

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE & LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

MEETING SUMMARY

Purpose: Comprehensive Plan Update (CPU) and LWRP Committee Meeting #14
Date and Time: January 3, 2024, 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	<p>Ray Dovell, CPU & LWRP Committee Chair, welcomed Committee members, Village staff, consultants, and members of the public to the meeting.</p> <p>Members of the CPU & LWRP Committee in attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray Dovell, Chair • Mary Beth Murphey • Trustee Drake • Christopher Thomas • Samantha Merton • David Gunton • Meg Walker • Meghann Donahue • Natalie Barry • Sarah Dupere Ostro • Trustee Fleisig <p>MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. (MJ), the lead consultants assisting the Village with the Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP process, was represented at the meeting by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jaclyn Hakes, AICP • Daniel Madigan 	N/A
Approval of Minutes/Meeting Summary	Ray Dovell, CPU/LWRP Committee Chair, initiated the approval of past meeting minutes.	Meeting Summary for December 6, 2023, approved.

<p>Project Status Update</p>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) provided an update of the project status. Key current/upcoming project milestones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall 2023 – 3rd round of public engagement, Draft Comprehensive Plan, and Draft LWRP • Winter 2023 – Spring 2024 – Committee Public Hearing, Final Comprehensive Plan Draft, Complete LWRP Draft, Adoption of Plan <p>Remaining Committee Meetings (Anticipated)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 7th - CPU/LWRP Committee #15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Purpose: Discuss additional revisions to Comprehensive Plan & schedule Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing ○ Materials Submitted: Draft LWRP Harbor Management Plan • March 6th - CPU/LWRP Committee #16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Purpose: Consider revisions to Comprehensive Plan & Consider forwarding draft Comprehensive Plan to Village Board of Trustees ○ Receive comments from Draft LWRP sections ○ Materials Submitted: Revised Draft Comprehensive Plan • April 3rd - CPU/LWRP Committee (if needed) <p>Remaining Committee Public Engagement (Anticipated)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Engagement #4 – TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Late Winter/ Early Spring 2024 ○ Draft Comprehensive Plan for public viewing ○ Committee Public Hearing on Draft Comprehensive Plan 	<p>MJ will provide a draft of Section 7 of the LWRP to the Committee</p>
<p>Draft LWRP Update</p>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) provided an update on the Draft Sections of the LWRP to committee members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section I: Waterfront Revitalization Area and Harbor Management Area Boundaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft Provided/Revisions In Progress • Section II: Inventory and Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft Provided/Revisions In Progress 	

