

WELCOME



PATHWAY TO OUR FUTURE
GUILDERLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



Guilderland Comprehensive Plan Update

Town Board Public Hearing



AGENDA

- Schedule of Milestones
- Comprehensive Plan Process
- Key Takeaways
- Draft Comprehensive Plan Components & Highlights



SCHEDULE OF MILESTONES



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROCESS

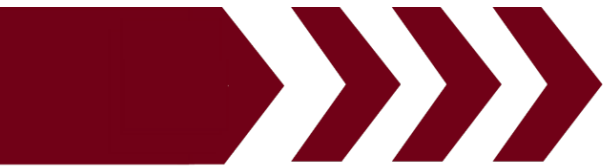
A Comprehensive Plan is both a vision for the future and a blueprint for how to get there. A Comprehensive Plan creates a framework for future decision-making on a range of topics such as land use, economic development, infrastructure, and housing. The Town of Guilderland adopted its current Comprehensive Plan in 2001, and the update process will help guide Guilderland into the future.

The planning process was led by the Guilderland Comprehensive Plan Update Committee and facilitated by Town staff and a consultant team led by MJ Engineering and Land Surveying and supported by E.M. Pemrick & Company and Community Planning and Environmental Associates.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE

- ❖ Cody Betton – Chair
- ❖ Jim Abbruzzese – Vice Chair
- ❖ Richard Brustman
- ❖ Tara Cristalli
- ❖ Caitlin Ferrante
- ❖ Lisa Hart
- ❖ Elizabeth Lott
- ❖ Dominic Rigosu
- ❖ Stephen O. Wilson





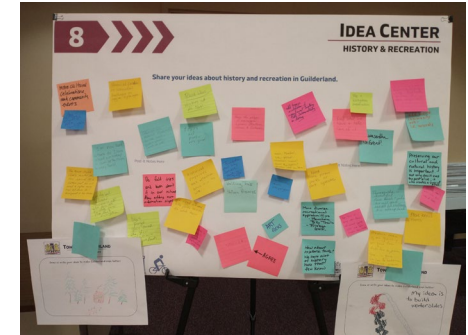
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROCESS

- Town Board established the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee (CPUC)
- CPUC prepared a draft plan (*13 CPUC Meetings, plus meeting to forward draft plan*)
 - Public engagement
 - Topic-based sub-committees
- **CPUC Public Hearing (September 10, 2024)**
- CPUC advanced draft plan Town Board for consideration
- Town Board approval process (required items)
 - Public Hearing
 - GML 239-m – County Planning Review; Other referrals
 - State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR)



Public Engagement

- ✓ Project Website Comment Portal - Ongoing
- ✓ Public Open House & Visioning Workshop – March 2023
- ✓ Stakeholder Focus Groups – March 2023
- ✓ Community Survey – March – May 2023
- ✓ Student Engagement – May 2023
- ✓ Public Workshop #2 – June 2023
- ✓ Public Open House #3 – February 2024
- ✓ Pop-up at Guilderland Library – August 2024
- ✓ Public Comment at each CPUC meeting
- ✓ Public Meeting #4/CPUC Public Hearing – September 2024



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

13



CPUC MEETINGS
OPEN TO PUBLIC

6



STAKEHOLDER
GROUP SESSIONS

1



POP-UP EVENT

2,421



UNIQUE WEBSITE
VISITORS

3



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE
& WORKSHOPS

1



CPUC PUBLIC
HEARING

635



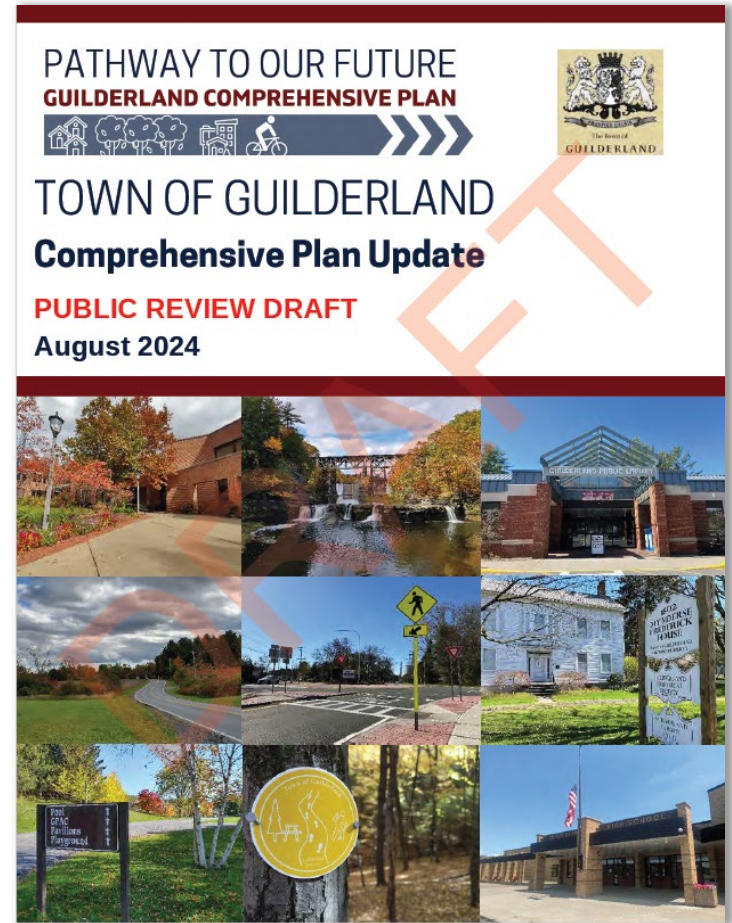
COMMUNITY SURVEY
RESPONSES



DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

CPUC Draft Available for Public Review on August 9, 2024:

