

ELEMENTS, GOALS, & TASKS

Revised 2023-10-04

	REQUIRED ELEMENTS	RELATED STATE GOAL(S) (FROM 24 V.S.A. § 4302)	TASKS FOR PLANNING COMMISSION
#1 - #4: Bob	<p>1. A statement of objectives, policies, and programs of the municipality to guide the future growth and development of land, public services, and facilities, and to protect the environment;</p>	<p>(b)(1) To establish a coordinated, comprehensive planning process and policy framework to guide decisions by municipalities, regional planning commissions, and State agencies.</p> <p>(b)(2) To encourage citizen participation at all levels of the planning process, and to assure that decisions shall be made at the most local level possible commensurate with their impact.</p> <p>(c)(8) To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for Vermont residents and visitors.</p> <p>(A) Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities.</p> <p>(B) Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate.</p> <p>(d): All plans and regulations prepared under the authority of this chapter shall be based upon surveys of existing conditions and probable future trends, and shall be made in the light of present and future growth and requirements, and with reasonable consideration, for the landowner, to topography, to needs and trends of the municipality, the region and the State, to the character of each area and to its peculiar suitability for particular uses in relationship to surrounding areas, and with a view to conserving the value of buildings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create survey questions to elicit the input from Maidstone property owners and residents • Analyze and collate the survey responses to extract the information needed to create this statement • Write a Statement of Objectives, Policies, and Programs for Maidstone to guide the future growth and development of land, public services, and facilities, and to protect the environment.

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#1 - #4: Bob	<p>2. A land use plan consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective land uses that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indicates those areas proposed for forests, recreation, agriculture (using the agricultural land identification process described in 6 V.S.A. § 8), residence, commerce industry, public, and semi-public uses, and open spaces, areas reserved for flood plain, and areas identified by the State, the regional planning commission, or the municipality that require special consideration for aquifer protections, for wetland protection, for the maintenance of forest blocks, wildlife habitat, and habitat connectors, or for other conservation purposes. Sets forth the present and prospective location, amount, intensity, and character of such land uses and the appropriate timing or sequence of land development activities in relation to the provision of necessary community facilities and service; • Identifies those areas, if any, proposed for designation under chapter 76A of this title, together with, for each area proposed for designation, an explanation of how the designation would further the plan’s goals and the goals of section 4302 of this title, and how the area meets the requirements for the type of designation to be sought; • Indicates those areas that are important as forest blocks and habitat connectors and plans for land development in those areas to minimize forest fragmentation and promote the health, viability, and ecological function of forests. A plan may include specific policies to encourage the active management of those areas for wildlife habitat, water quality, timber production, recreation, or other values or functions identified by the municipality. 	<p>(c)(1) To plan development so as to maintain the historic settlement pattern of compact village and urban centers separated by rural countryside.</p> <p>(A) Intensive residential development should be encouraged primarily in areas related to community centers, and strip development along highways should be discouraged.</p> <p>(B) Economic growth should be encouraged in locally designated growth areas, employed to revitalize existing village and urban centers, or both, and should be encouraged in growth centers designated under chapter 76A of this title.</p> <p>(C) Public investments, including the construction or expansion of infrastructure, should reinforce the general character and planned growth patterns of the area.</p> <p>(D) Development should be undertaken in accordance with smart growth principles as defined in subdivision 2791(13) of this title.</p> <p>(c)(8) To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for Vermont residents and visitors.</p> <p>(A) Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities.</p> <p>(B) Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate.</p> <p>(c)(6) To maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife, forests, and other land resources.</p> <p>(A) Vermont’s air, water, wildlife, mineral, and land resources should be planned for use and development according to the principles set forth in 10 V.S.A. §6086(a).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Land Use Plan that consists of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Land Use Map indicates those areas proposed for forests, recreation, agriculture (using the agricultural land identification process described in 6 V.S.A. § 8), residence, commerce industry, public, and semi-public uses, and open spaces, areas reserved for flood plain, and areas identified by the State, the regional planning commission, or the municipality that require special consideration for aquifer protections, for wetland protection, for the maintenance of forest blocks, wildlife habitat, and habitat connectors, or form other conservation purposes; • a Statement of Present and Prospective Land Uses.

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	2. A land use plan (continued)	<p>(c)(6) <i>continued</i></p> <p>(B) Vermont’s water quality should be maintained and improved according to the policies and actions developed in the basin plans established by the Secretary of Natural Resources under 10 V.S.A. §1253</p> <p>(C) Vermont’s forestlands should be managed so as to maintain and improve forest blocks and habitat connectors.</p>	
#1 - #4: Bob	3. A transportation plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective transportation and circulation facilities showing existing and proposed highways and streets by type and character of improvement, and where pertinent, parking facilities, transit routes, terminals, bicycle paths and trails, scenic roads, airports, railroads, and port facilities, and other similar facilities or uses, with indications of priority of need;	<p>(c)(4) To provide for safe, convenient, economic, and energy efficient transportation systems that respect the integrity of the natural environment, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians and bicyclers.</p> <p>(A) Highways, air, rail, and other means of transportation should be mutually supportive, balanced, and integrated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Transportation Plan that consists of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Transportation Map that shows existing and proposed highways and streets by type and character of improvement, and where pertinent, parking facilities, transit routes, terminals, bicycle paths and trails, scenic roads, airports, railroads, and port facilities, and other similar facilities or uses, with indications of priority of need; • a Statement of Present and Prospective Transportation and Circulation Facilities.

