# VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE & LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

#### **MEETING SUMMARY**

Purpose: Comprehensive Plan Update (CPU) and LWRP Committee Meeting #4

Date and Time: March 1, 2023, 7:00 pm

Location: James Harmon Community Center, 44 Main Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY

10706

**Attendees:** See Below

Agenda Item	Discussion	Key Decisions & Outcomes
Welcome & Introductions	Ray Dovell, CPU & LWRP Committee Chair, welcomed Committee members, Village staff, consultants, and members of the public to the meeting and initiated introductions.  Members of the CPU & LWRP Committee in attendance:  Ray Dovell Mary Beth Murphy Trustee Drake Trustee Fleisig Chris Thomas Dave Gunton Edward Kuch John Patrick Diggins Meg Walker Meghann Donahue Natalie Barry Richard Bass Samantha Merton Sarah Dupere Ostro  MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C., the lead consultants assisting the Village with the Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP process, was represented at the meeting by:  Jaclyn Hakes, AICP Sarah Starke Hesse	N/A

Approval of Minutes/Meeting Summary	Ray Dovell, CPU/LWRP Committee Chair, initiated the approval of past meeting minutes and summaries.  • Meeting Summary for February 1, 2023 meeting approved.	Meeting Summary for February 1, 2023 meeting approved
Project Status Update	<ul> <li>Ray Dovell introduced Jaclyn Hakes (MJ), who provided an update of the project status.</li> <li>Key project milestones include:</li> <li>Fall 2022 – Project kick-off, data collection, public participation plan and project website.</li> <li>Winter 22/23 – First round of public engagement, comprehensive plan vision and goals, LWRP policies</li> <li>Spring 2023 – Second round of public engagement, comp plan strategies and recommendations, LWRP proposed projects</li> <li>Summer 2023 – Third round of public engagement, initiate Draft Comp Plan, and Draft LWRP</li> <li>Fall 2023 – Public hearing, Draft Comp Plan, and Draft LWRP</li> <li>Winter 2023 – Spring 2024 – Final Comp Plan, Final LWRP, Adoption</li> </ul>	N/A
Public Engagement Update	Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) provided an update on Public Engagement.  The Community Survey is now live through April 15. The survey is available online through the project website and also through hard copies available at key locations in the Village including Village Hall, the Library and the Community Center. Publicity for the survey includes:  • Village and Project Website • Village email • Survey cards • CPU/LWRP Committee • Flyers	Committee members are encouraged to share the survey through their networks

Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) provided an overview of a Community Vision.

A Vision statement establishes the direction of the community over the next five to ten years. It forms the basis comprehensive plan. ΑII subsequent recommendations aim to achieve the established vision. A vision also uses present tense (as if you are 10 years in the future).

Subjects typically addressed include:

- Common values of a community
- Qualities, resources are assets that make a community unique or describe its identity
- Attributes people like and want to be sure to keep or want to change about their community
- Preferred future for each subject area of the community

Committee members to provide additional feedback on the Vision and Goals via email.

#### Vision, Goals and **Smart Growth Principles** Discussion

The consultant team drafted a community vision which incorporates themes from the previous Comprehensive Plan, Committee Feedback from the January Visioning session and Community feedback from the first Public Meeting:

The Village of Hastings-on-Hudson is a dynamic, creative Hudson River community in Westchester County, New York. Efficient connections to metropolitan areas and employment centers complement the high quality of life within the Village, built on a strong foundation of excellent schools, vibrant public spaces, and a wide range of housing options. As an inclusive community with a holistic and forward-looking approach to environmental sustainability, the Village demonstrates adaptability and resilience. By fostering a walkable, bikeable, and accessible public sphere, the Village enhances its charming character with recreational, cultural, and commercial amenities that serve the needs of Village residents and visitors.

Sarah Starke Hesse (MJ) led a Committee discussion to gather feedback on the draft Vision. Feedback included:

- Vision should be less generic, passive
- Weave waterfront throughout Vision
- Hastings is small, hilly
- Shorten vision
- Connection to water ravine, rivers/streams, groundwater
- Inclusive
- Natural resources and topography

- New York City
- More about people, volunteerism, how they come together
- Talk about people, culture

Draft Goals assist in achieving the community vision and are detailed, attainable and action-oriented. Goals incorporate Smart Growth principles. Key themes heard through Committee discussion and public engagement include:

- Connections
- Walkable, bikeable
- High quality of life
- Excellent schools,
- Vibrant public spaces
- Charming character, cultural amenities
- Housing options

Vision, Goals and

**Smart Growth** 

**Principles** 

Discussion

(cont'd)

- Environmental sustainability, adaptability and resilience
- Recreational opportunities
- Strategic/ Goal Driven Growth and Development

These themes were incorporated into a Draft Goals:

- Strengthen mobility, multi-modal connections, and accessibility throughout the Village.
- Complement the charming character of the Village by supporting placemaking efforts that enhance public spaces, services and quality of life for residents.
- Diversify housing options within the Village to provide for a range of housing types for all ages and income levels.
- Lead the region in environmental sustainability efforts to ensure long term climate resilience.
- Enhance Village parks, recreational opportunities, and public access along the Hudson River and Saw Mill River.
- Foster a strong economic environment with a compact, walkable downtown that offers a mix of uses and amenities.

