

Village of Ballston Spa Comprehensive Plan



Draft Plan Presentation

January 9, 2023



Acknowledgements

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Karen Martell - Chairperson

John Cromie - Member

Scott Burlingame - Member

Nafeesa Koslik - Member

Ellen Mottola - Member

John Hearn – Member

Mathew Ercoline - Member

Jared Iacolucci – Member

Jackie Pelliccia – Member

Jon Taisey - Member

Josh Frederick - Member

Peter Martin - Member

Stephen Springer - Member

Bob Bush Jr. - Member

Carrie Chapman - Member

Monique Cohen - Member

Marilyn Stephenson – Member

Village Board

Frank Rossi, Jr - Mayor

Bernadette D. VanDeinse-Perez - Trustee

Liz Kormos - Trustee

Shawn Raymond - Trustee

Ben Baskin – Trustee



What is a Comprehensive Plan?

- ❑ Provides a long-term perspective and vision with goals, typically updated every 10 years or so.
- ❑ Incorporates community values and input.
- ❑ A road map that sets general policies or strategies, but not actual laws.
- ❑ Future actions by the village must comply with the goals and policies of the plan.



PROCESS

Spring/Summer/Fall – Public Meetings, Inventory & Analysis

Steering Committee held twice monthly, topic-based public meetings from December 2021 – October 2022

Summer – Public Survey & Outreach

Late Fall – Draft Plan Presentation

Winter 2023 - Final Plan Review & Adoption



Public Outreach



**Take the Village
Comprehensive Plan
Community Survey!**

The village is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. Please help us by filling out a community survey in order to identify priority considerations for the next decade. Scan the code below to get started!



To Scan a QR Code On (Phone and App):
1. Open the camera app
2. Focus the camera on the QR code
3. Follow the instructions on the screen

More info on the comprehensive plan can be found on the village website (scan code to the right).



Please join us for our Comprehensive Plan Public Visioning Workshop on August 30th at 7 pm in the Saratoga County Office Building at 50 West High Street in Saratoga Springs, NY.

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...munity survey in order to identify priorit
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...of filling out the paper version? Use th
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...he Village of Ballston Spa?
 Work in or near the village
 Reside nearby

...if Ballston Spa? (Select all that apply)
 It's where I work
 The arts
 Restaurants/businesses
 Sense of community
 Outdoor activities

...ton Spa, how much money
 \$26 - \$50
 over \$200

...gence in the Village of Ballst
 Rent

...ge of Ballston Spa?
 No
 15 - 24
 70 +

Community Survey



Visioning Workshop



Village Website

Press Releases

Social Media



Emails



Committee Meetings

Tell us your thoughts on the future of the Village of Ballston Spa!

Vision

Ballston Spa will continue to enhance and preserve the charm, historic character, and natural resources of the community for future generations, while encouraging opportunities for the economic growth of small businesses and improving the quality of life for residents.



Community Profile

Key Phases in Village History



1780's to 1830's

Mineral Springs and Putting the "Spa" in Ballston Spa.



1830's to 1900's

Factories and putting the "Mill" into the Mill Town (Milton)



1890's to 1950's

Farm living is the life for me..." Center of an Agricultural Community



1940's to 1980's

Bedroom Community in the Post-War Era



1980's to Current

Re-recognition of the Charm of Village Life in a Vibrant Regional Economy

*Taken from Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee Member, John Cromie's village history overview.

Community Profile

The profile includes collective thoughts and observations of the Steering Committee relating to the respective topics, including:

- Governmental-built infrastructure
- Information technology and climate change
- Built environment
- Housing
- Utility infrastructure
- Stormwater management
- Economic considerations and
- Social considerations



