STATEMENT of PURPOSE			
1973 MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN	1993 TOWN PLAN:	2007 TOWN PLAN:	2016 TOWN PLAN:
It is the intent and purpose of this plan to encourage the appropriate development of all lands within the town in a manner which will promote efficiency, economy, and general welfare; and to provide means and methods for the town to plan for the prevention, minimization, and future elimination of such land development problems as may presently exist or which may be foreseen, and to implement these plans when and where appropriate.	The plan is intended to be a dynamic document which provides basic guidelines and an overall vision for the future of the community. It is comprehensive and addresses many different issues facing the Town today. Each section contains background information, a vision statement, a discussion of the current issues and needs, and recommended actions to address these needs.	The plan is intended to be a dynamic document which provides basic guidelines and an overall vision for the future of the community. It is comprehensive and addresses many different issues facing the Town today. Each section contains background information, a vision statement, a discussion of the current issues and needs, and recommended actions to address these needs. It is recognized that planning for the future is a process which can best be done as a continuing activity, and this Town Plan is a policy guideline that should change as the needs and desires of the community change.	The plan is intended to be a dynamic document which provides basic guidelines and an overall vision for the future of the community. It is comprehensive and addresses many different issues facing the Town today. Each section contains background information, a vision statement, a discussion of the current issues and needs, and recommended actions to address these needs. It is recognized that planning for the future is a process which can best be done as a continuing activity, and this Town Plan is a policy guideline that should change as the needs and desires of the community change.

OVERALL VISION STATEMENT			
1973 MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN: POPULATION STUDY	1993 TOWN PLAN:	2007 TOWN PLAN:	2016 TOWN PLAN:
The 1973 Plan does not include a Vision Statement per se. This Population Study is substituted as it records a picture of the Town at that time and a projected vision of the future. The population of Maidstone has declined from 206 year-round residents in 1900 to 94 in 1970. The decline is typical of many rural towns. The low was in 1960 with 78 residents reported by the U.S. Census. There is no great increase foreseen in the town's year-round resident population. But as the interstate highway systems in both New Hampshire and Vermont draw closer to our area, we might see more interest shown in our sparsely settled town. During the summer season, the town grows considerably. The latest figures taken from the Department of Forests and Parks report show camping visitors at the Maidstone State Park have grown from 15,603 in 1969 to 22,966 in 1970. Day use visitors at the beach and picnic areas grew from 5,778 in 1969 to 12,685 in 1971. With the State continually improving and enlarging the camping areas and with camping becoming more popular each year, we can expect these figures to increase greatly in the next few years. With all lots leased around Maidstone Lake, there are 175 camps with an average of four residents per camp, making an estimate of at least 700 more summer residents. Many of these camps are being winterized and improved, and perhaps in the not too distant future we will see these summer homes become year-round homes. Even at the present time with the snowmobile so popular, these camps are being used more and more. If in the future Stan's Campsite was further developed, we would see many more seasonal residents. Many camps are situated along the North Road, Paul Stream Road, around West Pond, and through the forest area, adding to our summer resident population.		The small scale, rural lifestyle will be maintained. The farms will continue to be within the river floodplain, and the cottages clustered around Maidstone Lake. Most of the other lakeshore will remain undeveloped. The economy will continue to rely on extracting timber resources which are now managed in a sustainable manner. New residential development will occur along previously established roads and be concentrated on Route 102, North Road, Hall Road, and Maidstone Lake Road. Hunting and snowmobile camps will increase in the forest area, however, access to these roads should be done in such a manner that will be safe and will not impede the smooth flow of traffic. The Town encourages private landowners to allow access to their lands for recreational purposes.	The small scale, rural lifestyle will be maintained. The farms will continue to be within the river floodplain, and the cottages clustered around Maidstone Lake. Most of the other lakeshore will remain undeveloped. The economy will continue to rely on extracting timber resources which are now managed in a sustainable manner. New residential development will occur along previously established roads and be concentrated on Route 102, North Road, Hall Road, and Maidstone Lake Road. Hunting and snowmobile camps will increase in the forest area, however, access to these roads should be done in such a manner that will be safe and will not impede the smooth flow of traffic. The Town encourages private landowners to allow access to their lands for recreational purposes.

