

TOWN OF

NEW HARTFORD

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE



Strengthening New Hartford's Neighborhoods



APRIL 2007

prepared by: peter j. smith & company, inc.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE: STRENGTHENING NEW HARTFORD'S NEIGHBORHOODS

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William Delaney, Citizen
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Ralph Humphreys, Former Supervisor
Michael Jeffery, Parks and Recreation Director
John Kent, Oneida County Planning Commissioner
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Introduction

1.0 Background

New Hartford is a stable and prominent town in New York's Mohawk Valley. The largest of the suburbs of the City of Utica, it was first settled by a family named Kellogg who arrived from Hartford, Connecticut in 1772. They named their new home New Hartford. In 1788, Jedediah Sanger arrived. Though virtually penniless and in debt, the 37-year-old Sanger bought up 1,000 acres of New Hartford for \$0.50 an acre – an investment of less than \$5,550 in 2005 dollars¹.



*Jedediah
Sanger*



*Historic First
Presbyterian Church in
the Village of New
Hartford*

New Hartford was then located within the Town of Whitestown. It existed for 42 years without its own governmental structure until 1827 when it was formally formed.

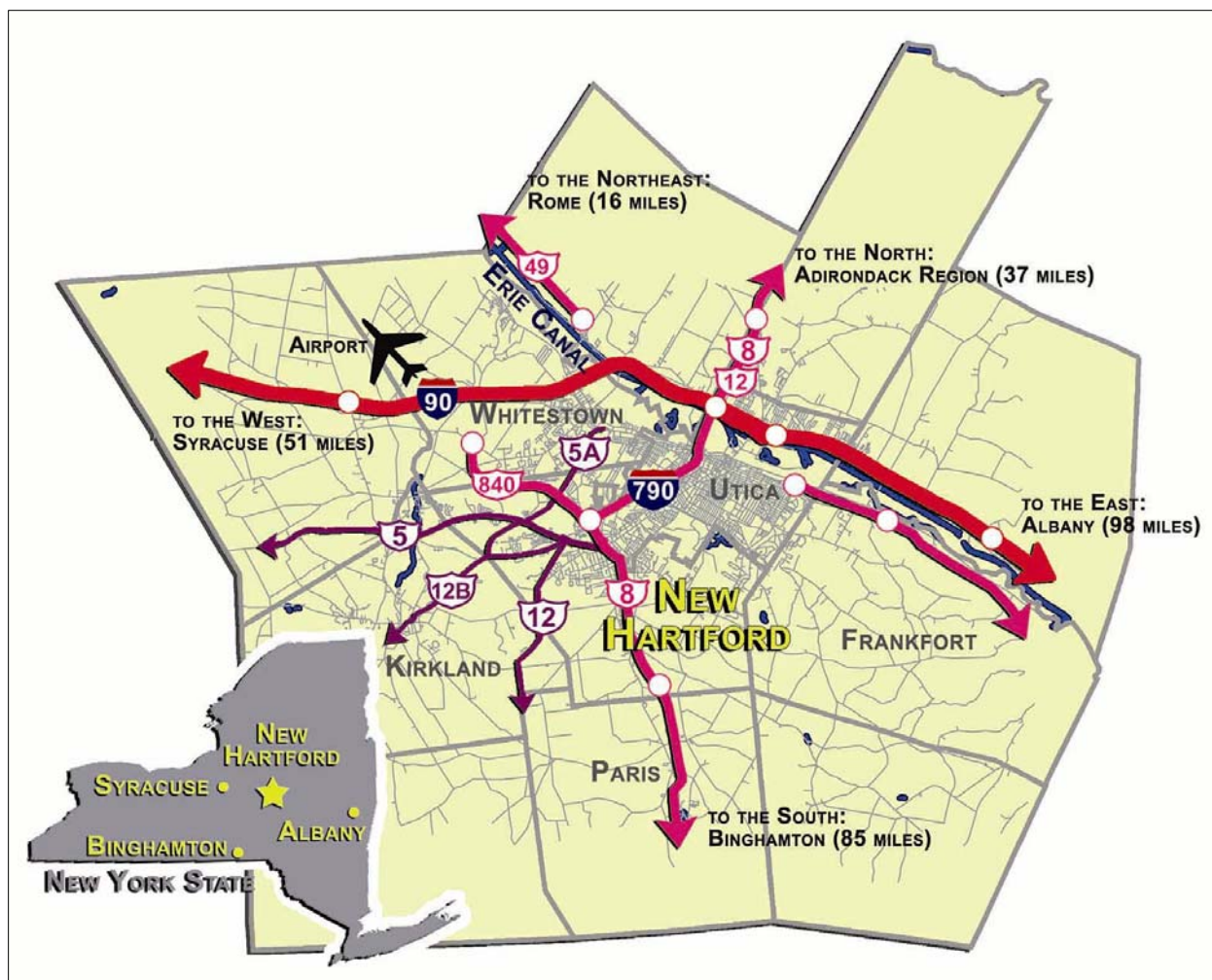
Sanger built the Town's first mills on the Sauquoit Creek, first a sawmill and later a grist mill. He doubled his money on 600 acres of his land, selling it for \$1 an acre to Joseph Higbee. Sanger retained 400 acres of what would later become the Village of New Hartford.

Sanger's name has been lent to the Town's signature shopping center, Sangertown Square. But his legacy includes having contributed the land for the first Presbyterian Church in the United States, founded as the First Religious Society of Whitestown in 1791. The church building still stands at 45 Genesee Street in the Village of New Hartford. The image of the church building is the visitor's first sight of the Town and Village approaching from the west and forms a pretty picture of small town life.

Some other important milestones celebrated in New Hartford include the first "ingrain" or flat weave loom, first cut nails manufactured from wine and spirits cask hoops and second cotton mill in New York State. And among many educational and sports achievements, New Hartford is also home to the 2004 Varsity Boys Soccer NYS Class A Champion Team and 2003 New York State Field Band Conference Champion New Hartford Spartans Marching Band. Both the 2004 boys soccer and football teams were Class A academic champions and the girls swimming team has dominated girls swimming statewide for seven consecutive years.

¹ Calculated from 1800 to 2005 constant dollars, with 1800 as the earliest dollar value available at <http://www.westegg.com/inflation/infl.cgi>.

Figure 1-1 New Hartford Context



Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

Kellogg, Sanger, Higbie (or Higby as it's now recognized) – these are all names that tie New Hartford's past to its present. With its high quality of life, good schools and a beautiful setting in the Mohawk Valley, New Hartford has enjoyed a high degree of loyalty from its residents through the ages. In fact, according to the anonymous writer of the New Hartford article on Wikipedia, the on-line collaborative encyclopedia: "New Hartford is widely believed to be the greatest, in almost every respect, of suburban communities in the Northeastern United States."²

In engaging in a comprehensive planning process, the Town of New Hartford's leaders are returning the compliment of loyalty to the residents of the Town, for the Plan will help guide the Town through the first quarter of the 21st Century.

² Accessed on-line at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Hartford_%28town%29%2C_New_York

2.0 Summary of the Plan

New Hartford is more than a suburban community. Its settlements have accommodated the dramatic topography of the town, with the denser settlements forming around the available water on the Sauquoit and the higher elevations dedicated to farming and now to less dense settlements and subdivisions.

In an age of high-speed communications, long-haul commutes and cell phone ubiquity, New Hartford remains a quiet community with family activities revolving around schools and churches. New Hartford residents like to stick close to home if they can, and while 24 percent of the working population of the Town works in New Hartford³, 90 percent travel fewer than 30 minutes to work.⁴ New Hartford is also the commercial and retail center of the Mohawk River Valley, and an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 people visit each day to shop to as many as 100,000 or more during the holiday season.⁵

The Comprehensive Plan Update for New Hartford emphasizes this quality of the Town: that it is first and foremost home, a desired place of residence and is still a good place to live, work and raise a family. This quality does not sustain itself; witness Commercial Drive during the annual holiday shopping frenzy and realize that New Hartford needs more planning, not less. So the plan emphasizes preserving the New Hartford of neighbors and neighborliness.

The Goals and Objectives for the Plan lay a foundation for preserving and enhancing the character of the Town. The Goals and Objectives are the lens through which the future of New Hartford is imagined. The Policies for the plan are informed by the Goals and Objectives. The policies are the filter through which the future of the built environment is directed and through which new development proposals and new directions are evaluated.



Dramatic topography characterizes the south side of the Town

3.0 The Plan Defined

New York State provides procedures for municipalities to prepare and adopt, by local ordinance or law, a comprehensive or master plan. New York State statutes define a comprehensive plan as:

³ peter j. smith & company survey for this Plan; results in the Public Input chapter

⁴ US Bureau of the Census

⁵ Police Chief Ray Philo interview

“... the materials, written and/or graphic, including, but not limited to maps, charts, studies, resolutions, reports and other descriptive material that identify the goals, objectives, principles, guidelines, policies, standards, devices and instruments for the immediate and long range protection, enhancement, growth and development of the town ... The town comprehensive plan ... shall ... serve as a basis for land use regulation, infrastructure development, public and private investment and any plans which may detail one or more topics of a town comprehensive plan.”

Town Law, under Section 272-a defines the need for a comprehensive plan for communities with the following findings.

(a) Significant decisions and actions affecting the immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth and development of the state and its communities are made by local governments.

(b) Among the most important powers and duties granted by the legislature to a town government is the authority and responsibility to undertake town comprehensive planning and to regulate land use for the purpose of protecting the public health, safety and general welfare of its citizens.

(c) The development and enactment by the town government of a town comprehensive plan which can be readily identified, and is available for use by the public, is in the best interest of the people of each town.

(d) The great diversity of resources and conditions that exist within and among the towns of the state compels the consideration of such diversity in the development of each town comprehensive plan.



The Plan process helps the Town craft its vision of the preferred future

(e) The participation of citizens in an open, responsible and flexible planning process is essential to the designing of the optimum town comprehensive plan.

(f) The town comprehensive plan is a means to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of the town and to give due consideration to the needs of the people of the region of which the town is a part.

(g) The comprehensive plan fosters cooperation among governmental agencies planning and implementing capital projects and municipalities that may be directly affected thereby.

(h) It is the intent of the legislature to encourage, but not to require, the preparation and adoption of a comprehensive plan pursuant to this section.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to affect the status or validity of existing master plans, comprehensive plans, or land use plans ⁶

Town Law defines two important impacts of adopting a comprehensive plan:

- “All town land use regulations must be in accordance with a comprehensive plan adopted pursuant to town law.
- All plans for capital projects of another governmental agency on land included in the town comprehensive plan ... shall take such plan into consideration.”⁷

Generally, the comprehensive plan is a, “means to promote the health, safety and general welfare of Town residents and offer consideration to the needs of those in the region of which the Town is a part.” ⁸ In general, the plan will:

- “ Provide a process for identifying community resources, long range community needs and commonly held goals.
- “Provide a process for community consensus.
- “Provide a blueprint for future government actions.” ⁹

3.1 Why Do A Plan?

The Comprehensive Plan Update for the Town of New Hartford provides a snapshot of the Town at the present moment in the context of the historical development of the community. The Town uses this information to help craft a vision of a preferred future. In this way the Comprehensive Plan can:

- Document local characteristics and trends regarding resident population composition, land use, the natural environment, economic development and service provision;
- Provide a benchmark for evaluating the compatibility of individual development proposals with the long range development objectives of the community;
- Reveal future service needs and explore the potential for regional cooperation, including land acquisition and the construction of public improvements;
- Serve as a comprehensive source of current information that can be used by the Town in its efforts to secure state and federal funding and marketing the area to potential developers;

⁶ Town Law Section 272-a.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ New York State Department of State. Local Government Handbook: Zoning and the Comprehensive Plan. Albany: Department of State. 2000. p. 204.

⁹ Ibid. p. 210.

- Provide leverage for obtaining state and federal funding;
- Promote open space conservation designed to preserve the rural heritage of the community and enhance the overall quality of life;
- Attract potential developers to the Town through the identification of community goals and objectives for the next 20 years;
- Lay the foundation for future cooperative efforts between the Town of New Hartford and its neighboring towns, villages, city and Oneida County as a whole.

3.2 Implementing the Plan

The adoption of the Comprehensive Plan is a commitment to a coordinated vision for the future. The Plan's success is measured through committed use by elected officials, municipal employees and residents.

Elected officials will use the plan to learn about their residents' vision of the community's future and adopt local codes and ordinances to support those goals. The Plan's extensive analyses and policy statements provide both background information and leverage as elected officials negotiate inter-governmental agreements or dedicate financial and administrative support for identified Plan objectives.

Zoning and planning boards will measure the desirability of development applications by their conformity with plan goals and objectives. In addition, they should adopt policies and procedures that actively assist those projects that comply with Plan's goals and objectives to discourage those projects that fail to honor the community's vision. Working closely with developers, local Boards will target investment to projects that promote plan objectives, reduce the need for excessive variance hearings and create detrimental development patterns.

Municipal employees will use the plan when interpreting legislative mandates, making administrative decisions, enforcing development related codes and prioritizing work efforts. Employees will understand the vision set out by the elected officials to meet the goals of the people; municipal staff will have a greater buy-in to these goals through every day decisions that are made based on the plan.

Finally, local residents will use the plan as a reference when making residential location choices, evaluating the effectiveness of local government, lobbying for financial or legislative support and when choosing political representatives. This comprehensive plan illustrates to all residents of the Town the vision set out by the officials they have elected to maintain their quality of life.

The Comprehensive Plan clearly reveals the vision for the Town of New Hartford and, therefore, sets the stage for future growth in the Town.

3.3 Adopting the Plan

Regulations regarding the adoption of a comprehensive plan are found in Town Law Section 272-a. Specific steps to be followed for adoption are:

- Referral of the draft Comprehensive Plan to the Oneida County Department of Planning in accordance with General Municipal Law Section 239-l and -m;
- One or more public hearings held by the Town Planning Board;
- One or more public hearings held by the Town Board;
- Adoption of the plan by resolution of the Town Board.

Town Law Section 272-a-10 provides for periodic review of the comprehensive plan, as follows:

"The Town Board shall provide, as a component of such proposed comprehensive plan, the maximum intervals at which the adopted plan shall be reviewed."

The Plan should be reviewed every five (5) years to make sure it reflects current conditions and the direction the communities wish to follow. For amending the Comprehensive Plan, the procedures are the same as those required for initial adoption of the Plan.

3.4 Preparation of the Plan

The Plan represents the collaborative effort of Town officials, Oneida County Department of Planning, the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and residents. The Plan is a collection of inventory and policies prepared to guide the Town over the next 10 to 20 years. This section outlines the tasks completed in preparation of the Comprehensive Plan.

Steering Committee Meetings

A series of meetings were held with the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. The Committee consisted of elected and appointed Town officials, citizens and a representative of the Oneida County Planning Department. The Committee met periodically with the consultant to discuss and direct the preparation of the plan. The Committee reviewed documentation and mapping, provided contacts and helped determine representatives to participate in a series of focus group sessions. There was a visioning session held with the Committee to develop initial goals and objectives and to help define the future of the Town of New Hartford.



Public workshop participants set priorities and consider change

Inventory

A data collection process was completed for the Plan. The information contained in the Plan was supplemented by data from various governmental and private agencies, to help ensure the accuracy of the document. With the help of the various agencies, information was obtained regarding local laws and ordinances, land use, the environment, population, community services, housing, municipal services and economic development. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data was provided by Oneida County to create maps and illustrate land uses, environmental conditions and the location of community services and transportation corridors.

Focus Group Sessions & Telephone Interviews

A series of telephone interviews were conducted to obtain additional information. Many public and private sector individuals and organizations contributed data and assisted in updating previous Plan elements. There were three focus groups held on transportation and business and economic development. In addition, Town Board members and the Supervisor were interviewed.

Public Meetings/Hearings

Two interactive public meetings were conducted. The public was invited to hear about the plan and provide comments. The public meetings were held during late fall 2005 and spring 2006. These sessions helped provide the consultant and elected officials with valuable feedback on the plan and future of the Town.

Community Survey

A random survey was distributed to both homeowners and renters in the Town. The survey was designed to determine the opinions of residents on a variety of topics, including community image, recreation, transportation, housing and community services.

Implementation

Goals, policies and actions were developed for the Town of New Hartford to help guide decisions over the next 20 years. The goals, policies and actions were developed based upon the visioning session, the results of the community survey and public and community input. These goals, objectives and policies are intended to lead to the overall improvement of the community and a better quality of life for all residents.

The Plan – Foundation of our Future

1.0 Introduction

The Comprehensive Plan is a policy document that lays out a vision of the future with specific recommendations, a recommended Future Land Use Plan and recommendations for changes to zoning and land use regulations to implement the Future Land Use Plan. It is a guide to land use decision-making in the Town. An equally important function of the Comprehensive Plan is to provide a framework for assessing proposals that come before the Town. This is the role of the Goals, Objectives and Policies.

Proposals for new development should be evaluated as to whether they further the vision of the future as articulated in the Comprehensive Plan. This gives the town a tool that has flexibly through time to evaluate changes that are unanticipated by the Plan. The entire Comprehensive Plan should be revisited and updated every five years. These revisions should reflect changes in the economic, demographic and other aspects of the community and should incorporate changing goals, objectives and policies. The five-year review is the time to accommodate changes in philosophy or direction.

1.1 Defining, Preserving the Character of New Hartford

The Town of New Hartford exists as part of a region with special qualities that set it apart from its neighboring communities. It offers a distinct mix of development from rural to urban, from agricultural land and open space with sweeping and dramatic views to compact and clustered hamlets and villages. It offers a range of residential choices from urban to rural. Its rural areas comprise more than 50 percent of the Town's area. Residential development comprises roughly one-third of the Town. The Town has evolved into a retail and commercial center serving the Mohawk Valley. Its special place in the Region creates unique development opportunities and pressures.

Preserving and enhancing the Town's special character is important to its future as one of the residential areas of choice for the region. At the same time, additional opportunities for economic development need to be identified and accommodated within the Town. Achieving a balance between conservation and development will be a continuing challenge for the future. The role of the Comprehensive Plan is to provide a framework to guide decision-making in the future as Town leaders strive to strike the balance they seek. The Comprehensive Plan paints an image of the Town as it desires to be in the future.

The Goals and Objectives will guide change in the Town and help preserve and enhance the special character of the Town while providing opportunities for growth and development. Goals and Objectives are important to the plan because they are the standard against which the accomplishments of implementation of the Plan are measured. The Goals support the overall vision of the future of the Town of New Hartford. The Objectives serve the Goals of the Plan and are milestones along the way to Plan implementation.

Goals and Objectives must be realistic and reasonable. They are flexible enough to accommodate changes in the forces influencing Plan implementation and superimpose an attainable vision of the future upon the reality of today.

The Policies for the New Hartford Comprehensive Plan guide decisions regarding population, housing, the economy, land use, natural resources, transportation, infrastructure and utilities, community services and facilities, parks and recreation, town finances and implementation. They are tools for evaluation of proposals, projects and programs for New Hartford. The Town Board, Town offices and officials, local planning entities; local, county, state and federal agencies; private sector entities; individuals and others can use the Policies as a set of guidelines for forming conclusions and positions on the appropriateness and desirability of specific proposals or about development in general.

Together, the Goals, Objectives and Policies define a character for the Town of New Hartford, better organizing it to prevent the proliferation of sprawl and preserving neighborhoods. Better organized, the Town will function more efficiently and effectively, improving residents' and visitors' experiences of the Town, creating an atmosphere in which the Town is sustained and thrives.

The Comprehensive Plan generally, and the Policies in particular, should be revisited on an annual basis. All Goals, Objectives and Policies should be reviewed for their continued applicability, and revised or amended as appropriate if circumstances have changed. The Town should appoint a representative group to serve as the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee and the committee should meet regularly throughout the year. Amendments, revisions, deletions and additions to the Goals, Objectives and Policies should be brought before the public and the Town Board during a regular Town Board meeting.

2.0 Background

The 1995 Comprehensive Plan for the Town of New Hartford laid out a policy framework intended to reach the following goals:

- **Economics, Land Use and Development:**
 - Promote the Town as a suburban community while preserving its rural character
 - Promote agriculture as a viable industry
 - Maintain and develop commercial/retail areas in a safe and aesthetically pleasing manner
 - Promote appropriate industrial development
 - Promote office development
- **Environment and Natural Resources:**
 - Preserve and protect of surface and groundwater
 - Enhance of stormwater management
 - Preserve and protect visual resources

- Preserve and protect agricultural, wooded and other significant open space
- Advance the protection of natural resources
- **Housing**
 - Recognize the importance and value of single family homes to the Town's residents
 - Create a variety of housing types to meet the needs of a diverse population
 - Coordinate housing growth with provision of services
 - Create housing stock compatible with environmental and physical characteristics of the Town
- **Community Facilities and Services**
 - Support and maintain high quality protective services in the Town
 - Develop a library of a suitable size and stature
 - Coordinate with the school districts regarding physical development changes or expansion
 - Provide for environmentally responsible waste disposal
 - Provide for efficient delivery of government services and avoid duplication of effort where possible
- **Water and Sewer**
 - Maintain a high quality water supply outside of water districts
 - Ensure that sewage disposal occurs in an effective and environmentally sound manner
- **Transportation**
 - Increase the use of public bus service
 - Improve the flow of traffic
 - Ensure an infrastructure capable of serving residents
 - Improve pedestrian and bicycle access throughout the Town
- **Recreation**
 - Maintain and enhance the quality of New Hartford's recreation areas
 - Ensure the availability of recreation areas in newly developed areas
- **Fiscal**
 - Meet the service needs of residents in a cost-effective manner
- **Historic and Cultural Resources**
 - Preserve and protect New Hartford's historic and cultural resources

For the 2006 Comprehensive Plan Update, the accomplishments and implementation of the 1995 Plan have been weighed to develop a new set of Goals and Objectives. The Goals and Objectives provide a framework to guide development and change in the Town of New Hartford. They also set a regional standard for the Town, County and region to meet in setting and attaining regional goals. Goals and Objectives for the Town of New Hartford Comprehensive Plan update follow.

3.0 Goals and Objectives

GOAL 1 - To recognize the need to pursue avenues of both conservation and development in the Town of New Hartford

- Objective 1 - Attract and retain population to seek an appropriate level of growth
- Objective 2 - Recognize that the Town is part of a diverse region
- Objective 3 - Encourage continued diversification in terms of race, culture socio-economic status and age among the Town's residents
- Objective 4 - Promote a diverse array of housing and employment choices for all incomes and ages
- Objective 5 - Foster a balance between development and conservation
- Objective 6 - Address conflicts among land uses to minimize threats to the environment
- Objective 7 - Address continuing needs for open space and conservation areas

GOAL 2 - To encourage a pattern of development in New Hartford to preserve and strengthen its neighborhoods

- Objective 8 - Concentrate development in existing neighborhoods providing clear separation of identity among them
- Objective 9 - Link neighborhoods together, integrating them into the whole in order to create better traffic and circulation patterns and healthier, walkable neighborhoods
- Objective 10 - Match housing and commercial needs to neighborhood character
- Objective 11 - Recognize the importance of historical and cultural resources to development patterns in the Town

GOAL 3 - Use public policy as a tool for directing development in the Town

- Objective 12 - Continue to develop a formal avenue to address the on- and off-site mitigation of the adverse impacts of development

Objective 13 - Base development decisions on assessment of Town-wide and Regional needs

Objective 14 - Address access and transportation issues and impacts regionally

Objective 15 - Address environmental issues, including the impacts of development, air and water quality regionally

Objective 16 - Develop additional transportation and circulation corridors with respect to natural resource and environmental protection

GOAL 4 - To preserve and enhance the ecology and natural features of the Town of New Hartford

Objective 17 - Site future developments to avoid and mitigate potential adverse impacts

Objective 18 - Recognize and preserve the quality of water and water resources

Objective 19 - Use urban design principles to concentrate development and improve transportation and commuting choices

Objective 20 - Develop and link greenways throughout the Town as the mainstay of New Hartford's community design

Objective 21 - Concentrate development away from steep slopes, wetlands, habitats and other critical natural areas

GOAL 5 - To maintain and improve regional competitiveness through cooperative economic development ventures and strategies

Objective 22 - Attract and retain high-quality jobs

Objective 23 - Encourage the development of housing choices for all income levels

Objective 24 - Encourage the development of mixed-use neighborhoods

Objective 25 - Encourage the adoption of land use regulations encouraging mixed-use, "green" and live/work residential choices

GOAL 6 - To undertake and support activities which enhance the quality of life in the Town of New Hartford

Objective 26 - Highlight sound community development in housing, employment, services, environmental protection and historic, cultural and natural resources management

Objective 27 - Develop, communicate and celebrate the identity of the Town of New Hartford as a unique destination in the Mohawk Valley

Objective 28 - Maintain and enhance New Hartford's reputation as a center for superior education in its public and private schools

Objective 29 - Develop and maintain connections with communities throughout the region, including physical, social and cultural connections

GOAL 7 - Encourage efficiency in local government service delivery

Objective 30 - Assign responsibility and authority to appropriate levels of government

Objective 31 - Promote cooperation, coordination and collaboration among local and regional levels of government

Objective 32 - Avoid duplication of effort within and among jurisdictions where possible

Objective 33 - Deliver services to Town residents in a cost-effective manner

Objective 34 - Bring local laws, zoning and other regulations into conformance with the Comprehensive Plan Update

Objective 35 - Distribute the adopted Comprehensive Plan Update to regional governments and planning agencies to encourage consistency in future planning efforts

4.0 Policies

The Policies of the Comprehensive Plan represent the public interest of the residents of the Town of New Hartford. The Policies help guide the Town toward a future balance of conservation and growth. The Policies should be amended and revised on an on-going basis, as noted above, to accommodate changes in circumstances and to reflect changes to the Goals and Objectives reflecting the changing values of the Town residents.

The policies for the Town of New Hartford are broken out into the chapters to which they refer, that is, housing policies are cataloged with the Housing Chapter, transportation policies with the Transportation Chapter and so on.

5.0 Designing our Future Character

The proposed character for the Town of New Hartford is illustrated using three types of graphics. First, the Town-wide concept is presented on the Future Land Use Plan. Next, individual Neighborhood Areas, which are indicated on the Future Land Use Plan, are illustrated using aerial photographs with the proposed development drawn in. The third type of graphic is an eye-level photo-simulation showing what the Neighborhood Area could look like on the ground. Together these illustrations will present the future of the Town from the general concept to what it may actually look like.

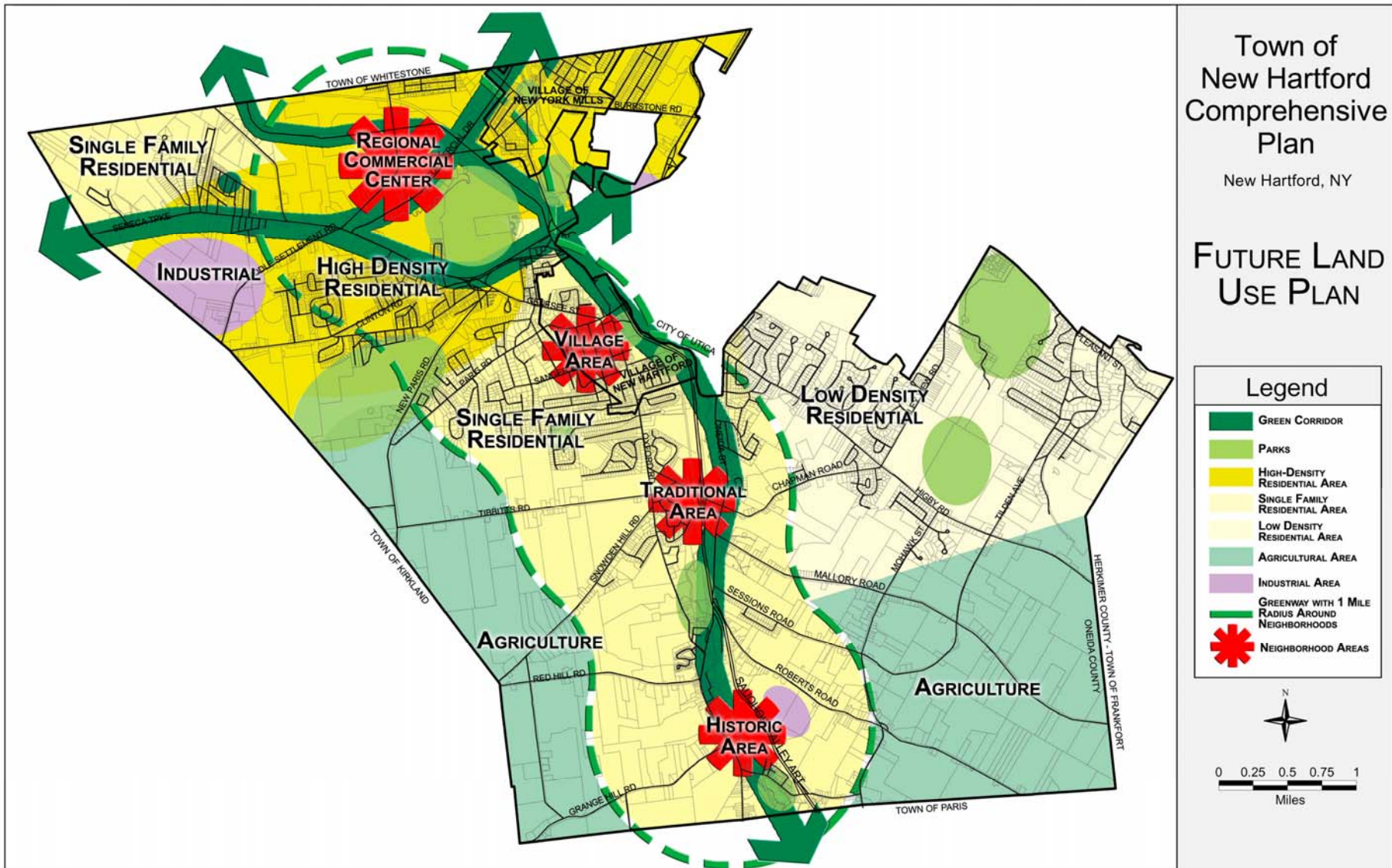
These concepts were developed to respond to the changing needs of the community and to address the vision of the future as it emerged during consultations with the steering committee, Town Board members, public input process and Focus Group sessions. The future character of New Hartford is one that sustains the Town and its quality of life allowing for future growth including a range of residential choices and a continued diversification of the economy. The vision of the future also embraces environmental sustainability for New Hartford, addressing the limitations of the land including the persistent storm water issues, traffic problems and other issues.

The vision includes a greenway through the Town, which acts as a transportation and revitalization spine, incorporating trails and protecting the vital Sauquoit Creek Corridor. All of this translates into the physical manifestation of a series of neighborhood plans including one building on the existing Village of New Hartford and the other three addressing solutions for the Hamlet of Chadwicks, the Hamlet of Washington Mills and the Commercial Drive area.

5.1 Future Land Use Plan

This plan represents the basic concept for future land use in the Town of New Hartford. The framework for the plan is based on four Neighborhood Areas that are local anchors located alongside a Green Corridor that runs from the southern to the northern borders of the Town. Surrounding the Neighborhood Areas is a Greenway that creates a boundary between the neighborhoods and the less developed surrounding area. Proposed land use is indicated as colored tones.

Following the figure on the next page is a description of each of these components.



5.1.1 Green Corridor

This is a corridor located along the major transportation routes in the Town. The idea is to create an identity for this corridor, which is comprised of different roads. The identity should be different than other transportation routes and should be readily apparent to the casual observer. The Green Corridor should include design features such as a well-developed, continuous pedestrian path and bicycle route, enhanced crosswalks, street trees, unique signage and gateways at each end. It should be the priority corridor for Town beautification efforts and incentives to improve the neighborhoods and commercial areas along it

5.1.2 Neighborhood Areas

The Neighborhood Areas represent unique local areas where enhancements and commercial businesses will be focused. Each has a different character based on both current and proposed development. There are illustrations of three of these areas, and an associated description, that follows. The four Neighborhood Areas are:

- Regional Commercial Center
- Village Area
- Traditional Area
- Historic Area

5.1.3 Greenway

The Greenway is a looped system that surrounds the four Neighborhood Areas. It is roughly comprised of four, a one-mile radius circles around the Neighborhood Areas. One mile was selected because it is generally thought of as a “neighborhood scale” being the amount of distance an average person can walk in fifteen minutes. The intent is that within the Greenway, residents can easily walk to the center of their Neighborhood Area. This Greenway is comprised of trails, wherever feasible, and greenspace in other areas. It will generally define the boundary between the single-family residential area that surrounds the Neighborhood Areas and the less developed outlying areas.

5.2 Land Use

The northern portion of the Town will be the more densely developed area and is designated for high-density residential, light industrial and commercial uses. Aside from the northern area, the rest of the Town's land use is defined by the Greenway, which is the boundary of the single-family residential Neighborhood Areas with their small-scale commercial uses on the inside of the Greenway and the agricultural and low-density residential uses on the outside.

5.3 Neighborhood Centers

5.3.1 Regional Commercial Center

This Area is in the vicinity of Commercial Drive, Middle Settlement Road and the Seneca Turnpike, and is currently the location of Sangertown Square and several commercial plazas. Areas adjacent to and nearby commercial centers have developed a more commercial character, including an area on New Hartford Street near the Uica City line.

Improvements include the elimination of a portion of Middle Settlement Road and replacement with a large-scale traffic circle that forms space for signature development at its center. The circle has four roads entering it with the terminated Middle Settlement Road coming in at the northeast. A new road comes into the circle on the west and will connect with Woods Road. The road at the south end of the circle will align with the main entrance to the Sangertown Mall. This road will provide access to service roads for the commercial plazas. The east side of the circle is connected to Clinton Street.

Commercial Drive is enhanced by providing streetscape improvements such as a center planted island, street trees along sides, enhanced sidewalks and gateway features at each end of the Area. On the north side of Commercial additional small commercial buildings occupy the street frontage. On the south side, the amount of commercial buildings are reduced to provide space for the enhancement of the existing stream which is widened to improve habitat for fish & wildlife, provide community stormwater storage capacity and improve the aesthetic appeal.