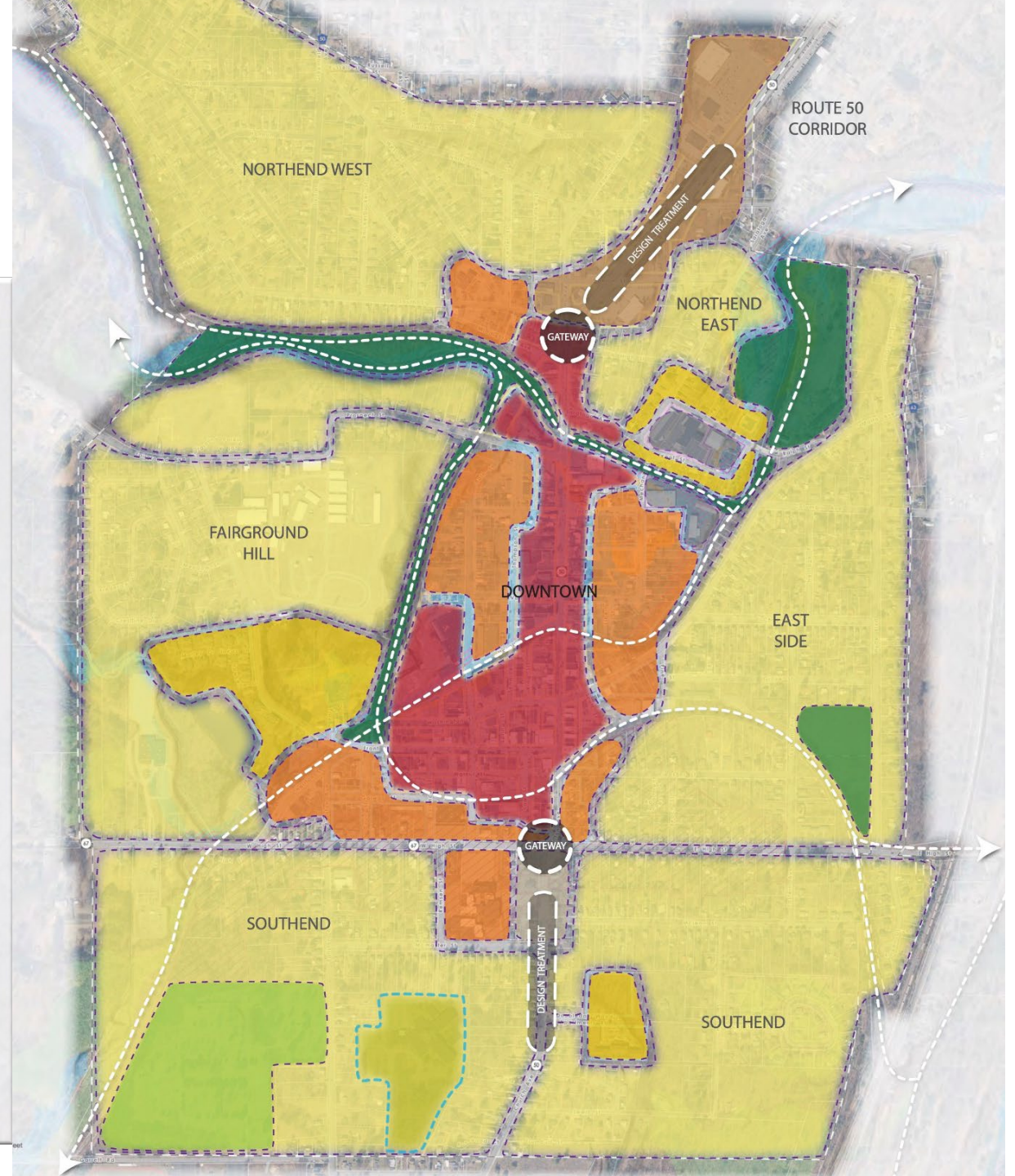
Priority Issues

1. Definition of the existing “community character”
2. Historic Preservation – exploration of historic standards
3. Downtown Ballston Spa - advance the vibrant, walkable downtown area
4. Smart Growth – establish/expand opportunities for economic and smart growth