STATEMENT of PLANNING GOALS			
1973 MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN	1993 TOWN PLAN:	2007 TOWN PLAN:	2016 TOWN PLAN:
1. To provide sufficient space in appropriate locations for forests and agriculture, for residential, recreational, commercial, and industrial development, and for public and semi-public facilities in the light of their respective environmental needs and of their mutual interrelationships, in order to meet the needs of all town citizens.	1. Maintain the scale, the traditions, and the rural character of Maidstone. Preserve those qualities which make Maidstone an attractive community in which to live, work, and raise a family.	1. Maintain the scale, the traditions, and the rural character of Maidstone. Preserve those qualities which make Maidstone an attractive community in which to live, work, and raise a family.	1. Maintain the scale, the traditions, and the rural character of Maidstone. Preserve those qualities which make Maidstone an attractive community in which to live, work, and raise a family.
2. To protect soil, forests, water, and other natural resources.	2. Maintain the agricultural lands which are essential to the overall objective of preserving open space, scenic qualities, and rural flavor.	2. Maintain the agricultural lands which are essential to the overall objective of preserving open space, scenic qualities, and rural flavor.	2. Maintain the agricultural lands which are essential to the overall objective of preserving open space, scenic qualities, and rural flavor.
3. To enable the mitigation of the burden of property taxes on agricultural, forest, and other open lands.	3. Preserve the unique natural areas and ecosystems that make up Maidstone's diverse and scenic landscape.	3. Preserve the unique natural areas and ecosystems that make up Maidstone's diverse and scenic landscape.	3. Preserve the unique natural areas and ecosystems that make up Maidstone's diverse and scenic landscape.
4. To protect and preserve open space and to provide a sound economic basis for its maintenance as open space, to facilitate the growth of the town in a manner to encourage a rational and convenient pattern of settlement, and good civic design, and in particular to encourage and enhance the attractiveness of the town.	4. Maintain opportunities for recreational activities on public and private lands. Protect the habitats that provide for hunting, fishing, berry-picking, hiking, and so on.	4. Recreational opportunities on public lands should be maintained and encouraged on private lands only when landowners are willing to allow public access to their lands. Those habitats that provide opportunities for hunting, fishing, berry-picking, hiking, and so on need to be carefully monitored and protected.	4. Recreational opportunities on public lands should be maintained and encouraged on private lands only when landowners are willing to allow public access to their lands. Those habitats that provide opportunities for hunting, fishing, berry-picking, hiking, and so on need to be carefully monitored and protected.
5. To encourage the healthful and convenient distribution of population, employment opportunities, and to protect residential, agricultural, and other areas from undue concentrations of population and overcrowding of land and buildings.	5. Encourage slow orderly growth on the non-agricultural lands that are suited for development.	5. Encourage slow orderly growth on the lands that are suited for development.	5. Encourage slow orderly growth on the lands that are suited for development.
6. To facilitate the adequate and economical provision of transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, and other public requirements.	6. Promote small scale, decentralized economic development that does not detract from Maidstone's rural character.	6. Promote small scale, decentralized economic development, including homebased businesses, that does not detract from Maidstone's rural character.	6. Promote small scale, decentralized economic development, including homebased businesses, that does not detract from Maidstone's rural character.

STATEMENT of PLANNING GOALS			
1973 MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN	1993 TOWN PLAN:	2007 TOWN PLAN:	2016 TOWN PLAN:
	7. Provide high quality public services (i.e., roads, solid waste disposal, schools) while recognizing the limitations of the property tax system.	7. Provide high quality public services (i.e., roads, solid waste disposal, schools) while recognizing the limitations of the property tax system.	7. Provide high quality public services (i.e., roads, solid waste disposal, schools) while recognizing the limitations of the property tax system.
		8. Protect private property values in the Town of Maidstone.	8. Protect private property values in the Town of Maidstone.
		9. Protect the Town's water resources.	9. Protect the Town's water resources.
		10. Protect the rights of landowners.	10. Protect the rights of landowners.
		11. Protect the forest lands and agricultural lands within the Town.	11. Protect the forest lands and agricultural lands within the Town.
		12. Provide for the proper maintenance of all roads in Town.	12. Provide for the proper maintenance of all roads in Town.