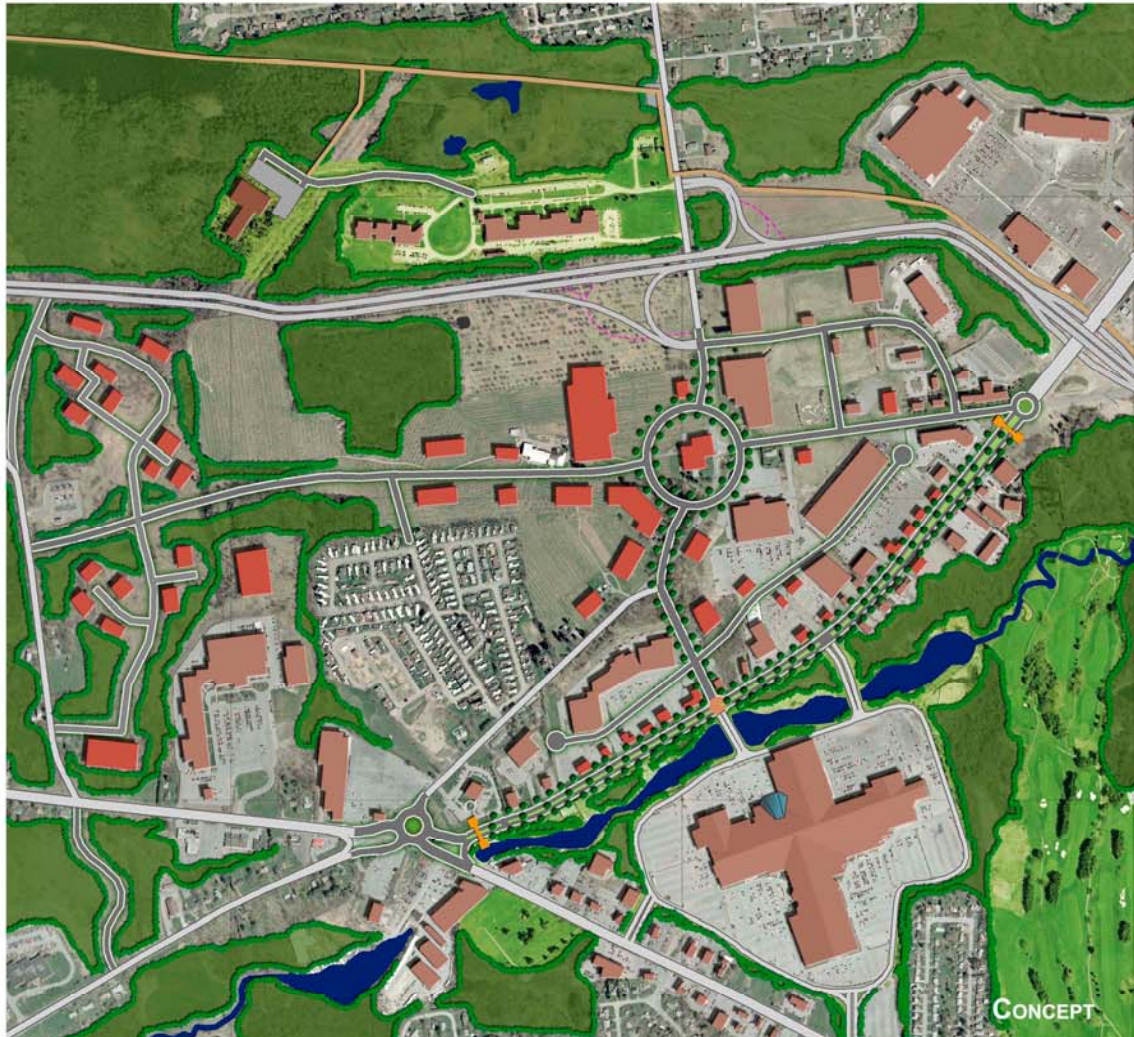
At each end of Commercial Street in the Regional Commercial Center, the intersections are changed to roundabouts (see photo-simulation). The new roundabout designs that are being increasingly used provide several benefits over conventional lighted intersections – they decrease traffic delays, reduce accident rates, significantly reduce auto injury accidents, are safer for pedestrians and offer aesthetic benefits by creating a noticeable gateway effect and the opportunity to landscape the center island. The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is increasingly using roundabouts to solve traffic problems. NYSDOT provides information on roundabouts on its website at: <http://www.dot.state.ny.us/roundabouts/round.html>

A trail is proposed for the north side of the Regional Commercial Center. A trailhead is provided where the trail connects with Middle Settlement Road.

Town of
New Hartford
Comprehensive
Plan

New Hartford, NY

REGIONAL
COMMERCIAL
CENTER CONCEPT





Town of New Hartford Comprehensive Plan

New Hartford, NY
REGIONAL COMMERCIAL
CENTER



5.3.2 Traditional Area

This Neighborhood Area is in the Washington Mills vicinity near the intersection of Oxford and Kellogg Roads. The Neighborhood Area is defined by a loop formed by Kellogg Road on the north end, a short segment of Tibbitts and Oxford Roads, Snowden Hill Road on the west side, a proposed road that extends to Washington Mills Park and another proposed road on the east side from Sessions Road to Chapman Road. There are some open lands within this loop, which is proposed for residential development to enhance the neighborhood quality.

The commercial zone in this Neighborhood Area is along Kellogg Road. Streetscape improvements such as tree plantings, improved sidewalks and a bicycle trail are proposed along Kellogg in this Area. West of the Sauquoit Valley Arterial along Kellogg is the Kellogg Road Mall which has some small commercial sites proposed for the frontage along with some roadway and parking area definition. Across the Road and to the west of the mall, some existing residential properties are replaced by light commercial or office uses (see the photo-simulation of this area). North of Kellogg, there is a pond being proposed which will also function as a community stormwater detention basin. Across the Arterial at the intersection of Kellogg and Oneida is more room for additional commercial uses along the roads. A cluster of Commercial buildings is used to form a plaza that will act as a visual focus and can be the location of civic monuments, holiday displays, etc. The existing Creek in this area is expanded to become ponds for visual enhancement and community stormwater detention creating small-scale waterfront for some of the businesses in this area.

A trail system network is proposed in this area. A major segment runs along Sauquoit Creek in Washington Mills Park and parallels the Sauquoit Valley Arterial with a possible connection across the arterial. On the east side of the arterial, a trail provides a connection to the commercial area and proposed ponds.

Town of
New Hartford
Comprehensive
Plan

New Hartford, NY

TRADITIONAL
AREA CONCEPT





Town of New Hartford Comprehensive Plan

New Hartford, NY

VILLAGE STREET



5.3.3 Historic Area

The Historic Neighborhood Area is located in the Hamlet of Chadwicks in the southern portion of the Town at the intersection of Grange Hill Road and Oneida Street. This area currently includes a mixture of historic two-story residential along with some commercial and industrial uses. Proposed enhancements include the development of a road on the west side that goes up the hill providing space for new residential lots. Another new road east of Oneida Street crosses Sauquoit Creek to provide access to area for light industrial use. A trail is located along the railroad corridor providing access to the school, stream and pond to the east.

Oneida Street is enhanced by the addition of street trees, new pedestrian and bicycle trails, gateway features and lighting to encourage businesses to occupy and redevelop the existing residential properties along the road (see the photo-simulation). Openings along the road will provide a visual connection to Sauquoit Creek.

Widening to provide pools for enhanced fish habitat and stormwater storage capacity enhances Sauquoit Creek. Vegetation along the banks is preserved to create an attractive stream corridor that is natural in appearance. The cluster of manufactured homes to the north is replaced by a pond and surrounding wetland with stormwater storage capacity.

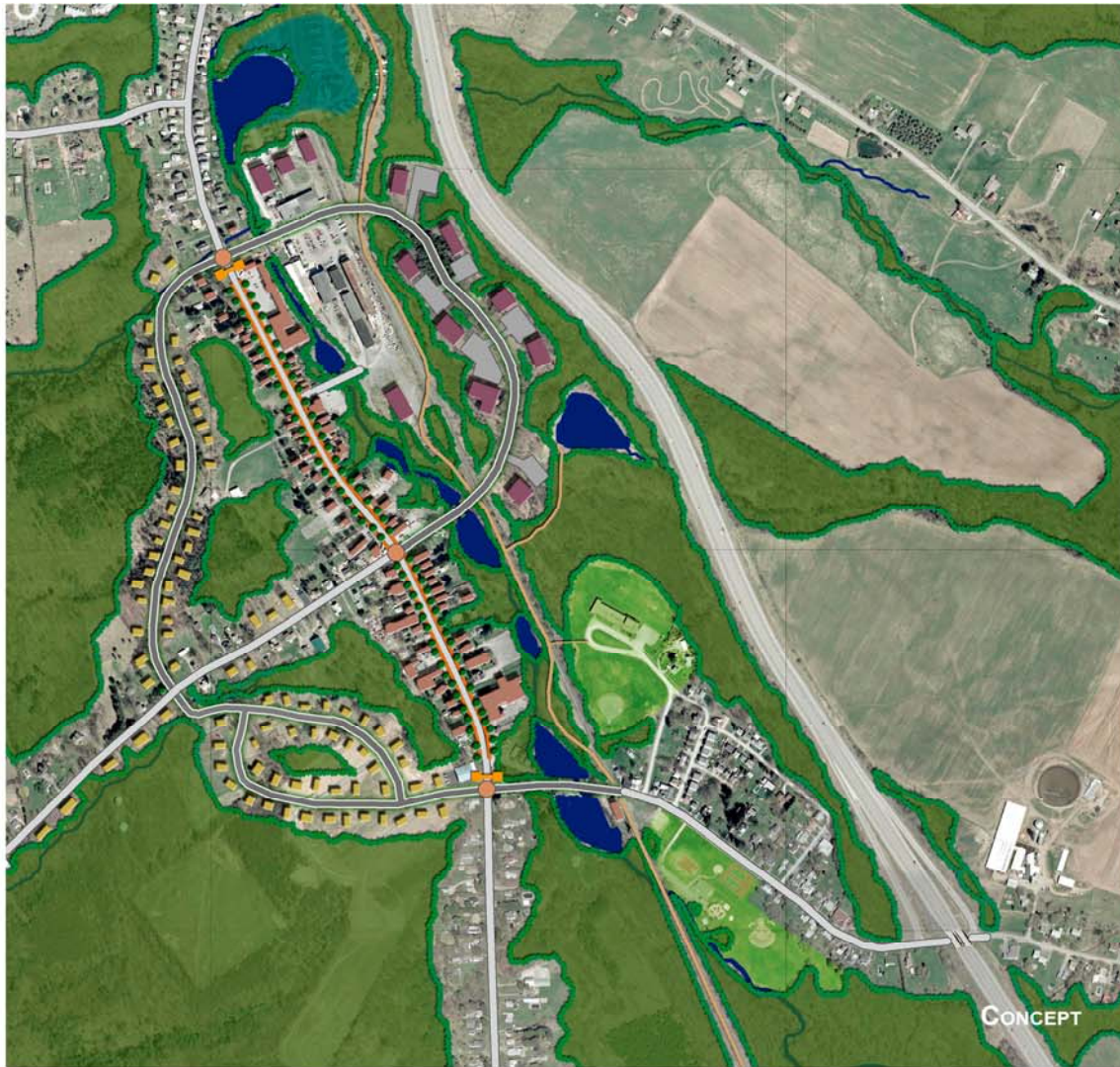
5.3.4 Village Area

This Neighborhood Area is centered over the Village of New Hartford. It will be developed in a manner similar to the Traditional Neighborhood Area with the exception that the development will include more small-scale mixed use.

Town of
New Hartford
Comprehensive
Plan

New Hartford, NY

HISTORIC AREA
CONCEPT





Town of New Hartford Comprehensive Plan

New Hartford, NY

HISTORIC STREET



6.0 Build Out Analysis

The Town of New Hartford has ample vacant land that can still be developed. How the Town will actually be developed is impossible to predict. A build out analysis is intended to demonstrate what kinds of development patterns are possible under a given set of conditions. The intent of this analysis is to show how development can be controlled with different land use policies. In this analysis, four different scenarios were analyzed for their potential development. The villages were not included in the analysis. The four scenarios are as follows:

- Full build-out based on existing zoning regulations
- Build-out of vacant land under existing zoning regulations
- Build-out of vacant land and farmland under existing zoning regulations
- Potential build-out of proposed future land use plan

The following build-out analysis was completed using a geographic information system (GIS). A parcel layer was intersected with a zoning or future land use layer creating a layer with current and future land use attributes. The new layer was intersected with a constraints layer. The constraints layers contained wetlands, steep slopes, and flood prone areas. Depending on the scenario, assumptions were made as to how a given land use would be developed in a build out. The areas of these parcels were then summarized to obtain an overall area that will be built out in each future land use category. The overall land area was then calculated to obtain the number of residential units, amount of commercial or industrial floor space, and area of land that would remain as farmland. These calculations were based on current zoning tolerances or tolerances specified in the future land use scenario.

The build-out analysis assumes that there is an unlimited demand for space in the town of New Hartford. Constraint areas were considered un-developable and were eliminated from the calculations in all of the scenarios. In all scenarios, community and public service properties were assumed to remain as their current use and were also removed from the calculations.

6.1 Scenario 1

The first scenario demonstrates how the Town would be built out if it were started from scratch under current zoning regulations. This scenario assumes that the entire town will be rebuilt where zoning allows a greater density of development. For this scenario, all of the land area, except for community and public service properties and constraint areas, were summarized by existing zoning classifications. The following calculations were used for each of zones. These calculations are based on the maximum allowable density of development in each of the zone.

Housing units based on minimum lot size

- $A - \text{Area}/60,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{RA1 (sewers)} - \text{Area}/30,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{RA1 (no sewers)} - \text{Area}/40,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{RA2} - \text{Area}/43,560 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{LDR} - \text{Area}/18,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{MDR} - \text{Area}/15,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{HDR} - \text{Area}/10,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{PDRES} - \text{Area}/18,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$
- $\text{PDMH} - \text{Area}/5,000 = \# \text{ housing units}$

Commercial space based on maximum building coverage (1 floor)

- $\text{PO} - \text{Area} \times 60\% = \text{Commercial Space}$
- $\text{RB1} - \text{Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial Space}$
- $\text{RB2} - \text{Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial Space}$
- $\text{RB3} - \text{Area} \times 30\% = \text{Commercial Space}$
- $\text{RB4} - \text{Area} \times 60\% = \text{Commercial Space}$
- $\text{PHB} - \text{Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial Space}$
- $\text{PDMU} - \text{Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial Space}$
- $\text{PDP} - \text{Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial Space}$

Manufacturing space based on maximum building coverage (1 floor)

- $M - \text{Area} \times 50\% = \text{Manufacturing Space}$

If the Town of New Hartford was completely built out based on the maximum densities allowed under the existing zoning, there could be a total of 18,800 residential units, more than 23 million square feet of commercial space, and almost 6 million square feet of manufacturing space. The following table summarizes the calculation by zone. The final numbers were rounded to the nearest 10 residential units or thousand square feet of space.

Table 6-1 Build Out Scenario 1

Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Min Lot Size (Sq.ft.)	Residential Units	Totals
A	177,463,185	60,000	2,960	Residential Units 18,800
RA1	17,585,332	30,000	590	
RA1-N	6,750,892	40,000	170	
RA2	62,719,528	43,560	1,440	
LDR	133,883,297	18,000	7,440	
MDR	27,418,276	15,000	1,830	
HDR	15,004,167	10,000	1,500	
PDRES	4,802,840	18,000	270	
PDMH	12,979,700	5,000	2,600	
Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Commercial Space (Sq.ft.)	Sq. ft of Commercial Space 23,271,000
PO	356,287	60	214,000	
RB1	12,640,221	50	6,320,000	
RB2	5,488,615	50	2,744,000	
RB3	6,770,478	30	2,031,000	
RB4	1,094,901	60	657,000	
PHB	4,958,613	50	2,479,000	
PDMU	6,199,053	50	3,100,000	
PDP	11,452,197	50	5,726,000	
Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Manufacturing Space (Sq.ft.)	Sq. ft of Manufacturing Space 5,781,000
M	11,562,011	50	5,781,000	

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

6.2 Scenario 2

In the second build out scenario, only the vacant parcels were developed based on the existing zoning. The calculations for each zone are the same as in the first scenario. The results were then added to the existing development to get the total build out. The existing commercial and manufacturing space is based on data from Town of New Hartford's Planning Department. Existing residential units is based on the 2000 census plus the number of building permits issued since 2000. In this scenario, existing agriculture land was maintained.

If the vacant land were build out based on existing zoning densities, there would be a total of 14,470 residential units. The decrease in residential units from the first scenario was due to the preservation of 3,400 acres of farmland. Vacant land in commercial zones could yield 7.3 million new square feet of commercial space. However, when this is added to the existing commercial space, the result is about half of what is possible if the whole town was redeveloped. The numbers demonstrate that existing commercial space is not being built to the maximum lot coverage allowed by current zoning regulations. Vacant land in industrial zones could yield 1.6 million new square feet of manufacturing for a total of 2.5 million square feet. The following table summarizes the calculations for the second scenario by zone.

Table 6-2 Build Out Scenario 2

Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Min Lot Size (Sq.ft.)	Residential Units	Totals
A	23,827,709	60,000	400	
RA1	9,216,323	30,000	310	
RA1-N	3,053,706	40,000	80	
RA2	15,220,852	43,560	350	
LDR	42,558,784	18,000	2,360	
MDR	5,623,113	15,000	370	Residential Units
HDR	8,377,775	10,000	840	Existing 9,400
PDRES	939,015	18,000	50	New 5,070
PDMH	1,573,639	5,000	310	Total 14,470
Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Commercial Space (Sq.ft.)	
PO	10,094	60	6,000	
RB1	1,521,034	50	761,000	
RB2	1,680,458	50	840,000	
RB3	1,969,276	30	591,000	
RB4	171,733	60	103,000	Square feet Commercial Space
PHB	1,205,801	50	603,000	Existing 5,456,000
PDMU	62,421	50	31,000	New 7,292,000
PDP	8,714,754	50	4,357,000	Total 12,748,000
Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Manufacturing Space (Sq.ft.)	Square feet Manufacturing Space
				Existing 860,000
				New 1,621,000
M	3,241,335	50	1,621,000	Total 2,481,000
Future Land Use	Area (Sq. ft.)		Agricultural Acres	Agricultural Acres
Agriculture	169,060,520		3,400	Total 3,400

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

6.3 Scenario 3

In Build-out scenario 3, all vacant and existing agricultural land is developed based on the maximum densities allowed by the current zoning ordinance. Calculation for each zone and the existing development is the same as in scenario 2.

In this scenario, the 3,400 acres of active farmland are replaced by 3,540 residential units for a total of 18,010 residential units in the Town. Commercial and Industrial space remains the same as in scenario 2 because no active agricultural land is in a commercial or industrial zone. The following table summarizes the calculations for the third scenario by zone.

Table 6-3 Build Out Scenario 3

Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Min Lot Size (Sq.ft.)	Residential Units	Totals	
A	140,791,509	60,000	2,350		
RA1	12,690,484	30,000	420		
RA1-N	3,053,706	40,000	80		
RA2	45,477,320	43,560	1,040		
LDR	55,355,581	18,000	3,080		
MDR	6,499,741	15,000	430	Residential Units	
HDR	8,377,775	10,000	840	Existing	9,400
PDRES	939,015	18,000	50	New	8,610
PDMH	1,583,557	5,000	320	Total	18,010
Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Commercial Space (Sq.ft.)		
PO	10,094	60	6,000		
RB1	1,521,034	50	761,000		
RB2	1,680,458	50	840,000		
RB3	1,969,276	30	591,000		
RB4	171,733	60	103,000	Square feet Commercial Space	
PHB	1,205,801	50	603,000	Existing	5,456,000
PDMU	62,421	50	31,000	New	7,292,000
PDP	8,714,754	50	4,357,000	Total	12,748,000
Zoning District	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Manufacturing Space (Sq.ft.)	Square feet Manufacturing Space	
				Existing	860,000
				New	1,621,000
M	3,241,335	50	1,621,000	Total	2,481,000

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

6.4 Scenario 4

In the fourth scenario, Vacant and Agricultural land was built out based on the future land use plan. In this scenario, calculations are slightly different. All developable area was assigned a future land use based on the future land use map. A best attempt to match the future land uses with current zoning districts was made in order to validate the calculations. The calculations are as follows:

6.4.1 Future Land Use

Agriculture

- Existing Agriculture remained Agriculture
- Vacant parcels – $\text{Area}/60,000 = \# \text{ of residential units (as in A District)}$

Low Density Residential

- $\text{Area}/30,000 = \# \text{ residential units (as in RA-1 District)}$

Single Family Residential

- $\text{Area}/18,000 = \# \text{ residential units (as in LDR District)}$

High Density Residential

- $\text{Area}/10,000 = \# \text{ residential units (as in HDR District)}$

Traditional Area (Mixed Use District)

- $\frac{1}{2} \text{ Area}/10,000 = \# \text{ residential units (as in HDR District)}$
- $\frac{1}{2} \text{ Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial square feet (As most commercial districts)}$

Historic Area (Mixed Use District)

- $\frac{1}{2} \text{ Area}/10,000 = \# \text{ residential units (as in HDR District)}$
- $\frac{1}{2} \text{ Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial square feet (As most commercial districts)}$

Regional Commercial

- $\frac{1}{2} \text{ Area} \times 50\% = \text{Commercial square feet (As most commercial districts)}$

Industrial

- $\frac{1}{2} \text{ Area} \times 50\% = \text{Manufacturing square feet (As in I Districts)}$

The results of these calculations were then added to the existing development to get a total build out.

Based on these assumptions, the Future Land Use Build-out produced 19,150 residential units. The number of residential units in this scenario was slightly higher than the complete build-out (scenario 1) because a larger area was developed as high density residential. 2,300 acres of agriculture was preserved in this scenario. The build-out based on the future land use yielded 12.4 million square feet of commercial space and nearly 1.5 million square feet of manufacturing space. The following table summarized the calculations for the fourth scenario by future land use designation.

Table 6-4 Build Out Scenario 4

Future Land Use	Area (Sq. ft.)	Min Lot Size (Sq.ft.)	Residential Units		
Rural Residential	16,382,278	60,000	270		
Low Density Residential	56,473,325	30,000	1,880		
Single Family Residential	106,266,713	18,000	5,900	Residential Units	
High Density Residential	14,801,128	10,000	1,480	Existing	9,400
Historic Area	1,423,643	10,000	140	New	9,750
Traditional Area	840,508	10,000	80	Total	19,150
Future Land Use	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Commercial Space (Sq.ft.)	Square feet Commercial Space	
Historic Area	1,423,643	50	712,000	Existing	5,456,000
Traditional Area	840,508	50	420,000	New	6,977,000
Regional Commercial	11,690,034	50	5,845,000	Total	12,433,000
Future Land Use	Area (Sq. ft.)	Maximum Building Coverage (%)	Manufacturing Space (Sq.ft.)	Square feet Manufacturing Space	
				Existing	860,000
				New	639,000
Industrial	1,278,724	Area x 50%	639,000	Total	1,499,000
Future Land Use	Area (Sq. ft.)		Agricultural Acres	Agricultural Acres	
Agriculture	99,552,687		2,300	Total	2,300

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

6.4.2 Summary of Build-out Scenarios

The future land use build-out (scenario 4) created the largest number of residential units, but only slightly more than if the whole town was redeveloped or if vacant and agricultural land was developed based on existing zoning. By concentrating densities, the future land use plan was able to achieve an equivalent amount of residential units while maintaining some agriculture. The last three scenarios supplied roughly the same amount of commercial space. The first scenario produced almost twice as much commercial space because existing commercial developments did not utilize 50% of the lot area. The future land use plan allots less area for manufacturing; therefore the amount of manufacturing area in that scenario is less than the others.

The following table displays the number of residential units, amount of commercial and industrial space, and the amount of agricultural land preserved in each of the scenarios. Existing quantities are displayed for reference. The existing figures are also incorporated into the totals of scenarios 2,3, and 4.

Table 6-5 Summary of Build Out Scenarios

	Residential Units	Sq.ft. Commercial Space	Sq.ft. Manufacturing Space	Acres of Agriculture
Existing	9,400	5,456,000	unknown	3,400
Scenario 1	18,800	23,271,000	5,781,000	
Scenario 2	14,470	12,748,000	2,481,000	3,400
Scenario 3	18,010	12,748,000	2,481,000	
Scenario 4	19,150	12,433,000	1,499,000	2,300

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

7.0 Recommendations and Implementation

7.1 Introduction

The Town of New Hartford has been proactive in regard to its development issues over the course of time. It has responded to the adverse impacts of development on the Town by twice declaring a positive declaration under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) for distinct areas of the Town and performing a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) study to determine how to mitigate those impacts.

The Town's concern about its future is reflected in its willingness to engage in the GEIS studies, which are large and complex tasks, but also to implement them. The Town's commitment to its future is also reflected in its overall willingness to engage in planning generally: it has completed and updated its Parks and Recreation Master Plan, updated (but not adopted) its subdivision regulations and in 2002 considered its options for a future of Smart Growth through an extensive literature search of the various studies it has undertaken to address its storm water, drainage and water issues. Several of the more recent studies and the surrounding issues are summarized in the Utilities section of the People and the Place Chapter.

The Town continues to be an attractive place for development, both commercial and residential. As a result, the impacts on the environment, physical, ecological and aesthetic, continue to impact the Town. In order to sustain New Hartford environmentally and as a place of residential and commercial choice in the Mohawk Valley, the Town needs to continue its proactive stance relative to planning for its future. Through the Comprehensive Plan Update, the Town is demonstrating its commitment to doing so.

7.2 Recommendations for Immediate Action

7.2.1 General Actions

The first of the implementation actions recommended for immediate attention is the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan Update. Another general area action recommends the Town explore ways to use technology to better involve residents in the official life of the Town. Two others are relative to existing deadlines and the terms of Memoranda of Understanding relating to storm water management and pollution. These are Action items numbered 18 and 35. Many of the most urgent actions fall under the Land Use section or are measures related to land use falling under separate sections.

7.2.2 Critical Area Planning

The Town should take a hard look at its critical areas, particularly and most urgently the southern area of the Town where increased numbers of homes and businesses are impacting an already serious environmental and traffic problem. A critical area study may well result in a third Generic Environmental Impact Statement, and that could take place following the conclusion of the Critical Area Study or Studies. That medium-term timeframe is also an appropriate time for the Town to undertake a re-evaluation of the Seneca Turnpike/Commercial Drive/Middlesettment Road and French Road/Burrstone Road/Champlin Avenue GEIS studies. The provisions of these studies expire or “sunset” in 2012 and 2013, respectively, and the Town should determine whether it should replace or revise them.

7.2.3 Land Use and Zoning

An update and consolidation of all land use regulations and the zoning code is an immediate recommendation of this Comprehensive Plan Update. This would include:

- Revise zoning code
- Adopt revised subdivision regulations
- Develop and adopt design standards

These measures will allow the Town to direct growth to appropriate areas and protect and enhance the environmental and visual character of the Town. The subdivision regulations have been revised but not adopted. The revised standards address a number of issues, including transportation-related issues. In addition, the subdivision regulations provide the Town the legal framework for issuing a findings under §277 of the Town Law requiring residential subdivisions set aside land for parks and recreation or that they pay a fee in lieu of dedication of land.

At a minimum the revision of the Town’s zoning should address specific issues that arose during the Comprehensive Plan Update process:

- The Code should reflect the Future Land Use Plan, not the current pattern of land uses.
- The number, types and availability of Planned Developments should be reduced
- Reduce the number of zones
- Development, implementation and enforcement of design controls will improve the continuity of development and visual impacts of development
- Maximum lot coverage for commercial and industrial uses should be reduced
- A general reorganization of the Code will make it easier to use.

7.3 Implementation Policies

As it seeks to implement the actions necessary to realize its vision of the future as expressed in the Comprehensive Plan Update, the Town should be guided by the following policies, designed to provide a framework for addressing the actions recommended by the Plan as well as actions that are proposed and implemented in the future.

Policy 1 - The appropriate boards and commissions should be assigned the responsibility of developing strategies and actions to implement the Comprehensive Plan Update

Policy 2 - The Comprehensive Plan Update is a binding document and its recommended measures should be adopted and implemented

Policy 3 - The Town should support thorough environmental review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act in considering new development proposals even when they are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan Update

Policy 4 - The Town should expedite review and approval of development proposals deemed consistent with the Comprehensive Plan Update, land use and other regulations

Policy 5 - Revisions, amendments and deletions of Goals, Objectives and Policies or to the Comprehensive Plan Update itself should be recommended by the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and referred to the Town Board for review and possible action.

7.3.1 Implementation Matrix

The proof of the pudding, as they say, is in the eating, and the proof of the planning is in the implementation. The Implementation Strategy for the Comprehensive Plan Update is organized in a way that is straightforward, useful and comprehensive as the plan itself. Just five policy statements guide implementation directly, although all policy statements throughout the plan are geared toward implementation. The recommendations themselves are arranged in a matrix organized around the general organization of the plan. There are 47 recommended actions in the Implementation Matrix intended to guide the development of the character of the Town over the next 20 years. The recommendations ranging from items for immediate attention and those for which implementation will take place over the entire term of the Plan to those for longer-term consideration – through the five to seven year time frame. It is anticipated that new actions for implementation will be developed during the five-year update to replace those that have been successfully implemented.

Table 7-1 Implementation Matrix

Action		Responsibility	Estimated Cost	Timeframe
GENERAL AND OVERALL				
1	Adopt the Comprehensive Plan	Town Board Planning Board Town Supervisor Town Planner Comprehensive Plan Update Committee	N/A	Adopt Immediately Review Policy Annually; Update Plan Every 5 Years
2	Improve Public Involvement, Awareness and Understanding; Develop List-Serve to Inform Residents of Events and Meetings	Town Supervisor Webmaster Residents	\$4,000-\$5,000	Immediate – Develop List-Serve and On-Going
3	Continue Communications with Surrounding Towns, Oneida County and City of Utica	Town Board Town Supervisor Various Town Departments	N/A	On-Going
4	Foster a Collaborative Relationship with Advisory Boards and Community Groups	Town Board Various Town Departments Residents*	Varies	On-Going
POPULATION AND HOUSING				
5	Promote the Town as a Diverse and Welcoming Community of Residential Choice	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents Residential Real Estate Industry	N/A	On-going

Action		Responsibility	Estimated Cost	Timeframe
6	Promote a Variety of Housing Choices Including Those For Rent and For Sale at a Variety of Prices/Rents	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residential Real Estate Industry Real Estate Developers	N/A	On-going
7	Track Regional Residential Growth	Town Board Town Planner Residential Real Estate Industry Oneida County	Varies	On-Going
8	Ensure New Residential Development Does Not Encroach on Significant Views	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residential Real Estate Industry Real Estate Developers	Varies	On-Going
9	Mitigate "Downstream" Impacts of Residential Developments	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residential Real Estate Industry Real Estate Developers	Varies	On-Going
10	Encourage the Development of Nodes of Residential Development in Multi-Use/Mixed-Use Settings	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residential Real Estate Industry Real Estate Developers	Varies	On-Going
ECONOMY				
11	Participate in Regional Economic and Job Development Efforts	Town Board Oneida County Mohawk Valley EDGE Oneida County IDA	Varies	On-going
12	Establish a Business Roundtable or Similar Vehicle for Communication Between the Town and Businesses	Town Supervisor Town Board	N/A	On-Going
13	Engage a consultant to Perform Cluster Analyses to Identify Business Groups and Types Most Suited for and Ways to Attract Them to New Hartford	Town Board Mohawk Valley EDGE	\$60,000-70,000	1-3 years
14	Develop Incentives to Encourage Small Neighborhood Establishments Serving Local Needs	Town Board Mohawk Valley EDGE Oneida County IDA	N/A	1-3 Years
LAND USE				
15	Update and Consolidate All Land Use Regulations	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	\$125,000-150,000	Immediate

Action		Responsibility	Estimated Cost	Timeframe
16	Adopt Updated Subdivision Regulations and Incorporate into Consolidated Land Use Regulations	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	N/A	Immediate
17	Develop and Adopt Design Standards to Enhance the Visual Character of the Town	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	\$25,000-30,000	Immediate
18	Implement Current Memoranda of Understanding and Other Rulings from State- and County-Level Agencies regarding Storm Water Management	Town Board Town Planner Oneida County NYS DEC	Varies	Immediate
19	Prepare Special Area Plans for Critical Areas	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	\$50,000-60,000 each	Immediate
20	Protect Scenic Views, Flood Plains and Critical Natural Areas from Over-Development	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	Included in Land Use Regulations	Immediate
21	Direct Commercial Development to Vacant and Under-Utilized Parcels	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner	Included in Land Use Regulations	Immediate
22	Define Growth Areas as Those Areas with Adequate Existing Infrastructure	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner	Included in Land Use Regulations	Immediate
23	Develop an Acquisition Plan and Approach to Implement Greenway Strategy	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	\$20,000-\$25,000	1-3 Years
24	Depending on outcome of special area plans, consider GEIS studies	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	\$250,000-\$300,000	1-3 years
25	Evaluate two existing GEIS studies to assess their effectiveness and determine if they should be revised and implemented, if their sunset should be delayed or if they should be abandoned	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Residents	Evaluation, each study, \$30,000-\$35,000 Revision: varies depending on evaluation outcome	3-5 years
NATURAL RESOURCES				
26	Encourage Environmentally "Green" Building Systems	Town Board Town Planner Residents Business Community	N/A	On-going

Action		Responsibility	Estimated Cost	Timeframe
27	Adopt and Enforce Ground Water and Water Quality Protection Regulations	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Sauquoit Creek Intermunicipal Commission NYS DEC	Varies	1-3 Years
TRANSPORTATION				
28	Adopt Access Standards for Residential Development	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Developers	Included in Subdivision Road Standards	Immediate
29	Adopt Standards requiring Roads in Residential Subdivisions be built to Town Standards	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Developers	Included in Subdivision Road Standards	Immediate
30	Build and Expand Trail System for Various Users including Runners, Bicyclists, Commuters	Town Board Planning Board Town Parks & Recreation Department Town Highway Department NYS DOT Trail Users	Varies	On-Going
31	Take Necessary Measures to Alleviate Traffic Congestion in Areas of the Town	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Town Highway Department NYS DOT Oneida County Developers	Varies	On-Going
32	Implement Circulation and Parking Solutions in Commercial Areas	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Town Highway Department NYS DOT Oneida County Developers	Varies	1-3 Years
33	Ensure the Adequate Provision and Maintenance of Sidewalks	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Developers	Varies	On-going
34	Assess Potential for Improving Access and Usability of Mass Transit	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Oneida County CENTRO	N/A	5-7 Years
INFRASTRUCTURE				
35	Implement the Required Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan	Town Board NYSDEC	Varies	March 2008 Deadline for Implementation
36	Assure Enforcement and Education on Regulations for On-Site Systems	Town Board Town Staff Oneida County Public Health	N/A	On-Going

Action		Responsibility	Estimated Cost	Timeframe
37	Coordinate with Utility and Infrastructure Providers to Ensure that Adequate Service is Available to users	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner Oneida County National Grid OCWA Sauquoit Creek Intermunicipal Commission	Varies	3-5 Years
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES				
38	Ensure that Public Safety Impacts are Considered Before New Developments Are Permitted	Town Board Planning Board Town Planner New Hartford Police Fire Companies Ambulance Services	N/A	On-going
39	Continue to Evaluate the Need for Additional Services Including Internet and Wireless Internet Services	Town Board Public Safety Providers	N/A	On-Going
40	Ensure Adequate Training is Provided for Both Volunteer and Professional Responders	Town Board Public Safety Providers	Varies	On-Going
41	Protect and Preserve the Town's Historic, Cultural and Natural Resources	New Hartford Historical Society Private Sector	N/A	On-Going
42	Address the need for office and meeting space for Town Boards, offices and staff	Town Board	N/A	Immediate
PARKS & RECREATION				
43	Issue a Findings Under Town Law §277 requiring residential Subdividers Set Aside Land for Parks and Open Space or Pay a Fee in Lieu for Acquisition of Parks and Open Space	Town Attorney Planning Board	N/A	Immediate
44	Conduct an Outdoor Pool Feasibility Study	Town Board Town Parks & Recreation Department	\$60,000	1-3 Years
45	Conduct a Community Center/Arena Feasibility Study	Town Board Parks & Recreation Department	\$70,000-80,000	1-3 Years
46	Assess Reuse Feasibility of Recreation Center	Town Board Parks & Recreation Department	\$8,000-\$10,000	1-3 Years
47	Develop a Comprehensive Trail System	Town Board Planning Board Town Parks & Recreation Department Town Highway Department NYS DOT Trail Users	Varies	3-5 Years

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

The People and The Place

1.0 Population

This chapter analyzes a variety of population characteristics of Town of New Hartford. The information presented is based on figures obtained through the U.S. Bureau of the Census in 2000 and 1990. Analysis of the demographic data presents a picture of the Town and how it compares to surrounding towns and the City of Utica. The figures presented for the towns include their interior villages. Information for Oneida County and New York State will demonstrate how these communities compare in a larger context.