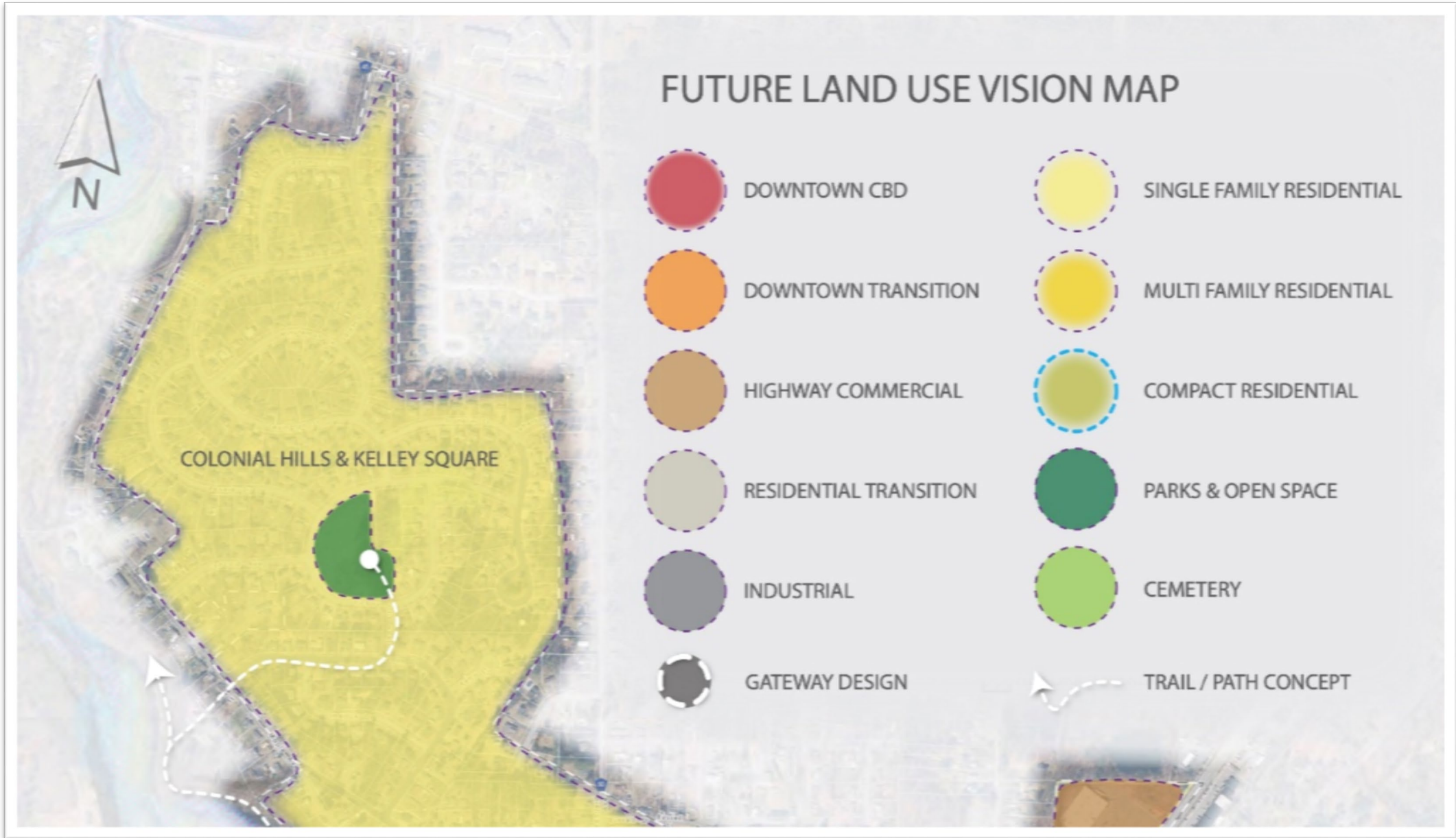


Land Use Vision

FUTURE LAND USE VISION MAP



Land Use Vision



Land Use Vision

Compatible examples

Pedestrian facility improvements & trail system to connect neighborhoods



Land Use Vision

Compatible examples

Downtown-central business district (CBD) & Central business transition district



Land Use Vision

Compatible examples

Downtown-central business district (CBD) & Central business transition district



Land Use Vision

Compatible examples



Highway commercial



Land Use Vision

Compatible examples

Compact residential



Land Use Vision

Compatible examples

Residential transition



Community Goals & Implementation Framework

Achievable goals that are ambitious in nature in the following categories:

- Built Environment & Land Use
- Open Space & Recreation
- Housing
- Social Considerations
- Information Technology & Climate Change
- Economic Considerations
- Transportation, Infrastructure, Village Properties
& Staffing



Some of the key projects noted in the plan include:

- Create and adopt a fully **updated zoning ordinance** for the village including a set of illustrated development design guidelines to help shape investment in all major districts in the village.

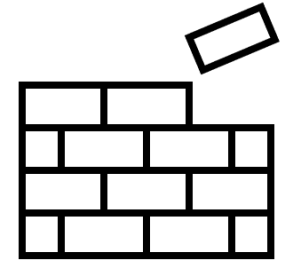
- Prepare a **Brownfield Opportunity Area** nomination study as currently funded with a NYS grant and focus redevelopment opportunities in that area. (This may become a long-term project recognizing the opportunity in this area is significant for village growth and development.)