<p>Draft LWRP Update (cont.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section III: Local Waterfront Revitalization Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft Provided/Revisions In Progress • Section IV: Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft in progress – To be submitted February • Section V: Techniques for Local Implementation of the Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft Submitted • Section VI: State and Federal Actions and Programs Likely to Affect Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Language provided by State –submitted December • Section VII: Local Commitment and Consultation With Other Affected Federal, State, Regional, and Local Agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To be submitted January <p>MJ explained that the LWRP Section II (2) revisions were submitted to the Committee, Section I (1) will be provided in coming weeks, with specific revisions to the water boundary.</p> <p>Committee members were reminded that any ongoing comments or edits can be sent to the MJ team.</p>	<p>MJ will submit Section I to the Committee</p>
<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation</p>	<p>MJ submitted a preliminary draft of the Comprehensive Plan to the Committee.</p> <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) asked that Committee members make a prioritization of creating recommendations for each section of the Comprehensive Plan Draft. Factors to consider or evaluate are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the document on target? • Is the document presented in a manner that is easy to understand? • Are there questions that a committee member may have about the content within the draft? <p>MJ presented the Table of Contents:</p> <p>Comprehensive Plan Update Document Organization (DRAFT)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction 	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation (cont.)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Vision, Goals, Smart Growth Principles 3. Village Overview 4. History and Placemaking 5. Housing 6. Economic Vitality 7. Sustainability and Resiliency 8. Recreation 9. Connectivity, Mobility, and Access 10. The Waterfront 11. Governance 12. Implementation <p>A Committee member offered that the Historical Society possesses an inventory of images that could be shared and used within the Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>MJ then proceeded with a description of each proposed section.</p> <p>MJ emphasized that Chapter 3 Village Overview is not as extensive as the LWRP's Section II (2) Existing Conditions. However, there will be a Community Profile that will contain more detail as an appendix of the Comprehensive Plan.</p> <p>Various Committee members discussed the merit of including additional information within the Village Overview section. Committee thoughts included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information could be important to understanding Plan Recommendations. • The drafted Village Overview may be too abbreviated and certain demographic information, like the community age cohorts, would be beneficial to include. • Using demographic information that involved surrounding communities would better illustrate how Hastings and other 'River Towns' have progressed over the years. <p>The Committee discussed including Yonkers for demographic information to compare with Hastings-on-Hudson. They weighed the pros and cons of including</p>	<p>MJ will create a OneDrive for the Committee to submit photos of the Village.</p> <p>MJ will provide more demographic information in the Village Overview.</p>
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<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation (cont.)</p>	<p>Yonkers information in the Comprehensive Plan document.</p> <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) implored that Committee members provide more day-to-day information regarding Yonkers and its relationship to Hastings.</p> <p>After discussing the first three introductory pieces of the draft comprehensive plan, MJ proceeded with explaining the format of each chapter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview • Challenges and Opportunities • Recommendations <p>Any chapter that deviated from this format would be explained.</p> <p>Regarding the Smart Growth principles, MJ instructed that these principles will be marked with special icons that are color coded.</p> <p><u>History and Placemaking</u></p> <p>Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses elements of placemaking • Catalogues and describes historical assets in the Village <p>Challenges and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify potential activity nodes to deploy placemaking efforts and invite people to spend time • Enhance spaces between activity nodes to increase connectivity • Utilize the Village Arts Commission to expand exhibitions and events in public spaces <p>Recommendations</p> <p>MJ is working on a graphic to illustrate the interconnectivity of all subject areas.</p> <p>A Committee member pointed out that the Waterfront is really the only place where there is room to expand for public space.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation (cont.)</p>	<p>MJ discussed prioritization for each section. A survey listing every recommendation rating its priority will be created and shared with the Committee.</p> <p>One member suggested a broader term of placemaking to include the various groups and organizations that utilize public space within the Village.</p> <p>MJ concluded reviewing this chapter by stating that the public will have the opportunity to write comments after the Draft Comprehensive Plan is published.</p> <p>The public can weigh in on priorities of plan recommendations. MJ can then share the public's views with the Committee and readjust accordingly for the priorities if the Committee believes it necessary.</p> <p><u>Housing</u> Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies the existing housing stock in terms of affordability • Discusses affordable housing efforts in the Village <p>Challenges and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing stock remains limited • Increasing housing costs may present a barrier for younger age cohorts looking to relocate to the Village • Potential to enhance vibrancy and inclusivity by increase socioeconomic diversity • Concentrate mixed-use development with affordable housing within the downtown area, near the Metro-North Station <p>Recommendations</p> <p>Committee member provided an update from the Affordable Housing Committee and their wanting to present once more with a broader proposal and incorporating their recommendations.</p> <p>One Committee recommended more procedural recommendations for this section that include committees like Zoning and Affordable Housing. MJ answered that identifying potential partners is a beneficial tool.</p>	<p>MJ will create and send to the committee that gauges the prioritization of each Plan Recommendation.</p> <p>MJ will mention Yonkers in Housing Chapter as there is unique demographic information to consider.</p> <p>MJ will share the new proposal created by the Affordable Housing Committee</p>
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<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation (cont.)</p>	<p>MJ suggested that leaving some flexibility for recommendations for all sections is beneficial to later plans.</p> <p><u>Economic Vitality</u> Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hasting’s residents are primary drivers of local economy • Residents experiencing increased tax costs • Community Development Block Program <p>Challenges and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents identified high taxes, lack of economic diversity in downtown area and affordable housing as an issue • Utilizing the waterfront to draw in visitors • Supporting a maker economy <p>Recommendations</p> <p>One member proposed contacting River Towns Chamber of Commerce to discern their viewpoint on this section.</p> <p>Yonkers was discussed once more by the Committee and how Yonkers residents’ shop and dine in Hastings.</p> <p><u>Sustainability and Resiliency</u> Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly identifies climatic challenges facing the area and flooding vulnerability • Introduces Climate Smart Task Force efforts and other Village initiatives to reduce impacts on the natural environment <p>Climate Smart Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduces NYS CSC program • Describes CSC TF actions in more detail <p>Challenges and Opportunities Recommendations</p> <p>MJ indicated that there was a slight variation in the format to include the Climate Smart Communities.</p> <p>No comments were provided by the Committee concerning this chapter.</p> <p><u>Recreation</u> Overview</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation (cont.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights the Parks and Recreation Department • Identifies recreational opportunities Village wide <p>Challenges and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilizing the waterfront • Resident support for recreational opportunities • Aging population • Preparing plans to gain funding opportunities <p>Recommendations</p> <p>MJ will expand upon additional phases of projects like the renovation of MacEachron Park for future funding sources.</p> <p><u>Connectivity, Mobility and Access</u></p> <p>Overview</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Briefly introduces the Department of Public Works responsibilities 2. Discusses roadways, walkability, bicycling, public transit, and recent planning projects <p>Challenges and Opportunities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expanding connectivity and access to reach downtown area and the waterfront 2. Connectivity, mobility and access for the aging population <p>Recommendations</p> <p>A discussion about the Village walkways and sidewalks took place. Committee member mentioned that these pathways are typically under the responsibility property owners.</p> <p>Committee member wished there was resourced that identified the ownership of walkways. A similar study was completed 20 years ago. The Committee informed MJ that they would locate the document and a blog created in the past that also focused on the Village step streets.</p> <p><u>The Waterfront</u></p> <p>Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduces the waterfront, its parcels, and accessibility • Describes the waterfront’s industrial history, current state, and remediation status <p>Challenges and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning of the waterfront 	<p>N/A</p>
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<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation (cont.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private ownership and coordinating remediation efforts • Pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular access • Water quality <p>Recommendations</p> <p>Committee member suggested that a graphic would be beneficial in this section.</p> <p>A discussion of including the Consent Decree as an Appendix was brought up. MJ informed that this decision is up to the Committee and the Village.</p> <p><u>Governance</u></p> <p>Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduces local government operations in the Village • Describes boards and committees <p>Challenges and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies land use and zoning in the Village • Discusses infrastructure, stormwater, public utilities, community services, and local government efficiency <p>Recommendations</p> <p>MJ implored committee members to review this chapter as there has been little discussion about governance in previous meetings. Committee members were also invited to evaluate the Village zoning ordinance and if it is in accordance with the comprehensive plan. Committee member mentioned a previous plan to streamline the approval process along with building permitting and zoning process. Other Committee members agreed that they have heard about a similar plan and will search for such the document.</p> <p><u>Implementation</u></p> <p>Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies parties involved in the Comprehensive Plan update process • Briefly describes why implementation is important <p>Implementation Recommendations</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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<p>Update on Draft Comprehensive Plan Preparation (cont.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review zoning ordinance to ensure consistency with the comprehensive plan • Establish Comp Plan Oversight Committee • Review the Comprehensive Plan every 5 years <p>Prioritization of Recommended Actions</p> <p>MJ explained that the Implementation Table has various columns that identifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each recommendation thus far • The level of priority (short-term, medium-term, long-term) of the recommendation • Potential partners for each recommendation • Potential funding or technical sources to provide assistance • Status of the recommendation <p>This chapter also recommends that the Village review their Comprehensive Plan every five (5) years to discover if the Village needs are still being reflected within the Plan. Utilizing the Implementation Table will facilitate that review.</p> <p>MJ explained that the Acknowledgements section will be added to the next version of the draft. The Acknowledgements identifies the members of the Committee, the Trustees, the Project Team, and attribution of the funding sources for this effort.</p>	<p>In the next iteration of the draft, MJ will add the Acknowledgements, a more thorough Implementation Table, and a list of acronyms.</p>
<p>Committee Tasks</p>	<p>MJ provided an overview of tasks for the committee members.</p> <p>Comprehensive Plan by 1/26:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide feedback on DRAFT Comprehensive Plan – email MJ • Complete Prioritization Exercise - online <p>LWRP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Section VII – Local Consultation 	<p>MJ will compile feedback to discuss for the upcoming Committee meeting.</p>

