”

“Maintain walking trails currently on town map”

“Can't speak to where but Halfmoon Town Park is a great resource that is used by many! More paved trails would be a wonderful addition to the Town.”

“Hudson & Mohawk Rivers”

“Town hall area”

“Along the spine of the planned trail network from Town Hall through Vosburgh Preserve, Motts Farm alongside McBride Fields. Conserve open space in this mid-town spine and add some recreation.”



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Post-meeting land use survey responses (sample):

In your opinion, where should future technology/light industrial growth take place in Halfmoon?

“Near I-87 exits so the trucks don't have to travel too far from the Interstate”

“Northeastern part of the town - "Area 3", also along Rte 4/32 corridor.”

“Exit 10 - Ushers Road area where Clifton Park has major development of Synergy Technology Park. Close access to I-87 helps to keep truck traffic to confined areas.”

“Northwest and Southwest areas of Town”

“Areas behind the commercial on Rt 9 and Rt 146. Need to be very careful so conflicts are avoided with residential areas.”

“Rte. 146 or NW corner of town”

“in the commercial core”

“Clean, light industrial growth is acceptable as long as it doesn't interfere with quality of life for residents living near such facilities.”



STEPS IN THE PROCESS

Understanding
Where You Are

Where Do You
Want To Be?

How Do You
Get There?

THE EXISTING STATE



THE DESIRED STATE



IMPLEMENTATION



GOALS DISCUSSION

Topic-based Plan DRAFT Chapters:

- ✓ Quality of Life, Placemaking and People
- ✓ History and Culture
- ✓ Recreation
- ✓ Economic Growth and Sustainability
- ✓ Infrastructure and Community Facilities
- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Transportation and Mobility
- ✓ Agriculture, Open Space, and Resiliency



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



QUALITY OF LIFE, PLACEMAKING, AND PEOPLE

GOALS:

Growth Management: Create a land use management system that mitigates the adverse impacts of sprawl, discourages further 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 accommodate for the preservation 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:

- Promote Halfmoon's historic places through preservation and marketing methods.
- 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 the Town Park and other Town-owned recreation spaces.
- Ensure accessibility to all Town-owned locations that offer recreation space.
- Maintain inclusion and equity in Town sports and recreation programs.
- Create a resource-access map that allows residents to learn 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 well-located commercial, office, and industrial districts, compatible with the community's character and vision for the future.

PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Continue to encourage and support businesses, small and large, to establish and stay in Halfmoon.
- Survey existing business owners about challenges and opportunities.
- Emphasize clean light-industrial 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:

- 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.
- Construct a Community Center that provides an accessible, common meeting space for community events and meetings.



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.



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.
- 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.



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 connections between neighborhoods, open spaces, and recreation spaces through sustainable building practices.
- Support vehicular circulation improvements identified in the previous Comprehensive Plan.
- Prepare a study evaluating major intersections within the Town through collaboration with neighboring municipalities, Saratoga County and the Department of Transportation.



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 active farms that help to support operations and lower costs.
- Provide optional incentive programs to conserve open space and habitat.
- Protect and maintain viewsheds of the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers
- Complete a Natural Resource Inventory that identifies natural resources within the Town.
- Increase awareness surrounding open spaces, trails, preserves, boat access, etc.



NEXT STEPS



- Draft Preliminary Recommendations Review
- Draft Community Profile Review
- Next Committee Meeting
 - New schedule in the new year!

www.planhalfmoon.com