1.1 Population Size

In 2000, the Town of New Hartford had a population of 21,172, which was 2% less than its 1990 population of 21,640. During that same time period, the population in the Towns of Whitestown and Kirkland decreased at a slower rate while the County's population decreased by 7% and the State's population increased by 5%.

Between 1960 and 2000, the population of the Town of New Hartford increased by 15%. The largest population increase was seen between 1960 and 1970. Since 1970, the population of the Town has remained fairly constant. During the same period, the Village of New Hartford experienced a consistent loss in population. In 2000, the Village had a population of 1,886, which was 24% less than its 1960 population of 2,468.

Oneida County had its largest population in 1970 and experienced a steady decline in population between 1970 and 2000. A different pattern was seen in the State as a whole. The State's population decreased between 1970 and 1980 but grew consistently between 1980 and 2000 to surpass its 1970 population figure. Between 1960 and 2000 the County's population decreased by 24% while the State's increased by 13%.

The population changes experienced by the Towns, County and to a lesser extent the State as a whole are reflective of a larger trend affecting the Northeastern and Midwestern segments of the United States. For several decades the Northeast and Midwest have lost population to the West and South as people seek more favorable climates and employment opportunities.

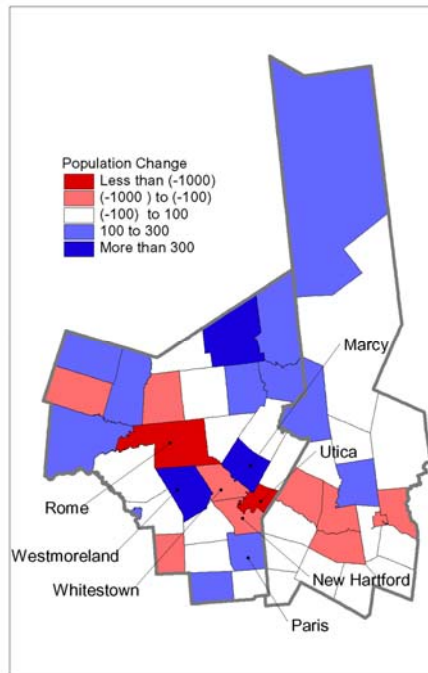
Table 1-1 Population Change 1960-2000
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Areas

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	Percent Change 1960- 2000	Percent Change 1990- 2000
Town of New Hartford	18,444	21,430	21,286	21,640	21,172	14.8%	-2.2%
Town of Whitestown	19,185	21,382	20,150	18,985	18,635	-2.9%	-1.9%
Town of Kirkland	7,978	9,688	10,334	10,153	10,138	27.1%	-0.1%
City of Utica	100,410	91,611	75,632	68,637	60,651	-39.6%	-13.2%
Oneida County	309,586	320,355	253,466	250,836	235,469	-23.9%	-6.5%
New York State	16,782,304	18,241,391	17,558,072	17,990,455	18,976,457	13.1%	5.2%

Source: US Census and peter j. smith & company, inc.

The following figure illustrates population changes within Oneida and Herkimer Counties between 1990 and 2000.

Figure 1-1 Population Change by Town 1990-2000
Oneida and Herkimer Counties



Source: US Census Bureau and peter j. smith & company

Estimates and projections are two methods used to determine the population size without completing a census. The two methods appear similar but there are distinct differences. Estimates are based on past trends and generally use existing data collected from various sources. Projections illustrate the plausible course of future population change based on assumptions about future births, deaths, international migration, and domestic migration.

According to Census Bureau population estimates for local municipalities within each county, which was released July 2005, the Town of New Hartford's population increased by 0.04% between 2000 and 2004 to 21,294. During the same period the State's population was estimated to have had increased by 1.3% to 19,227,088 and the County to have decreased by 0.21% to 234,962.

Using a combination of 2000 Census data, as well as net migration rates, survivorship rates and fertility the New York Statistical Information System at Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research (CISER) prepared population projections for the counties in New York State. As indicated in the table that follows, according to their projections, the County's population is expected to shrink by approximately 4% between 2000 and 2030 while the State's population is expected to grow by 3%. There are no available population projections for the Town of New Hartford. However, if the Town's population follows the same pattern as that of the County, the Town could have a population of 20,829 in 2030. Even if the Town's population follows a different pattern from the County, significant growth is not likely. Population projections are based on existing characteristics. These statistics are subject to change if conditions in the area change.

Table 1-2 Population Projections 2000-2030
Oneida County and New York State

	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	Percent Change 2000-2030
Oneida County	235,469	234,757	233,761	232,884	231,681	229,671	226,702	-3.7%
New York State	18,976,457	19,258,082	19,443,672	19,546,699	19,576,920	19,540,179	19,477,429	2.6%

Source: US Census and Cornell University and the CISER project

In 2000, the Town of New Hartford's population was primarily white (95%) and female (54%). Among comparison areas, the Towns of Whitestown and Kirkland had higher percentages of white residents while the City of Utica, the County and the State had larger percentages of non-white residents. Although the Town's population in 2000 was predominantly white, whites accounted for a lower percentage of the population in 2000 than in 1990 (97%). This trend towards increasing diversification was observed among all comparison areas.

Table 1-3 Population and Household Characteristics – 2000
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Areas

	Town of New Hartford	Town of Whitestown	Town of Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
White	95.0%	96.4%	96.2%	76.5%	88.4%	62.0%
Male:	46.1%	48.0%	47.9%	47.0%	49.7%	48.1%
Female:	53.9%	52.0%	52.1%	53.0%	50.3%	51.9%
0 to 17	21.9%	22.4%	19.9%	24.2%	23.9%	24.6%
18 to 34	14.4%	19.9%	28.9%	22.9%	21.0%	23.6%
35 to 49	22.3%	22.1%	20.8%	20.1%	22.9%	23.6%
50 to 64	18.4%	16.4%	14.5%	13.8%	15.7%	15.2%
65 +	23.0%	19.1%	15.8%	19.0%	16.5%	12.9%
Median Age	44.6	40.5	35.9	37	38.2	36
Total HHs	8,606	7,537	3,419	25,076	90,496	7,056,860
Average HH Size	2.34	2.38	2.39	2.28	2.43	2.61

Source: US Census and pjscompany.com

Town of New Hartford had the highest median age (44.6), among comparison areas in 2000. The Town's median age had increased by more than 10% from 1990 when it was 40.3 years. Between 1990 and 2000 the percentage of the Town's population that was 65 years and older increased from 20.5% to 23.0%. While all comparison areas showed an increase in the median age of residents between 1990 and 2000, the Town of New Hartford had the largest increase.

Factors that may have contributed to the significantly higher proportion of older residents in the Town include: the number of senior living facilities in the Town, the loss of younger populations due to the area's slow job market, as well as the number of adults who are growing older and choose to remain in the community. As the number of elderly residents in the community increase, the potential for an increased demand for transportation, health care and personal care services as well as certain affordable housing may also increase. At the same time that these demands may increase the community's costs, there may be fewer working age residents available to pay for those services.

1.2 Population Findings

- The Population of the Town of New Hartford has remained relatively stable since 1970.
- The County of Oneida is expected to continue to lose population over the next 25 years. Therefore, large or rapid population growth is not anticipated for the Town of New Hartford

- The Town has a higher median age than the City of Utica, the County and the State as nearly a quarter of the Town's population is over the age of 65.

1.3 Population Policies

Policy 1 - The Town of New Hartford should support population growth at a level that can be comfortably accommodated by Town infrastructure and services in order to assure the health and safety of all residents while contributing to growth in the tax base

Policy 2 - The Town should be a diverse and welcoming community of people with various cultural, racial, socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds

Policy 3 - The Town should continue to market itself as a superior residential choice for families

Policy 4 - The Town should participate in regional planning efforts to help determine areas of population growth and opportunities for residential revitalization

2.0 Housing

Housing conditions in the Town of New Hartford is evaluated through a review of total number of housing units, total units in each structure, median age of the housing stock, value of the housing, housing occupancy and vacancy and building permits. The goal of this evaluation of the housing stock of the Town of New Hartford is to ensure that there is adequate housing for all resident of the community.

2.1 Housing Availability

The Town of New Hartford had 9,088 housing units in 2000 and 95% of them were occupied. Three quarters of the occupied units were owner occupied. The occupancy rate in the Town of New Hartford was similar to that of surrounding towns but higher than that of the City of Utica, the County and the State. Of the Town's 5% vacant units, 28% were for rent, 20% were for sale, 17% were sold or rent, but not yet occupied, and 14% were used seasonally. The other 21% of the vacant units were being held by the property owner for some other reason.

Between 1990 and 2000, the number of housing units in the Town of New Hartford increased by 3% (270 units) while the population decreased by 2% (468 persons). Comparison communities also had increases in the number of housing units as their populations declined, with increases ranging from 2% to 6%. Only the City of Utica had a decrease in the number of housing units (-6%). These statistics depict a trend towards a smaller average household size. An aging population is a contributing factor to this trend.

Table 2-1 Housing Characteristics – 2000

Town of New Hartford and Comparison Areas

	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Total Housing Units	9,088	7,936	3,591	29,164	102,803	7,679,307
Total Occupied Units	94.7%	95.0%	95.2%	86.0%	88.0%	91.9%
Owner occupied	74.7%	72.3%	70.0%	48.9%	67.2%	53.0%
Renter occupied	25.3%	27.7%	30.0%	51.1%	32.8%	47.0%
Vacant	5.3%	5.0%	4.8%	14.0%	12.0%	8.1%
For rent	28.4%	37.6%	48.3%	45.8%	30.8%	26.4%
For sale only	19.5%	23.8%	11.6%	11.4%	13.1%	11.2%
Rented or sold, not occupied	16.8%	12.5%	13.4%	7.7%	7.4%	7.0%
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	14.3%	8.3%	11.6%	4.4%	24.2%	40.2%
Other vacant	21.0%	17.8%	15.1%	30.6%	24.5%	15.1%

Source: US Census and pjscompany.com

As indicated in the table below, the majority of housing units (67%) in the Town of New Hartford were single-family detached homes and an additional 3% were single-family attached units in 2000. The most prevalent multi-unit structures were two-family homes (7%) and mobile homes (7%). The percentage of single-family units in the Town was similar to that of surrounding towns but significantly higher than that of the County and State. Between 1990 and 2000, single-family detached and mobile homes were the fastest growing housing types.

Table 2-2 Units in Structure – 2000
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Areas

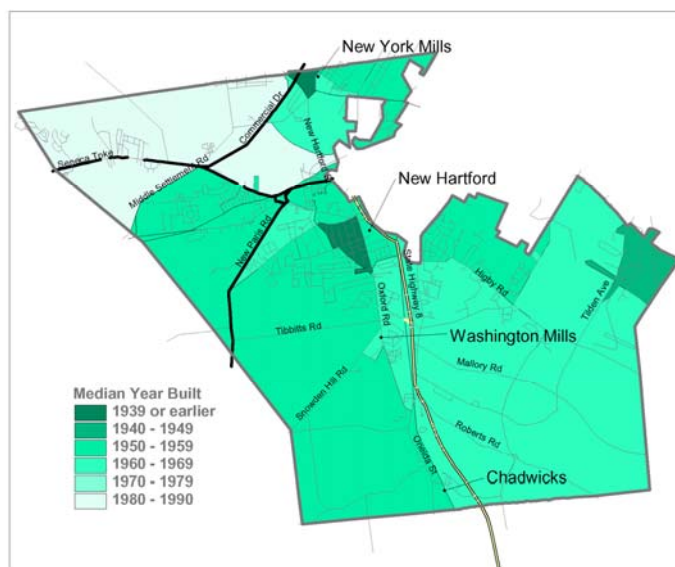
	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Total Housing Units	9,088	7,936	3,591	29,164	102,803	7,679,307
1-Unit Detached	66.6%	70.4%	64.7%	36.0%	58.0%	41.7%
1-Unit Attached	2.8%	1.6%	1.3%	1.7%	1.7%	4.9%
2 Units	6.9%	11.3%	9.5%	31.3%	15.3%	10.9%
3 or 4 Units	5.7%	7.5%	5.6%	13.7%	7.8%	7.3%
5 to 9 Units	6.1%	3.5%	2.0%	5.2%	3.9%	5.3%
10 to 19 Units	2.5%	1.3%	3.1%	2.7%	1.8%	4.3%
20 to 49 Units	1.5%	1.1%	2.9%	3.0%	1.6%	8.1%
50 or More Units	1.3%	2.2%	3.1%	6.2%	3.3%	14.8%
Mobile Home or Trailer	6.6%	1.1%	7.8%	0.3%	6.7%	2.7%
Boat, RV, Van, Etc.	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Median year structure built	1959	1954	1955	Before 1939	1952	1954

Source: US Census and pjscompany.com

In 2000, almost half (48%) of the housing units in the Town of New Hartford were constructed in 1959 or later years. Among comparison areas the Town had the highest percentage of homes constructed between 1970 and 2000 (34%) and the City of Utica had the least (9%).

The figure that follows shows the spatial distribution of homes within the Town based on the median year in which they were built.

Figure 2-1 Median Year Home Built – 2000
Town of New Hartford



Source: US Census Bureau and peter j. smith & company

Between 2000 and 2005, The town of New Hartford issued 161 building permits for single-family detached units. During the same time period, 139 building permits for manufactured homes were issued. Additionally, two subdivisions have been proposed that would provide 40 additional single-family residential units.

The 1995 Town of New Hartford Comprehensive Plan noted a need for additional senior housing. Between 2000 and 2004, the Town of New Hartford's Planning Board approved the development of two senior living facilities: Cedar Brook Senior Living Center and Preswick Glen Senior Living Center. The two centers will provide a variety of living environments for older residents. The Cedar Brook facility will include an athletic training center for handicapped individuals. To date construction has not begun but upon completion the two facilities could add over 200 senior housing units in the form of townhouses and assisted living facilities.

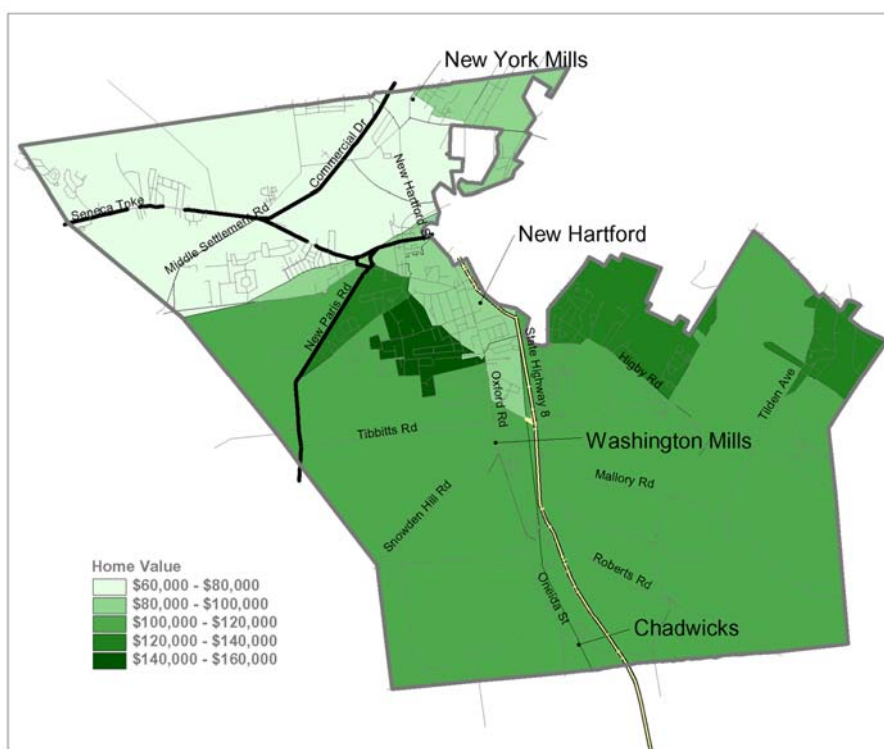
The 1995 Town of New Hartford Comprehensive Plan stated that overbuilding should be avoided. It was suggested that large-scale development projects be phased in a manageable number of units to avoid having to maintain infrastructure on streets where no new homes have been built and no new taxes are being paid. That warning is still appropriate. Although the senior units are needed to serve the Town's growing senior population, the trend toward increased housing development when combined with the Town's declining or stagnant population could result in a housing surplus, which may be an issue for older and less desirable housing types.

2.2 Home Values and Rents

In 2000, the median value of a home in the Town of New Hartford was \$95,300. As was true in 1990, the median value of homes in the Town of New Hartford was significantly higher than in the County. However, the Town's median home value was 28% lower in 2000 than in 1990 (when the 1990 value was adjusted to reflect the value of a dollar in 2000). This was true for all comparison areas, with decreases ranging from 11% (the State) to 27% (City of Utica).

The following figure shows how homes of various values are distributed in the Town.

Figure 2-2 Home Values – 2000
Town of New Hartford



Source: US Census Bureau and peter j. smith & company

Renters continued to spend more of their income on housing than homeowners in 2000. The median contract rent was \$466, which was higher than all comparison areas except the State (\$605). However, median rent within the Town decreased by 5%, from \$488 in 1990 (the 1990 value adjusted to reflect the value of a dollar in 2000) to \$466. During the same time period most comparison areas had an increase in median rent. Increases ranged from 1% in the Town of Kirkland to 10% in the State. The only comparison area that had a decrease between 1990 and 2000 was the County.

Housing is generally considered affordable if monthly costs are not more than one-third of household annual income. In 1999, 36% of renters in the Town of New Hartford spent 30% or more of their income on housing but in the County as a whole that percentage was even higher (39%). Between 1989 and 1999 the percentage of Town residents who spent 30% or more of their income on housing was relatively stable.

Table 2-3 Housing Value and Median Rent – 2000
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Communities

	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Less than \$25,000	0.1%	0.6%	0.3%	4.8%	1.8%	0.8%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2.6%	6.5%	4.8%	24.1%	12.0%	4.8%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	5.1%	10.4%	4.3%	18.5%	11.8%	3.7%
\$60,000 to \$69,999	10.6%	16.3%	4.1%	17.6%	15.1%	5.0%
\$70,000 to \$79,999	13.5%	14.3%	13.0%	13.3%	14.2%	5.8%
\$80,000 to \$89,999	12.4%	13.5%	9.5%	8.8%	12.0%	6.5%
\$90,000 to \$99,999	10.5%	11.1%	12.6%	5.5%	9.7%	5.5%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	17.0%	11.9%	19.2%	4.5%	10.1%	9.2%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	8.5%	8.4%	10.6%	1.2%	5.7%	9.1%
\$150,000 to \$174,999	4.8%	4.4%	6.9%	1.1%	3.0%	9.0%
\$175,000 to \$199,999	4.8%	1.7%	4.0%	0.4%	1.8%	8.4%
\$200,000 to \$249,999	4.9%	0.3%	5.6%	0.1%	1.4%	11.2%
\$250,000 to \$299,999	2.7%	0.1%	2.4%	0.1%	0.6%	7.5%
\$300,000 or More	2.5%	0.4%	2.6%	0.0%	0.7%	13.5%
Median Home Value	95,300	81,400	101,700	61,500	76,500	148,700
Median Contract Rent	\$466	\$421	\$464	\$352	\$375	\$605
Renters who Spent Over 30% of Household Income on Housing in 1999	35.8%	31.2%	30.5%	47.3%	39.3%	40.5%
Home Owners who Spent over 30% of Household Income on Housing in 1999	19.1%	17.8%	18.5%	21.5%	19.1%	26.4%

Source: US Census and pjscompany.com

Home Sales data obtained from a local realtor¹⁰ indicate that the downward trend that was observed between 1990 and 2000 has been reversed. In 2004, 254 units were sold at an average sale price of \$145,780. In 2000, 203 units were sold at an average sale price of \$121,068. Year to date 2005, 237 units have been sold at an average sale price of \$154,404.

The demand for new housing that was identified in the 1995 Comprehensive Plan continues, as does the potential for increased development of agricultural lands. The Town should continue to promote measures to prevent a sprawling development pattern and to maintain its agriculture and open space character, which can provide financial as well as aesthetic benefits. It is generally believed that increased demand for services such as schools and additional infrastructure make residential development in rural and suburban communities more costly than land with agricultural or open space uses. The presence of open space and farmland is also recognized as a contributor to the quality of life of residents.

2.3 Housing Findings

- Despite a county wide pattern of population loss between 1990 and 2000, the Town had a higher occupancy rate in 2000 than both the County and State
- Single family detached remains the dominant type of housing in the Town
- The development of two senior living centers that will provide over 200 additional senior housing units have been approved by the Town
- Housing development is increasing at a faster rate than population growth
- Home values declined between 1990 and 2000 in the Town of New Hartford and comparison areas
- The Town's median home value in 2000 remained significantly higher than that of the County
- Median rent in the Town was higher to that of surrounding towns in 2000
- Renters spent a higher percentage of their income on housing than homeowners in the Town and all comparison areas
- Between 2000 and 2005 average sale price for housing in the Town of New Hartford has increased



Single family is the dominant housing type

¹⁰ Information obtained from Assist 2 Sell was compiled from data obtained from the Greater Utica-Rome Board of Realtors

2.4 Housing Policies

Policy 1 - While single-family housing is the predominant housing style in the Town and is likely to remain so, the Town should encourage development of diverse housing choices

Policy 2 - New residential development should take place in areas that are environmentally sound

Policy 3 - New residential development should take place in such a way that it does not detract from the value of or ability of current residents to enjoy their homes and property

Policy 4 - The Town should address housing affordability in both owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing

Policy 5 - Residential development nodes should be encouraged

3.0 Economy

Employment characteristics influence the community's ability to generate income and are also important to know when targeting commercial activity within a community. The income characteristics of residents are an indicator of the financial stability of a community and influence a community's ability to pay for municipal services. It is important to examine a variety of income characteristics because no one statistic can accurately demonstrate the economic character of a community.

3.1 Labor Force

The labor force consists of individuals over age 16, who are willing and able to work and is affected by the number of retirees, the number of single income families and those that have dropped out of the workforce. Labor force participation is an indicator of the availability of workers in the community. In 2000, the Town of New Hartford had a labor force of 10,151, which represented 59% of its residents that were 16 years or older. The Town had a lower percentage (3%) of unemployed residents in the labor force than all comparison areas.

Table 3-1 Labor Force Characteristics
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Communities

	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Population 16 years and older	17,142	14,940	8,423	47,540	186,008	14,805,912
In labor force:	10,151	8,738	5,262	26,609	109,496	9,046,805
In Armed Forces	8	1	13	45	345	23,709
Civilian:	10,143	8,737	5,249	26,564	109,151	9,023,096
Employed	9,813	8,385	4,758	24,342	102,740	8,382,988
Unemployed	330	352	491	2,222	6,411	640,108
Not in labor force	6,991	6,202	3,161	20,931	76,512	5,759,107
% In Labor Force	59.2%	58.5%	62.5%	56.0%	58.9%	61.1%
% Unemployed in Labor Force	3.3%	4.0%	9.3%	8.4%	5.9%	7.1%

(Universe: Persons 16 and over)

Source: US Census Bureau

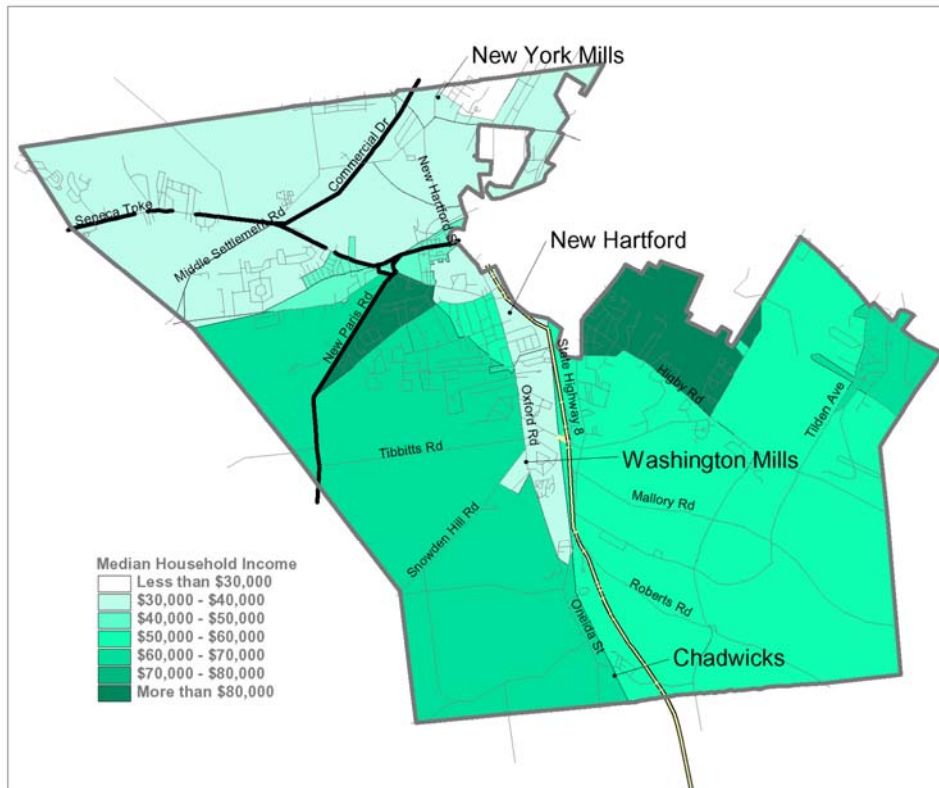
3.2 Income

Per capita and median household incomes are two measures used to determine a community's wealth. Per capita income is an indicator of the wealth of the community while median household income shows the distribution of income within the community. Per capita income is determined by dividing the total income of residents by the population. The median household income is the level at which the number of households with higher incomes is equal to those with less.

In 1999, the Town of New Hartford had a per capita income of \$26,528 and a median income of \$45,991. The Town had a higher per capita and median income than all comparison areas in 1999 as well as in 1989. Between 1989 and 1999 (when 1989 value was converted into the value of a dollar in 1999) per capita income increased by 15% in the Town of New Hartford.

The figure that follows shows the spatial distribution of household income levels in the Town.

Figure 3-1 Median Household Income
Town of New Hartford



Source: US Census Bureau and peter j. smith & company, inc.

Table 3-2 Income Characteristics – 1999
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Areas

	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Less than \$10,000	5.9%	8.1%	7.1%	20.3%	11.0%	11.5%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	13.5%	14.5%	11.1%	20.9%	15.8%	12.2%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	13.4%	14.4%	11.5%	16.9%	15.3%	11.6%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	10.6%	12.9%	11.8%	12.0%	12.8%	11.0%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	10.4%	11.8%	13.0%	8.5%	11.0%	9.5%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19.7%	21.3%	20.4%	12.5%	19.1%	18.4%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	10.7%	9.6%	11.5%	5.0%	8.1%	10.6%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	5.6%	4.2%	6.4%	2.0%	3.2%	6.0%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	3.4%	1.7%	3.6%	0.7%	1.5%	3.1%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	3.4%	1.1%	1.6%	0.4%	1.1%	2.9%
\$200,000 or more	3.5%	0.5%	2.1%	0.7%	1.0%	3.3%
Median	\$45,991	\$40,084	\$45,875	\$24,916	\$35,909	\$43,393
Per Capita Income	\$26,528	\$19,507	\$21,164	\$15,248	\$18,516	\$23,389
% Below Poverty Level	5.0%	9.1%	7.7%	24.5%	13.0%	14.6%

Source: US Census Bureau

The Town of New Hartford had a 5% poverty rate in 1999, which was somewhat lower than the Town of Kirkland and significantly lower than all other comparison areas. The poverty rate for the County was 13%, the State 15% and the City of Utica 25%.

3.3 Employment

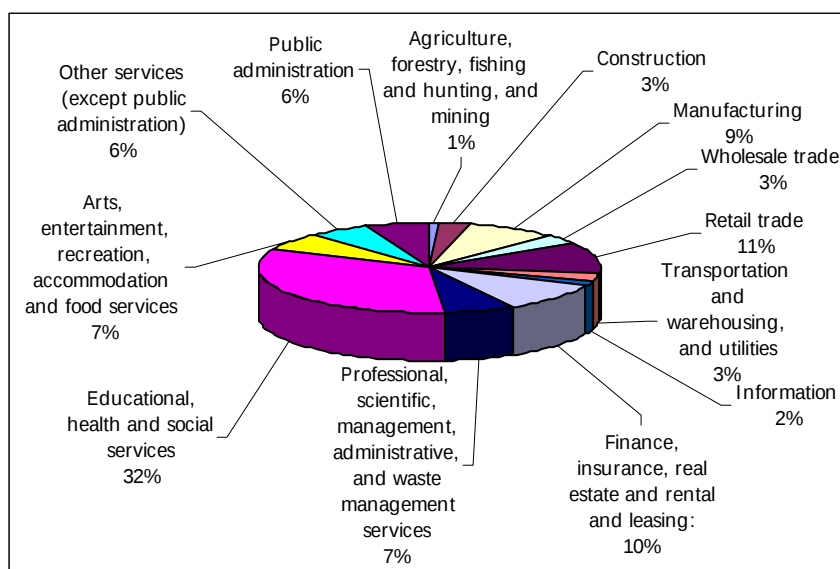
Industry of employment and occupation are indicators of the quality of jobs residents hold and their buying power as certain industries and occupations tend to offer higher wages than others. In 2000, most Town residents (33%) were employed by the education, health and social services industry. It was also the most significant industry of employment for all comparison areas. The other two most significant industries of employment for the Town of New Hartford were retail trade (11%) and finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing (10%). This was also true for the comparison towns of Whitestown and Kirkland. Manufacturing did not play as important a role in the Town of New Hartford as in the City of Utica and the County and the State in 2000.

Table 3-3 Industries of Employment
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Communities

	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining:	0.8%	0.3%	0.7%	0.3%	1.4%	0.6%
Construction	3.1%	4.1%	3.7%	3.1%	4.3%	5.2%
Manufacturing	8.6%	11.5%	8.3%	14.0%	13.8%	10.0%
Wholesale Trade	3.5%	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%	3.0%	3.4%
Retail Trade	10.8%	14.1%	9.3%	11.2%	12.2%	10.5%
Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities	2.9%	4.7%	2.8%	3.5%	3.9%	5.5%
Information	2.2%	1.1%	2.4%	2.9%	2.4%	4.1%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10.1%	13.0%	8.9%	9.4%	8.4%	8.8%
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management Services	6.7%	5.0%	7.4%	6.8%	5.9%	10.1%
Educational, Health and Social Services	33.0%	27.1%	37.2%	26.8%	25.8%	24.3%
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	6.7%	5.7%	7.4%	7.2%	7.3%	7.3%
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	5.5%	4.3%	3.7%	5.7%	4.9%	5.1%
Public Administration	6.2%	6.0%	4.9%	5.8%	6.8%	5.2%

Source: US Census Bureau

Figure 3-2 Industry Sectors of Employment
Town of New Hartford Residents



Source: US Census Bureau and peter j. smith & company

Almost one third (30%) of the Town's residents were employed in professional and related occupations in 2000. This was a larger percentage than all comparison areas, except the Town of Kirkland (32%). Town residents also held many office and administrative support (15%) and management, business and financial operations (14%) occupations. These were also the major occupations of residents in the Towns of Kirkland and Whitestown and the State.

