

**BELMONT MASTER PLAN 2002
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES CHECKLIST
November 2, 2001 REPORT**

The 1992 Master Plan included over 60 major goals. Since June, eight citizen working groups have reviewed them for completion – and continuing relevance.

For your information, those 1992 goals are summarized, with progress noted. The final Master Plan may include some of the needs and goals proposed 10 years ago – along with updated, new ideas – from citizen working groups, community polling and other comments over the next months.

Tonight's update report includes a fair amount of detail. Please remember that the Master Plan committee actively & continually seeks and respects your comments.

To keep informed please check the ongoing information file at the Belmont Public Library, see www.belmontnh.org/masterplan.htm, email your opinion to views@belmontnh.org or call the Belmont Land Use office 267-8300x19.

GENERAL

The Town of Belmont seeks to preserve a balance between residential and non-residential development that does not drain or adversely impact either natural or man-made resources

Streamlining of development review procedures

Promote performance criteria for development that will minimize conflicts between incompatible uses.

Respect the environmental integrity of the town's rolling hills, wetlands and waterways by continued review and amendment of land use regulations.

Revitalize the identity of the town through civic activities and regional promotion of town amenities.

Evaluate effects of development trends on town's infrastructure to minimize adverse impacts on the town's tax rate.

CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION

The Town of Belmont seeks to provide for a balance of uses available to its residents and to the region

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| On-Going | Determine the most appropriate and compatible future land uses based on environmental considerations and geographic features including wetlands, lakes, ponds, steep slopes, groundwater, flood zones, wildlife and vegetation. |
| On-Going | Identify key environmental features that categorize and define unique areas of the Town that should be protected and preserved for future generations to enjoy. |
| Complete | Create and implement land use regulations requiring environmental impact assessments for major land development projects. |

- On-Going** Continue to press for State/Federal evaluations and studies to identify and catalog natural environmental features.
- On-Going** Continue the protection of the Tioga Watershed through the enhancement of performance standards in development that encroaches upon wetlands and prime wetlands.
- On-Going** Coordinate preservation effort of the conservation commission with other land use boards.
- New Goal #A** Acknowledge the need to incorporate annual studies and mapping of wildlife, habitat, and travel corridors throughout the town.
- New Goal #B** To preserve the quality of Belmont's recreational opportunities through increased conservation initiatives
- New Goal #C** 3 Map natural features of Belmont and ensure that they are not adversely affected by future development
- New Goal #D** Educate the public / landowners to “conservation”
- New Goal #E** Clearly define community intent and interpretation of the description “rural town character”...for clarification and assessment as a future, ongoing community vision and goal for Belmont
- New Goal #F** Identify & consider ordinance or other mechanisms for preserving key scenic community Vistas, views and viewsheds
- New Goal #G** Establish administrative goal to proactively research, monitor & apply for established, available funding opportunities (state, federal and foundation sources)
- New Goal #H** Establish and fund a dedicated Belmont Conservation Community Trust Fund
- New Goal #I** Identify Belmont historic buildings and sites
- New Goal #J** Evaluate and prioritize all municipally-owned historic or landmark buildings and sites for conservation/preservation/multiple reuse as community facilities properties

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Town of Belmont seeks to provide cost effective levels of service to its constituents.

- On-Going** Annually review and update Capital Improvements Plan to maintain and improve facilities and services that become outmoded or insufficient to maintain adequate levels of service.
- Not Complete** Prepare an updated “needs” study for all existing facilities including the Highway Department, Municipal Building, Solid Wastes, Library, Fire Department, Police Department and Schools.
- On-Going** Utilize the Transportation Improvement Plan to annually identify needed improvements
- On-Going** Obtain grant monies in combination with volunteer efforts to upgrade outdated and unsafe facilities and equipment.

On-Going Coordinate expenditures through the capital improvements planning process.

On-Going Continue to weigh the impacts of future development on existing services and facilities. Where necessary, require improvements prior to occupancy of development.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

The Town of Belmont seeks to identify known sources of earth construction materials, including existing operations, to meet current and future construction needs.

Determine the number, size, age and activity level of the existing sand and gravel pits in town.

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Determine the future development plans, if any, of outdated and/or depleted sand and gravel pits.

HOUSING

The Town of Belmont seeks to maintain and enhance safe and sanitary condition sin a balanced housing stock for existing and future residents.

Promote the development of quality, moderate cost, housing stock.

Enable property owners the opportunity to construct accessory apartments in certain areas of town.

Establish performance criteria for conversion of large single-family houses into duplexes as well as the development of multi-family units.

Institute minimum aesthetic standards for all developments ranging from manufactured housing to multi-family housing.

Promote proper siting of non-residential or other uses, which are incompatible with surrounding uses.

