VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON Comprehensive Plan Update & Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

MEETING SUMMARY

Purpose:	Comprehensive Plan Update (CPU) and LWRP Committee Meeting #10
Date and Time:	October 4, 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. Members of the CPU & LWRP Committee in attendance:	N/A
Approval of Minutes/Meeting Summary	Ray Dovell, CPU/LWRP Committee Chair, initiated the approval of past meeting minutes.	Meeting Summary for September 6, 2023, meeting approved.

	Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) provided an update of the project	N/A
	status. Key current/upcoming project milestones include:	
	 Fall 2023 – 3rd round of public engagement, Draft Comp Plan, and Draft LWRP Winter 2023 – Spring 2024 – Committee Public Hearing, Final Comp Plan Draft, Complete LWRP Draft, Adoption 	
Project Status Update	 Remaining Committee Meetings October 4th – CPU/LWRP Committee #11 Purpose: Discuss Preliminary Recommendations Materials Submitted: Draft LWRP Sections II (Existing Conditions) & V (Techniques for Implementation) submitted mid-October. November 1st - CPU/LWRP Committee #12 To coincide with Public Meeting #3 Purpose: Public Meeting #3 debrief (virtual) Materials Submitted: Draft LWRP Sections VI (State/Federal Actions)& VII (Local Consultation) submitted mid-November; Draft Comprehensive Plan Chapter (sample chapter) 	
	Committee member asked whether the meeting will be virtual and if we will be continuing to meet virtually.	
	MJ affirmed that the meeting will be virtual and that the committee members will act as panelists.	
	Committee member asked about the status of LWRP Section III Draft.	
	MJ indicated that Section III is under review and needs to discuss comments with NYS representative.	
	Committee Member noted that Section III is not included in the project status notes.	
	MJ expressed that they are unsure when the NYS representative will let them know about Section III, thus completion of Section III cannot be anticipated at this time.	

	Committee Member asked about NYSDOS review speed. MJ expressed that they are unable to speak on DOS review timeframe.	
	Committee member asked whether NYSDOS representative is also receiving the DRAFT LWRP sections.	
	MJ affirmed that the NYSDOS representative is receiving the sections as the committee members receives them.	
	Committee member asked whether the NYSDOS is undertaking a formal review at this time.	
Project Status Update (cont.)	MJ expressed that NYSDOS typically provides review during the development of the document so that upon receipt of the final LWRP draft, their review is not as extensive because they have seen the working document throughout the process.	
	 December 6th - CPU/LWRP Committee #13 Purpose: Review Public Feedback & Comp Plan Recommendation Prioritization Exercise Materials Submitted: Draft Comprehensive Plan submitted mid- December 	N/A
	• January 3 rd - CPU/LWRP Committee #14	
	 Purpose: Draft Comprehensive Plan 	
	 Review Materials Submitted: Draft LWRP Section IV (Proposed Land & Water 	
	 Projects) submitted for review. February 7th - CPU/LWRP Committee #15 	
	 Purpose: Discuss additional revisions to Comp Plan & schedule Comp Plan Public Hearing 	
	March 6 th - CPU/LWRP Committee #16	
	 Purpose: Consider revisions to Comp Plan & Consider forwarding draft Comp Plan to Village Board of Trustees 	
	 Receive comments from Draft LWRP sections 	

	• April 3 rd - CPU/LWRP Committee (If needed)	
	Committee member asked what method MJ prefers for submitting comments.	
	MJ indicated that whatever works best for the committee members is ok.	
	Committee member asked if it would be possible to have the comprehensive plan draft by the January meeting.	
	MJ noted that they are anticipating sending a draft to committee members by mid to late December.	
	Committee member expressed that it may be useful to have extra review.	
Project Status Update (cont.)	Committee member asked how trustee comments are integrated into the comprehensive plan.	
	MJ affirmed that that process is up to the Trustees as a legislative body.	
	Remaining Public Engagement (Anticipated)	N/A
	 Public Engagement (Anticipated) Public Engagement #3 Proposed for November 1, 2023 Virtual webinar Comprehensive Plan: Share Vision, Goals & Preliminary Recommendations LWRP: Share Proposed Projects Public Engagement #4 - TBD Late Winter/Early Spring 2024 Draft Comprehensive Plan for public viewing Committee Public Hearing on Draft Comprehensive Plan Committee member asked whether everyone will be meeting virtually on November 1. MJ affirmed that everyone will be virtual on November 1. 	