- Continue to develop a **unified capital improvement program** for all village infrastructure (utilities, streets and sidewalks, streetscape amenities, etc.) and secure grants and local funding for implementation.

- Support planning and development of a **village-wide trail system** including volunteer efforts along with appropriate professional planning and design support as required.

- Address the **diverse housing needs and opportunities** including housing rehabilitation grant programs and accessory housing provisions in village code.

Built Environment & Land Use



SHORT TERM

PRIORITY PROJECT #1

- 1. Include flexibility in zoning**
- 2. Develop design guidelines**

- 3. Strengthen property maintenance code/enforcement**

ONGOING

- 4. Encourage compatibility with local character**
- 5. Enhance delivery of building/code enforcement services**

Open Space and Recreation

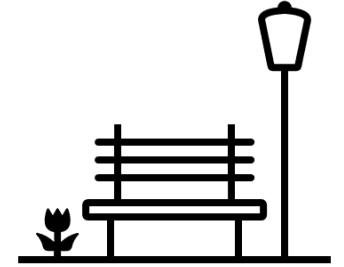
SHORT TERM

6. Encourage street trees and landscaped areas

LONG TERM

7. Expand recreation resources for village parks.

8. Creek-side Greenway Trail additions



Housing

SHORT TERM

9. Accommodate affordable housing opportunities.

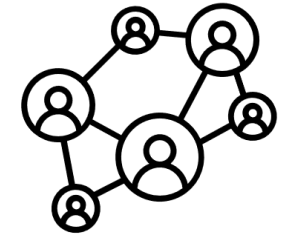
10. Manage short-term rentals to ensure compatibility with neighborhood.

MEDIUM TERM

11. Strengthen community connectedness



Social Considerations



SHORT TERM

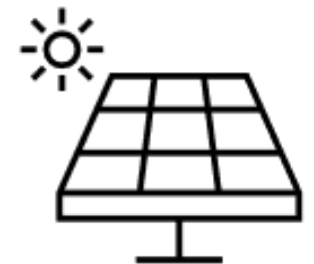
12. Modernize/enhance administration of village services

13. Expand youth/community interaction

ONGOING

14. Promote village messaging and continued strategic planning

Information Technology & Climate Change



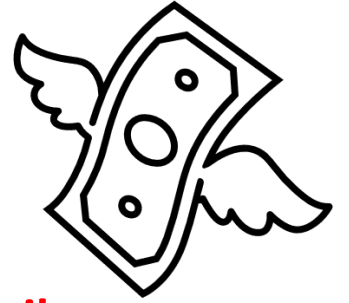
LONG TERM

15. Embrace smart technology across village

ONGOING

16. Encourage alternative energy compatible with local character

Economic Considerations



SHORT TERM

- 17. Create action plan to promote Ballston Spa locally**
- 18. Upgrade downtown visitor infrastructure (rest rooms, public parking, wayfinding, trail connections, streetscape improvements)**

MEDIUM TERM

- 19. Upgrade downtown visitor infrastructure**

LONG TERM

PRIORITY PROJECT #2

- 20. Utilize Brownfield Opportunity Area for redevelopment**

ONGOING

- 21. Implement strategic marketing program for village**
- 22. Encourage compatibility with local character**
- 23. Encourage expansion of commerce and attractions in the Central Business District**

Transportation, Infrastructure, Village Properties & Staffing

MEDIUM TERM

- 24. Update water system/management program
- 25. Update sewer system/management program

ONGOING

- 26. Consider separate “enterprise funding” for water and for sewer
- 27. Create unified capital improvement program for all infrastructure
- 28. Create village facilities capital improvement program
- 29. Add specialized staff
- 30. Prepare village-wide stormwater management/enhancement plan



*Full project descriptions, implementation steps and potential funding sources are in the comprehensive plan document.

Moving forward!

Next steps—village board review and adoption of the comprehensive plan.

Getting projects completed will be the measure of that success.



And finally . . .

By undertaking substantial community outreach, and balancing the needs of residents and businesses to foster the community's vision, the Comprehensive Plan will serve to guide the future of the Village of Ballston Spa for the benefit of current and future generations.



Thank you!