Restructure cluster regulations to encourage its use as an efficient and cost effective form of residential use.

Review, update and enforce the Town's Building Codes.

LAND USE

The Town of Belmont seeks to provide for a balance of uses available to its residents and to the region.

Retain the dominant rural character, which exists in the eastern portion of town.

Improve land use regulations to better define the development types and patterns within the Town including the preparation of Zoning Maps, Overlays for Protection Zones and Design Standards for new commercial development.

Improve record keeping on current land uses, development, applications, review status and lakeside conversions to year-round residents.

Promote clustered development patterns that allow for a balance of natural and man-made features. In addition, rural areas along the corridors of Horne, Bean, South, and portions of Hurricane Roads

should be protected from encroachment by utilizing cluster development provisions and other innovative land use regulations.

Identify and maintain buffer areas on wetlands and watercourses.

Promote the town's capacity to provide services to the southern Lakes Region and to its residents.

Protect transportation corridors from encroachment of structures, congestion and blight.

Identify means/measures to address traffic congestion particularly related to commercial development (106/140). Address the impact of 106 as the NH DOT's "best link" between Concord and Laconia.

Encourage infill of residences and businesses in the Village area.

Address the issue of the number of manufactured homes and subdivisions in the Town as compared to nearby communities.

RECREATION

The Town of Belmont seeks to provide recreational opportunities to its year-round residents and tax payers.

On-Going Identify future parcels for recreation and recreational needs of Belmont.

On-Going Develop a list of recreational activities ongoing in the Town. Coordinate activities with an inventory of available facilities.

Integrate the planning, operation and expansion of recreational facilities with Land Use, Transportation, Conservation/Preservation and Community Facilities Subcommittees.

Initiate a process for discussion and partnering with neighboring communities on joint development use of public recreational facilities.

Obtain grant monies to enhance existing parks and purchase land or rights to use land for recreational purposes in all parts of town.

Coordinate with state in the use of shorefront property in order to provide townspeople with access to Lake Winnisquam.

Encourage New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development to pursue efficient utilization of state owned shorefront properties on Lake Winnisquam.

New Goal #A Acknowledge the need to expand recreational opportunities while maintaining existing recreation throughout parts of town.

New Goal #B Determine the need for a Parks and Recreation Department

New Goal #C To establish/expand and map a series of loop trails to town lands, scenic/wildlife areas, restaurants, and sleeping facilities throughout the town.

New Goal #D To enhance and create recreational opportunities for adults and families in Belmont/Canterbury.

TRANSPORTATION

The Town of Belmont seeks to plan for road upgrades, changes in intersection design, parking requirements, pedestrian needs and other modes of transportation.

Many local roads need reconstruction and an improved road base. The Suggested Ten Year Program, Belmont Transportation Improvements Plan should be implemented.

Develop a strategy for funding road improvements.

Develop a mechanism to gain a consensus within the community for road improvements and priorities.

Research alternatives for public transportation and commuter service.

Balance the need for improvements with the desire to make the streets safer, reduce speed/congestion while maintaining the Town's rural character.

The Town should maintain an active involvement with State plans being developed for up-grading Route 106 to a controlled access highway. This should include efforts to improve the route 140 intersection on Route 106. The State should also be asked to upgrade the functional classification of Route 106 from a major collector to a minor or major arterial.

The Town should ask for the extension of the Laconia By-Pass southerly around the Belknap Mall to the vicinity of Union Road to relieve the traffic congestion.

Procedures need to be established to provide regular reports to the NHDOT on the mileage of new roads which the Town has responsibility for maintenance in order to receive additional highway Block Grant Aid funds.

Add sidewalks along Route 140 between downtown and the grammar school on Best Road, and also between downtown and the Post Office.

Consider designation of Jamestown Road and Ladd Hill Road as Scenic Roads.

Update reports detailing traffic volumes and commuter patterns.

UTILITIES & PUBLIC SERVICES **WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES**

In cooperation with the Fire Department, the Water and Sewer Department should conduct a comprehensive study of water demand for fire fighting needs.

A feasibility study of a second storage tank and water line extensions to the Seavey Road/Wildlife Boulevard area should be considered.

All water and sewer extensions should be reviewed with their long-term growth implications in mind.

Address the adequacy of water quality. Is meeting the minimum standards an acceptable criteria?

Review operations and maintenance issues at the Village Pump Station particularly with respect to building size and the potential for flooding.

UTILITIES-PUBLIC SERVICE

The Planning Board should, on an annual basis, request information from Public Service Company of New Hampshire on their current expansion plans for Belmont, particularly with respect to commercial development.

The Board of Selectmen should periodically review the adequacy of cable television service in town.

UTILITIES-GENERAL

The Town should consider creating a Public Works Department.