	MJ provided an update on the Draft Sections of the LWRP to committee members.	
Draft LWRP Section Update	 Section I: Waterfront Revitalization Area and Harbor Management Area Boundaries Draft Provided/Revisions In Progress Section II: Inventory and Analysis Draft Provided/Revisions In Progress Section III: Local Waterfront Revitalization Policies Draft Provided/Revisions In Progress Section IV: Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects Draft in progress – To be submitted January Section V: Techniques for Local Implementation of the Program Draft in progress – To be Submitted mid-October Section VI: State and Federal Actions and Programs Likely to Affect Implementation Language provided by State – to be submitted mid-November 	N/A
	Consultation With Other Affected Federal, State, Regional, and Local Agencies To be submitted mid-November 	
	 Project Approach The existing state Data Collection and analysis, what has been accomplished. 	
Draft LWRP Section Update	 The Desired state Identifying a Shared Vision for the Village. Implementation Reality-based series of implementation stops 	
(cont.)	steps.	N/A

	MI continued discussion of contract one is a plan and	
	MJ continued discussion of comprehensive plan and	
	provide and outline for the updated document	
	organization.	
	2011 Comprehensive Plan Document Organization	
	Introduction	
	Village Overview	
	The Downtown	
	Large Tracts	
	Circulation	
Preliminary	Environmental Sustainability	
Comprehensive Plan	Sustainable Infrastructure	
Recommendations	Quality of Life	
Continued	Implementation	
Discussion	Appendices	
	Comprehensive Plan Update Document Organization	
	(DRAFT)	
	Introduction	
	Village Overview	
	Vision, Goals & Smart Growth Principles	
	 Sustainability & Resiliency 	
	Recreation	
	Connectivity & Economic Success	
	Housing	
	Mobility & Access	
	History & Placemaking	MJ to add
	Implementation	Governance Section
	Appendices	to Comprehensive
		Plan Document
	MJ indicated that it would be helpful if the	
	Comprehensive Plan update had a separate section on	
	governance.	
	Committee member indicated that the 2011	
	Comprehensive Plan did not have a section for	
	implementation and indicated that potential funding	
	options might be helpful to include.	

Preliminary Comprehensive Plan Recommendations Continued Discussion (cont.)	 updated comprehensive plan can include notes on funding. Committee members expressed that the waterfront must be addressed in the comprehensive plan and discussed the most appropriate way to include. MJ noted that this question is a question for the committee, and provided examples of how the waterfront can be addressed in the Comprehensive Plan. A discussion of the waterfront provided in each section. Can be its own chapter. Can pull together waterfront recommendations in the implementation section. Graphically show overlap between sections that deal with the waterfront. MJ asked the committee how they prefer to tie in the waterfront discussion into the Comprehensive Plan. Committee member noted that spreading the waterfront over each section may leave aspects of the waterfront behind. Committee member indicated that should be in its own section. Committee member indicated that there is community interest in the waterfront and they will probably want to see a separate section. Committee member indicated that the 2011 Comprehensive Plan does not have its own waterfront section and that the previous committee seemingly spread it across the old Comprehensive Plan. 	MJ to include note on funding within implementation section of Comprehensive Plan.
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	Committee members discussed the connection between the Village's history, future placemaking efforts, and placemaking's relationship to open space relative to the comprehensive plan chapters. There was consensus that the Village's history will be written into the Overview section of the Comprehensive Plan. The Placemaking section will discuss future placemaking efforts in the context of the Village's history and simply reference the Village's history	MJ to Prepare a separate section for the waterfront within the Comprehensive plan.
Preliminary Comprehensive Plan Recommendations Continued Discussion (cont.)	 discussed in the Overview section. MJ noted that history and placemaking, per committee member comment, should be moved up on the list. Committee member noted that connectivity and Economic Success will be clearly connected once the chapter is completed. Committee member indicated that Connectivity & Economic Success is focused on connecting the downtown to the rest of the Village, whereas mobility & Access is more Village-wide. MJ proceeded with discussion on preliminary recommendations. 	MJ to discuss the village's history within the overview section and reference the Village's history within the Placemaking section.
	 MJ noted that not all of the preliminary recommendations described at the meeting will be included the Comprehensive Plan because they are preliminary. Draft Goals Focused on Following Topics: Sustainability & Resiliency Recreation Connectivity & Economic Success Housing Mobility & Access History & Placemaking 	MJ to Move History and Placemaking towards the beginning of the document.