TOWN OVERVIEW		
1993 Town Plan:	2007 Town Plan:	2016 Town Plan:
Maidstone is a quiet, peaceful and healthy agricultural community located in Essex County, Vermont. Comprised of 20,436 acres, it is bounded on the northeast by the Town of Brunswick, east by the Connecticut River, and southwest by the Towns of Guildhall and Granby and west by the Unorganized Town of Ferdinand.	Maidstone is a quiet, peaceful and healthy agricultural community located in Essex County, Vermont. Comprised of 20,436 acres, it is bounded on the northeast by the Town of Brunswick, east by the Connecticut River, and southwest by the Towns of Guildhall and Granby and west by the Unorganized Town of Ferdinand.	Maidstone is a quiet, peaceful and healthy agricultural community located in Essex County, Vermont. Comprised of 20,436 acres, it is bounded on the northeast by the Town of Brunswick, east by the Connecticut River, and southwest by the Towns of Guildhall and Granby and west by the Unorganized Town of Ferdinand.
The land along the Connecticut River is fine sandy loam and very productive land for hay, silage corn, and pasture. This area is subject to the overflow from the Connecticut River. Between the Connecticut River bottomlands and the uplands is a stretch of very fertile soil great for potatoes and gardens. The uplands are mostly mountainous and rocky; not being well adapted to cultivation, they are mostly wooded.	The land along the Connecticut River is fine sandy loam and very productive land for hay, silage corn and pasture. This area is subject to the overflow from the Connecticut River. Between the Connecticut River bottomlands and the uplands is a stretch of very fertile soil great for potatoes and gardens. The uplands are mostly mountainous and rocky; not being well adapted to cultivation, they are mostly wooded.	The land along the Connecticut River is fine sandy loam and very productive land for hay, silage corn and pasture. This area is subject to the overflow from the Connecticut River. Between the Connecticut River bottomlands and the uplands is a stretch of very fertile soil great for potatoes and gardens. The uplands are mostly mountainous and rocky; not being well adapted to cultivation, they are mostly wooded.
Maidstone has an abundant supply of surface water. In the northwest corner of town lies West Mountain Pond, 1,235 feet above sea level; its outlet is West Mountain Brook, which runs eastward. Dutton Pond is located in the center of town and has its outlet in Dutton Brook, which flows eastward to Cutler Mill Brook. Steven's Pond is located in the southeastern part of town about a half mile from US Route 102. Maidstone Lake, which lies in the southwest corner of the town, is 3 miles long and 1 mile wide. While ponds are basically undeveloped, Maidstone Lake has extensive camp development and is a popular summer resort with an increasing number of year-round residences. Paul Stream flows through the northwestern part.	Maidstone has an abundant supply of surface water. In the northwest corner of town lies West Mountain Pond, 1,235 feet above sea level; its outlet is West Mountain Brook, which runs eastward. Dutton Pond is located in the center of town and has its outlet in Dutton Brook, which flows eastward to Cutler Mill Brook. Steven's Pond is located in the southeastern part of town about a half mile from US Route 102. Maidstone Lake, which lies in the southwest corner of the town, is 3 miles long and 1 mile wide. While ponds are basically undeveloped, Maidstone Lake has extensive camp development and is a popular summer resort with an increasing number of year-round residences. Paul Stream flows through the northwestern part.	Maidstone has an abundant supply of surface water. In the northwest corner of town lies West Mountain Pond, 1,235 feet above sea level; its outlet is West Mountain Brook, which runs eastward. Dutton Pond is located in the center of town and has its outlet in Dutton Brook, which flows eastward to Cutler Mill Brook. Steven's Pond is located in the southeastern part of town about a half mile from US Route 102. Maidstone Lake, which lies in the southwest corner of the town, is 3 miles long and 1 mile wide. While ponds are basically undeveloped, Maidstone Lake has extensive camp development and is a popular summer resort with an increasing number of year-round residences. Paul Stream flows through the northwestern part.