Table 3-4 Occupations – 2000
Town of New Hartford and Comparison Areas

	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Management, business, and financial operations occupations:	13.7%	13.6%	13.3%	9.0%	10.9%	13.5%
Professional and related occupations:	30.3%	23.4%	31.6%	18.1%	20.8%	23.2%
Healthcare support occupations	2.2%	3.1%	2.2%	4.5%	3.3%	3.0%
Protective service occupations:	2.9%	2.8%	2.5%	2.8%	3.2%	2.8%
Food preparation and serving related occupations	4.4%	4.6%	4.3%	5.3%	5.2%	4.5%
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	3.2%	1.5%	3.2%	5.2%	3.2%	3.4%

	New Hartford	Whitestown	Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Personal care and service occupations	3.3%	2.7%	2.8%	3.3%	3.1%	2.9%
Sales and related occupations	11.8%	11.4%	9.5%	9.1%	9.8%	10.8%
Office and administrative support occupations	15.0%	17.7%	17.4%	18.9%	17.0%	16.3%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%
Construction and extraction occupations:	2.6%	3.7%	3.2%	3.2%	3.7%	4.3%
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	3.0%	3.1%	2.0%	2.7%	3.9%	3.2%
Production occupations	3.6%	6.8%	4.0%	12.1%	9.6%	6.4%
Transportation and material moving occupations:	3.6%	5.5%	3.5%	5.6%	5.7%	5.3%

Source: US Census Bureau

Businesses where residents are employed are not necessarily located within the communities in which they live. To get an understanding of the types of businesses that were located in the Town of New Hartford, the US Census Bureau's Economic Census was used. In 2002, the most recent year for which information was available from this source, the Town of New Hartford, including the Village of New Hartford but not the Village of New York Mills, had 585 business establishments with a total of 10,903 employees. These figures had increased from 1997 when there were 565 businesses with 9,531 employees. In addition to changes in the total number of businesses there was also change in the types and sizes of businesses.

In 1997, the retail trade (212), health care and social assistance (80) and accommodation and food services (68) industries had the largest number of establishments in the Town. These industries were also the largest employers with the exception of manufacturing, which had 20 establishments but had the second highest number of employees (1,479). In 2002, the same three industries dominated in terms of numbers of establishments but there was some change in number of employees in these sectors. The 20 manufacturing firms had dwindled to 14 and both the number of establishments and employees in the health and social assistance sector had significantly increased. Between 1997 and 2002 significant growth was also seen in the information sector as well as the professional, scientific and technical services sector.

Table 3-5 Business Patterns 1997-2002
Town of New Hartford

Industry	Number of Establishments		Shipments, Sales, Receipts or Revenue (\$1,000)		Annual Payroll (\$1,000)		Number of Employees	
	2002	1997	2002	1997	2002	1997	2002	1997
Total	585	565	1,080,362	974,707	232,337	182,767	10,903	9,531
Manufacturing	14	20	191,793	276,591	30,364	52,948	1,275	1,479
Wholesale trade	25	25	119,935	57,607	7,372	3,923	211	139
Retail trade	204	212	547,532	441,825	56,627	46,714	3,598	3,855
Information	10	0	N	0	3,057	0	120	0
Real estate & rental & leasing	35	36	19,692	19,481	3,052	1,890	133	106
Professional, scientific, & technical services	52	37	23,383	11,960	8,053	4,391	287	186
Administrative & support & waste management & remediation service	30	37	19,944	20,366	10,183	11,648	907	894
Educational services	6	4	D	381	D	89	b	12
Health care & social assistance	105	80	272,365	79,699	120,247	42,149	3,746	1,105
Arts, entertainment, & recreation	10	10	8,487	6,381	2,936	2,122	198	165
Accommodation & food services	66	68	45,376	38,509	13,906	11,202	1,400	1,305
Other services (except public administration)	42	36	23,648	21,907	6,904	5,691	303	285

Source: 2002 Economic Census and peter j. smith & company

D: Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in higher-level totals.

N: Not available or not comparable, b: 20-99 employees

3.4 Major Employers

There are several large employers in the Town of New Hartford. The following table presents the largest employers within the Town. The number of employees was reported by each of the businesses. The numbers may not reflect the actual number of employees that work within the Town of New Hartford.

Table 3-6 Major Employers – 2005

Town of New Hartford

Employer	Type of Business	Number of Employees
Niagara Mohawk	Utility Company	6500
CONMED Corporation	Medical Equipment	3000
Faxton-St. Luke's Health Care	Health Care	2900
Utica National Insurance	Insurance	1400
PAR Technology Corporation	Computer Systems	1200
Hartford Insurance	Insurance	650
BOCES	Education	513
Sitrin Health Care Center	Health Care	460
Presbyterian Home	Nursing Home	430
New Hartford Central School	Education	414
Special Metals Corporation	Manufacture of Metals	365
Slocum-Dickson Medical Group	Health Care	350
Home Depot	Home Improvement	150
Smurfit-Stone	Manufacture of Corrugated Board	130
Mohawk Ltd.	Equipment Sales and Servicing	85

Source: Town of New Hartford Planning Department

3.5 Economic Development Projects

The Town of New Hartford continues to attract commercial development. Proposed projects within the community include the following:

3.5.1 Proposed Business Park

The development of a business park has been proposed for over 100 acres at the intersection of Wood Highway and Seneca Turnpike. The Planning Board approved Phase I of the project in 2006. The project would provide over 500,000 square feet of building space.

3.5.2 Proposed Retail Center

Twenty acres of a 70-acre parcel at 4685 Middle Settlement Road is undergoing Planning Board review for the development of a retail center. This project is being sponsored by COR Development Company and will provide over 180,000 square feet of building space.

3.6 Town Budget

The Town of New Hartford adopted a 2006 budget that totals approximately \$12.6 million gross. The following is a summary of the revenues and expenditures included in the 2006 budget.

3.6.1 Revenue Sources

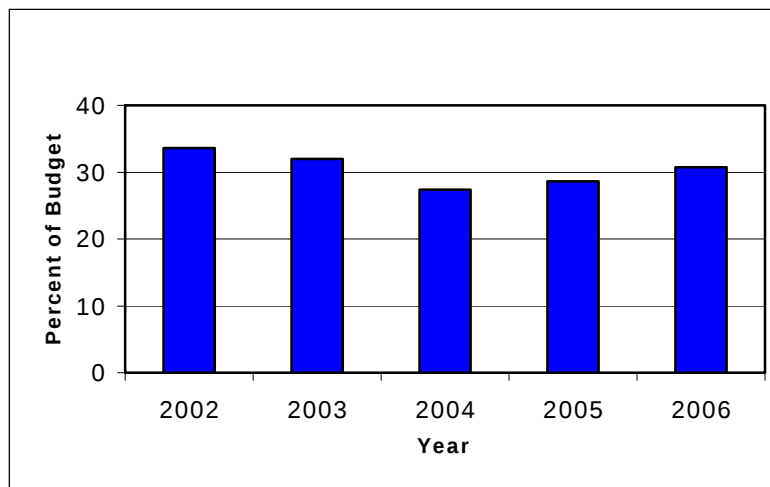
In the 2006 adopted budget, non property tax items is the most significant revenue generator; accounting for approximately 42% (\$5.4 million) of the Town's revenues. The other major revenue sources are real property taxes and the appropriated fund balance. Real property taxes provide 31% (\$3.9 million) of the Town's revenues are generated from property taxes. The Town had more than \$1.3 million in total fund balance from the previous year, which contributes 11% of the Town's overall revenue sources in 2006.

Real property taxes play a smaller role in the Town's budget than in the average town within the state. The average town in New York State generated 51% of its revenue from real property taxes, 11% from non property taxes, 12% from state aid, 3% from federal aid and 23% from all other source during the 2002-2003 fiscal year.¹¹

The figure that follows shows the role that property taxes have played in the Town's budget between 2002 and 2006.

Table 3-7 Property Taxes as a Percentage of Town Budget

Town of New Hartford



Source: Town of New Hartford

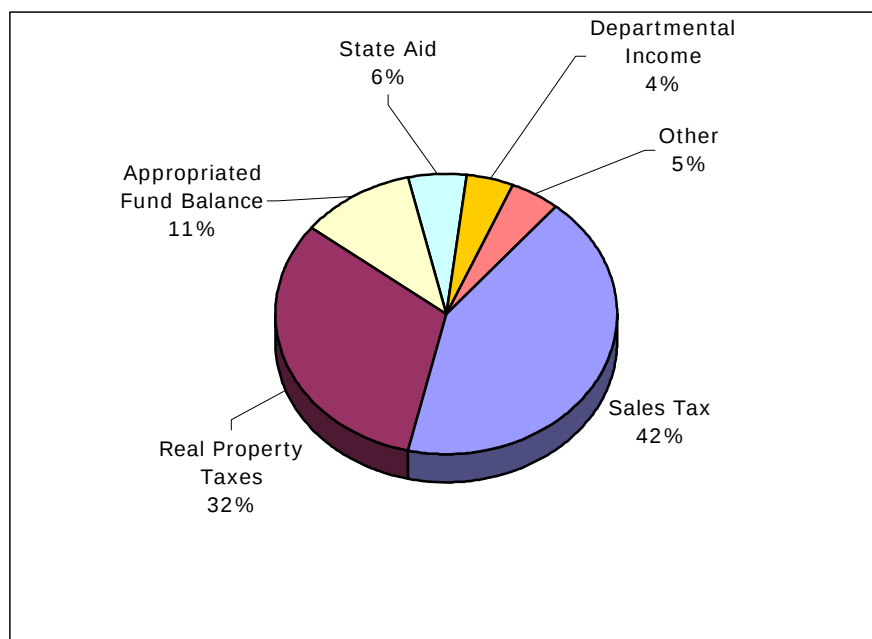
¹¹ Office of New York State Comptroller, 2005 Annual Report on Local Governments

In addition to the various revenue streams that are part of the Town's budget, programs and projects within New Hartford also receive annually funding from other sources that are applied on a direct basis. Bond issues are not part of the revenue sources for the 2006 budget.

The figure that follows shows the percentage breakdown of all revenue sources.

Figure 3-3 Revenue Sources – 2006 Budget

Town of New Hartford



Source: Town of New Hartford

3.6.2 Expenditures

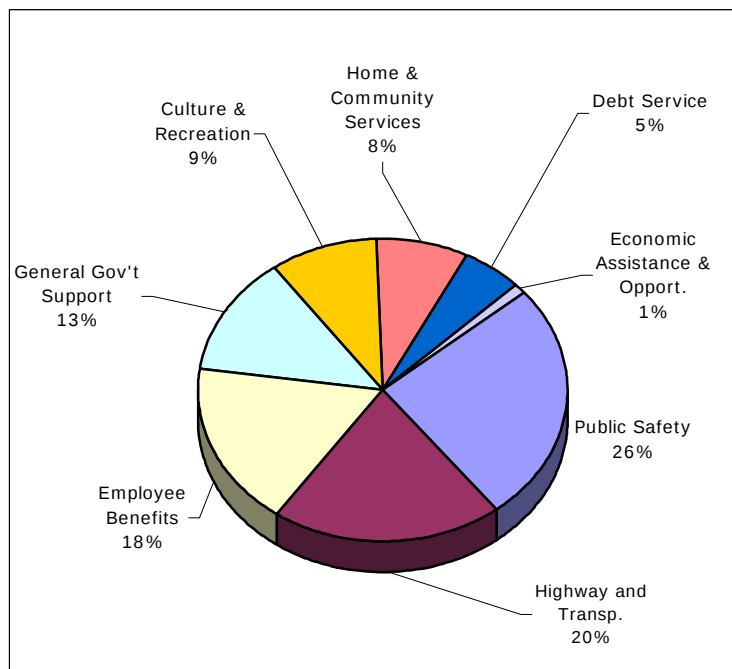
Public Safety is the Town of New Hartford's largest expense, accounting for 26% (\$3.2 million) of the Town's budget. Highway and transportation is the Town's second largest category of expenditure, accounting for 20% (\$2.5 million) of the budget. The two other major expenditure categories in the Town's budget are employee benefits (18% or \$2.2 million) and general government support (13% or \$1.6 million).

The average town in New York State used 75% of its revenue from current operations (includes personal services, employee benefits and contractual expenditures), 16% for capital outlay and 9% for debt service during the 2002-2003 fiscal year.¹² Debt service accounts for 5% (\$663,165) of the Town of New Hartford's 2006 budget. Between 2002 and 2006 debt service has accounted for between 9% and 5% of the Town's expenditures.

The figure that follows shows the percentage breakdown of all expenditures in the 2006 budget.

¹² Office of New York State Comptroller, 2005 Annual Report on Local Governments

Figure 3-4 2006 Budget Expenses
Town of New Hartford



Source: Town of New Hartford

3.7 Economy Findings

- In 2000 about one-third of the population was employed in the education, health and social services sector
- Approximately 30% of the Town's residents were employed in professional and related occupations in 2000
- New Hartford's residents continue to be more affluent than other communities in the region
- The total number of commercial establishments in the Town grew between 1997 and 2002
- Among businesses located in the Town of New Hartford those in the health care and social assistance, retail trade and accommodations and food service sectors had the largest number of employees in 2002



Sangertown Square is a regional retail magnet

- Between 1997 and 2002 the Town of New Hartford had a significant growth in the number of establishments in the information sector and the professional, scientific and technical services sector
- A business park with over 500,000 square feet of building space and a retail center with over 180,000 square feet of building space have been proposed and are undergoing reviewed by the Planning Board
- The Town operates a balanced budget of roughly \$12.6 million
- Real property taxes play a smaller role in the Town's budget than in the average town within the state

3.8 Economy Policies

Policy 1 - Diversification of the Town's economy should be considered. It can be accomplished through identification of growing market groups and clusters not currently represented in the Town at present

Policy 2 - Smaller retail establishments serving local and neighborhood needs should be encouraged and sustained

Policy 3 - Commercial development should take place in areas whose character will comfortably accommodate it

Policy 4 - The Town should participate in and support efforts to attract and retain high quality jobs in New Hartford

Policy 5 - Where appropriate, commercial and residential developments should be encouraged to link together in diverse mixed-use neighborhoods

Policy 6 - The Town should make the monetary investments necessary to continue and enhance the quality of life in the community

Policy 7 - The Town should assess the balance of commercial, residential and industrial development in order to assure sound community development

Policy 8 - The Town should continue to acquire and dedicate parks and develop recreational facilities as part of a strategy to attract and retain businesses

Policy 9 - The Town should maintain appropriate communication with representatives from existing business and industry to keep apprised of needs and future plans

Policy 10 - Economic development planning should embrace a regional approach

Policy 11 - Commercial design standards should be instituted to encourage a high quality built environment

4.0 Land Use and Land Use Regulations

The existing, observable land use of each parcel in the Town of New Hartford is important because it reveals the pattern of past growth, the location of areas that should be preserved, and the potential locations for future development. The analysis of existing conditions forms the basis of the future land use plan for the Town.

4.1 Existing Land Use

The Town of New Hartford consists of 22.4 square miles or 14,316 acres of land area exclusive of the villages within the Town's borders. With a few exceptions, land use information included in this discussion is based on the New York State land use code of the real property database. Apartments and mobile home parks were taken out of the commercial category and listed as high density residential. Recreational land uses were divided into commercial, community service and open space categories depending on the use. A windshield land use survey was taken to fill in missing data and correct outdated information. The land use classifications are described in subsequent sections. A geographic information system (GIS) was used to summarize the area of the parcels by land use category. The resulting totals that are presented below do not include the area of road rights-of-ways. The following table represents the distribution of land uses in the Town of New Hartford:

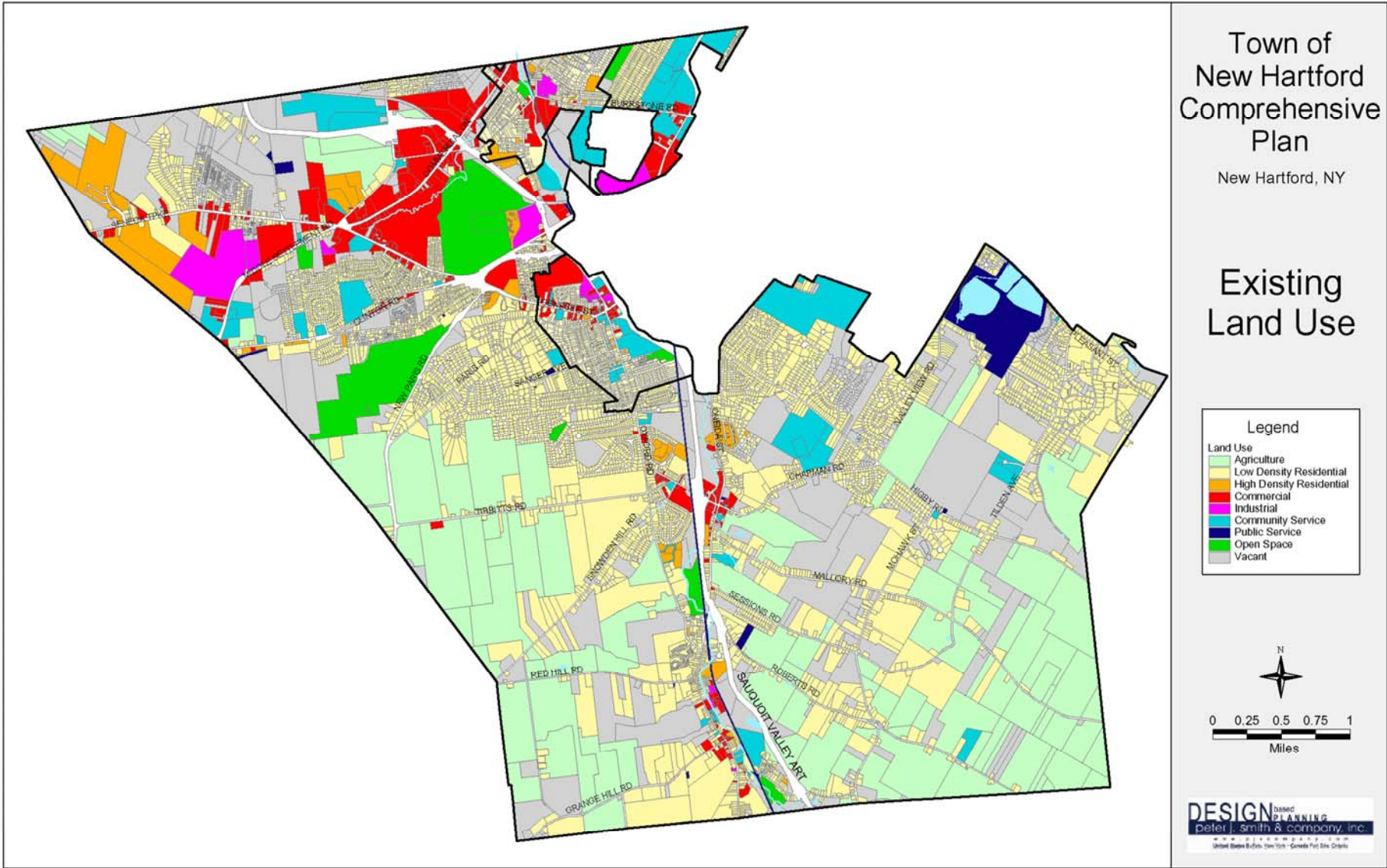
Table 4-1 Summary of Land Use
Town of New Hartford

Land Use	Acres	Percent
Agriculture	3,857	26.9%
Low Density Residential	4,362	30.5%
High Density Residential	401	2.8%
Commercial	680	4.7%
Industrial	187	1.35
Community Service	644	4.5%
Public Service	278	1.9%
Open Space	508	3.5%
Vacant	3,398	23.7%

Source: Town of New Hartford and peter j. smith & company

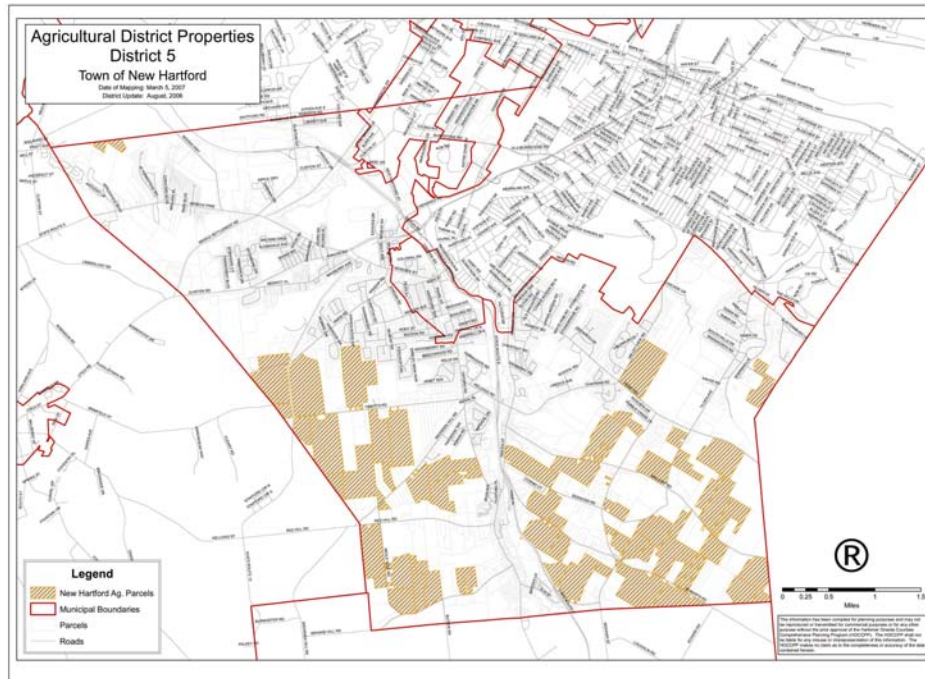
4.1.1 Agriculture

Agriculture land uses include land devoted to the growing of crops, orchards and livestock. Over a quarter of the land in New Hartford is dedicated to these uses. The majority of agricultural use is located in the southern half of the Town with the largest areas found along Tibbitts Road and the southeast corner. An orchard is still operating off of Middle Settlement Road.



The Town of New Hartford lies within Oneida County Agricultural District Number 5. The district was revised in August 2006 following the State of New York's Agriculture and Markets Law which stipulates that agricultural districts be revised on a rolling eight-year basis. The districts are designed to promote preservation of agriculture and are administered by a County-level committee. The map below depicts the New Hartford District

Figure 4-2 Agricultural District



Source: Oneida County

4.1.2 Residential

Residential land uses occupy nearly a third of the Town's area. In the villages, there is a mix of single and two family properties with a few apartment buildings. There is also a mix of single family and two family houses along Oneida Street in the Hamlet of Chadwicks. Outside the villages, there are several single family neighborhoods concentrated around Paris Road, Clinton Road and Higby Road. New high-end housing is being built in the area around Pleasant Street. In the southern half of the Town, there are several estates and large lot single-family properties that occupy a significant amount of land area but provide few residential units.

High-density residential properties in the town include mobile home parks, modular home parks and apartment complexes. The Applewood and Cherrywood modular home developments, in the northwest corner of the town, account for most of the high-density residential area.

4.1.3 Commercial

Generally, there are two types of uses that are classified as commercial property: retail sales and offices. Overall, just under 5% of the Town's land is classified as commercial. Most of the commercial property is dedicated to retail sales. The bulk of commercial property in the Town of New Hartford is located along Commercial Drive. This is a regional commercial destination centered around the Sangertown Mall and Consumer Square. Smaller commercial nodes exist in the Villages of New Hartford and New York Mills and the Hamlets of Washington Mills and Chadwicks. Commercial uses are also located along Seneca Turnpike, Middle Settlement Road, Burrstone Road and French Road.

4.1.4 Industrial

Industrial uses include manufacturing operations and make up only 1.2% of the Town's area. Special Metals on Middle Settlement Road is the largest industrial property. Con Med at French Road and Chenango Street and Par Technology at 8383 Seneca Turnpike are other industrial complexes. Smaller, older industrial facilities still exist in the Village of New Hartford and in the Hamlet of Chadwicks.

4.1.5 Community Service

Community Services include government agencies, police and emergency services, schools, places of worship, and cemeteries. Community services are scattered throughout the Town accounting for 4.5% of the area. The largest areas used for community services are the St. Luke's Hospital and the cemetery on Oneida Street. Several schools, including the B.O.C.E.S. Complex also make up a significant share of the community service area. Places of worship, nursing homes, and Town facilities account for the remainder of the community service area.

4.1.6 Public Service

Parcels designated as public service are used for utility infrastructure such as sub-stations, water towers and communication towers. Railroad corridors are also classified as public service. Public service uses account for 1.9% of the Town's land area. The majority of this area is occupied by the reservoir on Valley View Road. This facility is no longer being used but is being held by the water authority for reserve. The parcel would make an attractive location for a park. There is also a railroad corridor that runs parallel to the Sauquoit Arterial. Other utility facilities are scattered throughout the Town.

4.1.7 Park and Open Space

Park and open space areas make up 3.5% of the Town. The largest of these areas are the Sherrill Brook Park and the Yahnundasis Golf Club. However, the Yahnundasis Golf Club is a privately operated facility. The Washington Mills Athletic Fields and Donovan Memorial Park are other sizeable recreation facilities.

4.1.8 Vacant

Vacant land differs from open space in that it is not dedicated to recreation or preservation. These parcels have either not been developed yet, have been abandoned or are undevelopable. Nearly a quarter of the land in the Town of New Hartford is vacant. There are large parcels of vacant land in the southern half of the Town. Another largely undeveloped area is located around Woods Highway. It appears that some of the vacant land is the result of unfinished subdivisions. These unfinished subdivisions vary in age.

4.2 Land Use Regulations

4.2.1 Current Zoning Law

The Town of New Hartford is currently divided into 21 different zoning districts. There are three agricultural districts, three residential districts, four commercial districts, seven planned development districts, one industrial district, one institutional district, one professional office district and one park district. In addition to the 21 use districts there are five overlay districts: Stream Corridor Overlay District (SCOD), Wetlands Overlay District (WOD), Aquifer Overlay District (AOD), Steep Slope Overlay District (SSOD) and Natural Resource Protection District (NRPD). The overlay districts are designated to protect environmental areas and limit development in flood plains. The type of uses allowed and bulk requirements are established for each district in the form of a schedule of uses, area, and bulk regulation charts. However, there is very little control over the design of developments other than site plan review. The following table shows the distribution of zones by area in the Town of New Hartford:

Table 4-2 Existing Zoning Districts

Town of New Hartford

Zone	Zone Name	Acres	Percent
A	Agriculture	4,414	28.4%
RA1	Residential Agriculture 1	594	3.8%
RA2	Residential Agriculture 2	1,584	10.2%
LDR	Low Density Residential	4,053	26.1%
MDR	Medium Density Residential	906	5.8%
HDR	High Density Residential	387	2.5%
RB1	Retail Business 1	431	2.8%
RB2	Retail Business 2	207	1.3%
RB3	Office Business	285	1.8%
RB4	Neighborhood Business	35	0.2%
PO	Professional Office	11	0.1%
I	Institutional	349	2.2%
M	Manufacturing	381	2.5%

Zone	Zone Name	Acres	Percent
P	Park	150	1.0%
PDI	Planned Development Institutional	419	2.7%
PDMU	Planned Development Mixed Use	174	1.1%
PDMH	Planned Development Mobile Home	329	2.1%
PDP	Planned Development Park	311	2.0%
PDREC	Planned Development Recreation	243	1.6%
PDRES	Planned Development Residential	131	0.8%
PHB	Planned Highway Business	146	0.9%

Source: Town of New Hartford

4.2.2 Agricultural Districts

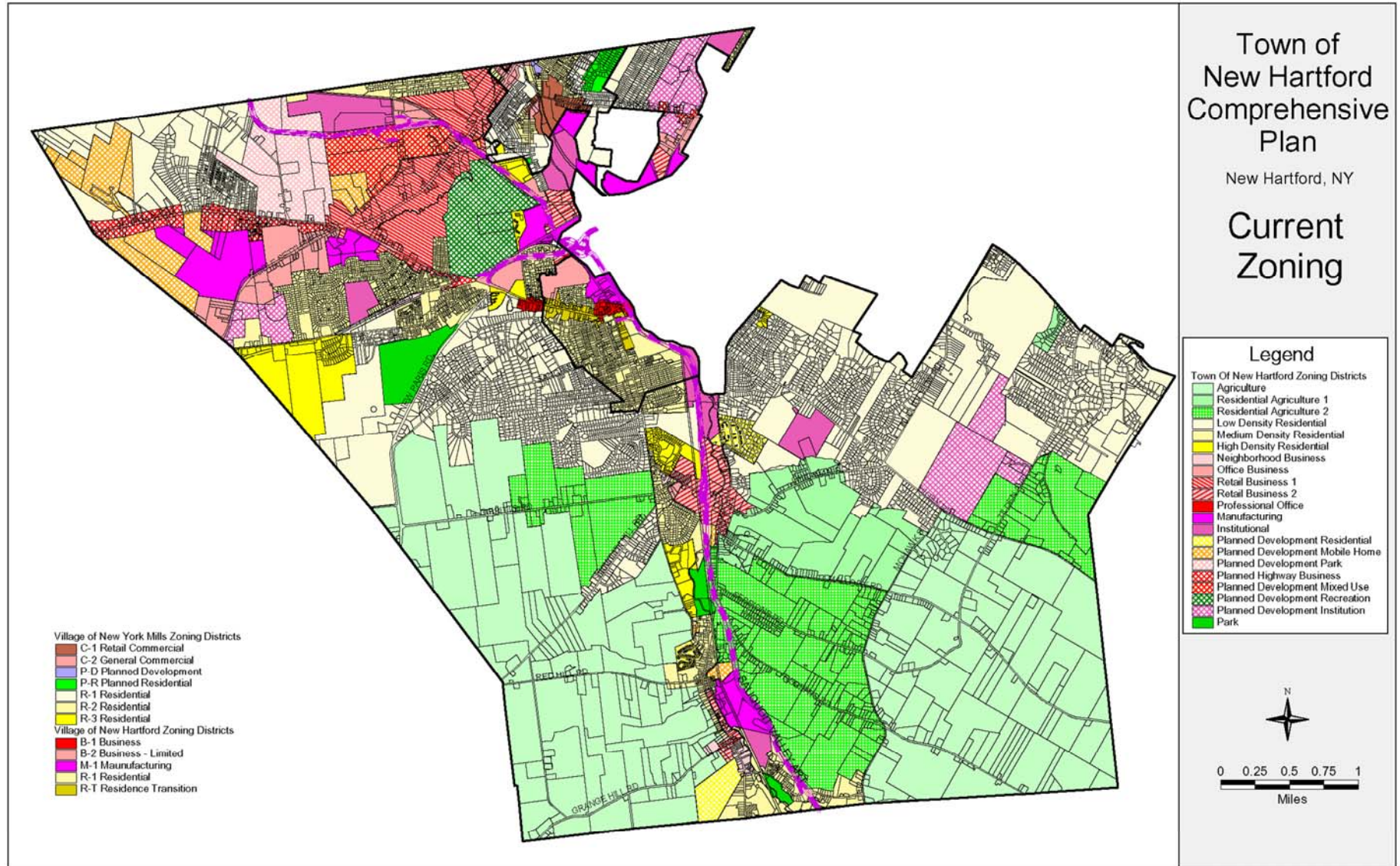
There are three agricultural districts in the Town of New Hartford. Together, they cover 42.4% of the Town. These zones are located in the southern half of the Town away from the Oneida Street corridor. Two of the districts (RA1, RA2) are designed to be transitional zones between a more committed agricultural district and residential districts. The uses allowed in all three districts are similar but there are differences in the lot size for dwelling units.

4.2.3 Residential Districts

Residential districts make up 34.4% of the land in the Town of New Hartford. The Low Density Residential District (LDR) is dedicated to single-family residential units but allows some community services. The LDR District covers the middle of the Town, just south of the City of Utica and the Village of New Hartford. Other LDR Districts are located in the northwest and northeast corners of the Town. The Medium Density District allows for smaller lot sizes than the LDR and permits two-family dwellings. These districts are located in the Oneida Street/Oxford Road corridor and along Clinton Road. The High Density Residential District (HDR) allows for even smaller lots for single and two-family dwellings. The district also allows multi-family dwellings. The HDR Districts are generally smaller and located on existing multi-family developments. There is a large HDR District located on Clinton Road that has not been developed.



A third of the Town is zoned residential



4.2.4 Commercial Districts

The four commercial districts in the Town of New Hartford cover 6.1% of the Town's land area. Two of the districts (RB1 and RB2) are geared towards retail business. These districts allow the same uses except that the RB1 allows larger establishments without site plan review. These districts are concentrated along Commercial Drive and in the Hamlet of Washington Mills. The RB3 District is designed for office developments. The district is located where current office developments exist or are planned. Much of the district is located on Middle Settlement Road. The RB4 district is designed for small-scale retail to serve the surrounding neighborhoods. Individual RB4 Districts can be found on Clinton Road and in the Hamlets of Washington Mills and Chadwicks. The commercial zones generally control the size of developments and types of uses, but lack design controls.

4.2.5 Professional Office District

The Professional Office District was created to accommodate large single-family dwellings that were converted into offices. The single small district accounts for 0.1% of the Town's land area and is located on Genesee Street just west of the Village of New Hartford.

4.2.6 Planned Development Districts



Applewood Community is one of several planned developments; it is anticipating expansion

Collectively, planned development districts represent 11.2% of the area in the Town of New Hartford. Seven types of Planned Development Districts were created for different types of developments. Planned Developments that have already been built include the St. Luke's Medical Complex, Applewood and Cherrywood modular home developments, The Yahnundasis Golf Club, nursing homes on Tilden Avenue and Middle Settlement Road, and some residential developments along Oneida Street. The Planned Office Park District and Planned Mixed Use District located south of the Judd Road Extension are still largely undeveloped. The Planned Highway Business District was designed

to ensure uniform development for individual businesses created along Seneca Turnpike. Planned development districts are loosely worded to allow the developers a degree of flexibility in design.

4.2.7 Industrial, Institutional and Park Districts

The Industrial, Institutional, and Park Districts were created to accommodate their respective uses. These zones are located around existing facilities.

4.2.8 The Villages

The Villages of New Hartford and New York Mills have their own zoning classifications. Each of the villages provide for a mix of residential uses around a commercial and industrial core. The following tables represent the distribution of zones in the two villages within the Town of New Hartford.