	Preliminary Recommendations:
	Identified for each goal
	 <u>Preliminary only</u> to show direction of action to
	support goal
	 Intent to share with public as a 'check-in' regarding
	direction of Comprehensive Plan
	 Additional recommendations, context to support in
	Comprehensive Plan document
	Preliminary Comprehensive Plan Sections &
	Recommendations
	Recommendations
	Sustainability and Resiliency
Preliminary	
Comprehensive	Goal: Focus on the Village's environmental sustainability
Plan	efforts by adopting Climate Smart Community actions to
Recommendations	ensure long term resiliency and natural ecosystem
Continued	restoration.
Discussion (cont.)	 Consider developing a local wetland preservation
	law
	 Conduct a feasibility study identifying Village
	parking areas (including rail commuter lots) as
	candidates for green infrastructure elements
	implementation.
	Establish long term educational partnerships with
	environmental groups focused on the waterfront.
	Support and attract sustainable commercial and
	residential development along the waterfront.
	 Prepare a study evaluating potential flood hazard
	mitigation areas and strategies.
	Consider implementing a Green Development Zone.
	Develop Net-Zero/Nature Positive policies for future
	development. (new draft recommendation)
	 Undertake study of storm sewers and green
	infrastructure approaches to manage stormwater.
	(new draft recommendation)

Preliminary Comprehensive Plan Recommendations Continued Discussion (cont.)	 Investigate retroactive requirements for buildings to retain stormwater on property (new draft recommendation) Committee member asked what net zero means. Committee member noted that the United Nations and similar committees have been using net zero to describe reducing carbon footprint and decarbonizing and that nature positive describes ways to restore ecosystems. Committee member asked if there standard practices for Net Zero. MJ expressed that there are NYS programs that have decarbonization aspects. Committee member noted that risks to the village should be matched with recommendations in the comprehensive plan. Committee member noted that zoning and building codes can help with mitigating risks and that comprehensive plans may need to be more general. Committee member noted that the comprehensive plan should point out where the Village needs rezoning or zoning in general. MJ noted that there are existing committees and task force's duties. Committee member noted that they are unsure what power the comprehensive plan has. Committee member noted that they are unsure what power the comprehensive plan has. Committee member noted that they are unsure what power the comprehensive plan has. 	N/A
	Goal: Enhance Village Parks, recreational opportunities,	

	 *Update the current parks master plan including expansion of outdoor sporting activities [bold indicates new language added to existing recommendation] *Prepare a waterfront redevelopment and park management plan Promote and potentially expand existing artistic and cultural attractions Explore opportunities for water-dependent recreational activities *Develop a waterside promenade plan highlighting riverfront access and connectivity and landscaping elements Committee member asked how parks can meet needs of 	MJ to discuss committees and tasks forces' duties as a part of recommendations within the Comprehensive Plan
	all demographic groups.	
Preliminary	an demographic groups.	
Comprehensive	MJ noted that this can be elaborated in the plan.	
Plan Recommendations	no noted that this can be claborated in the plan.	
Continued	Connectivity Economic Vitality (previously economic	
Discussion (cont.)	success)	
	Goal: Foster and preserve a strong economic	
	environment with an interconnected, walkable	
	downtown that offers a mix of uses and amenities.	
	 Consider revising the Villages zoning code to 	
	promote mixed use development in commercial	
	areas	
	• Prepare a soft sites study identifying underbuilt	
	areas and potential locations for rezoning.	
	 Support commercial business incubation and 	
	adaptive reuse of existing building stock.	
	Conduct a study identifying potential areas suitable	
	for both commercial development and high-density	
	residential development.	MJ to elaborate on
	• Develop a streetscape plan with desired downtown	how parks can meet the needs of all
	streetscape aesthetic and implementation	demographic groups
	strategies.	within the
	• Prepare waterfront redevelopment plan. (new draft	Comprehensive Plan.
	recommendation)	
	Foster communication among landlords, business	
	owners and Village to mitigate turnover and vacant	