TOWN OVERVIEW continued			
1993 Town Plan:	2007 Town Plan:	2016 Town Plan:	
Maidstone's most spectacular scenic views, which are rarely observed by tourists, can be seen from Maidstone Hill, Bear Hill and Stoneham Mountain. Bear Hill, with an elevation of 1,765 feet is located between Route 102 and the North Road. Many early farm settlements were first started here. Those who wander to this high pinnacle may see a breathtaking view of the valley. There are splendid views from Maidstone Hill, west to Maidstone Lake and east to the valley below. Maidstone Hill's natural wonders include a number of caves.	Maidstone's most spectacular scenic views, which are rarely observed by tourists, can be seen from Maidstone Hill, Bear Hill and Stoneham Mountain. Bear Hill, with an elevation of 1,765 feet is located between Route 102 and the North Road. Many early farm settlements were first started here. Those who wander to this high pinnacle may see a breathtaking view of the valley. There are splendid views from Maidstone Hill, west to Maidstone Lake and east to the valley below. Maidstone Hill's natural wonders include a number of caves. As you can see below, the population of Maidstone has changed dramatically over the past 200 years. It seems to be rising again and unofficially the 2006 estimate is 155. The number of nonresidents fluctuates with the seasons. According to the 2005 Maidstone Grand List, there were 61 residential dwellings, 223 vacation homes, 8 mobile homes, and 6 farms. There were 45 households in Maidstone in 2000 and the median age was 46.3. Finally, according to the U.S. Census, the median household income was \$22,083 in 1989 and \$19, 167 in 1999.	Maidstone's most spectacular scenic views, which are rarely observed by tourists, can be seen from Maidstone Hill, Bear Hill and Stoneham Mountain. Bear Hill, with an elevation of 1,765 feet is located between Route 102 and the North Road. Many early farm settlements were first started here. Those who wander to this high pinnacle may see a breathtaking view of the valley. There are splendid views from Maidstone Hill, west to Maidstone Lake and east to the valley below. Maidstone Hill's natural wonders include a number of caves. The population of Maidstone has changed dramatically over the past 200 years. It seems to be rising again and unofficially the 2010 estimate is 208. The number of nonresidents fluctuates with the seasons. According to the 2012 Maidstone Grand List there were 104 residential dwellings, 210 vacation homes, 8 mobile homes and 2 farms. There were 93 households in Maidstone in 2010 and the median age was 52.7. Finally, according to the U.S. Census, the median household income was \$19,107 in 1999 and \$45,625 in 2012.	
	Maidstone has no village, post office, school, store, gas station, tavern, or doctor's office. It depends on the neighboring towns for all these services. The average travel time to work in 2000 was 31.09 minutes. Maidstone has no village, post office station, tavern or doctor's office. It depends on the neighboring towns for all these services.		
	MAIDSTONE TOTAL POPULATION, 1790 – 2000	MAIDSTONE TOTAL POPULATION, 1790 – 2000	
	1790 1800 1810 1820 1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 125 152 177 166 236 271 237 259 254 286 198 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 206 175 171 12 396 981 78 94 100 131 105 Source: U. S. Census Bureau	1790 1800 1810 1820 1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 125 152 177 166 236 271 237 259 254 286 198 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 206 175 171 12 396 981 78 94 100 131 105 Source: U. S. Census Bureau	

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN		
CATEGORY	2007 TOWN PLAN:	2016 TOWN PLAN:
Proposed Land Use	 Improve the local permitting inspection process Update and revise the zoning bylaws. Foster more dynamic relationships between the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, local leaders, and the public. 	 Improve the local permitting inspection process Update and revise the zoning bylaws. Foster more dynamic relationships between the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, local leaders, and the public.
Agriculture	 Encourage diversified agricultural use of this prime land. Encourage UVM Extension to staff the Guildhall Office. Encourage the use and sale of Vermont Made Products. 	 Encourage diversified agricultural use of this prime land. Encourage the use and sale of Vermont Made Products.
Forestry	 Encourage individual landowners to consider working with a professional forester to draw up a forestry plan which will consider sustainable harvesting techniques, timber stand mix, and continuous renewal of the forest resource. Encourage new development to use creative ways to develop land with a minimal impact on forest lands. 	 Encourage individual landowners to consider working with a professional forester to draw up a forestry plan which will consider sustainable harvesting. Encourage new development to use creative ways to develop land with a minimal impact on forest lands.
Natural Areas	 Obtain educational materials about the values of natural areas, and make them available to all. Protect and preserve the significant natural areas within Maidstone. 	 Obtain educational materials about the values of natural areas, and make them available to all. Protect and preserve the significant natural areas within Maidstone.
Shoreland	 Adopt erosion control standards. Continue to work with the Maidstone Lake Camp Owners Association on lake issues. Revise the current Zoning Bylaws to protect water quality and the quiet lifestyle. 	 Adopt erosion control standards. Continue to work with the Maidstone Lake Association on lake issues. Revise the current Zoning Bylaws to protect water quality and the quiet lifestyle.