Table 4-3 Village of New Hartford Zoning Districts

District	Acres	Percent
R-1 Residential	270	67.4%
R-T Residence Transition	41	10.3%
B-1 Business	17	4.1%
B-2 Business - Limited	41	10.3%
M-1 Manufacturing	31	7.8%

Source: Town of New Hartford

Table 4-4 Village of New York Mills Zoning Districts

District	Acres	Percent
R-1 Residential	183	50.1%
R-2 Residential	63	17.3%
R-3 Residential	3	0.7%
C-1 Retail Commercial	57	15.7%
C-2 General Commercial	19	5.3%
P-D Planned Development	3	0.8%
P-R Planned Residential	37	10.1%

Source: Town of New Hartford

4.3 Land Use Findings

- The Town has a considerable amount of vacant land (24%) available for development. Much of this land is in the southern half of the Town and requires the extension of infrastructure for development
- The current zoning districts function to concentrate commercial development to nodes and limit commercial development in the southern half of the Town
- Some of the districts were established to protect existing facilities

- The zoning code lacks defined design guidelines or standards with the exception of the Planned Development Park (PDP)
- Much of the development in the town is the result of planned developments
- The town could benefit from reducing the number of zones and establishing design controls to foster a continuity of development

4.4 Land Use Policies

Policy 1 - The Town should continue to explore ways to mitigate the adverse effects of development, both on- and off-site.

Policy 2 - The Future Land Use Plan will be consulted for appropriate type, scope and location of future development

Policy 3 - Zoning changes should be consistent with the Town's Plan and minimize potential land use conflicts

Policy 4 - The Town should adopt appropriate land use regulations and design standards to enhance the visual character of the Town

Policy 5 - The Town should assess and protect important and significant views

Policy 6 - Development should be sited in a way that maximizes environmental protection

Policy 7 - Critical natural areas and scenic vistas should be preserved

Policy 8 - Reuse of vacant and under-utilized parcels and buildings should be a priority for new development proposals

Policy 9 - New development should take place only in those areas where adequate infrastructure exists

Policy 10 - Agricultural production should be encouraged on the Town's prime agricultural lands

Policy 11 - Opportunities for open space acquisition should be investigated

Policy 12 - Flood plains and flood areas should be protected from future development

Policy 13 - Recommendations of existing plans and state-level agencies
for approaches to storm water
management should be implemented

Policy 14 - Areas with a tendency to flood should be protected from
intense development

5.0 Natural Resources

Environmental resources cross political boundaries and affect land uses, development and quality of life. As the backdrop in front of which the activities of life are enacted, their presence, absence or degradation can have a significant impact on the quality of life of residents. The careful documentation and consideration of these valuable resources will allow the Town of New Hartford to determine what type and scale of development should be pursued and where it should be located.

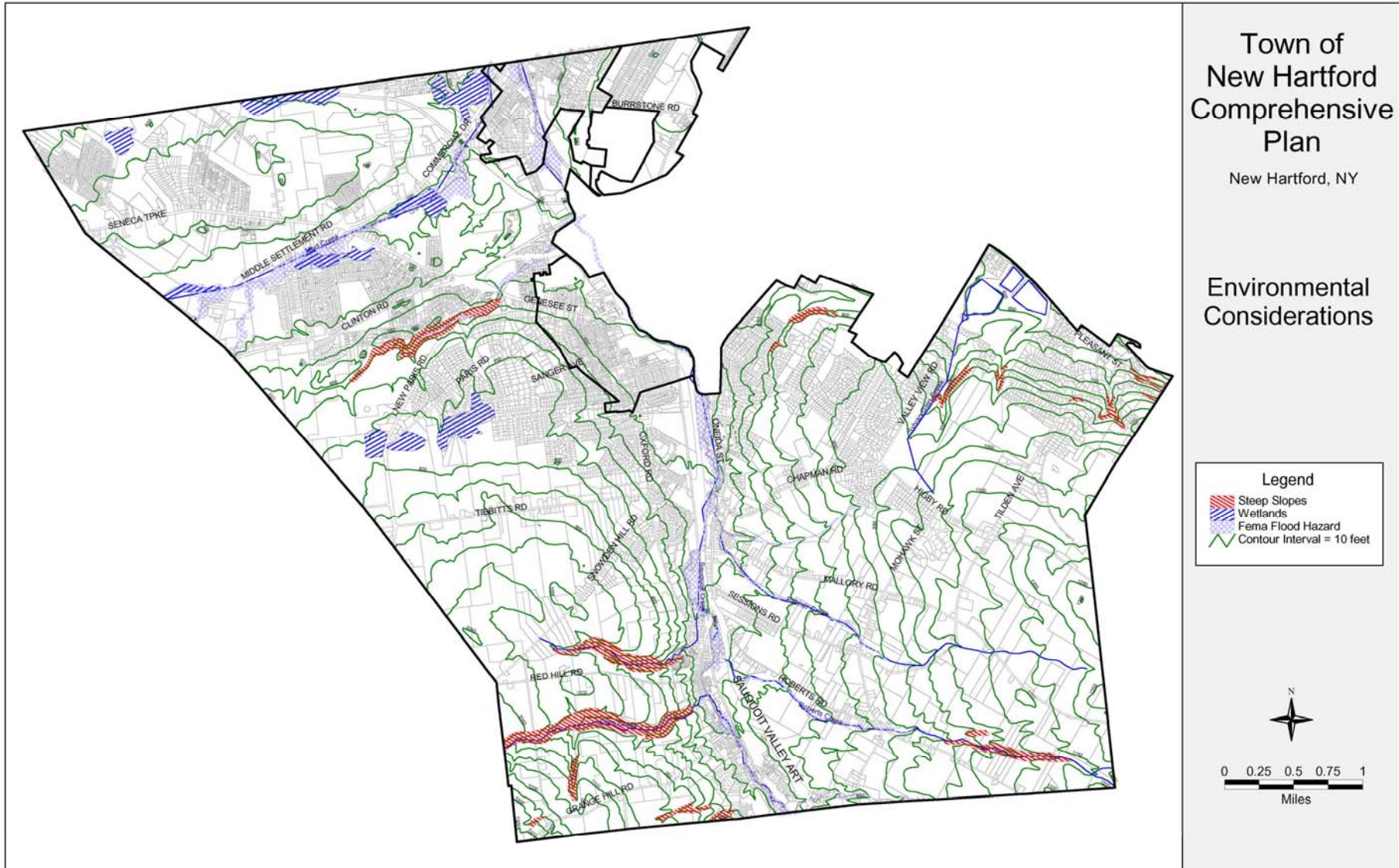
5.1 Physical Geography

Landforms within the Town of New Hartford have been influenced by glacial changes as well as the Mohawk River. The Mohawk River carved the east-west valley, which encompasses the northern portion of the Town. The southern portion marks the transition between the Mohawk Valley and the Appalachian Upland. The Town is characterized by steep hills to the south and more level ground to the north.

The Sauquoit Creek corridor bisects the Town from south to north and there are areas of steep relief along its banks. The Mud Creek basin bisects the northwestern section of the Town from west to east. This area is not as steep as the southern part of Town and has few significant topographical changes. Generally, there is greater steepness east of the Sauquoit Creek than to the west. There are relatively level plateaus on the tops of some hills in southern New Hartford that provide excellent views to the north.

Slope is an indicator of the steepness of the land. Approximately 61% (9,995 acres) of the land area in the Town is relatively level with slopes of 0%-5%. Slopes of 6%-10% are found in 23% (3,837 acres) of the Town's land area. These are found throughout the Town but primarily along the central corridor of the Town adjacent to the Sauquoit Creek. Slopes of 11%-20% are found in 12% (2,029 acres) of the Town's land area. These are generally located along the southwestern edge of Sauquoit Creek. Other pockets are located east of Sauquoit Creek and a significant section is found in the northeastern portion of Town.

Slopes greater than 20% are deemed very steep and considered to be unsuitable for development due to economic and environmental constraints. Developments on steep sites require careful site planning and attention to erosion and landslide potentials. Three percent (516 acres) of the Town's land area falls into this category. These areas are located on both side of Sauquoit Creek and around some of its tributaries (Harris Brook, The Glen and an unnamed brook just south of Mud Creek). There are also pockets of steep slopes in the northeastern section of the Town.



5.2 Soils

Soils are naturally occurring bodies on the surface of the earth that are dependent on the local geology, landforms, relief, climate and natural vegetation.

Characteristics such as depth to bedrock and ground water, permeability, fertility and drainage determine whether or not soils are appropriate for agriculture, physical development or natural open space uses.

Large portions of the soils in New Hartford are formed in glacial till sediments derived from limestone (Honeoye, Lima, Lansing, Pittsfield, Nellis etc.). The remaining glacial till soils were formed in sediments derived from acid shale or sandstone (Manlius, Lordstown, Arnot, Cazenovia etc.). Pockets of sandy or gravelly soil formed in glacial outwash sediments are also scattered throughout the Town. Large deposits of alluvial soils exist adjacent to Mud Creek, Sauquoit Creek, Palmers Creek, Brown Creek and their tributaries.



52 percent of New Hartford soils meet the highest national standards

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), classifies soils relative to their agricultural productivity. The two most highly productive soils are national prime farmland and farmland of statewide significance. National prime farmland is defined as land that is well suited for the production of food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, with the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce economically sustained high yields of crops when properly treated and managed. Farmland of statewide importance includes land in addition to national prime farmland that is of

statewide importance for the production of food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. Within the Town of New Hartford, approximately 52% is classified as prime farmland and 13% of the land area is classified as farmland of statewide significance. These soils are found throughout the Town.

5.3 Hydrology

5.3.1 Streams

Two significant water bodies are located in the Town: Sauquoit Creek and Mud Creek. Sauquoit Creek, which is 21 miles in length, originates in the Town of Paris and flows in a northerly direction through the Town of New Hartford and seven other municipalities before emptying into the Mohawk River. Mud Creek flows west to east and is a tributary of Sauquoit Creek. Several other small streams are also tributaries to Sauquoit Creek.

Drainage patterns generally flow towards the center of New Hartford into the Sauquoit Creek basin. In the northwest, Mud Creek is the low point and drainage tends to flow into this creek and then to Sauquoit Creek.

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) classify Sauquoit Creek and Mud Creek as C(T). The best use for Class C(T) surface water is fishing, particularly trout fishing. The water quality should be suitable for trout propagation and survival and primary and secondary contact recreation such as swimming. However, other factors may limit its use for contact recreation purposes.

5.3.2 Watersheds



The Sauquoit Creek in Chadwicks

The Sauquoit Creek Watershed consists of 63 square miles of land area, most of which is located within Oneida County but a small portion lies within Herkimer County. The watershed encompasses portions of 14 municipalities. The upper (southern portion) of the watershed is primarily agricultural and residential in nature and the lower watershed is highly urbanized, containing dense residential and commercial development. The Sauquoit Creek Watershed includes the Towns of Paris (43% of the basin's land area), New Hartford (31%), Kirkland (11%), Whitestown (5%) and Litchfield (3%), and the Village of New York Mills (2%). The

remaining 5% of the watershed is comprised of portions of the Towns of Bridgewater, Marshall and Frankfort, the City of Utica, and the Villages of New Hartford, Clayville, Whitesboro and Yorkville.

The Sauquoit Creek basin has a history of localized and generalized flooding. In 2001, the Sauquoit Creek Basin Steering Committee was formed to identify engineering and planning initiatives, best management practices, and potential revenue streams as well as to provide stewardship for future generations. One of the goals and objectives of the Sauquoit Creek Basin Steering Committee was to become a legal entity. This was accomplished in 2004, when the Sauquoit Creek Intermunicipal Commission was established through the signing of intermunicipal agreements between the Towns of New Hartford and Whitestown and the Villages of New Hartford, New York Mills, Whitesboro and Yorkville. As a legal entity, the Commission will be able to implement initiatives to better manage the watershed.

5.3.3 Wetlands

Water in the form of precipitation reaches the ground and collects in natural basins where it is stored. These sites create special habitats called wetlands. Many plant and animal species are dependent on wetland environments to survive. Wetlands also can reduce flooding, play a role in stormwater management and provide recreational and open space uses. Seven New York State recognized wetlands and several federally regulated wetlands are located in the Town of New Hartford.

The DEC classify wetland in descending order from greatest to least value as Class I, II, III or IV. The value is based on characteristics such as cover type, ecological associations, habitat functions, hydrologic functions and special features. All the State recognized wetlands are Class II wetlands and they are located in northwest sections of the Town near the Whitestown border. Wetlands account for approximately 1.5% of the land area within the Town of New Hartford.

5.3.4 Groundwater

While most of the developed areas are serviced by municipal water and sewage disposal some properties still rely on septic tanks for sewage disposal and private wells for their water supply. The rural, southern section of the Town in particular relies on groundwater for water supply. On-going protection of aquifer and recharge areas is required to ensure that ground water supplies are protected from contamination.

The Town of New Hartford does not have a designated primary aquifer but productive areas of groundwater supply are found along Mud and Sauquoit Creeks. Groundwater wells in the Town obtain water from consolidated and unconsolidated deposits. Local well drillers have not obtained consistent well results. Generally, well yields are sufficient for single-family use when obtained from shale bedrock at depths of 100 feet to 125 feet. There are also some artesian wells (wells under pressure which flow at the ground surface). Wells in shale bedrock that exceed 125 feet will encounter saltwater from the Syracuse salt beds and will not be suitable for potable supply. Hydrogen sulfide may also be an issue when wells are drilled in New Hartford's shale bedrock. Unconsolidated deposits of sand and gravel in the Town are also a potential source of potable water. These are located around Sauquoit Creek and other areas in the Town.

5.3.5 Flooding

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) inventories areas where flooding is likely to occur. The 100-year flood zone designates areas that have a 1% chance of flooding in any given year. FEMA requires flood insurance be obtained for buildings constructed within this zone. Within the Town of New Hartford the flood zone generally follows Sauquoit and Mud Creeks and their tributaries. Approximately 2.5% of the land area in the Town of New Hartford falls within the flood zone.

Localized flooding is also an issue at several culvert locations throughout the Town due to increased stormwater runoff and is further addressed in the Infrastructure section.

5.4 Hazardous Materials

Everyday business activities result in the generation, transportation, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste. Companies involved in any of these activities are required to provide information on their activities to state environmental agencies. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides public access to this information through several information databases that track environmental activity that may affect air, water, and land throughout the United States.

According to the EPA Envirofacts Data Warehouse, as of December 2005, there were no Superfund sites (a program administered by the EPA to locate, investigate, and clean up uncontrolled hazardous waste sites) or brownfields (a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant) in the Town of New Hartford. There were 46 sites within the Town that handle hazardous material. While the activities of these sites are regulated by the EPA and not a significant cause for concern, it is important that emergency responders are aware of their locations and the products they handle so that responders can be appropriately prepared if they need to respond to emergencies at those locations.

5.5 Air Quality

To ensure that all Americans have the same basic health and environmental protections, the EPA sets limits on how much of the following criteria air pollutants can be in the air anywhere in the United States: Carbon Monoxide (CO), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂), Ozone (O₃), Particulate Matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}), Lead (Pb). A geographic area that meets or exceeds the primary standard is called an attainment area. If the primary standard is not met, the area is called a nonattainment area. According to data obtain from the EPA AirData Web site in December 2005, the Town of New Hartford is an attainment area for all criteria air pollutants.

5.6 Natural Resources Findings

- Areas of the Town of New Hartford have slopes over 15% and will require careful site planning and attention to erosion and landslide potentials if development occurs
- The Sauquoit Creek Intermunicipal Commission has been established to better manage the Sauquoit Creek watershed
- There are several state and federally regulated wetlands in the Town of New Hartford
- Areas of the Town of New Hartford receive drinking water from private wells
- The FEMA designated flood zone in the Town of New Hartford generally follows Sauquoit and Mud Creeks and their tributaries

- There are no Superfund or brownfield sites in the Town of New Hartford
- The Town of New Hartford currently meets the EPA's standard for criteria air pollutants

5.7 Natural Resources Policies

Policy 1 - Appropriate regulations to protect ground water and water quality should be adopted and enforced

Policy 2 - New development projects should be encouraged to incorporate energy conserving and alternative energy systems and building systems that minimize energy consumption

Policy 3 - Steep slopes, wetlands and other sensitive areas should not be developed

Policy 4 - The Town's important soils and significant agricultural lands should be protected

Policy 5 - The Sauquoit Creek Corridor should be protected and revitalized

6.0 Transportation

6.1 Roads and Traffic

A community's transportation network determines how easily people and goods are able to move into, out of and around its boundaries and also helps to define its character. This is especially true for the Town of New Hartford whose development has been closely linked to the presence of major roadways that move large numbers of people and goods. While the Town's proximity to major travel routes such as the Seneca Turnpike has brought economic benefits, it has also resulted in traffic congestion, especially in the Town's commercial core. The following assessment of the Town's existing transportation network examines roads, public transportation resources and pedestrian and bicycle circulation to ensure that all modes of transportation are able to coexist in a safe and functional manner.

6.1.1 Road Classification

The Town of New Hartford's road system played a significant role in its creation and continues to impact its development. There are approximately 124 miles of roadway in the Town; of which 81 miles (65%) are within the Town's jurisdiction, 21 miles within the County's (17%) and 23 miles (18%) are within the State's. Between 1995 and 2005 approximately 3.5 miles of Town maintained and 6 miles of State maintained roads were developed.

Roadways are also defined by their functional classification - the level of mobility and access they provide. The Town of New Hartford has the following types of roads: arterial, collector and local.

- Arterials include interstates, other freeways and expressways, and are designed for higher speed and traffic volumes. These roads serve as connections between municipalities or to the interstate system.
 - Expressway - The Sauquoit Valley Arterial (Route 8)
 - Principal Arterials - Burrstone Road, Clinton Road (Route 12), Commercial Drive (Route 5A), Genesee Street and Seneca Turnpike
 - Minor Arterials - Chapman Road, French Road, Main Street, Middle Settlement Road, Oneida Street, and Valley View Road
- Collectors are designed for lower speeds and shorter distances. They are typically two-lane roads that collect and distribute traffic to and from the arterial system and connect them with residential neighborhoods.
 - Collectors - Clinton Street, Higby Road, Kellogg Road, Mohawk Street, Oxford Road, Paris Road, Roberts Road, and Tibbits Road

- Local roads are all roadways not included in a higher-level classification. They provide basic access between residential and commercial properties as well as connections to higher classification roads.

6.1.2 Traffic Volume and Safety

The most heavily traveled roads in the Town are State roads. In 2004, sections of the North-South Arterial, Seneca Turnpike and Sauquoit Valley Arterial had the highest average annual daily traffic (AADT) within the Town.

Increased traffic volumes have created problems at the several intersections throughout the Town including: the J-Kay intersection; the four corners in Washington Mills; Kellogg Road; the intersection of Seneca Turnpike, Genesee Street and Clinton Road; the intersection of Middle Settlement Road, Commercial Drive and Seneca Turnpike and locations along Commercial Drive. Traffic incidents are also common within commercial parking areas.

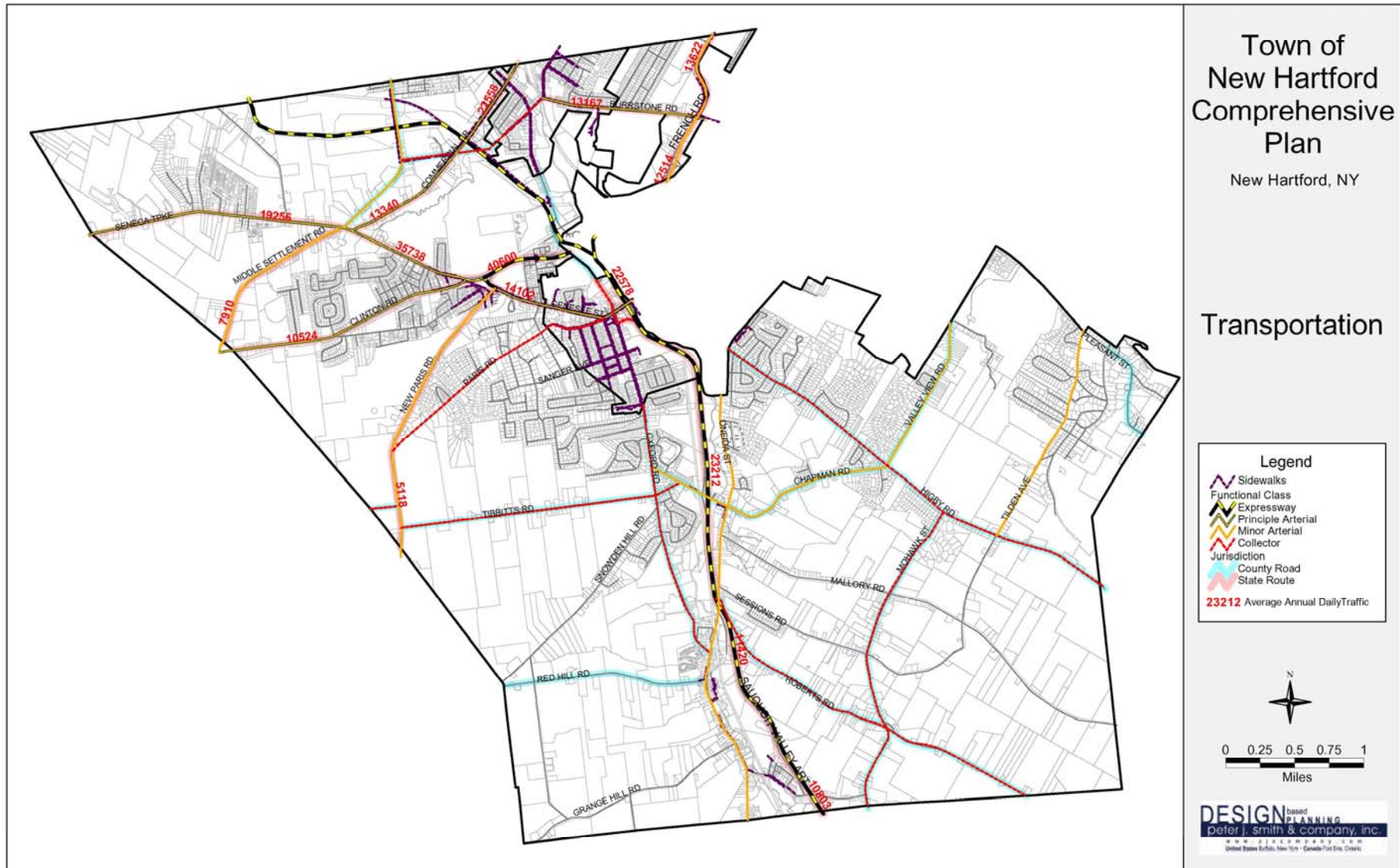
Due to the design of the road network and the location of the region commercial center, much of the traffic experienced in the Town of New Hartford is generated from outside of the Town. This includes traffic traveling through New Hartford on State routes and traffic flowing to the Sangertown Square area. The situation has increased the number of traffic related calls to the New Hartford Police Department.



Route 8 northbound into the Village of New Hartford; the highest volume roads in Town are state roads

6.1.3 Road Improvements

The Judd Road Connector (Route 840), a \$38 million State highway project was recently completed. It begins at the Route 5/8/12 interchange and ends at the Judd Road/Halsey Road intersection in the Town of Whitestown. The project addressed traffic congestion resulting from the significant amount of commercial growth that occurred in the area. Other State roads scheduled for improvement are French Road and the Route 5A. The Route 5A project will involve the reconstruction and widening of the road and the addition of sidewalks from a little past Clinton Street to a little before the Route 5 and 5A intersection. Reconstruction is also scheduled for Kellogg Road and Chapman Road, also a County road, was reconstructed in 2006. In addition to the resurfacing of selected roads the Town plans to develop the Woods Highway Extension that will connect to the Judd Road Connector. There are also plans to reconnect Old Campion Road over Route 12 via a pedestrian and traffic bridge.



6.2 Public Transit

The Long-Range Transportation Plan for Herkimer and Oneida Counties recommend that regional transit efforts be continued. Public transit systems can play a role in addressing road congestion and pollution issues.

6.2.1 Bus Service

In 2005, Centro of Oneida, a subsidiary of Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CNYRTA), assumed operation of the former Utica Transit Authority (UTA), which provided public transit services to City of Utica and the Towns of New Hartford, Clinton, and Whitesboro and Rome VIP, which served the City of Rome. Financial difficulties at both mass transit operations prompted Oneida County leaders to investigate the option to join the CNYRTA. The agreement included \$2.7 million in capital assistance and an increase in the operating assistance earmarked for Oneida County transit operations from the State. This funding was used to rehabilitate the fleet and facilities of the former UTA. According to county officials, these operational changes provide an opportunity to develop a regional transportation strategy that will address the workforce and other needs of residents as CNYRTA also provides services in the Counties of Cayuga, Onondaga, and Oswego.

Bus routes 14, 20, 24, and 31 serve areas of the Town of New Hartford. Bus fares range from no cost for those under 5 years of age to a regular fare of \$1.25 for trips within one zone. Trips that include more than one zone require an additional zone fare of \$.15 per zone. Seniors (60 years or older) pay a discounted fare of \$.60. Riders can save money by purchasing tokens or bus passes.

Inter-city bus service is available through Greyhound and Trailways bus lines at Union Railroad Station in the City of Utica.

6.2.2 Rail Service

Inter-city passenger rail service is available at the nearby Amtrak station at 321 Main Street in the City of Utica. Amtrak's Empire Service route provides daily trains between New York City, Albany, Buffalo and Niagara Falls, the Lake Shore Limited route provides service between Boston, New York City, Albany and Chicago and the Maple Leaf route provides service between New York City and Toronto, Canada.

6.2.3 Air Service

The Syracuse Hancock International Airport is located approximately 55 miles west of the Town of New Hartford. This facility provides commercial air service to 7 major air carriers and 9 smaller airlines. Private flight facilities and aircraft storage are available at the Oneida County Whitestown Business Park in Whitestown and the Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome. It is anticipated that by 2007 these facilities will be relocated.

The Albany International Airport, located approximately 90 miles southeast of New Hartford, has over 20 air carriers that offer jet or commuter airline services. This facility has been redevelopment with a new 230,000 square foot terminal, parking garage, Air Traffic Control Tower, and cargo facility.

6.2.4 Bicycle and Pedestrian Circulation

The bicycle and pedestrian circulation system is very limited in the Town of New Hartford. Sidewalks are limited and some have maintenance issues. A recreation trail is located in Sherrill Brook Park. There is also the recently developed the Philip A. Rayhill Memorial Trail, a 5-mile, handicapped accessible, paved trail that parallels the new Judd Road Connector.

New Hartford and Whitestown Rail Trail connects NYS Routes 5, 8, and 12 in the Town of New Hartford and Whitestown. The trail begins at a trail head parking area off New Hartford Street in the Town of New Hartford and continues westward to Halsey Road in the Town Of Whitestown. Additional trail head parking is available at Clinton Street and Clark Mills Road.

The 2002 Herkimer and Oneida Counties Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan envisioned several multi-use trails and bikeways traversing the landscape of the Town of New Hartford in addition to the Judd Road Trail. A multi-use trail is proposed that would begin in the Town of Marshall, follow Clinton Road in the Town of New Hartford and end at Alexandria Road. Oxford Road from the Town of Paris border to Genesee Street and Genesee Street to Route 12 (New Paris Road) is identified as an existing NYS Highway Bike Route. Route 12 is identified as a NYS Highway Bike Route.



A portion of the New Hartford and Whitestown Rail Trail

Typically, highway bike routes have shoulder widths of four to six feet and the vehicular speed limit is 55 mph. While this road has been identified as a bicycle route, the speed at which motorists will be traveling make it inappropriate for inexperienced bicyclists. Adequate facilities must be put in place to ensure that all bicyclists can travel safely along these types of highways. An opportunity exists to develop a rails to trails project if the former Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad line should become available in the future. This project would be ideal because of its crucial location through the center of the Town.

6.3 Transportation Findings

- Approximately 10 miles of roadway was developed in the Town between 1995 and 2005
- Limited bus service is available in the Town of New Hartford

- Air services are available one hour away at the Syracuse Hancock International Airport or two hours away at the Albany International Airport
- Passenger rail service is available from Utica
- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the Town of New Hartford are limited
- There are two trails in the Town: a recreation trail in Sherrill Brook Park and the Philip A. Rayhill Memorial Trail

6.4 Transportation Policies

Policy 1 - The development of a safe and convenient network of pedestrian and bicycle paths and greenways linking public transportation, employment centers, parks, recreation areas and residential areas should be a priority, including incorporating rail road lines as they become available

Policy 2 - Approaches to transit provision should be evaluated to ensure that transit options continue to be available to New Hartford residents

Policy 3 - Parking areas should be shared among businesses to improve appearance and circulation and increase parking volume and organization

Policy 4 - The evaluation and maintenance of existing roadways and the development of access management strategies should be coordinated with regional and state agencies

Policy 5 - Developers should be encouraged to make necessary road improvements that will accommodate projected increases in traffic and/or provide appropriate mitigation strategies and funding

Policy 6 - A variety of transportation options including bus, car, bicycle and walking should be promoted as a part of the circulation system

Policy 7 - Coordination should be promoted with the public transit system to ensure that areas with high density and mixed uses are served by public transportation

Policy 8 - Pedestrian circulation should be promoted as an organizing element of future development proposals

Policy 9 - Intermodal transportation hubs should be developed to encourage mass transit use

Policy 10 - Sidewalks should be provided and appropriately maintained to ensure pedestrian access to schools, parks, recreation areas, retail and employment centers as well as along major roadways

Policy 11 - Traffic calming techniques, flexible design standards and context sensitive design standards should be promoted on high volume streets throughout the Town to manage traffic flow

Policy 12 - Mixed use development should be encouraged in close proximity to or along transit corridors

Policy 13 - Opportunities to connect the recently developed Route 840 to the New York State Thruway and other roadways to the south should be pursued to enhance north-south circulation in the Town

7.0 Infrastructure and Utilities

Adequate access to water, sewage disposal and utilities is generally considered essential to health and well being of residents. This section presents a discussion of infrastructure facilities that are available in the Town of New Hartford.

7.1 Water



Widening of Chapman Road

The majority of residents in the Town of New Hartford receive their drinking water from the Mohawk Valley Water Authority. The Mohawk Valley Water Authority is a regional system that serves the Town of New Hartford and 13 other municipalities in Oneida County as well as two municipalities in Herkimer County. The Water Authority anticipates that within the next five years it will serve 85% to 95% of the Town of New Hartford's population. Un-serviced areas are being evaluated and new water districts will be added when and where they are deemed appropriate.

A new water district is being developed in the southeastern section of the Town of New Hartford and should be completed by the end of 2006. Water mains are being installed along Mohawk Street and portions of Higby Road, Mallory Road, Sessions Road, Roberts Road and Tilden Avenue. Other recent or proposed improvements include a water tank that was installed in Frankfort in 2005 and a supplemental water tank, which should be installed by

the end of 2006 at Mohawk Street and Higby Road, both of which will address needs in the southeastern section. Within the next 2-3 years, an extension is planned for the water main along Woods Highway from Seneca Turnpike to the Town of Whitestown border. An additional water district is also proposed for the area around Tibbitts Road and Snowden Hill Road to the Town of Kirkland border.

Areas in the Town not serviced by the Mohawk Valley Water Authority receive water from individual wells. Identified issues with groundwater include supply in times of drought and the presence of heavy metals.

The Hinckley Reservoir is the water source used by the Mohawk Valley Water Authority. The reservoir's watershed encompasses 373 square miles of primarily rural and undeveloped forest land, most of which falls within the Adirondack Park boundary.

The Hinckley reservoir is a multi-use facility that is owned by the State of New York and has a capacity of 25 billion gallons of water. The Mohawk Valley Water Authority is authorized to draw 48.5 MGD (million gallons per day). Its filtration plant, located in the Town of Trenton, can process up to 32 MGD. The average daily demand for the system is 20 MGD. The Town of New Hartford consumed approximately 1.4 MGD in 2005.

According to the Mohawk Valley Water Authority 2004 Water Quality Report, the water produced and delivered by the system met or exceeded the water quality standards set by New York State and the Federal government.

During the 2005 fiscal year, the Town of New Hartford had an annual water consumption of approximately 66 million cubic feet. For residential purposes, consumption is measured in cubic feet and 1 cubic foot is equivalent to 7.48 gallons. An average family of four is estimated to consume 3100 cubic feet at a cost of \$68.60 per quarter or \$274.40 per year. The same rate is applied in all communities served by the system.

7.1.1 Sewage Systems

Sanitary sewers are available in all developed areas of the Town. Approximately 55% of the Town, including the villages, has access to sanitary sewers. The cost to residents for this service is approximately \$20/parcel/year, in addition to an ad valorem charge of about \$94/parcel. Rural sections of the Town, the southern areas, which have not experienced significant development do not have sanitary sewers. Where sanitary sewers are not available, individual septic tanks are used. Property owners are responsible for the proper maintenance of septic tanks. The Town of New Hartford Codes Enforcement Officer must approve installation and alteration of septic tanks. The Oneida County Department of Health performs sanitary inspections on behalf of the Town.

No recent studies have been completed to assess the existing sanitary sewer system and determine its ability to meet current and future needs. However, it is known that in the spring and during periods of wet weather, capacity is exceeded at the Sauquoit Creek Pumping Station (SCPS). When this occurs, although most of the sewer is channeled to the county's main sewage processing plant in Utica, some untreated waste is discharged into the Mohawk River.

Communities affected by this issue includes portions of the Town of New Hartford, all of the Town of Whitestown and the Villages of New York Mills, Yorkville, Whitesboro, New Hartford and Oriskany. According to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the sewer system is outdated and needs to be upgraded and modernized. Several factors may contribute to the problem. Some homes and businesses may channel roof-runoff or water generated from sump pumps into their sanitary lines, there may be leaks in aging pipes that flood with groundwater, some storm water pipes in older systems may be connected to the sanitary pipes or the sewer line may not have the capacity to handle the level of development that has occurred in its service area.

The pipe leading to the SCPS, where the overflow is occurring, was classified as a “combined sewer” and could carry both storm runoff and unsanitary waste. Most older cities in the northeast were designed with combined sewer systems. The DEC wants to phase out combine sewer pipes and proposes to reclassify the Sauquoit sewer line as a “sanitary sewer” that would only carry water that is processed before being released back into the environment.