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#1 - #4: Bob	<p>4. A utility and facility plan, consisting of a map and statement of present and prospective community facilities and public utilities showing existing and proposed educational, recreational and other public sites, buildings and facilities, including hospitals, libraries, power generating plants and transmission lines, water supply, sewage disposal, refuse disposal, storm drainage, and other similar facilities and activities, and recommendations to meet future needs for community facilities and services, with indications of priority of need, costs and method of financing;</p>	<p>(c)(12) To plan for, finance, and provide an efficient system of public facilities and services to meet future needs.</p> <p>(A) Public facilities and services should include fire and police protection, emergency medical services, schools, water supply, and sewage and solid waste disposal.</p> <p>(B) The rate of growth should not exceed the ability of the community and the area to provide facilities and services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Utility and Facility Plan that consists of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Utility and Facility Map that shows existing and proposed educational, recreational, and other public sites, buildings and facilities, including hospitals, libraries, power generating plants and transmission lines, water supply, sewage disposal, refuse disposal, storm drainage, and other similar facilities and activities; • A Statement of Present and Prospective Community Facilities and Public Utilities that includes recommendations to meet future needs for community facilities and services, with indications of priority of need, costs, and method of financing.

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#5 - #8: Bruce	5. A statement of policies on the preservation of rare and irreplaceable natural areas, scenic and historic features and resources;	<p>(c)(5) To identify, protect, and preserve important natural and historic features of the Vermont landscape, including:</p> <p>(A) significant natural and fragile areas;</p> <p>(B) outstanding water resources, including lakes, rivers, aquifers, shorelands, and wetlands;</p> <p>(C) significant scenic roads, waterways, and views;</p> <p>(D) important historic structures, sites, or districts, archaeological sites, and archaeologically sensitive areas.</p> <p>(c)(6) To maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife, forests, and other land resources.</p> <p>(A) Vermont’s air, water, wildlife, mineral, and land resources should be planned for use and development according to the principles set forth in 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)</p> <p>(B) Vermont’s water quality should be maintained and improved according to the policies and actions developed in the basin plans established by the Secretary of Natural Resources under 10 V.S.A. §1253</p> <p>(C) Vermont’s forestlands should be managed so as to maintain and improve forest blocks and habitat connectors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Statement of Policies on the Preservation of Rare and Irreplaceable Natural Areas, Scenic and Historic Features and Resources
#5 - #8: Bruce	5. Policies on preservation (continued)	(c)(10) To provide for the wise and efficient use of Vermont’s natural resources and to facilitate the appropriate extraction of earth resources and the proper restoration and preservation of the aesthetic qualities of the area.	
#5 - #8: Bruce	6. An educational facilities plan consisting of a map and statement of present and projected uses and the local public school system;	(c)(3) To broaden access to educational and vocational training opportunities sufficient to ensure the full realization of the abilities of all Vermonters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an Educational Facilities Plan consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A map of the local public school system; • A Statement of Present and Projected Uses.

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#5 - #8: Bruce	7. A recommended program for the implementation of the objectives of the development plan;		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a program for the implementation of the objectives of the development plan;

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#5 - #8: Bruce	8. A statement indicating how the plan relates to development trends and plans for adjacent municipalities, areas, and the region developed under this title;	(b)(3) To consider the use of resources and the consequences of growth and development for the region and the State, as well as the community in which it takes place. (b)(4) To encourage and assist municipalities to work creatively together to develop and implement plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a statement indicating how the plan relates to development trends and plans for adjacent municipalities, areas, and the region developed under this title; • Bruce says: “I think that the PC needs to analyze the trends and plans of adjacent communities and then create a statement that relates Maidstone’s proposed or updated Town Plan to those of the adjacent communities. (Note that Maidstone’s Town Plan may or may not be consistent with adjacent communities, and the statement should state that relationship. E.g. it should point out the consistencies or inconsistencies).”

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#9 - #12: Chris	9. An energy plan, including an analysis of energy resources, needs, scarcities, costs, and problems within the municipality; a statement of policy on the conservation of energy, including programs, such as thermal integrity standards for buildings, to implement that policy; a statement of policy on the development of renewable energy resources; a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy;	(c)(7) To make efficient use of energy, provide for the development of renewable energy resources, and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. (A) General strategies for achieving these goals include increasing the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings; identifying areas suitable for renewable energy generation; encouraging the use and development of renewable or lower emission energy sources for electricity, heat, and transportation; and reducing transportation energy demand and single occupancy vehicle use.) (B) Specific strategies and recommendations for achieving these goals are identified in the State energy plans prepared under 30 V.S.A. §§ 202 and 202b.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an Energy Plan including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct an analysis of energy resources, needs, scarcities, costs, and problems within the municipality;
#9 - #12: Chris	9. Energy Plan (continued)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Create a Statement of Policy on the Conservation of Energy, including programs to implement to implement that policy, such as thermal integrity standards for buildings;
#9 - #12: Chris	9. Energy Plan (continued)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Create a Statement of Policy on the Development of Renewable Energy Resources;
#9 - #12: Chris	9. Energy Plan (continued)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Create a Statement of Policy on Patterns and Densities of Land Use likely to result in conservation of energy.