Transportation	 Encourage the State of Vermont to assume year round maintenance, including plowing and sanding, of the Maidstone Lake Road. Encourage the State of Vermont to reconstruct the portions of Route 102 at the dangerous curves near the McDade, McKenzie, and Hoth residences. Educate landowners concerning the State Liability Law. Encourage the widening of the shoulders on Route 102 to provide safe passage for cyclists and motorists. 	 Encourage the State of Vermont to reconstruct the portions of Route 102 at the dangerous curves near the McDade, McKenzie, and Lafontaine residences. Educate landowners concerning the State Liability Law. Encourage the widening of the shoulders on Route 102 to provide safe passage for cyclists and motorists.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN continued		
Category	2007 Town Plan:	2016 Town Plan:
Recreation	 Encourage an open dialogue between landowners and recreation users to foster the traditional public use of private lands. Continually investigate ways to establish and maintain public access to rivers, streams, and lakes in town. This will include working with the Connecticut River Byway, following up on grant programs, maintaining relations with landowners, and seeking donations of rights-of-way. Actively work with the State of Vermont to encourage the creation of a bike lane along Route 102 and cross country ski trails around Maidstone Lake. Work with the Maidstone Lake Camp Owners Association to encourage them to educate personal watercraft users and all boaters to be respectful of others. 	 Encourage an open dialogue between landowners and recreation users to foster the traditional public use of private lands. Continually investigate ways to establish and maintain public access to rivers, streams, and lakes in town. This will include working with the Connecticut River Byway, following up on grant programs, maintaining relations with landowners, and seeking donations of rights-of-way. Actively work with the State of Vermont to encourage the creation of a bike lane along Route 102 and cross country ski trails around Maidstone Lake. Work with the Maidstone Lake Association to encourage them to educate personal watercraft users and all boaters to be respectful of others.
Economic Development	 Ensure that the Zoning Bylaws encourage small scale economic growth. Balance the use of our forests, lake, ponds, rivers, and streams for recreation, agriculture, timber harvesting, and economic growth, while maintaining the character of the area. Adopt zoning regulations for telecommunication facilities and related infrastructure. 	 Ensure that the Zoning Bylaws encourage small scale economic growth. Balance the use of our forests, lake, ponds, rivers, and streams for recreation, agriculture, timber harvesting, and economic growth, while maintaining the character of the area. Adopt zoning regulations for telecommunication facilities and related infrastructure.
Education	 Continue to provide the best and most cost-effective educational opportunities to all our students. Investigate the possibility of creating our own school or forming a cooperative school district with neighboring towns. Encourage our local and state representatives to investigate alternative school funding sources to lower property taxes. 	 Continue to provide the best and most cost-effective educational opportunities to all our students. Encourage our local and state representatives to investigate alternative school funding sources to lower property taxes.
Housing	 Comply with 24 V.S.A., Chapter 117 while still maintaining the rural characteristics of Maidstone. Closely monitor the development of year-round homes on Maidstone Lake. Encourage the preservation of historic sites and buildings that add to the character of the town. Give careful consideration to regulations governing the creation of mobile home parks and low and moderate income housing. 	 Comply with 24 V.S.A., Chapter 117 while still maintaining the rural characteristics of Maidstone. Encourage the preservation of historic sites and buildings that add to the character of the town. Give careful consideration to regulations governing the creation of mobile home parks and low and moderate income housing.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN continued				
Category	2007 Town Plan:	2016 Town Plan:		
Utilities/Facilities	 Selectboard should stay involved with and informed about the solid waste issue. Continue to maintain the positive relationships with adjacent communities with regards to fire protection, police protection, ambulance services, and other public services. Amend the Maidstone Zoning Bylaw to include regulations for telecommunication facilities, and Flood Hazard Area Regulations. Continue working on securing grants to build a new larger vault. Consider purchasing land for increased cemetery use. 	 Selectboard should stay involved with and informed about the solid waste issue. Continue to maintain the positive relationships with adjacent communities with regards to fire protection, police protection, ambulance services, and other public services. Amend the Maidstone Zoning Bylaw to include regulations for telecommunication facilities, and Flood Hazard Area Regulations. 		
Energy	 The Selectboard should require energy efficient applications where needed when approving the construction of the new additions to the Town Hall. Educate our homeowners and farms about the services offered by Efficiency Vermont. 	Educate our homeowners and farms about the services offered by Efficiency Vermont.		
Adjacent Communities	 Continuously monitor the situation to ensure that relationships with the adjacent communities continue to be positive. 	 Continuously monitor the situation to ensure that relationships with the adjacent communities continue to be positive. 		