To address this issue and maintain its State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPEDS) permit, Oneida County Sewer District will need a study of the system leading to the SCPS. That study would cost between \$3 million and \$5 million. Then, depending on the results of the study, one or a combination of the following remedies would be applied: patch up all the places where storm water was entering the sanitary system, trap and store the overflow in a tank until the system could handle it or build an additional treatment plant to handle the Sauquoit line's sewage. All of these options would be very costly. Both state and federal funding would be sought to reduce the cost to local users.

Until a solution is found, new sewer connections in the municipalities that use the SCPS will not be allowed unless they demonstrate that they have removed inflow and infiltration exceeding the volume of the proposed new connection. Inflow is water that is dumped into the sewer system through improper connections, such as downspouts and groundwater sump pumps. Infiltration is groundwater that enters the sewer system through leaks in the pipe. The ratio is normally 3 to 1 but it is subject to negotiation.

7.1.2 Storm Water Management

The storm water system in the Town of New Hartford is separate from the sewer system and consists of individual stormwater basins. Increased stormwater runoff as a result of paving and development sometimes overwhelm the existing system and add to the flooding potential in the areas surrounding Mud Creek, Sauquoit Creek and the other named and unnamed streams within the Town's borders. Two studies completed in 2005 by Shumaker Consulting Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C., analyzed this problem. The studies identified several areas in the Town that could experience periodic flooding and/or possible property damage if a large storm occurred.

The Oxford Road/Kellogg Road Regional Storm Drainage Assessment¹³

The Oxford Road/Kellogg Road Regional Storm Drainage Assessment examined the watershed in the vicinity of Snowden Hill Road, Oxford Road and Kellogg Road and the following problems and recommendations were noted:

- Intersection of Oxford Road and Kellogg Road

Issue:	Despite the addition of an upstream detention facility at Longworth Acres, runoff from the Jubilee Estates stormwater system is
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¹³ Shumaker Consulting Engineering & Land Surveying , P.C. Oxford Road/Kellogg Road Regional Storm Drainage Assessment. November 2005.

overwhelming the existing Oxford Road storm drainage system

Recommendation: Implement a combination of stormwater detention on Jubilee Estate site (approximately \$25,000 plus land acquisition cost) and increase the size/slope of the driveway culverts along Oxford Road (approximately \$12,000 each)

- Culvert and Stormwater Swale Near the former Tops Plaza (Kellogg Road west of the Sauquoit Expressway)

Issue: The 42-inch stormwater culvert and swale that separate Tops Plaza and the Town of New Hartford Offices may not have sufficient capacity to handle storms of a magnitude greater than the 25-year storm

Recommendation: If the capacity of the culvert and swale were increased also increase the capacity of Reach 1 (approximately \$170,000)

- Oxfordtown Area

Issue: Flooding in the vicinity of the land area near the outfall of Reach C

Recommendation: Conduct a detailed topographic survey and engineering study to evaluate the existing detention capacity of the lawn area and a construction project that integrates the known detention characteristics with capacity improvements to the culvert under Harrogate Road (approximately \$68,000)

- Culvert at Commercial Plaza on Tibbitts Road

Issue: Driveway culvert has a calculated nominal capacity that is less than the calculated peak runoff of the 10-year storm event in the Tibbitts subarea

Recommendation: Replace culvert with a new culvert of greater capacity (approximately \$17,000)

The Tilden Avenue Drainage Assessment¹⁴

The Tilden Avenue Drainage Assessment evaluated the watershed area north of Higby Road in the vicinity of Tilden Avenue to address stormwater runoff that caused damage to residences on the west side of Tilden Avenue. The project had the following goals and conclusions:

¹⁴ Shumaker Consulting Engineering & Land Surveying , P.C. Tilden Avenue Drainage Assessment Town of New Hartford. June 2005.

- Evaluate the feasibility and impacts of constructing a diversion swale on Wadsworth Road

Conclusion: Construction of the interceptor swale is feasible. The swale will have the capacity to handle storm water flows in excess of those predicted by the watershed analysis and alleviate at least 30% of the run-on stormwater flow from the residential area

- Evaluate the watershed flow relative to the location and capacity of two unused reservoirs located on the north end of the study area to determine the feasibility of integrating two of three southern reservoirs into a regional stormwater management facility in hopes of reducing downstream flooding caused by development

Conclusion: The existing box culvert that receives the watershed flow is too small to handle peak discharges. It is feasible to use the southern reservoirs basin(s) for stormwater detention to handle periodic overflows and later released at a rate consistent with the capacity of the box culvert. Study of at least one additional watershed in the vicinity should be conducted to determine specific parameters for diversion and release structures

The actions recommended by these two studies have been noted and detailed construction costs and engineering design are currently being developed.

Various design mechanisms are available to ensure that post-development stormwater runoff does not exceed pre-development conditions and that erosion issues are prevented. Mitigation of existing problems and the prevention of future ones will require both capital investment and vigilance in the oversight of development projects.

The EPA has amended its stormwater regulations to require that operators of small municipal separate stormwater sewer systems (MS4's) within "Urbanized Areas" as defined by the United States Census, develop programs for the control of stormwater under their jurisdiction. According to the Census, 95 percent of the Town is urbanized and due to its location in the Urbanized Area, it is subject to the new regulations. The DEC administers the new Stormwater Phase II Regulations in New York State.

The goal of the Stormwater Phase II Regulation is to apply appropriate technologies and management practices to prevent pollution from non-point sources from entering the stormwater system and to address stormwater runoff. To accomplish this goal, the regulations consist of two SPDES General Permits, both of which went into effect on March 10, 2003. The first permit applies to all construction projects that disturb one acre or more of land excluding most residential and agricultural projects. If total disturbance is one acre or greater, the project is subject to Stormwater Phase II Regulations and the operator must obtain a SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity from the DEC (Permit No. GP-02-01). To receive this permit the applicant must complete a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and file Notice of Intent (NOI) with the DEC stating that the SWPPP will be implemented.

To receive a MS4, the SPDES General Permit for the Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (Permit No. GP-02-02), the Town was required to file a NOI with the DEC by March 10, 2003. That requirement has been fulfilled. The NOI states that the Town will begin to develop and implement a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) that will comply with the Stormwater Phase II Regulations by accomplishing the following:

1. Develop an educational program to encourage public awareness of stormwater issues
2. Encourage public participation and involvement in decisions involving stormwater
3. Institute a system to identify the cause of and remedy illicit connections
4. Review development plans to ensure the adequacy of construction site runoff controls
5. Inspect stormwater facilities after construction to ensure that they are performing as designed
6. Adopt and institute a stormwater management pollution prevention program at facilities operated by the municipality. The Town of New Hartford will have to report annually to DEC on their progress toward implementation of this program. The DEC expects the Town to follow a plan so that by March 2008 the program will be fully implemented

7.2 Utilities

National Grid, a Syracuse based company, provides gas and electric service to residences and businesses in the Town of New Hartford. Several service options are available to residential and commercial customers. Delivery charges for residential electric customers in Oneida County participating in the standard service option, includes a \$14.92 basic service charge and a delivery charge of \$0.04/kWh. Residential gas customers pay a \$14.71 basic service charge plus \$0.35/therm up to 50 therms. Supply charges for both gas and electric service varies by month and service classification.

Cable service in the Town of New Hartford was provided by Adelphia Communications Corporation in 2006 but was replaced later in the year by Time Warner.

7.3 Infrastructure & Utilities Findings

- Most of the Town of New Hartford is served by the Mohawk Valley Water Authority, a regional water system
- Areas not serviced by the Water Authority are being evaluated and new districts will be added as deemed appropriate and feasible
- The water produced and delivered by the Mohawk Valley Water Authority met or exceeded the water quality standards set by the State and Federal governments in 2004
- Sanitary sewers are available in all developed areas of the Town of New Hartford
- Areas without access to sanitary sewers use individual septic tanks
- The Sauquoit Creek Pumping Station has a history of sewage discharge into Mohawk River during periods of wet weather and a significant financial investment is required by the County to address the problem
- Several culvert sites have been identified as inadequate to handle maximum potential stormwater flows

7.4 Infrastructure & Utilities Policies

Policy 1 - The Town should work with utility providers to ensure that service scope and levels are sufficient to meet the needs of residents

Policy 2 - Programs to educate homeowners on the care and maintenance of individual sewage disposal systems should be promoted and supported

Policy 3 - Development should be permitted only where adequate roadways, utilities, and/or other public service infrastructure are available

Policy 4 - The Town should continue to address and mitigate its stormwater management issues

8.0 Community Facilities and Services



*Town of New Hartford Jerome K. Madden
Justice Center*

The performance of emergency responders and the availability of cultural amenities help to shape a community and make it a desirable place to live. This section explores the services that are provided in the Town of New Hartford.

8.1 Emergency Resources

Both paid professionals and volunteers ensure that residents in the Town are adequately protected during emergencies. The Town of New Hartford recognizes the importance of the perception of safety to both residential and commercial growth and employs an inter-municipal,

collaborative approach to emergency response to meet its needs.

The New Hartford Central Dispatch Center answers all 7-digit emergency and non-emergency calls as well as 911 calls placed to the New Hartford Police Department, New York Mills Police Department, New Hartford Fire Department, New York Mills Fire Department, Willowvale Fire Department and the Town and Village Highway Departments. Through the use of Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) the dispatcher is able to locate an address to the closest two intersections. The CAD system also keeps records of all Hazardous Materials located within the Town. A list of all residents with health concerns or disabilities that may be important to know in an emergency is also maintained. Central Dispatch has a full time staff of seven that includes a supervisor and 12 part-time employees.

8.2 Police

The New Hartford Police Department (NHPD), an accredited police department, is the primary provider of police protection in the Town. The NHPD is a full-time, professional force that patrols 25 square miles within the Town and Village of New Hartford. The Village of New York Mills Police Department polices all of the Village of New York Mills including the section that is located within the Town's boundaries. The Oneida County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Police provide supplemental police services to the Town. The NHPD is located in the Madden Justice Building at 32 Kellogg Road.

The NHPD recognizes the need to maximize community safety while operating within available resources and continually seeks to implement innovative, cost effective strategies. This is reflected in the NHPD's commitment of officers to efforts such as the Community Policing Program, an anti drug program and Sangertown Mall and St. Luke's Hospital Supplemental Patrol Programs.

The NHPD also participates in two multi-jurisdictional task forces: Oneida County Drug Task Force and the Oneida County Sexual Abuse Task Force. Participation in the task forces allows the police department to have a significantly higher level of manpower dedicated to these types of investigations than it could dedicate on its own. These are proactive measures for which statistics may not be available but which nevertheless contribute to the safety and security of residents and businesses in the community.

The NHPD currently has 23 full-time and six part-time employees. There are 19 full-time and 6 part-time police officers, 3 full-time support staff and one full-time animal control officer. In 2004, the population of the Town was estimated to be 21,294. The Town serves as the shopping destination for the Tri-County area and receives an additional 15,000-20,000 persons/day that must also be served.

Several measures could be used to assess the adequacy of existing police staffing level. The number of police officers could be compared to the size of the population served or the number of crimes reported in the jurisdiction could be compared to the staffing level of the police department. The New York State Department of Criminal Justice Service (DCJS) suggests a standard of one officer per 1000 population, where population includes not only the residents of the Town but all who enter the jurisdiction. Using the DCJS standard, the Town should have 40 police officers instead of its current 22 full-time equivalent. In 1995, 20 officers responded to 17,422 calls and in 2005, 22 officers responded to 27,189 calls. Between 1995 and 2005, the ratio of calls to officers in the Town increased from 871 calls/officer to 1,236 calls/officer. The comparison of present and past officer staffing levels in the Town also indicates that higher staffing levels may be appropriate.

The Town should select a standard that meet its needs and commit to maintaining that standard as growth occurs in the Town. This will ensure that growth does not negatively impact public safety. The table below summarizes New Hartford Police Department requests for service in 1995 and 2005. It should be noted that due to changes in reporting format there is not an exact correlation between the two years in all categories.

Table 8-1 Requests for Service
Town of New Hartford Police Department

	1995	2005
Total Investigation	2,172	4,654
Total Motor Vehicle Accidents	958	1,304
Total Traffic/Parking Tickets	2,338	3,963
Total Arrests/Warrant Arrests	1,882	1,549
Total Alarms	839	1,337
Total Assists Other Police Departments	300	160
Total Assists Fire Department	244	189
Total Assists Highway Department	63	48
Supplemental Total	8,626	12,649

	1995	2005
Administrative Functions	N/A	1,336
Total Requests for Service	17,422	27,189
Miles Traveled	214,564	249,168
Total Staff	20 Full Time Equivalent	22 Full Time Equivalent

Source: Town of New Hartford Police Department

8.3 Fire

Three Volunteer Fire Departments, operating under a mutual aid system, provide services to the residents of the Town of New Hartford:

- New Hartford Fire Department – Located at 4 Oxford Road in New Hartford, protects the western, eastern and central sections of the Town
- New York Mills Fire Department – Located at 379 Main Street in New York Mills, protects the northern section of the Town including French Road, Burrstone Road and Consumer Square
- Willowvale Fire Company – Located at 3472 Oneida Street in Chadwicks, protects the southern section of the Town including Chadwicks and Washington Mills

The New Hartford Fire Department (NHFD) provides both fire protection and emergency medical services in the Town. In 2005, the NHFD responded to 1,112 incidents. Rescue and Emergency Medical Service incidents accounted for the largest percentage (76%) of the alarms and fires accounted for approximately 2%.

The New York Mills Volunteer Fire Department (NYMFD) provides fire and rescue services in a 47-square-mile area that includes the Village of New York Mills and parts of the Town of New Hartford and Whitestown.

In 2005, the Willowvale Fire Company responded to 208 calls and approximately 70% of those were emergency medical service calls.

8.4 Ambulance

Two privately owned companies and one volunteer ambulance corps provide service to the Town of New Hartford. Kunkel Ambulance Service in Utica and Edwards Ambulance Service in Chadwicks are the private providers. The Central Oneida County Volunteer Ambulance Corps is located in Clark Mills. There appears to be an adequate supply of ambulance services.

8.5 Health Services

Health care facilities within the Town of New Hartford include the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare, Middle Settlement Family Practice, Slocum-Dickson Medical Group P.C and Charles T. Sitrin Health Care Center. Residents also have access to medical and dental practitioners with offices within the community.

Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare and Middle Settlement Family Practice are part of the Mohawk Valley Network (MVN), an integrated healthcare system that provides care to residents of Oneida and Herkimer Counties. This affiliation of medical service providers includes long-term care facilities, inpatient and community-based rehabilitation centers, cancer centers, addiction recovery services, imaging centers, a regional clinical laboratory, a network of primary care centers and home care providers. Member facilities provide 432 acute care beds and 279 active medical staff members. The St. Luke's Campus is located at 1656 Champlin Avenue and the Middle Settlement Family Practice is located at 4301 Middle Settlement Road in the Town of New Hartford.



Charles T. Sitrin Health Care Center

The Slocum-Dickson Medical Group P.C has its central location at 1729 Burrstone Road in the Town of New Hartford. Facilities are also located in Herkimer, Ilion, Rome and Utica. The practice employs over 60 physicians and approximately 375 staff members in 24 specialty areas. There are plans to add approximately 40,000 square feet to the existing building and incorporate the former Med Scan Building at 615 French Road into its campus. Additional staff will include 25 physicians and about 150 support staff. The new building will have the latest in Electronic Medical Records technology for use by physicians and staff.

The Charles T. Sitrin Health Care Center at 2050 Tilden Avenue provides long-term care for 133 skilled nursing patients, 40 medical rehabilitation inpatients, as well as a comprehensive array of rehabilitative services, including physical, occupational, speech and aquatic therapies for persons of all ages.

8.6 Educational Resources

Schools are important not only for the education service they provide but also for their contribution to defining the character of a community. School districts and municipal governments are independent entities but they are inextricably linked by the economic climate in which they must operate and the individuals that they serve. Often, the decisions made by one entity have a great impact on the other and it is generally in the public interest that the two entities establish and maintain ongoing communication and cooperation.

Residents of the Town of New Hartford are fortunate to have access to high quality schools as evidenced by the availability of number of Advanced Placement college-level courses for high school students and the high percentage of students that plan to attend college, including highly competitive colleges such as Harvard, Cornell and Colgate Universities. In 2005, the New Hartford school district's AP European history course was named by the College Board as the strongest in the world for a mid-sized school.

Four school districts serve residents in the Town of New Hartford: New Hartford Central, Sauquoit Valley Central and New York Mills and Clinton. Most of New Hartford's population is served by the New Hartford Central School District. Small portions of the Town are served by the other school districts.

During the 2002-2003 school year the New Hartford Central School District had a higher percentage of graduates (93%) that pursued a college education and a lower dropout rate (0.2%) than both the County (86% and 4% respectively) and the State (82% and 5% respectively). This was also true of the New York Mills (95% and 0.0% respectively) and Clinton School Districts (91% and 1.3% respectively). The Sauquoit School District had a low dropout rate (0.5%), but its percentage of students that went to college (79%) was lower than that of the other school districts serving the Town.

The New Hartford School District had a total enrollment of 2,670 students during the 2003-2004 school year while the Sauquoit Valley School District had 1,293 students, the New York Mills School District had 583 students and the Clinton Central School District had 1,634 students. Enrollment figures in all school districts serving the Town were relatively stable between 2001 and 2004.

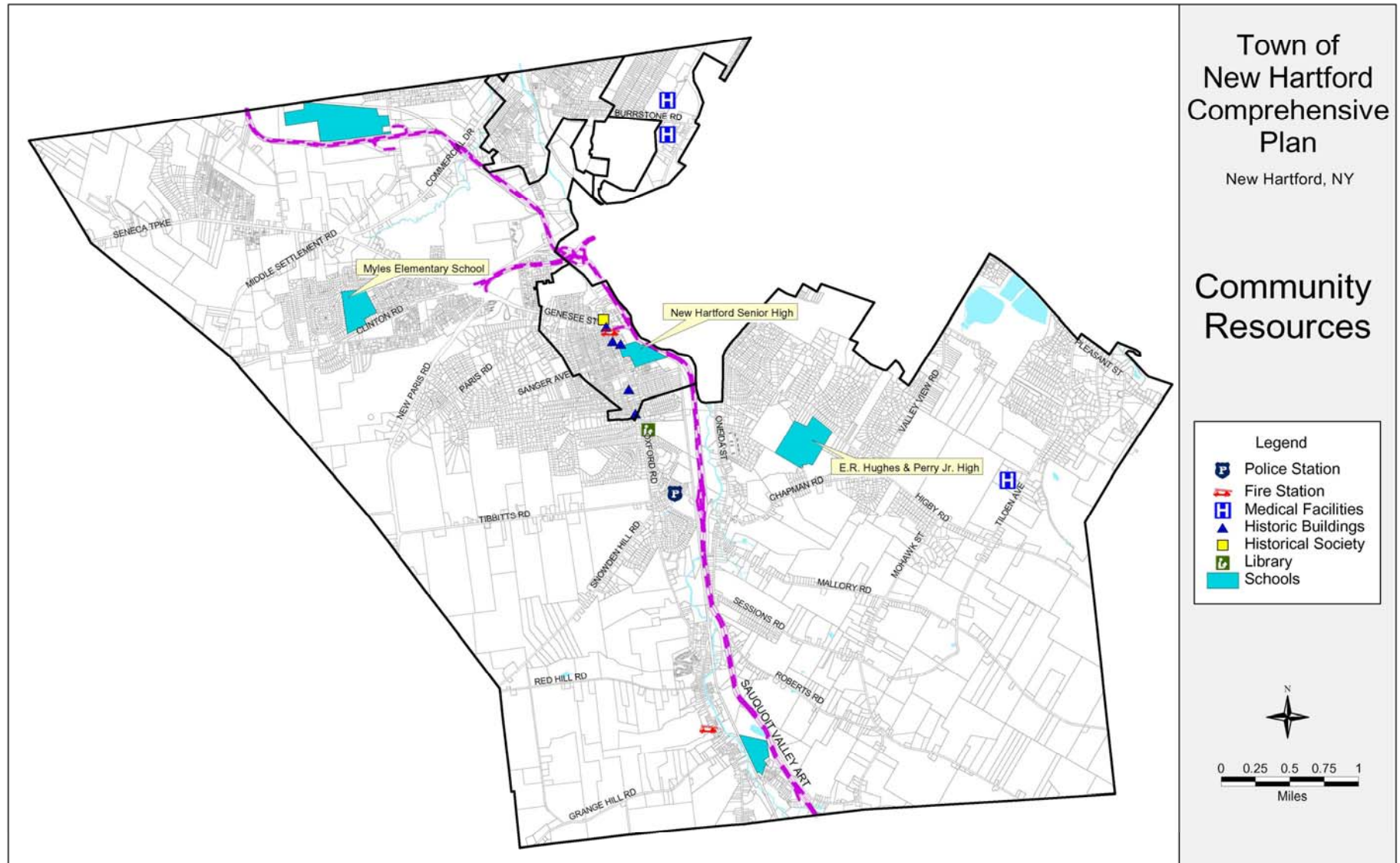


Table 8-2 School Districts Facilities 2003-2004

Town of New Hartford

School	Address	Grades	Enrollment 2003- 2004
New Hartford Central School District			
Hughes Elementary School	340 Higby Rd	K-6	538
Myles Elementary School	100 Clinton Rd	K-6	347
Oxford Road Elementary School	33 Oxford Rd	K-6	439
Perry Junior High School	9499 Weston Rd	7-9	675
New Hartford High School	33 Oxford Rd	10-12	671
Sauquoit Valley Central School District			
Sauquoit Valley Elementary	2601 Oneida St	K-5	526
Sauquoit Valley Middle School	2601 Oneida St	6-8	318
Sauquoit Valley Senior High School	2601 Oneida St	9-12	449
New York Mills Union Free School District			
New York Mills Elementary	1 Marauder Blvd	K-6	322
New York Mills Junior-Senior High School	1 Marauder Blvd	7-12	261
Clinton Central School District			
Clinton Elementary School	75 Chenango Avenue	K-5	616
Clinton Middle School	75 Chenango Avenue	6-8	435
Clinton Senior High School	75 Chenango Avenue	9-12	583

Source: NYS Education Department

The Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES, located at 4747 Middle Settlement Road, is another public educational facility. It offers pre-kindergarten services as well as a GED program and over 20 career and technical courses for adults.

Private educational facilities in the Town include Maranatha Christian Academy, located at 4431 Middle Settlement Road and serving approximately 90 students in grades K-12.

In 2000, Town of New Hartford residents had higher levels of education than residents in all comparison areas except the Town of Kirkland. Over 60% of New Hartford residents, who were 25 years or older, had obtained some level of college education. New Hartford had a higher percentage (33%) of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher than the City of Utica (15%), the County (18%), the Town of Whitestown (21%) and the State (27%).

Table 8-3 Educational Attainment - 2000

Town of New Hartford and Comparison Areas

	Town of New Hartford	Town of Whitestown	Town of Kirkland	City of Utica	Oneida County	New York State
Less than 9th Grade	5.2%	5.6%	2.8%	11.5%	6.9%	8.0%
9th to 12th Grade (No diploma)	8.3%	8.7%	7.3%	15.9%	14.1%	12.9%
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	24.7%	32.9%	26.1%	30.2%	32.6%	27.8%
Some College (No Degree)	18.7%	20.4%	17.5%	19.3%	18.9%	16.8%
Associates Degree	10.1%	11.4%	9.9%	7.9%	9.2%	7.2%
Bachelors Degree	18.2%	12.8%	17.8%	9.0%	10.9%	15.6%
Master's, Professional or Doctorate Degree	14.8%	8.3%	18.5%	6.2%	7.4%	11.8%

Source: US Census and pjscompany.com

8.7 Community and Civic Organizations

A variety of community and civic organizations exist to address the social needs of Town of New Hartford residents including the following:

- American Legion Post 1000
- American Legion Post 1376
- Amicable Lodge No. 664 F&AM
- Clinton Road Senior Group
- Country Club Court Seniors
- Friends of the New Hartford Public Library
- Junior Friends of the New Hartford Public Library
- New Hartford Adult Center
- New Hartford Chamber of Commerce
- New Hartford Community Enrichment Foundation
- New Hartford Kiwanis
- New Hartford Lioness Club
- New Hartford Lions Club
- New Hartford Rotary
- New Hartford Senior Citizens, Inc.
- New York Mills Seniors
- The Meadows Senior Club

- Village Elders Senior Group

8.8 Historic and Cultural Resources

Access to historic and cultural resources contributes to the quality of life of residents. Town of New Hartford residents have access to the many cultural resources that are available in the Greater Utica Area. Cultural resources that are located within the region include:

- Beck's Grove Dinner Theater (Rome)
- Children's Museum of History, Natural History, Science & Technology (Utica)
- Earlville Opera House (Earlville)
- Kirkland Art Center (Clinton)
- Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute Museum of Art (Utica)
- Oneida County Historical Society Museum (Utica)
- Players of Utica (Utica)
- Rome Community Theater (Rome)
- Sculpture Space (Utica)
- Stanley Performing Arts Center (Utica)
- Utica Symphony Orchestra (Utica)

Historical and cultural resources located in the Town of New Hartford are highlighted below.

8.8.1 Historic Resources

The Town of New Hartford has one nationally designated historic structure. St. Stephen's Church, at 22-27 Oxford Road, is privately owned and has been listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places since 1996. The table that follows lists structures that have been identified as having historic significance. The list is not comprehensive and may include structures that may no longer be qualified due to structural changes. A complete inventory of locally significant structures should be established and maintained to ensure that these valuable resources are preserved.

Table 8-4 Significant Local Structures
Town of New Hartford

Building Name	Location
Town of New Hartford	
Apartments	Oneida Street
Butler Hall	Genesee Street
Chadwicks Depot	Elm Street
Davis Zigbee House	Mohawk Street
Ellis Residence	Oxford Road
Hart Residence	Kellogg Road
Krol Residence	35 Wilbur Road
Lees Radio & TV	Oneida Street
Marima Corporation - Willowvale Bleacher	Bleachery Avenue
Messiah United Church of Christ	Oneida Street
Needham-Maynard Farm	Middle Settlement Road
Needham-Maynard House	23 Middle Settlement Road
Olive Collins Farm	Clinton Road
Palmer's Inn	Middle Settlement Road
Private Farm	Tibbets Road
Private Residence	71 Main Street
Private Residence	66 New Hartford Street
Private Residence	67 New Hartford Street
Private Residence	68 New Hartford Street
Private Residence	69 New Hartford Street
Private Residence	Oneida Street
Private Residence	208 Oneida Street
Private Residence	Oxford Road
Private Residence	Route 5
Private Residence	107 Seneca Turnpike
Remet Corporation - Willowvale Bleaching Co.	Bleachery Avenue
Ruth Residence	46 Slusser Avenue
St. Margaret's Convent	Jordan Road
Worker's House	72 Burrstone Avenue
Worker's House	73 Burrstone Avenue
Worker's House	75 Burrstone Avenue
Worker's House	76 Burrstone Avenue
Worker's House	77 Burrstone Avenue

Building Name	Location
Worker's House	78 Burrstone Avenue
Yahnundasis Golf Club	15 New York Rt 5
Zientek Residence	43 Wilbur Road
Village of New Hartford	
Butler-Hoffman House	116 Hoffman Road
Eames Mansion	76 Oxford Road
Friends Meeting House	96 Oxford Road
George French Home	113 Genesee Street
Legro Residence	46 Hillside Avenue
Lester House	South Street (Oxford Road)
McClean House	Genesee And South Streets
Partlow Corporation	2 Campion Road
Presbyterian Church	Genesee Street
Presbyterian Church	On The Village Green
Private Residence	5 Oxford Road
Private Residence	14 Oxford Road
Private Residence	25 Pearl Street
Private Residence	45 Sanger Avenue
Samuel Hicks House	18 Oxford Road
Souter Residence	3 Oxford Road
St. Stephens Episcopal Church	25 Oxford Road
Washington Mills Passenger Station	Kellogg Road

Source: Town of New Hartford Planning Department

8.8.2 Cultural Resources

New Hartford Historical Society

The New Hartford Historical Society, located in Butler Hall at 48 Genesee Street, houses all held artifacts and records for the Town. The Society was organized in 1908 to provide information to citizens interested in the history of the Town and its Villages and to collect and preserve any materials that help to establish the history of the area. The Historical Society holds monthly meetings and each meeting includes a short program on some aspect of regional history. The Society is the designated historian for the Town and receives support from the Town as well as through individual memberships.

New Hartford Public Library

The New Hartford Public Library, located at 2 Library Lane, was originally established in 1976 as a volunteer library. In 1988, it was granted a permanent charter and became a member of the Mid-York Library System. The need for expansion was identified in the early 1990s and in 1999 a newly constructed 10,000 square foot building was opened to the public.



New Hartford Public Library

The library provides access to the Mid-York electronic catalog, the Internet and document publishing applications, such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access through 19 computer terminals. In addition to books, on-loan materials include: cassettes, CD's, records, magazines, books on cassette and videotapes. Current magazines and newspapers do not circulate but are available for review in the library. Programs for language development and reading as well as special events are provided for youths. The library is open seven days a week for varying hours, except from July 1 through Labor Day when the library is closed on Sundays.

8.9 Community Services & Facilities Findings

- Current police staffing levels is appropriate to serve the resident population but is not appropriate to handle the additional daily transient population that must also be served
- Several health care facilities are located in the Town of New Hartford
- Enrollment figures in the school districts that serve the Town of New Hartford were relatively stable between 2001 and 2004
- During the 2002-2003 school year, the New Hartford Central School District had a higher percentage of graduates who pursued a college education and a lower dropout rate than both the County and the State
- The Town of New Hartford has one nationally designated historic structure and several structures that are locally significant

8.10 Community Services & Facilities Policies

Policy 1 - Historic, cultural and natural resources should be protected from development and activities that threaten their sustainability

Policy 2 - High quality professional public safety organizations including police, fire and emergency services should be supported and encouraged

Policy 3 - Public safety impacts of new development should be considered and addressed

Policy 4 - Sufficient training should be provided to volunteer and auxiliary organizations providing public safety and supporting professional public safety organizations in New Hartford

Policy 5 - Cooperation and collaboration should be fostered among New Hartford's "first responders" and those of neighboring communities

Policy 6 - The Town should support the volunteer and civic-minded efforts of social and cultural organizations as an important aspect of the quality of life in the Town

9.0 Parks and Recreation

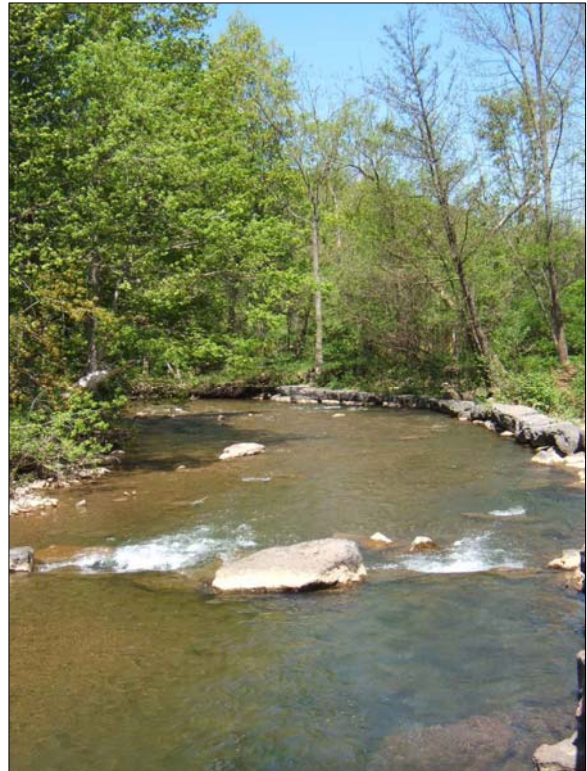
Parks provide a community with recreation space as well a place to go for relaxation and scenery. The amount and quality of the parks within a community has an influence on the quality of life. Parks can be a draw for residential development and raise the property values of existing residential areas. A park with a regional draw can also promote commercial development. The following is an inventory of the parks and recreation facilities in the Town of New Hartford.

9.1 Parks Inventory

There are four town maintained parks in the Town of New Hartford that provide 244 acres of developed parkland.

9.1.1 Sherrill Brook Park

Sherrill Brook Park, the Town's largest park, is a 201-acre major community park that provides opportunities for passive and active recreation. Amenities include: two softball fields, two football fields, two tennis courts, one basketball court, one soccer field, picnic grills and sites, pavilions, a gazebo, modular playground, ski warming room, nature exhibits, three handicapped accessible restrooms and a network of woodland trails for hiking, skiing and mountain biking. In addition to large expanses of open rolling lawn, this park also has approximately 120 acres of natural woodland. Sherrill Brook Park is open during the winter months and is used by hikers, skiers and dog walkers. The administrative offices of the New Hartford Parks Department are located within the park.



Sauquoit Creek in Washington Mills Athletic Park

9.1.2 Washington Mills Athletic Park

Washington Mills Athletic Park is a community playfield that is located in the hamlet of Washington Mills at 3695 Oneida Street. This sports park is approximately 21 acres in size and provides three multi-use fields (softball/soccer fields), a batting cage, one pavilion, four picnic sites with grills, a hiking trail, playground, handicapped accessible restrooms and a 60-foot handicapped accessible fishing boardwalk. The southwest portion of the park is undeveloped woodland while the northern portion of the park is jurisdictional wetland. The park is open every day, from 8 a.m. to dusk, from May 1st to October 31st.

9.1.3 Donovan Memorial (Chadwicks) Park

Donovan Memorial Park is located on Elm Street in the Hamlet of Chadwicks. This 17-acre facility is classified as a community playfield. An active railroad track runs along its west edge and a residential area is situated along its south and east boundaries. Park amenities include one small picnic shelter, one group use pavilion, 9 picnic sites, one baseball field, two tennis courts, one basketball court, a modular playground system, a splash pad and handicapped accessible restrooms.

9.1.4 Sanger Building (Highway Department)

The Sanger Building is located on Campion Road and it is classified as a community playfield and occupies a 5-acre land area. Amenities at the site consist of two soccer fields with limited use by permit only.