The Committee considered the draft goals and provided

Committee members to provide additional feedback on the Vision and Goals via email.

## feedback which included:

	<ul> <li>Include viewsheds, river access</li> <li>Enhancing interpersonal connections, checking in on seniors</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Community activities, ways the community comes together</li> </ul>	
Vision, Goals and Smart Growth Principles Discussion (cont'd)	<ul> <li>Create places that bring community together – programming, events</li> <li>Activate parks</li> <li>Different word for community character</li> <li>Identity, historic connection on river, quality of life</li> <li>Enhance circulation by strengthening mobility</li> <li>Diverse character</li> <li>Spirit of community</li> <li>Goals should be "within existing fabric of community"</li> </ul>	Committee members to provide additional feedback on the Vision and Goals via email.
	<ul> <li>Discussion of housing</li> <li>ADUs allowed but people not utilizing, can be cost prohibitive an not supported by the current zoning code</li> <li>Missing middle housing (2-8 family range)</li> <li>Consider slow, incremental changes</li> <li>Consider school and infrastructure capacity</li> </ul>	
	Additional discussion included:	
	<ul> <li>Discussion of Governor's housing initiative</li> <li>Downtown area is underbuilt</li> <li>Consider gateways – potential of cluster housing (discussed in previous plan)</li> <li>Current ADU law does not provide relief from FAR, parking requirements, setback and lot coverage requirements</li> </ul>	
	Sarah Starke Hesse (MJ) introduced proposed land and water uses and proposed projects as part of the LWRP program.	
Introduction of LWRP Proposed Land and Water	Proposed land and water uses and proposed projects will serve to implement the goals and objectives of the LWRP.	Committee members to provide additional
Uses and Proposed Projects	Incorporates the existing and future needs of the community, as well as recreational, and water-dependent uses.	feedback on future uses and proposed projects.
	Committee to identify future uses based on existing land uses map and brainstorm potential land and water use projects.	

	Suggestion to create database of volunteers and volunteer groups.	
Subcommittee Tasks	Sarah Starke Hesse (MJ) provided an overview of the upcoming tasks for the Committee.  1. Assist in promoting the Community Survey  2. Provide feedback on the Draft Vision and Goals  3. Identify potential land and water uses  4. Brainstorm potential projects	Committee to complete tasks prior to the next CPU/LWRP meeting.
Next Steps	Sarah Starke Hesse (MJ) provided an overview of the next steps in the process:  • The Community Survey is now live • Stakeholder Group Meetings • The next CPU & LWRP meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM • Committee tasks include: • Assist in promoting the Community Survey • Provide feedback on the Draft Vision and Goals • Identify potential land and water uses • Brainstorm potential projects MJ to Continue Data Collection & Analysis	The next CPU & LWRP meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Public Comment	There will be a dedicated time for public comment at each CPU & LWRP meeting.  David Skolnik provided the following comments:  • Speak louder  • Westchester municipal office drafted document in response to the governor's housing initiative  • Recommend to read LWRPs  • Comments on Wharburton	N/A

<ul> <li>Tracking why previous LWRP not approved. Wants to know what's missing.</li> </ul>	
Ray Dovell thanked all those in attendance and closed the meeting.	

This meeting summary conveys our understanding of the items discussed and agreements reached at this meeting. Please forward any additions, corrections and/or questions to my attention.

#### Submitted by:

Sarah Starke Hesse, MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. cc: Consultant Team, Comprehensive Plan Update Committee, Village, File

## **Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee**

Name	Present
Ray Dovell	<b>▽</b>
Mary Beth Murphy	<b>▽</b>
Trustee Drake	ightharpoons
Trustee Fleisig	ightharpoons
Chris Thomas	ightharpoons
Dave Gunton	ightharpoons
Edward Kuch	ightharpoons
John Patrick Diggins	ightharpoons
Meg Walker	ightharpoons
Meghann Donahue	ightharpoons
Natalie Barry	ightharpoons
Richard Bass	lacksquare
Samantha Merton	ightharpoons

Sarah Dupere Ostro	<b>✓</b>
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## **Village Representatives & Planning Support**

Name	Present
Fiona Mathews	

## **State Representatives**

Name	Present
Joshua Hunn	

### **Consultant Team**

Name	Affiliation	Present
Jaclyn Hakes, Project Manager	M.J. Engineering	ightharpoons
Sarah Starke Hesse	M.J. Engineering	

#### **Members of the Public**

The following members of the public were in attendance:

• David Skolnik