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	commercial spaces and identify incentives. (new draft recommendation)	
	MJ noted that the streetscape recommendation is the only recommendation that directly supports connectivity, thus it may be easier to pair mobility and access to Connectivity.	
	Committee member expressed that changing the wording of certain recommendations can help to pair connectivity and Economic Vitality.	
	Committee member asked why some recommendations appear under other topic areas.	
Preliminary Comprehensive Plan	MJ indicated that some recommendations overlap and can be fleshed out and focused for other topic areas.	
Recommendations Continued Discussion (cont.)	Committee member asked whether there will be an inventory of current open space.	
	MJ noted that the parks mapping and mapping of vacant lands will inform this.	
	Village Cluster Study was discussed.	
	Committee member expressed that 'underbuilt areas' should be reworded so that it is clear to the public.	
	 Housing Goal: Diversify housing opportunities to provide a range of housing types for all ages and income levels. *Develop new housing unit targets that are responsive to population trends in both the Village and Westchester County Revise the view preservation ordinance to adopt more objective criteria and limit its applicability to selected areas *Conduct a study on opportunities to expand multifamily zones and provide more lenient variances from single-family restrictions 	

Preliminary Comprehensive Plan Recommendations Continued Discussion (cont.) Update indicate recommende	d that this was removed per committee r comments at meeting #10.	N/A
sidewal • Con identifie • Prep perform History Goal: Ce placema	place was discussed among committee	MJ to change the wording of 'lenient variances' to (possibly) 'progressive variances'.

Preliminary Comprehensive Plan Recommendations Continued Discussion (cont.)	 *Promote adaptive reuse of existing building stock to welcome makers space/studios with an emphasis on innovation and fine arts. Update streetscape on main routes and important thoroughfares. *Identify locations for well-connected public space that supports gathering, cultural performances, and farmers markets. Committee member asked if History can be included in the overview and placemaking can refer back to the history section, but focus solely on placemaking. Committee member noted that this section could be an opportunity to bring back a historical vision or promote ideas in this section. 	N/A

Preliminary Comprehensive Plan Recommendations Continued Discussion (cont.)		
Public Engagement Update	 MJ provided an overview of the upcoming tasks for the committee. Public Engagement #3 November 1, 2023 (proposed date) LWRP: Potential projects. Comprehensive Plan: Vision & Goals Preliminary Recommendations. Virtual Format Via Zoom Evening Meeting Interactive with polling Recorded and posted to project website afterwards. Waterfront Focus Group Meeting Several Conducted Business & property owners along waterfront (west of tracks). Additional Meetings are scheduled and in progress. Virtual Format via Zoom 	N/A

Subcommittee Tasks	 MJ provided an overview of tasks for the committee member. Comprehensive Plan: Share additional comments or thoughts on recommendations, framework LWRP: 	N/A
	 Review revised Section II Review Section V Assist to publicize Public Engagement #3 	
Next Steps	 MJ provided and overview of the projects next steps. Public Engagement # 3 November 1, 2023 Continue preparation of LWRP Sections. Committee Tasks & Feedback. Upcoming Committee Meetings November 1, 2023 (Committee debrief following public meeting: virtual). December 6, 2023 @ 7:00 PM 	N/A
Public Comment	 There will be a dedicated time for public comment at each CPU & LWRP meeting. Member of public, David Skolnik, commented: Requested more of an understanding about how zoning works and what it means. Placing the smart growth principles at the beginning of the document is a significant determinant of the goals of the plan, thus the smart growth principles and the frame work should be explained. Concerned about virtual public meetings and need for a larger place for larger community events. 	N/A

Public Comment (cont.)	 Indicated that the stakeholder meetings have not been added to the website. Noted that there was an implementation committee. Asked whether there is any coordination with the school as they are not required to comply with regulations or environmental policy. Asked why the Village is attempting to increase density. 	N/A
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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	
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	

Consultant Team

Name	Affiliation	Present
Jaclyn Hakes, AICP, Project Manager	M.J. Engineering	

Members of the Public

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

- David Skolnik
- Paul J. Molinare