9.2 Undeveloped Publicly Owned Parcels

Two publicly owned parcels that could be developed as parks and/or recreational facilities in the future are:

- Burrstone Road (32 acres)
- Middle Settlement Road (31 acres)

9.3 Recreation Facilities Inventory

Town of New Hartford residents have access to recreational facilities that are owned by the Town as well as facilities that are owned by local religious organizations, the School Board and neighboring municipalities.

9.3.1 Town Owned Facilities



New Hartford Recreation Center

New Hartford Recreation Center

The New Hartford Recreation Center is situated on approximately 8 acres at 1 Mill Street in the Village of New Hartford. The facility is handicapped accessible and has been expanded several times since its construction in 1980. The indoor ice-skating complex houses a full-sized ice rink, seating for 1,400 spectators, concession area, pro shop, several locker rooms, a second lobby with concessions, offices and restrooms. There is no cost to use the facility on weekdays, but there is a nominal fee on weekends and holidays.

The ice-skating facility hosts a variety of recreational skating activities including, sports leagues (hockey and figure skating) and public ice-skating between the months of September and April. During the summer months, the ice is removed and the facility hosts a variety of activities including major concerts, trade shows, and dances.

A partially lighted soccer field and children's play area are also located at the Recreation Center. The play area is shared with an adjacent school and two village-owned tennis courts are also connected to the facility.

Non Town-Owned Facilities

The table that follows identifies facilities that are used for recreational programs but are owned by entities other than the Town.

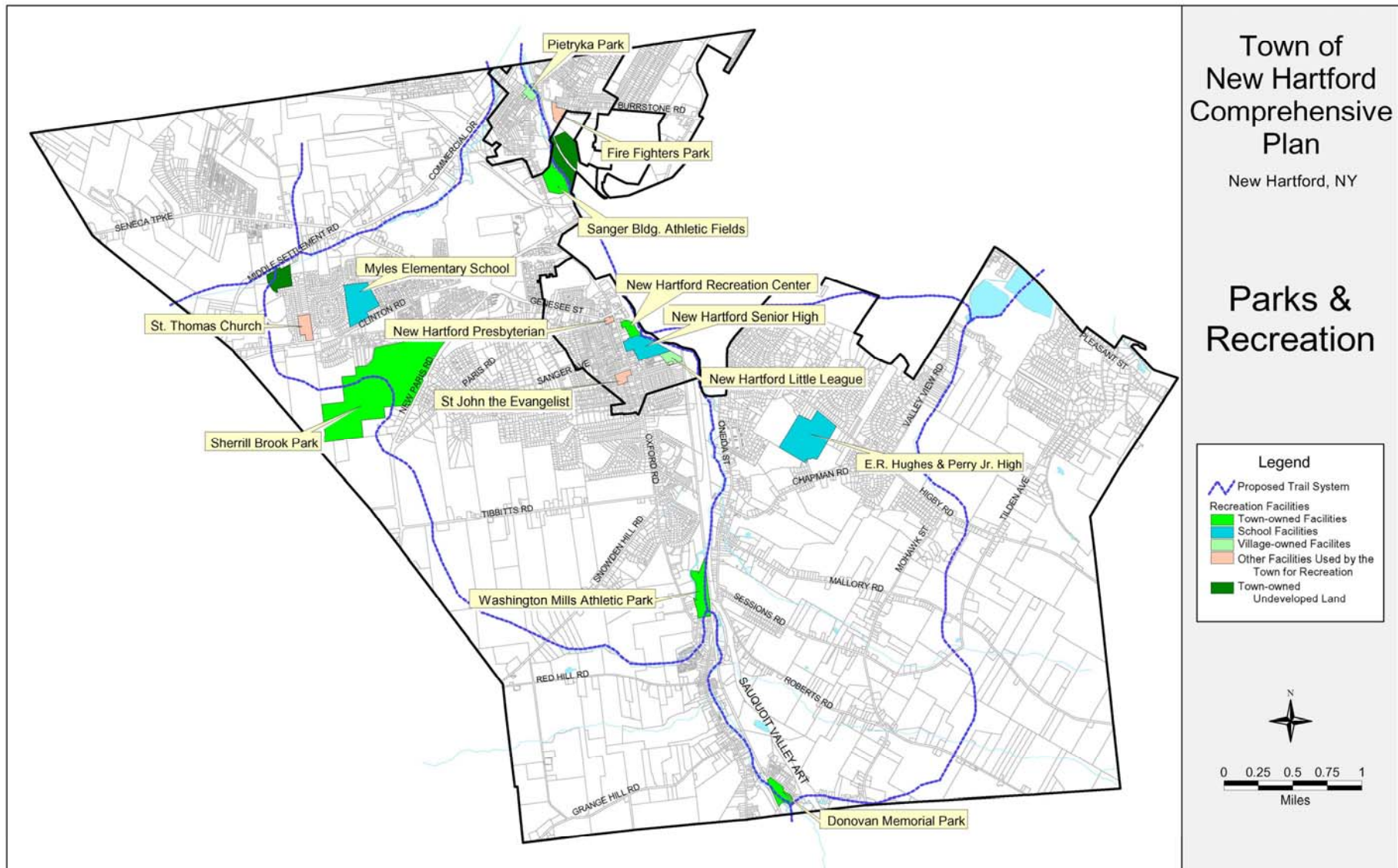
Table 9-1 Non Town-Owned Facilities Used for Town Programs

Town of New Hartford

Owner	Facility	Area Used
New Hartford School District	Robert E. Myles Elementary	Basketball court
		Gym
		Playground
		Soccer/Softball field
	E.R. Hughes Elementary	Basketball Court
		Gym
		Playground
	Robert Bradley Elementary	Basketball court
		Gym
	Ralph Perry Junior High	Football field
		Gym
		Indoor pool
		Soccer field (2)
		Softball field
		Weight room
	New Hartford Senior High	Auditorium
		Baseball field
		Basketball court
		Field hockey field
		Football field (lighted)
		Gym
		Indoor pool
		Tennis Courts (7)
		Track (6-lane)

Owner	Facility	Area Used
St. John the Evangelist Church		Softball field
	Former St. John's School	New Hartford Adult Dining and Activity Center
St. Thomas Church		Softball field
New Hartford Presbyterian Church		Village Greens and gazebo
St. George's Episcopal Church		Parking lot near Donavan Park
Village of New Hartford		Tennis courts
		Play equipment
	Little League Field	Baseball field
Village of New York Mills	Pietryka Park	Basketball court
		Picnic shelter
		Play equipment
		Tennis courts (2)
	Little League Field	Baseball field with scoreboard
Fire District	Fire Fighter's Park	Open lawn

Source: Town of New Hartford Parks and Recreation Department



The tables that follow summarize the types of recreation programs that are available to Town residents, the segment of the population that is served and associated costs. Most Town programs are open to non-residents at a slightly higher fee.

Table 9-2 Town Sponsored Recreational Programs

Town of New Hartford

Program	Age of Participants	Season Fall – F Winter – W Spring – Sp Summer – S	Participation	Fees
Adult and Senior Swim	18 and up	Sp, S, F, W	10-15/session	\$1-\$2/session
Adult Basketball League	Over 18	S	80	\$30-\$60
Adult Co-ed Soccer	Over 25	S	20/session	
Adult Pickup Basketball	18 and up	W	15-20/session	No fee
Coed Adult Softball	18 and up	S, F	25/30/night	No fee
Family Fun Fest	All ages	F	2500-3000	
Gym and Swim	5 to 17	W, Sp	10-75/session	No fee
Ice Cream Social	All ages	S		
Ice Skating – Recreational	2 and up	F, W, Sp	Up to 200/session	Free weekdays and \$3 weekends
Playground Program	7 to 13	S	30-100/day/site	\$30
Recreational Swim	2 and up	Sp, S, F, W	20-25/ session	\$1-\$2/session
St. John's/New Hartford Youth Basketball	7 to 12	S	160	\$20-\$40 max/family
Summer Concerts	All ages	S		
Summer Reading	18 months to grade 5	S		
Summer Theatre	8 to 14	S	24	No fee
Summer Youth Basketball	11 to 15	S	35	\$15-\$30
Swimming Lessons	3 to 12	S	350	\$30-\$90
Teen Activities at the Library	11 and up			No fee
Tennis Instruction	7 to 15	S	74	\$15-\$40
Water Workout			24	\$35
Youth Employment	14 to 19	W	20	

Source: Town of New Hartford Parks and Recreation Department

Table 9-3 Private Recreation Programs

Town of New Hartford

Organization	Ages	Season Fall – F Winter – W Spring – Sp Summer – S	Number of Participants 2005	Fees	Facilities Used
New Hartford Youth Football	6 – 13	F	175	\$35/ person or \$65/family	Sherill Brook Park and New Hartford HS
New Hartford Babe Ruth	13 – 15	S	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Hartford Girls Softball Association	7 – 19	S	135	\$50/person or \$100/family	Washington Mills Athletic Park and Sherill Brook Park
New Hartford Little League	5 – 12	Sp	325-385	\$60/person	New Hartford Little League Field Chadwick Park and Washington Mills Park
New Hartford Youth Hockey Association	4 – 18	F, W,	200	\$100-\$400	New Hartford Recreation Center
New Hartford Youth Soccer	4 – 18	F, Sp	702	\$45/yr	Washington Mills Park, Sanger Building, New Hartford Recreation Center, Sherill Brook Park, and Perry JHS Field
Skating Club of New Hartford	2 – Adult	F,W	150-160	\$120/session	New Hartford Recreation Center

Source: Town of New Hartford Youth Recreation Organizations

9.4 Facilities Analysis

9.4.1 Parks

Communities often use baseline service provision standards prepared by the National Recreation and Park Association as a guide in developing their parks and recreation strategies. In recent years, NRPA has recommended that its standards be applied more as guidelines and not strictly adhered to without additional analysis. It suggests that the following factors be incorporated into a community's parks and recreation strategy:

- Changing Demographics
- Public Input
- Trends Analysis

- Municipal Goals for Economic and Community Development

Trends that impact the influence of parks, recreation and open space planning include:

- Environmental trends, such as increased environmental sensitivity in transportation (walking, biking) and increased value of aesthetics
- Social trends, such as an increased awareness and importance of wellness
- Economic trends, such as recognition of the value of public amenities like infrastructure and parks
- Demographic trends, such as the aging of society
- Technological trends, such as increases in public access and computerization, as well as advances in transportation technology
- Urban patterns, such as increased sprawl and pressure for growth management

The Town of New Hartford has 41 acres of community playfields, a 216-acre major community park and 67 acres of urban greenspace/open space. Playground facilities generally provided in neighborhood playgrounds and parks are available in the community playfields and major community park, which are well dispersed throughout the community, as well as at the schools throughout the Town, which are available for use by residents.

Using the higher figure of the range provided in the NRPA's parks standards, the Town was found to have a one acre deficit in community playfield, a 48-acre surplus in the community park type and a 46-acre surplus in greenspace/open space park type.

The 1995 Town of New Hartford Comprehensive Plan as well as the 2001 New Hartford Parks and Recreation Master recommended that the Town develop a comprehensive trail system. Residents indicated support for a comprehensive trail system through the community survey that was executed for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Additionally, provision of a comprehensive trails system is generally recommended by the NRPA. A comprehensive trail system in the Town would:

- Provide alternative transportation routes for commuters
- Increase overall open space in the town
- Link existing and future parks and open space amenities
- Provide additional passive recreation space in the Town
- Respond to preferences and needs expressed by the public during the Parks and Recreation Master Planning process
- Provide opportunities to increase wellness and reverse trends towards sedentary lifestyles

- Minimize trail conflicts by providing more trails

A trail system would also have the following benefits:

- Improving the quality of life
- Increasing the ability to attract and retain a high quality residential base and workforce; and
- Enhancing the town as a destination for leisure- and business-related visitation.

Development of a trail system is consistent with national trends in exercise and fitness. In its 2001 survey, the National Survey on recreation and the Environment (NSRE) found that walking for pleasure was the most-participated in outdoor recreational activity. This result mirrors the US Bureau of the Census Statistical Abstract of the United States, which found that in 2002, exercise walking was the most-participated-in activity. The NSRE also found that residents of the northeast lead the nation in the popularity of walking with 86 percent participating compared with 83 percent for the nation as a whole. In New Hartford, walking and hiking were the two top participated in activities among respondents to the survey executed for the parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Trail system development is consistent with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), which expresses a vision of a statewide network of connected trails linking parks, open spaces, historic sites, etc. The system would be comprised of local trails as well as state and federal trails.

A comprehensive trail system in New Hartford would fill a gap in service provision for parks and open space. While Sherrill Brook Park has its own extensive trail system, a Town-wide system would enhance the Town's parks and open space offerings. Easements can be sought for land for trails and where necessary, the system can follow existing roadways. Throughout the system, the trails will need to be clearly signed, their intended uses enforced and be well maintained.

As indicated in the Town's 1995 Comprehensive Plan, recreation often takes a back seat to demands for essential Town services such as police protection and infrastructure needs during times of financial constraint. The 1995 Plan suggested that Town Law 277, which allows municipalities to collect fees in lieu of park land when approving new subdivisions, be applied in New Hartford in order to recoup a portion of the costs associated with providing parks and recreational services. This continues to be an option available to the Town.

9.4.2 Recreation

The 2001 Parks and Recreation Master Plan also contained a variety of recommendations for recreation facilities. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan noted that the Town of New Hartford appeared to be well within the NRPA guidelines for parks and recreation facilities with the following exceptions:

- At least one more volleyball court is needed to meet the current population
- A lighted baseball field should be provided
- An outdoor swimming pool should be provided

The Plan made the following recommendations regarding parks facilities that could be considered in order to meet changing community needs. These included:

- Develop a comprehensive trail system
- Conduct a feasibility study for a new arena/community center
- Conduct a feasibility study on an outdoor pool
- Develop additional park facilities:
 - Sledding
 - Skateboard Park
 - Lacrosse fields

Other issues and needs have also been identified based on public input for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, as well as interviews that have taken place since, including:

- Basketball participation in New Hartford is quadruple that of neighboring communities
- Conflicts among trail users exist at Sherrill Brook Park
- Passive or unprogrammed space is needed in the Town's parks
- Conflicts among users of shared fields
- Football and Soccer practice fields are needed
- Among these, the Town has addressed the need for football practice fields and trails in Sherrill Brook Park have been renovated.

- Local and national trends that influence parks and recreation facilities provision include:
- A demand for outdoor recreational facilities and open space that outstrips all models that have been constructed to predict this use
- Sports are expanding through seasons so that traditional fall sports, such as soccer are now played during the spring and summer in addition to fall, increasing competition for multi-use fields
- Baseball, Soccer and Softball are all popular sports in the Town and all rely on multi-use fields
- New Hartford's population is not projected to grow; however it is aging and older residents have different needs than younger residents

Based upon these facts, the following provision standards are recommended for the Town of New Hartford Parks and Recreation facilities.

Table 9-4 Recreation Facilities Standards

Source: NRPA and peter j. smith & company

Activity / Facility	NRPA Units Per Population (2001 Plan)	Service Radius	Location Notes	Recommended New Hartford Standard 2005	New Hartford Need	New Hartford Provision	Surplus / (Shortage)
FIELDS PROGRAMMED PRIMARY USES							
Baseball	1 per 5,000 (if also used for youth baseball) Lighted 1 per 30,000	¼ - ½ mile	Part of neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of community complex.	1 per 3,000	7	3	(4)
Football	1 per 20,000	15-30 minutes travel time	Same as field hockey.	1 per 7,000	3	3	0
Soccer	1 per 10,000	1-2 miles	Number of units depends on popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to schools or neighborhood parks.	1 per 2,500	8	11	3
Softball	1 per 5,000 (if also used for youth baseball)	¼ - ½ mile	Slight differences in dimensions for 16" slow pitch. May also be used for youth baseball.	1 per 2,000	10	8	(2)

Activity / Facility	NRPA Units Per Population (2001 Plan)	Service Radius	Location Notes	Recommended New Hartford Standard 2005	New Hartford Need	New Hartford Provision	Surplus / (Shortage)
FIELDS PROGRAMMED SECONDARY USES							
Field Hockey	1 per 20,000	15-30 minutes travel time	Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.	1 per 20,000	1	0	(1)
Lacrosse	1 per 20,000	15-30 minutes travel time	Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.	1 per 20,000	1	0	(1)
FIELDS MUTLI-USE NOT PROGRAMMED							
Mixed Field Use including soccer lacrosse, baseball, football, field hockey	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 per 3,000	7	5	(2)
COURT SPORTS							
Basketball	1 per 5,000	¼ - ½ mile	Outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.	1 per 2,000	10	7	(3)
Tennis	1 court per 2,000	¼-½ mile	Best in batteries of 2-4. Located in neighborhood/ community park or adjacent to school	1 per 2,000	10	15	5
Multiple Recreation Court (basketball, volleyball, tennis)	1 per 10,000	1-2 miles.		1 per 10,000	2	0	(2)
OTHER							
Trails	1 system per region	N/A		1		1	1
Skate Park	1 per 50,000 population	2 - 3 mile service radius	In community or regional parks	1 per 50,000	1	0	(1)
Archery Range	1 per 50,000	30 minutes travel time	Part of regional or metro park complex.	0	0	0	0

Strengthening New Hartford's Neighborhoods

Activity / Facility	NRPA Units Per Population (2001 Plan)	Service Radius	Location Notes	Recommended New Hartford Standard 2005	New Hartford Need	New Hartford Provision	Surplus / (Shortage)
Combination Skeet and Trap Field (8 Stations)	1 per 50,000	30 minutes travel time	Part of regional/metro park complex	0	0	0	0
WATER, WATER SPORTS							
Swimming Pools	1 per 20,000	15 to 30 minutes travel time	Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching, competitive and recreational purposes with enough depth (3.4m) to accommodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.	1 per 20,000	1	0	(1)
Beach Areas	N/A	N/A	Should have sand bottom with slope maximum of 5 % (flat preferable). Boating areas completely segregated from swimming areas.			0	0
WINTER SPORTS AREAS							
Ice Hockey	Indoor – 1 per 100,000	½ - 1 hour travel time	Climate important consideration affecting no. of units. Best as part of multi-purpose facility.	Indoor – 1 per 100,000	1	1	0
Natural Skating Areas	Outdoor - 1 per 2,500	N/A		Outdoor - 1 per 10,000	2	0	(2)

Based upon the preceding analysis, the following differ from the 2001 Plan:

Baseball – The standard has been revised to 1 per 3,000 of population because of continuing increase in rates of participation. Based upon this standard the Town should offer four additional baseball fields. One of these fields should be lighted.

Football – The standard has been adjusted to 1 per 7,000 to reflect the current provision. With two new practice fields, the Town should now have sufficient facilities for football.

Soccer – The standard has been adjusted to more accurately reflect the popularity of this sport, from 1 per 10,000 to 1 per 3,000 population. This still would indicate that the Town has a surplus of three soccer fields. Surplus soccer fields can be redeveloped as multi-use fields.

Softball – The standard has been adjusted to 1 per 2,500 to more accurately reflect the current rate of provision. No additional development is currently needed.

Multi-Use – The Town should not rely on multi-use fields to provide space for organized or league play. Multi-use fields are an important part of the Town's facilities, particularly for unorganized or pick-up games and to provide opportunities to close other fields for brief periods for renovations and rehabilitation. Based upon a standard of 1 per 3,000 of population, there should be two additional multi-use fields. **Field Hockey** and **Lacrosse** could be accommodated on the multi-use fields.

Basketball – Based upon the popularity of basketball, three additional courts could be established, on a standard of 1 per 2,000 population, a more accurate reflection of the rate of participation.

Tennis – Based upon the standard for tennis of 1 per 2,000 population, the Town has five more tennis courts than needed. The public input process did not indicate a high demand for courts. Some of the surplus courts could be redeveloped as multi-use courts.

Multi-Use Courts – Based upon a standard of one per 10,000, two such courts need to be developed.

Skate Park – The Town should consider developing a skate park as recommended by the 2001 Plan.

Archery and Skeet – No recommendation for development.

Swimming Pool – The Town should consider developing an outdoor pool as recommended by the 2001 Plan based upon a standard of 1 per 20,000 population.

Beach Areas – No current standard exists. If development of an outdoor swimming pool is cost-prohibitive, perhaps discussions regarding use of the Mohawk Valley Water Authority's decommissioned reservoirs or other open water for outdoor swimming could be pursued.

Indoor Ice Arena – New Hartford currently has one arena. The population standard for ice arenas, 1 per 100,000 population, would seem to indicate no such facility is needed. However, the popularity of hockey and figure skating indicates there may potentially be a need for a twin ice sheet, as recommended by the 2001 Plan. If this development is cost-prohibitive, the Town may consider implementing outdoor skating areas. At a standard of 1 per 10,000 population, two such areas could be supported.

9.5 Parks & Recreation Findings

- The Town has an adequate supply of park acreage that is dispersed throughout the Town
- Additional athletic fields and courts are recommended to address conflicts among users
- Provision of a Town-wide trail system is supported by national and local trends as well as local residents

9.6 Parks & Recreation Policies

Policy 1 - Healthy active lifestyles for New Hartford's residents should be encouraged through an array of recreational facilities and programs

Policy 2 - The Town should continue to pursue the development of an interconnected system of trails and open spaces; this system can link New Hartford's neighborhoods together and link neighborhoods with employment centers

Policy 3 - New Hartford should continue to actively pursue development of recreational facilities that will serve current and future populations

Policy 4 - Opportunities to acquire land for parks and open space should be identified

Tools

1.0 Funding Sources

Public and private commitment will be needed to implement the Plan. The funding sources identified in this section are applicable to a range of projects including community development, industrial and commercial development and historic preservation. Grants, loans and loan/grant combinations are included. The matrix below lists potential sources for funding and technical assistance to support implementation of projects New Hartford. This list should be considered advisory in character — while every effort has been made to ensure these sources are up-to-date, funding opportunities and strategies can change and the priorities of grant providers can change. Where available, web addresses are included for additional research.

Table 1-1 Funding Sources

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
Community Development Funding Sources							
New Hartford Community Enrichment Foundation	Independent Board	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Start-up foundation designed to be a New Hartford Community asset. More information should be available from the Town Supervisor's office in 2006-2007
Community Decision Making Programs	Orton Family Foundation	Community Viz software, community mapping, planning programs, video programs	Costs to participants involved for programs and materials but costs can be underwritten		orton.org	Operating profits of the Vermont Country Store	Focus of Foundation is managing change and preserving the way of life in rural, small-town America
Special Districts and Zones							
New York State Empire Zones	NYS Empire State Development Corp.	Sales, real property, investment, personal and corporate income tax breaks, reduced utility rates, tax credits	Employment-based incentive program; no direct grants	No	nylovesbiz.com	State	Existing Zones located in Herkimer, Rome and Utica

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
Business Improvement Districts also known as Special Assessment Districts	Local municipalities	Self taxing mechanism for identified community and economic revitalization activities	Varies	No	N/A	Property owners within designated district	
Tax Increment Finance District	Local taxing authorities	Public improvements	Varies	No	N/A	Increased tax revenues resulting from public improvements	Rarely used in New York State, problematic
Loans, Loan Guarantees and Tax Credits							
Job Development Loan Fund	Mohawk Valley EDGE	Purchase and improvements to fixed assets and working capital	Up to 35% of project cost, minimum \$25,000, maximum \$250,000. Bank financing for at least 50% of total project cost	10% cash equity borrower contribution	mvedge.org	Various	Interest rate is 85% of the current prime rate fixed at closing for the life of the loan
Micro-Enterprise Assistance Program	Mohawk Valley EDGE	Creation or retention of jobs for low or moderate income persons as defined by New York State and U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Small Cities Program guidelines	Up to 40% of the total project cost, with a minimum loan of \$2,500 and a maximum loan of \$25,000	10% owner cash equity required	mvedge.org	NYS Small Cities Grant	4% interest rate for the life of the loan
Linked Deposit Program	New York State Banking Department	Subsidizes interest rates on bank loans for businesses	Varies	No	banking.state.ny.us	New York State	Service businesses ineligible; retail businesses ineligible unless located in an Empire Zone

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
Historic Preservation Tax Credits	National Park Service	Rehabilitation and renovation of income-producing properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places or contributing to a National Register District	N/A	N/A	nps.gov	US	Projects of scale with ineligible owners can syndicate and sell shares in the credit to eligible investors
Section 444-a of Real Property Tax Law	NYS	Provides for a partial exemption on the increased assessment resulting from rehabilitation of listed or district contributing properties	N/A	N/A	orps.state.ny.us	Taxing jurisdictions	Measure must be authorized by counties, towns, cities and villages; school boards may do so by resolution
Small Business Technology Investment Fund	New York State	Investment Tax Credit, R&D Tax Credit, Sales Tax exemptions, property tax abatement			tax.state.ny.us		
Tax Credits, Exemptions, Abatement	New York State Banking Department	Equity for working capital for high tech start-ups	\$50,000 to \$500,000		banking.state.ny.us	Fund Pool	Process begins with submission of business plan
New York State Brownfields Tax Credits	New York State	Three separate tax credits available: 1. Redevelopment credit, 2. Remediated brownfield credit for property taxes, and 3. Environmental remediation insurance credit	N/A	N/A	nylovesbiz.com	Environmental Conservation Law	Tax credits are enhanced within designated "en-zone;" one eligible site is in Hornell

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Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
SBA 504 Loan Program	Mohawk Valley Small Business Development Center SUNY IT	Loans up to 40% for acquisition and renovation of capital assets	Up to \$1.3 million		sba.gov	Small Business Administration	Soft costs can be included; Job Development Authority SBA 504 combo is typical
SBA 7A Loan Guarantees	Mohawk Valley Small Business Development Center SUNY IT	Loans guarantees for small businesses	Up to \$2 million		sba.gov	Loan packaging	Market rates
Grants – Economic Revitalization							
Community Development Block Grants	NYS Governor's Office of Small Cities	Open Round for Economic revitalization	Maximum grant in 2004 is \$750,000; minimum is \$100,000; maximum grant amount per FTE job created is \$7,500		nysmallcities.com	US Housing and Urban Development	Cities, towns and villages with a population of under 50,000 eligible as are counties with unincorporated population under 200,000
Community Development Block Grants	NYS Governor's Office of Small Cities	Comprehensive grants addressing one community problem comprehensively	Maximum grant in 2004 is \$650,000		nysmallcities.com	US Housing and Urban Development	Cities, towns and villages with a population of under 50,000 eligible as are counties with unincorporated population under 200,000

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
US Economic Revitalization Administration	US Department of Commerce	Planning and technical assistance, public works and job development, economic adjustment	Varies	Varies	eda.gov	Federal appropriations, some cross-agency appropriations	Most projects directed to areas of severe economic distress; communities and regions need Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS); locally administered by the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District
USDA Rural Development Programs	USDA	Guaranteed Loan Program, Intermediary Relending Program, Business Enterprise and Business Opportunity and others	Varies, seek assistance from USDA technical staff	Depends on program	urdev.usda.gov	USDA	Rural Empowerment Zone, Enterprise Communities and Champion Communities score extra in competitive funding rounds – local office located in Syracuse
Empire Opportunity Fund	New York State Empire State Development Corp.	Non-residential, job-generating projects of scale	25% of eligible costs for projects over \$500,000	No	nylovesbiz.com	New York State	Projects should be consistent with state and regional plans in place and should relate to economic revitalization policy
Tax Exempt Financing	Oneida County IDA	Manufacturing, other eligible projects through industrial development revenue bonds	\$2 million or more		mvedge.org		Also: sale-leaseback agreements for exemption from NYS sales and use tax on construction materials, from mortgage filing tax, for reductions in real property taxes through PILOT Agreements.

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
Grants – Preservation							
Property Tax Abatements	NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation	Rehabilitation	N/A	N/A	nysparks.state.ny.us	Communities	Two programs, one for barns, another for other structures can be adopted by communities to provide tax abatement for rehabilitation projects
Architecture Planning and Design Grants	NYS Council on the Arts	Planning and community design	UNK		nysca.org		Funds a wide variety of programs in urban design, community development and preservation
Grants – Environment, Transportation							
Transportation Enhancement for the 21st Century	NYS Department of Transportation	Various		Yes	nys.dot.state.ny.us	Federal Transportation Appropriation	Various planning efforts
Scenic Byways Program	NYS Department of Transportation	Development and designation of Scenic Byways	N/A	N/A	nys.dot.state.ny.us		Tourism and economic revitalization focus
Clean Water programs	NYS Department of Environmental Conservation	Water quality restoration, storm and waste water management, etc.	Varies depending on program		nys.dec.state.ny.us	Various	Grant sources, applicability and sources depending on funding round
Clean Water Revolving Fund	NYS Environmental Facilities Corp.	Water quality restoration	Low- and no-interest loans		nysefc.org	Revolving funds, bond issues	Various programs for municipalities
NYS Environmental Protection Fund	NYSDEC	Open space protection, pollution prevention, parks, recreation, historic preservation, local waterfront programs, etc.	Varies	Yes usually	dec.state.ny.us/	NYS Legislature mandates a portion of the real estate transfer tax be dedicated to these uses	2006-07 funding for this program was \$180 million

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
NYS Recreational Trails Program	NYState DOT	Development and maintenance of recreational trails	\$5,000-\$100,000	80:20	www.nysparks.com/grants/	Federal SAFETEA-LU funding distributed through States	Program designed to help communities develop non-motorized transportation alternatives
USDA Rural Development Programs	USDA	Loans, grants, loan/grant combinations, loan guarantees for storm and waste water disposal and solid waste management	Varies depending on program		rurdev.usda.gov	USDA	Generally limited to communities under 10,000 population; technical assistance included
US Army Corps of Engineers	Most projects originate in Congressional Delegation	Shore protection, flood control, ecosystem restoration, recreation, navigable waterway improvements, community facilities, etc.	Varies	Depends on project; some programs have cost sharing requirements	usace.army.mil	Federal appropriation	Most projects commence with a reconnaissance report, followed by a feasibility analysis; local office located at Federal Plaza in Manhattan
US EPA Small Grants Program	EPA	Local community-based organizations to examine issues related to exposure to environmental harm and risk	Up to \$25,000		epa.gov	Federal appropriation	Research projects funded with the intention of dissemination to community
USDA Rural Development Programs	USDA	Loans, grants, loan/grant combinations, loan guarantees for a variety of housing initiatives including ownership, rental, purchase and repair	Varies, seek assistance from USDA technical staff	Depends on program	rurdev.usda.gov	USDA	Local office located in Syracuse

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
Non-point Source Abatement and Control Grants	NYS Soil & Water Conservation Service	Plan, activities and projects to reduce or prevent agricultural non-point source pollution		25%	agmkt.state.ny.us	Environmental Protection Fund	Project sponsors must be Soil and Water Conservation Districts singly or in cooperation with one another
Watershed Action Grants	Conservation Fund	Watershed protection, improvement, promotion of watershed stewardship	\$5,000 average	Not required	conservationfund.org	Conservation Fund	Match not required but leverage with other sources encouraged; program must take place in a year
Banrock Station Wines Wetland Conservation Fund	Banrock Station Wines	Educate, inspire action, create partnerships for wetlands conservation and restoration	\$1,000-\$5,000		conservationfund.org	Conservation Fund with corporate sponsor	Program inaugurated in 2003
Community Development Block Grants	NYS Governor's Office of Small Cities	Competitive round for housing, public facilities and micrienterprise	\$400,000; for towns, villages and cities; \$600,000 for counties and joint applications		nysmallcities.com	US Housing and Urban Development	Cities, towns and villages with a population of under 50,000 eligible as are counties with an unincorporated population under 200,000
Green Building Initiative	Kresge Foundation	Planning for construction of environmentally sustainable new facilities, including development and evaluation of building plan, site evaluation, material analysis, etc.	\$50,000-\$100,000	Cash, staff and board time, institutional resources as required	kresge.org	Endowed family foundation	Workshops on green building concepts and methods offered by the Nonprofit Finance Fund
Kodak American Greenways Awards	Eastman Kodak Co.	Provides grants for planning and design of greenways	Up to \$2,500; most grants are \$500 to \$1,500		conservationfund.org	Conservation Fund and Corporate Endowment	Finger Lakes Trail Conference was a grant recipient in 1999
Agriculture / Farm Land Protection							

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
NYS Agriculture & Markets Grow NY Enterprise Program	Governor's Office for Small Cities	Loans and loan-grant combinations for development and expansion of agriculture and agribusiness			agmkt.state.ny.us	GOSC, Ag & Markets, ESDC	Limited to projects in Small Cities-eligible communities
State Assistance for Farmland Protection	Agriculture & Markets	Purchase of development rights for agricultural and farmland			agmkt.state.ny.us	Environmental Protection Fund	Applicant communities must have adopted a farmland protection plan, open space plan addressing farmland protection or other similar plan
Cooperative promotion program	Agriculture & Markets	Promotion and marketing of NYS agricultural products	Up to \$15,000	2:1	agmkt.state.ny.us	Ag & Markets	Applicants must be Pride of NY participants or must apply to program at time of grant application
Industry development projects	Agriculture & Markets	A Grow NY program for R&D, production, processing, etc., alternatives and technology innovations	\$60,000 cap	1:1	agmkt.state.ny.us	Ag & Markets	Programs of one year or less are encouraged
Farmers Market Grants	Agriculture & Markets	Construction, reconstruction, improvement, expansion or rehabilitation of farmers markets	\$50,000 cap	1:1	agmkt.state.ny.us	Ag & Markets	Must involve physical improvements; feasibility analyses are not eligible
Miscellaneous							

Strengthening New Hartford's Neighborhoods

Program	Sponsor	Funded Activities	Funding amounts (if known)	Match required?	Site	Source	Notes
NYS Department of Transportation Environmental Initiative	NYS	Policy initiative by NYSDOT to advance state and federal environmental policies	No direct funding -- internal policy directive		dot.state.ny.us/eab/envinit		Policy directs DOT to incorporate context-sensitive design, local projects, environmental enhancement and restoration, public input, etc. into its projects
Bricks and Mortar Challenge Grants	Kresge Foundation	Construction or renovation of facilities, major equipment including computers of at least \$300,000, real estate purchase	Varies, \$150,000 to \$600,000 depending on the campaign	Yes, Kresge is usually a fifth to a third of campaign total	kresge.org	Endowed family foundation	Program is designed to build facilities and encourage private giving. Also, see Green Building Initiative, above
Skateboard parks	Tony Hawk Foundation	Provides grants for construction of public skateboard parks in low-income areas throughout the United States.	\$1,000 to \$25,000		tonyhawkfoundation.org	Corporate program	Most grants are \$1,000; technical assistance available

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

Appendix A – Public Input Process

1.0 Steering Committee

A Steering Committee for the New Hartford Comprehensive Plan Update was established comprised of:

Hans Arnold, Planning Board
Jerry Back, Code Enforcement Officer
William Delaney, Citizen
Alexander (Al) V. Forte, Citizen
Ralph Humphreys, Former Supervisor
Michael Jeffery, Parks and Recreation Director
John Kent, Oneida County Planning Commissioner
Fred Kiehm, Zoning Board of Appeals
John Kivela, Citizen
Raymond L. Philo, Police Chief
Nathaniel Richmond, Citizen
JC Waszkiewicz, Town Board Member

It is the function of the Steering Committee to review Plan elements as they are completed and to generally guide and supervise the process.