<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>MJ provided an overview of the project’s next steps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued preparation of LWRP Sections • Revisions to Draft Comprehensive Plan • Committee Feedback <p>Upcoming Committee Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 7, 2024 <p>MJ explained the public will have access to the draft Comprehensive Plan prior to the public hearing.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>There will be a dedicated time for public comment at each CPU & LWRP meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of public, commented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior citizens make up 22% of the Village population. Therefore, it was asked the older members of the community be included more in the process of this draft process. • Suggested a dedicated senior citizen center within the Village. • Suggested that the building cleaning schedule be changed so as not to overlap with the Committee meetings. • Questioned the validity of approving minutes before they are submitted as drafts to the public. • Although the process has been accessible, members of the public may only tune in once there is a tangible draft of the comprehensive plan. <p>Committee, Chair Ray Dovell thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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:
Daniel Madigan, MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C.

cc: Consultant Team, LWRP/Comprehensive Plan Update Committee, Village, File

Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee

Name	Present
Ray Dovell, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mary Beth Murphy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trustee Drake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trustee Fleisig	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chris Thomas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dave Gunton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Edward Kuch	
John Patrick Diggins	
Meg Walker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meghann Donahue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Natalie Barry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Richard Bass	
Samantha Merton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sarah Dupere Ostro	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Consultant Team

Name	Affiliation	Present
Jaclyn Hakes, AICP, Project Manager	M.J. Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nora Culhane Friedel	M.J. Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daniel Madigan	M.J. Engineering.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Members of the Public

The following members of the public were in attendance and signed in:

- David Skolnik
- Lindsey Taylor
- Sue Smith
- Polly Bijur