- www.PathwaytoGuilderlandsFuture.com
- Guilderland Town Hall
- Altamont Village Hall
- Guilderland Public Library



KEY TAKEAWAYS

A Growing Guilderland

The Town is growing and it is important to balance growth with preservation of attributes that make it attractive to live. That balance includes varied housing types, location of growth, protection of natural resources and support for agricultural operations as well as a mix of commercial activity that will attract a range of age cohorts.

Western Avenue

Serving as the Town's de facto 'Main Street', there are opportunities for redevelopment and enhanced pedestrian facilities. Increased traffic and coordination with NYSDOT are important considerations.



Community Character

There is no single character that represents the Town, but rather a mix and diversity of character and development patterns that defines the community. Character ranges from rural western Guilderland to the more suburban-like residential neighborhoods to the more compact historic neighborhoods. Therefore, community character is addressed in several ways across multiple plan topic areas.

Connections

With a growing community as well as an aging community, there is a focus on connecting new and existing neighborhoods and other destinations through a trail network to enhance accessibility and alternatives to vehicle travel.



DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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2. Agriculture
3. Business, Employment & Fiscal Resources
4. Environment, Climate Change & Resiliency
5. Neighborhoods & Housing
6. Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Historic Resources
7. Transportation & Mobility
8. Governance
9. Implementation
10. Priorities Map





DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Appendices to Support Plan

Appendix A: Guilderland Demographic and Growth Analysis, 1990-2020

Appendix B: Development Growth Trends Analysis: Traffic

Appendix C: Guilderland Community Survey Summary

Appendix D: Public Open House & Visioning Workshop Summary

Appendix E: Public Workshop #2 Summary

Appendix F: Public Open House #3 Summary

Appendix G: Comprehensive Plan Update Committee (CPUC) Meeting Summaries

Appendix H: Climate Smart Communities (GSC) Certification Action Checklist





DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

A vision statement establishes the direction of the community over the next five, ten, or twenty years. The vision forms the basis for the Comprehensive Plan and all subsequent recommendations aim to achieve the established vision. The vision below was developed with input gathered from the public workshops, stakeholder meetings, CPUC meetings, and input from the online community survey.

Vision Statement

The Town of Guilderland is made up of distinctive, attractive neighborhoods, with abundant recreation open space, and scenic resources that serve to connect the community and support a high quality of life for all residents. Collaborative environmental stewardship of Guilderland's land, air, and water reflects the community's values and its commitment to forward-thinking resiliency planning. Varied, productive agricultural operations link the Town to its proud agrarian history, while the architectural legacy of Guilderland's past is honored through preservation and educational initiatives. The Town is home to a balanced array of prosperous and well-loved businesses, whose success generates the economic base necessary to support quality public services. Well-designed transportation corridors maximize safety for all travelers while facilitating efficient movement and incorporating relevant emerging technologies. Residents of all age groups and backgrounds contribute to the vitality of the Town, each proud to call Guilderland home.





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Agriculture

Ensure the long-term viability of agriculture as a vocation and economic pursuit within the Town of Guilderland by prioritizing the preservation of suitable farmland and by promoting agriculture as an important component of the Town's economy and character.

Business, Employment & Fiscal Resources

Establish and promote a diverse and strategic economic base that provides income, employment, and revenue to the community in a manner compatible with the future land use and unique identity of Guilderland.

Environment, Climate Change & Resiliency

Protect the natural resources that support quality of life and Town character in Guilderland through strategic hazard mitigation and resiliency measures to address the impacts of a changing climate.





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Neighborhoods & Housing

Provide a balanced blend of quality housing opportunities, including a desirable range of housing types and price ranges, which are affordable and accessible to residents.

Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Historic Resources

- Provide access to a diverse network of well maintained active and passive recreational facilities for Guilderland residents of all ages and abilities.
- Prioritize the preservation of open space in the Town of Guilderland, particularly where such areas perform critical ecosystem functions and/or contribute to scenic resources that influence the character, aesthetics, economy, health and welfare of the Town.
- Preserve Guilderland's historic resources and enhance cultural opportunities in the community.

Transportation & Mobility

Provide safe, convenient, and efficient transportation options for people and goods within, through and around the Town of Guilderland, which are supportive of the Town's future land use plan and which minimize the negative impacts of traffic on the Town's character and quality of life.



TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF GUILDERLAND

DRAFT Comprehensive Plan Update

Recommended to the Town Board by the
Comprehensive Plan Update Committee - January 2025



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GUILDERLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

