

Sept. 12, 2009 Comprehensive Planning Priorities

Economic

1. Develop Marketing Plans for Downtown Winthrop and Winthrop as a whole (WKEDA and WACC)
2. Enhance the experience of visiting the Winthrop Downtown area by:
 - a. Develop walking path from the Carlton Mill to Norcross Point (Town Council)
 - b. Encourage activities to bring more people to the Winthrop Downtown, such as a “water festival” on Lake Maranacook and a “street fair” on Maine Street. (WACC)
3. Explore development of public restrooms for downtown (Town Council)
4. Redevelop the Bonafide Mill/ Royal Street area. (WKEDA)
5. Encourage retail development in the downtown area and business development (office space, light manufacturing, distribution, warehousing) in the Route 202 Corridor. (Planning Board, WKEDA)
6. Develop a Downtown beautification project (WACC, WKEDA)

Housing

1. Further explore multiple senior housing options within the downtown (condos and new rental apartments)
2. Pursue grant funding for proving energy efficiency improvements in older homes (green committee already tackling this issue)
3. Consider changes in the ordinances to allow “congregate housing” or the ability to create a separate apartment for rent to unrelated persons within an existing single family structure

Transportation

1. Make current and future roads safer for walking/biking by ins
2. Install crosswalk signage and pavement marking at intersections where this activity is prevalent (such as crossing Rt135 or Highland Avenue, as well as many residential neighborhoods). Once again the Town Council can form a committee to do this with an assigned budget.
3. Ask town council to form committee authorized to work with landowners to establish safe walking/biking routes to/from Augusta as well as utilizing existing cross county snowmobile trails around town for hiking, cross country skiing. Establish parking near trails and bike paths to allow for more access.

Agriculture and Forestry

1. Ease existing restrictions on residential agriculture and husbandry.

Recreation

1. Promote annual events such as :

Art Shows	Summer Fest
Bass Tournament	Town Day
Winterfest	Regattas
2. Pursue development of walking paths around and through downtown.
3. Reinstate a permanent recreation committee to maintain and expand formal and informal children’s and adult’s programs.

Historical and Archeological

1. Initiate process for establishing a facility to house historical and archeological materials, provide a base for research and educational activities, and public displays, lectures, etc Initiate process for establishing a facility to house historical and archeological materials, provide a base for research and educational activities, and public displays, lectures, etc.
2. Incorporate historical and archeological information into materials produced by other pubic and private organizations promoting tourism or other economic development activities.
3. Establish a Town of Winthrop Historical Commission as a formal unit of local government

Natural Resources

Land Use

1. Review land use ordinance to eliminate confusion over residential versus rural.

Public Facilities

1. Together with Bailey Library Trustees and private sector funding, provide addition to existing library on former Masonic Hall site.
2. Utilizing grant monies, convert former EMS building on Town Hall Lane to a new Community Center.
4. Explore possibility of a walking trail along the mill stream.
5. Provide more public rest rooms in downtown area.