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<p>#9 - #12: Chris</p>	<p>10. A housing element that shall include a recommended program for addressing low and moderate income persons' housing needs as identified by the regional planning commission pursuant to subdivision 4348a(a)(9) of this title. The program should account for permitted accessory dwelling units, as defined in subdivision 4412(1)(E) of this title, which provide affordable housing;</p>	<p>(c)(11) To ensure the availability of safe and affordable housing for all Vermonters.</p> <p>(A) Housing should be encouraged to meet the needs of a diversity of social and income groups in each Vermont community, particularly for those citizens of low and moderate income.</p> <p>(B) New and rehabilitated housing should be safe, sanitary, located conveniently to employment and commercial centers, and coordinated with the provision of necessary public facilities and utilities.</p> <p>(C) Sites for multi-family and manufactured housing should be readily available in locations similar to those generally used for single-family conventional dwellings.</p> <p>(D) Accessory apartments within or attached to single-family residences which provide affordable housing in close proximity to cost-effective care and supervision for relatives, elders, or persons who have a disability should be allowed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Recommended Program for addressing low and moderate income persons' housing needs as identified by the regional planning commission, pursuant to subdivision 4348a(a)(9) of this title. The program should account for permitted accessory dwelling units, as defined in subdivision 4412(1)(E) of this title, which provide affordable housing;

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<p>#9 - #12: Chris</p>	<p>11. An economic development element that describes present economic conditions and the location, type, and scale of desired economic development, and identifies policies, projects, and programs necessary to foster economic growth;</p>	<p>(c)(1)(B) Economic growth should be encouraged in locally designated growth areas, employed to revitalize existing village and urban centers, or both, and should be encouraged in growth centers designated under chapter 76A of this title.</p> <p>(c)(2) To provide a strong and diverse economy that provides satisfying and rewarding job opportunities and that maintains high environmental standards, and to expand economic opportunities in areas with high unemployment or low per capita incomes.</p> <p>(c)(9) To encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest industries.</p> <p>(A) Strategies to protect long-term viability of agricultural and forestlands should be encouraged and should include maintaining low overall density.</p> <p>(B) The manufacture and marketing of value-added agricultural and forest products should be encouraged.</p> <p>(C) The use of locally-grown food products should be encouraged.</p> <p>(D) Sound forest and agricultural management practices should be encouraged.</p> <p>(E) Public investment should be planned so as to minimize development pressure on agricultural and forest land.</p> <p>(c)(13) To ensure the availability of safe and affordable child care and to integrate child care issues into the planning process, including child care financing, infrastructure, business assistance for child care providers, and child care work force development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe present economic conditions and the location, type, and scale of desired economic development;
<p>#9 - #12: Chris</p>	<p>11. Economic development (continued)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify policies, projects, and programs necessary to foster economic growth.

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#9 - #12: Chris	<p>12. A flood resilience plan that identifies flood hazard and fluvial erosion hazard areas, based on river corridor maps provided by the Secretary of Natural Resources pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1428(a) or maps recommended by the Secretary, and designates those areas to be protected, including floodplains, river corridors, land adjacent to streams, wetlands, and upland forests, to reduce the risk of flood damage to infrastructure and improved property; and recommends policies and strategies to protect the areas identified and designated under subdivision (12)(A)(i) of this subsection, and to mitigate risks to public safety, critical infrastructure, historic structures, and municipal investments.</p> <p>13.</p>	<p>(c)(14) To encourage flood resilient communities.</p> <p>(A) New development in identified flood hazard, fluvial erosion, and river corridor protection areas should be avoided. If new development is to be built in such areas, it should not exacerbate flooding and fluvial erosion.</p> <p>(B) The protection and restoration of floodplains and upland forested areas that attenuate and moderate flooding and fluvial erosion should be encouraged.</p> <p>(C) Flood emergency preparedness and response planning should be encouraged.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a flood resilience plan that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identifies flood hazard and fluvial erosion hazard areas, based on river corridor maps provided by the Secretary of Natural Resources pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1428(a) or maps recommended by the Secretary;
	<p>12. Flood Resilience Plan (Continued)</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. designates those areas to be protected, including floodplains, river corridors, land adjacent to streams, wetlands, and upland forests, to reduce the risk of flood damage to infrastructure and improved property;
	<p>12. Flood Resilience Plan (Continued)</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. recommends policies and strategies to protect the areas identified and designated under subdivision (12)(A)(i) of this subsection and to mitigate risks to public safety, critical infrastructure, historic structures, and municipal investments.
	<p><i>NOTE: A flood resilience plan may reference an existing local hazard mitigation plan approved under 44 C.F.R. § 201.6.</i></p>		