1.1 November 3, 2005 Kickoff Meeting

The committee met regularly throughout the plan process, beginning with a kickoff meeting November 3, 2005, and continuing with meetings on December 7, 2005, February 1, March 15 and May 10, 2006.

During the first, or kickoff, meeting, a vision session was held to allow steering committee members to give their thoughts and opinions about the Town's current status and visions for the future. A transcript of that session appears below.

Vision Session - In attendance: John Kivela, Fred Kiehm, Alex Forte, Nate Richmond, Roger Cleveland, Kurt Schwenzfeier, Jerry Back, Ralph Humphreys, Hans Arnold, Michael Jeffery, John Kent

In one sentence, describe the character of the Town of New Hartford – e.g. “New Hartford is ... ”

- Very commercially developed with a mixture of haves and have-nots
- Economic hub for the area
- Comfortable and convenient
- Clean, friendly, quiet

- Somewhat progressive community with outstanding school system and diverse population
- Diverse community comprised of neighborhoods
- Wealthy, suburban community of professionals with a nationally ranked school system
- Culturally, economically and physically diverse
- Lends itself not only to residential and agricultural development but also to commercial and industrial development
- Rural-type residential character in east; commercial corridor in the west
- Concentration of retail activity for the area
- Commercial neighborhoods, residential neighborhoods
- Desirable bedroom community that also happens to be the economic engine for Oneida County and the Mohawk Valley
- I don't see new Hartford as diverse, it's rather homogeneous; not much racial or cultural diversity, large Asian Indian population but otherwise not a lot of diversity
- Economic and housing diversity there is but otherwise you're right
- Top caliber school system that is the cornerstone of the community which is comprised of residents in a variety of professions
- Attempting to protect its outlying residential character
- Commercial center of Oneida County mixed with some of the most desirable residential neighborhoods

Barring all constraints, including time and money, what is your vision for the Town 20 years from now?

- Neighborhood charm and character
- Better transportation corridors
- Expansion of trail, bike system, growth of industrial segment to match commercial growth
- Planned and controlled development; good network of roadways
- Don't want to see the commercial development overwhelm the elements that make this a comfortable place to be
- Tourism – e.g. Waterworld in Erie
- Adding things that are important to the area without taking things away
- County metro government – more for less cost
- Control growth
- Schools need updating

- Good zoning controls – little league field in the village should be moved; neighbors complain about the noise and traffic; but it's adjacent to the high school field – parking problems
- Signature recreation facility; trails; residential sidewalks; better site design for commercial
- New road similar to 5A between JayK intersection and Route 233 in Westmoreland
- Smart Growth leaves rural character
- Agriculture is what economics dictates, were 100 farms, only six active farms now and only one dairy
- People will say that open space and rural character is important; people will expect that the farms will stay in farming; that's not going to happen. It won't happen through large-lot zoning either; it will have to be through parks and recreation, open space preservation
- A lot of land is abundantly available however something has to happen in order for the owner to continue to pay the taxes
- Part of the town plan needs to be how to protect and save open space
- Sustain level of excellence in community and economic stability
- Quality opportunities for citizens
- More diverse population, better street character, sidewalk system and economic development
- Cohesive mix of commercial and residential development
- High quality of life, industrial development equal to commercial development

What are New Hartford's primary strengths?

- Public schools (6)
- Primary roads (4)
- Village setting
- Fact that we are the hub, good roadway infrastructure coming into the town
- Good talents among the people
- Our size is a strength and we shouldn't outgrow our size (which has happened in Fayetteville)
- Housing stock relatively new and strong; more valuable housing stock is relatively new (3)
- Political unity on important issues
- A lot of good transportation network work has been accomplished
- Commercial tax base (4)

- Status, recognition of being from New Hartford, good reputation
- Our weather – seasonal changes
- Safety and security (3)
- Central location in state and county; proximity to roads
- High per capita income
- Health care facilities
- Water system (2)
- Geography is spectacular (2)
- Town staff
- Location, location, location
- Great volunteer fire departments
- Educated population of professionals (2)
- Population of workers and family people wanting to maintain
- Stable economy
- Parks (4)
- Retail centers (2)
- Police

What are some of the constraints and/or obstacles facing the Town that need to be addressed?

- Tax vs. assessment – too heavy on residential; people who live in the town are carrying a heavier tax burden which goes to sustain the commercial corridor and we have the opportunity to raise the assessments and hence taxes on the commercial properties
- Potential for vacant commercial structures
- Zoning needs updating; need more staff in zoning (2)
- Ralph strongly disagrees on the tax issues; Hans: But we house the commercial properties for the entire region
- Negative thinking and short sightedness
- Long range plans, money for projects
- Town is the only one in the county that doesn't have a central building
- Lack of planning; there is a need for a plan to avoid outgrowing who we are because the people we want to attract will leave the area; it's not an easy line to walk
- Consolidation of services needed

- Direct access to Thruway is needed
- Meshing the new zoning with the old zoning is a weakness
- Aging population; we need population turnover (2)
- Volunteer fire department; protection
- Lack of industry
- Loss of young people
- Limit of growth as defined by the limits of sewage system; Sauquoit Creek regional problem
- Interior roads not designed for pedestrian use; bikeways and paths are difficult to develop because they will have to go through private property
- No recreational water resources; canoeing, tourism does not exist
- Infrastructure: N/S roads, Routes 12 and 8 specifically; no airport in the region; poor rail service
- Lack of political leadership in town and regionally; thinking only locally and not regionally; infighting in Utica, Utica feuding with County; everyone feuding with the Indians who are part of the economic engine
- NYS
- Outsourcing
- Need political vision
- Need something to retain our young people
- Development community needs to contribute
- Confusing road system in parts of town
- Lack of capacity of infrastructure; drainage (4)
- Overlap of government services
- Adequacy of current and future zoning in light of fact that people will do what they want to do
- Revolt in NH over tax and assessment issues and there are fundamental misunderstanding about the tax structure on behalf of the public; mindset translates into you should not spend any money on anything for the town
- High cost of energy here, NiMo; Boonville has municipal light; it's an impediment to business
- Need to reuse existing commercial structures

What is the most important thing this comprehensive plan should do for you?

- Anchor for bringing our leaders and residents together

- Majority of people pulling in same direction
- If we are going to plan, we should follow it
- It's all in the follow through
- Implementation
- Guideline for the future
- Roadmap
- Blueprint for strategic development
- Improved comfort level for our residents
- Framework for smart decision making
- Change through time; tool for all three municipal boards: Town Board, Planning, ZBA
- Comprehensive plan fails because it is a product not a process; people use it because they want to support certain agendas; as planners we have to find a way to make the plan a living document; charge: try to find ways to get citizens to embrace
- Tie it in with a GEIS
- We need a way for it to live and be flexible and change
- Municipalities should look at their plans at budget time
- What may be more important than the "product" is the goal that is reinforced with the public all the time so the public is reminded on an on-going basis what to goal is or goals are
- We need to reach the public; that follow through goes beyond us
- Produce a process within the document which is written for the document which is why we put a strong policy element in the plan
- How you evaluate plans; how you approach issues

Also during the kickoff meeting, the schedule , deliverables the public input process for the plan were reviewed.

1.2 December 7, 2005 Meeting

During the December 7 meeting, the following were in attendance: John Kivela, Fred Kiehm, Alex Forte, Nate Richmond, Roger Cleveland, Kurt Schwenzfeier, Jerry Back, Ralph Humphreys, Hans Arnold, Michael Jeffery, John Kent, JC Waszkiewicz

The tasks addressed by the Committee:

- Review Elements of Inventory:
 - o Population
 - o Housing
 - o Parks & Recreation

- Community Survey
 - o Review and Approve Survey Instrument
 - o Determine Survey Schedule (after the holidays)
 - o Discuss Survey Mailing List
- Preview Focus Group Sessions and Participants
- Preview December 8 Public Input Session

1.3 February 1, 2006 Meeting

At the February 1, 2006 Committee meeting, the following were in attendance: John Kivela, Fred Kiehm, Alex Forte, Nate Richmond, Kurt Schwenzfeier, Jerry Back, Hans Arnold, Michael Jeffery, John Kent, William Delaney

The following tasks were addressed by the Committee:

Introductions

- Review Elements of Inventory:
 - o Land Use
 - o Natural Resources
 - o Transportation
 - o Infrastructure and Utilities
 - o Community Facilities and Services
- Community Survey
 - o Final Approval for Survey Instrument
 - o Determine Survey Schedule
- Preview March 15 Public Input Session

The Committee determined it would postpone the Public Input Session to the May 9 meeting to allow the committee to focus on a full March 15 Agenda. Also during the meeting, the Committee agreed to ask the Town to fund additional survey distribution so that the total sample size would be representative of one-third of the Town's Census 2000 households or 2,840 households. Parks and Recreation Director Mike Jeffery secured the Board's authorization, and the Committee directed to consultant to complete the mailing.

1.4 March 15, 2006 Meeting

At the March 15 Committee meeting, the following were in attendance: John Kivela, Fred Kiehm, Alex Forte, William Delaney, Kurt Schwenzfeier, Jerry Back, Hans Arnold, Michael Jeffery, John Kent, JC Waszkiewicz. The committee addressed the following tasks:

- Review Elements of Inventory:

- o Economic
- Community Survey:
 - o Review Survey Process
 - o Review Preliminary Results
- Discuss Preliminary Build Out
- Review Goals, Objectives and Policies
- Preview May 3 Public Input:
 - o Venue
 - o Format

The committee determined that the May 3 Public Input Session and Committee meeting should be moved forward one week so as not to conflict with Town Board meetings.

2.0 Focus Groups

An important element of the Public Input process is Focus Groups. Focus Groups are usually small groups brought together by invitation to discuss particular elements of the Plan. For the New Hartford Comprehensive Plan, Circulation and Business & Economic Development Focus Groups were held.

2.1 Circulation Focus Group

Paul Evans, NYSDOT Region 2; Sharon Heyboer, Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study (HOCTS); Kenneth Lowell; Jim Papaleo, NYS DOT Region 2, Bob Rice, NYSDOT Region 2; Margaret Thompson, Mohawk Valley Bike Club

Assuming no constraints exist - physically, financially or otherwise – what is the ideal for circulation system in New Hartford?

What is good about it?

- Highway system and maintenance are very good
- Judd Road
- Judd Road can enhance access and circulation
- Spatially it is limited; it's not too big, it's manageable
- Suburban area is more contained
- State roads are fairly well integrated
- No a.m./p.m. commuting issues; able to get east/west very quickly
- Pedestrian friendliness in the Village can be expanded to the Town
- Opportunities for trail development – Sauquoit Basin Commission looked at trail opportunities along the creek
- LOS is good – very few places we have poor LOS
- Connection to Thruway is good
- Quick transition into rural areas – quality and amount of roads available for a nice bike ride is superior, low traffic volumes
- Nice roads for biking connect to roads in other towns
- Congestion means you're living someplace that offers something

What are the problems and problem areas?

- There are spot conditions related to development but not system-wide
- Judd Road to NH Street in NY Mills; Town can't move equipment right out onto Judd Road from Town Barn
- Should be able to get south from the Town Barn; it's locked in, you have to go to Utica to get back onto southbound in NH
- Neighborhoods are somewhat split by Judd Road Connector and the boundaries of the Town
- Clustering of big box commercial development has left other properties vacant
- Land use and transportation have never been joined to make the necessary funding available to solve potential problems as the shopping

- centers developed; roads have not kept pace with commercial development; transportation investment has not been enough to address current and future development
- Consumer Square – inadequate entrance volumes; internal circulation of Consumer Square backs traffic up to 5A
 - Those internal circulation problems were identified but were never addressed
 - Maybe there is a discourse that should take place that doesn't
 - Consumer Square is anti-pedestrian
 - No discourse between the Department of Transportation and the Town because most of the development has occurred on primary state highways; it's the Town's responsibility to work with the developers or consultants
 - DOT's interest in the development only goes as deep insofar as it impacts our highway
 - Parking and circulation up there is terrible
 - NH can't use any FILM on State highways
 - Incremental approach to addressing development
 - Quality of life issues need to be addressed in traffic and circulation
 - Lack of collector highways connecting to state highways
 - There are still residents on highly developed local commercial roads; maybe that could be relocated to a more rural area
 - Buses can't get in and out of Consumers Square easily
 - Frequency of transit might be an issue
 - 5, 8 and 12 intersection needs to be addressed is in HOCTS Long Range Plan from Judd Road north into Utica "non-standard weaving intersection"
 - Access between NH and NY Mills
 - Judd Road cuts NH Village off
 - NiMo is not happy with same issue Town barn has
 - 4-lane Genesee Street going into 2-lane Genesee Street at some point is a problem
 - Cooperstown has a lot of traffic and they don't have people going 40 mph through it
 - Bike connections from New Hartford
 - Riding from NH Street to Genesee Street
 - Wilbur Road pedestrian crossing – no one in a car is prepared for the light to change
 - Judd Road bike lane stops at Consumers Square but you can't cross Commercial Drive (changes to interchange to accommodate pedestrians are being implemented)
 - Planet Fitness is going to paint mile markers and there will be a lot more use
 - Cost constrains development of a bike lane on the bridge because of the issue of getting across the ramps
 - Signage isn't good – Commercial Drive is not marked

What new trails and roads should be developed here?

List specific locations for trail development

- Along the entire Sauquoit Creek for bikers and joggers off the main highway; it has to be wide enough so that it can be maintained (10 feet)
- N/S arterial along Genesee Street
- CSX doesn't want anyone near their rail ever
- "Rails with Trails" Susquehanna NYS&W opportunity; not very frequent
- Crossing main highways have to be developed in order to create connections throughout the trail system
- Tour de NH or Tour de Mohawk Valley aren't feasible
- As motorists see more cyclists, they will get used to seeing and accommodating them
- Valley View area and Tibbits Road are areas where trails could connect to activities and schools
- Chapman Road will have sidewalks but they will be narrow

List specific locations for road development

- Seneca Turnpike is said to be the next development area
- We've got plenty of roads
- Road development should follow commercial development
- Developers want to look at traffic counts; we can look at those and predict where roads should go
- Connect sidewalk systems as much as possible within feeder areas and schools
- Bypass from Route 8 over to Route 5S around New Hartford
- Water expanding out Mohawk to Higby Mallory, etc. Next will be Roberts, reduce residential development and truck traffic conflicts; trucks coming out of Litchfield, they go out Higby and on to Frankfort

What are the specific deficiencies, issues and problem areas of the circulation system in New Hartford and its regional context – including its air, rail, road, waterway and trail systems?

- DOT philosophy is maintain in good repair; not to change
- If you have a certain impact, you should have a mitigation
- DOT can only ask developers to mitigate to a certain extent; the Towns can do more
- J-K – distance between the two signals is not enough; straightening or realignment is prohibitive – a multi-million dollar taking
- Capacity improvements aren't occurring anywhere in the state
- Land use element and transportation element have to be integrated
- Most of the congestion is people going from mall to mall; it's us generating more trips
- DOT does not consider congestion to be a problem in NH
- Congestion on 5A is limited
- Speeds to the mid to high 50s on New Hartford Street now that traffic is down
- Burrstone traffic counts are down

- DOT thought that people would reeducate themselves at a much slower pace than they have to take the Judd Road Connector which may be more distance but less time
- New Hartford Business Park (proposed) area there was going to be interchange
- Reconstruct Seneca Turnpike from J-K west to the edge of Town; not going to happen because of a lack of funding mechanisms
- DOT comments under SEQR incorporate the need for the Town to fund highway improvements
- Under state law, moving of utilities is done at the expense of the utility; when developers do it, it increases the cost of development dramatically

2.2 Business & Economic Development Focus Group

Lawrence R. Adler, Judd Road Group; Steve Brown, St. Luke's Campus; Steven P. Devan, Oneida County Water Quality & Water Pollution Control; Kevin M. Kelly, Jay-K Lumber, Jim Mackey, Sangertown Square, Pat McCann, Piggy Pats, Domick Pavia, Pyramid Brokerage Company, Philip Porter, Slocum Dickson Medical Group; Mark Reynolds, Mohawk Valley EDGE; Victor Mangome, Hartford Insurance; Patti Hayes, Charles T. Sitrin Home

It is the year 2015. New Hartford has undergone a wonderful transition, Describe what the Town looks like and what amenities will be here.

- Consolidation of garbage pickup
- Consolidation of government; we need to be less fragmented
- Consolidation needs to start at the state level
- Regional cooperation can stop us from (for example) stealing all the business from downtown Utica
- NH is part of the whole and NH needs to plan to be part of the whole
- Washington Mills is centrally located but to get anywhere you have to go get on a super highway
- Difficulties in recruiting because spouses need jobs too; limited job market
- Recruiting: Difficult to get them here but once they are here, they like it; low taxes relative to other places; malpractice situation is good; schools here are a huge draw
- Single professionals right out of college won't settle here because of the lack of nightlife and culture; The Hartford markets this location as a step along the career way
- Quality of life value – these are folks coming from larger cities
- Whitestown's parks and trail system, well used, great asset
- Sauquoit Creek Corridor
- Sprawl – “a little bit of control of the sprawl”
- Improved circulation system; scary part is Commercial Drive is new
- Water, water quality is going to constrain development; limited water infrastructure

- There is a plan in the works to enlarge the library; \$1 million in the bank, 8,000 square feet almost doubling in size – have a pledge for \$150,000, a \$600,000 wing possibility named after a donor and need \$500,000 more
- SR Sloan leader in roof truss manufacturing moving to Whitesborough; Par Micro; Special Metals; Con Med, medical support and insurance
- Trails maybe not a necessity but a very nice thing to have
- Should emphasize recreational facilities over trails and open space
- Arts, culture and recreation should be supplied on a regional level
- More mini high tech kinds of businesses
- Commute times are very low
- Connect Commercial with Washington Mills with Middle Settlement Road provide connectivity
- State canal system website
- We should all be New Hartford; make all the villages and names disappear
- Planning Board process is difficult; ponderous, they charge you; there's all these rules; process is difficult, drawn out and arbitrary
- When you have experience in developing here, you know how to do it
- Planning Board doesn't meet in the winter
- Sitrin looks for property outside of the town because of the Planning Board situation; businesses need to move quickly, be light on their feet; if you innovate, you wind up in a holding pattern
- Town of Webb inside the blue line – it is easier and quicker to develop there
- There needs to be less politics; the boards need to be balanced
- Planning Board: they're not planners
- Demand for growth here slows the Planning Board down because there is
- CEG in Utica, economic development group identified a need for training for planning boards; maybe you should have an architect or a civil engineer or a planner on the planning board, maybe more than one
- Is there value in the T/NH's planning function becoming more prescriptive, a checklist
- Urban Design Review (?) book title, Syracuse University prof 25 years ago
- There need to be designed standards and they need to be enforced
- Imperative that it is easy to do business
- Image, jobs need to be addressed
- Trails, parks, small town amenities
- Trails don't need to follow the roads
- Elect officials but professionally administer municipalities; mergers and acquisitions
- We are spoiled: Commercial Drive, 25,000 ADT, same road in Florida, 100,000 ADT
- Soon to be vacant Eckerd in front of K-mart will be filled
- Create jobs and the culture will come to life
- We need to be prepared for the jobs
- This becomes a mini-city if everything comes together
- Progress toward regional cooperation is being made; fragmentation hurts us
- Retailers say sales are good here

- Village of New Hartford 4-day-a-week garbage collection
- New Hartford wants a Wegmans
- Schools – need to have e-mail with teachers; opportunity for special ed
- Medical community not as developed, need to leave town for specialists
- Retail contribution to quality of life –movie theater, Barnes and Noble
- People moving out for retirement and taking their money with them; state laws discourage senior living development
- Smaller living situations, condos, gated communities needed
- Retail needs to slow down while the population catches up
- Sitrin and Pres Home have market studies on the demand for senior housing
- Technology Parks and Business Parks needed
- Town needs to be a leader and needs to be able to discuss issues such as the decay in the City of Utica; NH is a jewel in a rusting hulk
- NH has shown a lot of leadership in spite of itself commercially and etc.
- Helps our quality of life to have the pretty Barnes and Noble and functional green space
- The retailers are going to tell you when there are enough stores
- NH needs growth and better growth
- NH competes with Utica for offices; businesses are moving out but NH isn't prepared with a nice business park
- Chappaqua is nice, it looks good but here people don't maintain their buildings, it looks like the 1960s
- NH has to decide what it wants to be in the future
- Housing: Newer stock, more amenities

What one thing should the Comprehensive Plan address?

- Planning board should meet every two weeks or every week; some way of ensuring a minimum level of expertise on the board; planning is not the priority
- Focus on creating a supportive environment for businesses to grow
- The plan should be progressive for people that want to do something
- Create jobs and be positive toward managed growth, focusing on higher quality jobs
- Deal with infrastructure: sewer, water, road infrastructure or the development decision will be out of our hands
- FILM (Fees In Lieu of Mitigation) – Parts of Town you have to pay huge FILM and parts you don't – where does that money go? They have a list of where it goes, but there is never an accounting of where it went. (\$3.13/foot)
- Judd Road is a diamond in the rough; plan needs to incorporate some well planned growth on Judd Road
- Don't forget the value of local identity; we waste too much time trying to put one umbrella over us; London is nine cities, NYC is five boroughs.

3.0 Community Survey

The participation of residents in the Comprehensive Plan is important, as decisions made upon the completion of the Plan will have a direct effect on the lives of residents. A community survey was completed in the Town of New Hartford in March of 2006. The survey was intended to measure the public opinion with respect to various issues and conditions that exist in the community. In addition, the survey was intended to provide residents with the opportunity to state their visions and goals for the future of the community.

The survey questions were divided into the following sections: Community Identity and Design, Culture and History, Community and Government Services, Land Use, Environment, Recreation, Circulation and Economy and Business Services. The survey also for some demographic data and other information about respondents including their ages, how long they have lived in New Hartford, etc.

The survey was distributed randomly to a total of 2,840 households, or one-third of New Hartford's Census 2000 population. Of these, 106 surveys could not be delivered. A total of 1,025 surveys were returned completed, representing a response rate of 37.5%. An effort was made to distribute the surveys proportionally between renters and homeowners. However, the response rate was much lower for renting households.

A response rate of 37.5% is generally considered excellent for a survey of this type. Due to the size of the community, the sample size created by the number of people who responded to survey exhibits a margin of error of $\pm 2.9\%$ with a confidence interval of 95%. The margin of error is based on a random sample.

While the survey was randomly distributed, the sample collected by those that responded is not a random representation of the Town. With all mail-back surveys, there is a certain degree of sample bias, in that a segment of the population chooses not to respond. People who respond to this type of survey are generally believed to be better educated and/or politically motivated. It should also be considered that those that responded to the survey have demonstrated a greater interest in the future of the Town.

3.1 Sample Profile

At the end of the survey, respondents were asked some demographic questions in order to get a general idea of the character of the sample. Where possible, figures from the 2000 census are shown in blue to present a comparison of the actual population. The census figures for age represent age of householders, not the population as whole.

Table 3-1 Survey Results: Sample Profile

Personal Information		1	2	3-5	6 plus
How many people are in your household, including yourself?		18.1%	40.8%	39.2%	1.9%
	Census	30.3%	34.7%	33.4%	1.7%
		20-34	35-49	50-64	65 plus

Strengthening New Hartford's Neighborhoods

What is your age?		5.9%	27.8%	35.0%	31.3%
	Census	11.2%	29.4%	26.1%	33.3%
Do you own your home or rent?		Own	Rent		
		96.5%	3.5%		
	Census	74.7%	25.3%		
How long have you lived in the Town of New Hartford?		0-2 years	3-5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years
		5.6%	8.4%	10.2%	9.8%
What is the highest level of education you have completed		Below HS	HS	AS	BS
		1.4%	21.9%	21.6%	26.6%
	Census	13.5%	43.4%	10.1%	18.2%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.2 Community Identity and Design

Almost 95% of respondents believe that the Town of New Hartford has a residential/rural character that should be preserved. Most respondents (86%) believe that the aesthetics of residential buildings are high but landscaping in commercial areas needs improvement (63%). More respondents believe there should be additional office development (68%) than industrial (56%) or retail (50%) development.

Table 3-2 Survey Results: Community Identity and Design

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Town of New Hartford has a "suburban/rural residential character" that should be preserved as development occurs	56.5%	37.6%	3.1%	2.2%	0.7%
The Town of New Hartford should encourage future residential growth	23.9%	51.2%	11.5%	11.0%	2.5%
The Town of New Hartford should encourage more retail development in appropriate areas throughout the Town	13.8%	36.1%	9.9%	27.5%	12.7%
The Town of New Hartford should encourage more professional office development in appropriate areas throughout the Town	17.6%	50.1%	15.4%	12.4%	4.6%
The Town of New Hartford should encourage more industrial development in appropriate areas throughout the Town	20.2%	36.1%	11.8%	22.3%	9.5%
Generally, the residential character/aesthetics of the Town of New Hartford is high	20.8%	65.1%	7.6%	5.8%	0.7%
Generally, the character/aesthetics of commercial buildings in the Town of New Hartford are high	8.8%	56.6%	18.6%	14.3%	1.7%
Better landscaping in commercial areas is needed to improve the appearance of the Town of New Hartford	19.3%	44.1%	21.7%	13.6%	1.4%
New standards for commercial signs are needed to improve the appearance of the Town of New Hartford's commercial areas	16.9%	36.5%	29.6%	15.3%	1.7%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.3 Culture and History

While respondents generally agree that library facilities are of a high quality (86%) and appreciate the Town's historic resources (64%), most (77%) also believed that efforts should be made to attract additional cultural offerings.

Table 3-3 Survey Results: Culture and History

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Library facilities in the Town of New Hartford are of a high quality	36.7%	49.3%	9.8%	4.0%	0.2%
I appreciate the Town of New Hartford's historic resources	19.8%	44.4%	32.3%	2.8%	0.7%
The Town should promote the attraction of additional cultural interests (theater, music, art) to enhance existing offerings	29.7%	46.8%	15.8%	6.3%	1.4%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.4 Community and Government Services

Respondents were generally in agreement that the provision of emergency services and schools in the Town are high caliber. There is also a general consensus (95%) that new development projects should pay a fair share of infrastructure and improvement costs and that the community was safe (94%). Most (86%) respondents also believed that local governments should cooperate to reduce costs through the shared delivery of services.

Table 3-4 Survey Results: Community and Government Services

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
High quality fire services are available in the Town of New Hartford	46.8%	44.6%	6.8%	1.5%	0.3%
High quality police services are available in the Town of New Hartford	43.3%	45.7%	5.6%	3.7%	1.7%
High quality rescue services are available in the Town of New Hartford	43.8%	43.4%	11.4%	1.1%	0.4%
The schools in the Town of New Hartford are excellent and add to our quality of life	50.5%	39.6%	7.1%	2.4%	0.4%
There is good communication between school and Town officials	10.3%	31.3%	49.2%	7.8%	1.4%
New development projects should pay their fair share of cost for infrastructure and other improvements	60.7%	34.7%	3.2%	1.3%	0.2%
There are problems with the sewer systems in the Town of New Hartford	8.7%	18.0%	57.5%	14.1%	1.7%
Storm water systems are a problem in the Town of New Hartford	14.1%	27.7%	45.1%	11.7%	1.5%
The Town does an adequate job of notifying me of pending Town actions (hearings, Town Board votes, development approvals)	7.4%	50.3%	16.9%	21.0%	4.4%
I am knowledgeable about Town services and offices.	8.4%	58.2%	15.5%	16.0%	1.9%
I feel safe and secure in the Town of New Hartford	31.4%	62.3%	4.0%	2.0%	0.4%
The Town of New Hartford should encourage cooperation among area local governments to reduce government costs through shared delivery of service	47.6%	38.7%	8.3%	4.5%	0.9%
Town services should be consolidated in one location	26.5%	32.8%	28.0%	10.7%	1.9%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.5 Land Use

The majority of respondents believe that protecting agricultural from development (69%) should be a priority in the Town. A smaller proportion (49%) want additional open space provided. Most residents (54%) say that a variety of housing types are available in the Town.

Table 3-5 Survey Results: Land Use

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The existing zoning code is effective and addresses issues related to our population	4.4%	39.2%	41.9%	12.1%	2.4%
The location and density of new residential development is appropriate for our neighborhoods	4.4%	56.4%	26.1%	11.6%	1.5%
A broad spectrum of housing types that meet a variety of needs, including housing that is affordable for individuals of all income levels, is available in the Town of New Hartford	5.7%	47.8%	17.8%	23.9%	4.8%
Protecting agricultural lands from future development should be a priority for the Town of New Hartford	27.2%	41.5%	18.5%	10.8%	2.0%
Additional open spaces are needed in the Town of New Hartford	15.3%	33.4%	34.2%	15.2%	1.8%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.6 Environment

A majority (79%) of respondents believe that identifying and protecting environmentally sensitive lands should be a priority in the Town. The majority of respondents did not register strong feelings about noise and light pollution or erosion.

Table 3-6 Survey Results: Environment

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Reduction in noise from areas adjacent to residential areas is needed	13.7%	32.1%	36.8%	16.2%	1.2%
Reduction in light from areas adjacent to residential areas is needed	9.5%	24.7%	42.1%	21.2%	2.5%
Identification and protection of environmentally sensitive lands (wetlands, wooded areas, etc.) from future development should be a priority for the Town of New Hartford	35.9%	43.2%	11.2%	8.0%	1.8%
Appropriate steps are being taken to address erosion, storm water runoff and other sources that pollute surface and ground water resources	7.7%	26.4%	46.0%	15.2%	4.7%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.7 Recreation

Most respondents believe a wide variety of activities/programs are available to residents (69%). However, they are not willing to pay more for additional recreation services (60%).

Table 3-7 Survey Results: Recreation

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
More passive recreational opportunities (bird watching, nature watching) are needed in the Town of New Hartford	8.3%	28.7%	38.6%	20.8%	3.7%
There is a need for additional parks/playground equipment	9.0%	26.6%	29.4%	30.7%	4.4%
There are a wide variety of activities/programs available to residents	9.1%	59.6%	18.9%	10.9%	1.5%
I would be willing to pay more for additional recreational services provided by the Town	3.8%	18.5%	18.0%	37.0%	22.8%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.8 Circulation

Most respondents believe that road conditions in the Town were good (78%) and new roads were not needed (61%). A majority of respondents also believed that traffic volume along major roads was a problem (56%) and additional sidewalks were needed (54%).

Respondents were asked to identify roads in New Hartford that they believe have a volume issue or problem. Among 510 respondents who chose to answer this question, the majority (130) named Commercial Drive either singly or first in a list of roads they identify as traffic-volume-issue roads. Other roads respondents believe have volume issues include Seneca Turnpike, Chapman Road, Routes 5 and 5A, Kellogg Road, Route 12B, Higby Road, Kellogg Road and Oxford Road. The Jay-K intersection was singled out by 12 respondents as a volume issue.

Seneca Turnpike was first-named as a pedestrian safety issue among the 357 respondents who specified roads they believe present a pedestrian hazard. Genesee Street was the second-most specified. Higby Road, Commercial Drive, Oxford Road, Route 5 and Kellogg Road were also named either singly or first in a list of pedestrian issue roads.

While 61% of respondents do not believe new roads are needed in New Hartford, 103 respondents specified needed roads with connections off Judd Road/Route 840 the most-named either singly or in a list of new roads needed. Commercial Drive and Route 5 were also named as centers for bypasses, better access or other connections.

Table 3-8 Survey Results: Circulation

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Town of New Hartford should develop a network of trails (both pedestrian and cycling) that link existing parks and open spaces,	20.7%	39.8%	21.8%	13.2%	4.6%
More sidewalks are needed in the Town of New Hartford to link neighborhoods	21.1%	32.4%	20.7%	20.3%	5.4%
The condition of the roads in the Town of New Hartford is good	10.4%	67.8%	5.2%	13.9%	2.7%
The Town of New Hartford is adequately served by public transportation	4.6%	34.7%	40.7%	16.4%	3.6%
The volume of truck traffic is a problem in the Town of New Hartford	12.6%	24.7%	32.5%	28.0%	2.2%
Traffic volume along major roads is an problem in the Town of New Hartford	22.1%	33.9%	15.5%	26.8%	1.7%
Pedestrian safety is an issue/problem in some areas	13.1%	36.7%	31.4%	17.3%	1.6%
New roads are needed in the Town of New Hartford	Yes	No	N/A		
	16.2%	61.1%	22.7%		
I work within the Town of New Hartford	Yes	No	N/A		
	23.7%	60.5%	15.8%		

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.9 Economy and Business Services

More than 90% of respondents say they do the majority of their retail shopping in Town and more than 80% believe that the Town is a high profile business location in Oneida County; while more than 70% do not believe more large scale retail centers are needed in the Town. Among respondents, 63% say that agriculture-related activities should be promoted in the Town, but fewer than 50% believe that farming should be promoted.

Among 395 respondents who named a store they would like to see locate in New Hartford, more named the supermarket chain Wegmans either singly or first in a list of stores. Marshall's was second-most named – although at the time of the survey, a Marshall's was opening in nearby Rome and this event may have skewed the result. Other retailers either named singly or as part of a list were Dick's Sporting Goods and Macy's. Grocery and food stores, though not specific ones were named and other said upscale or high end stores without naming specific retailers are needed.

Table 3-9 Survey Results: Economy and Business

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Town of New Hartford enjoys a reputation as a high profile business location in Oneida County	26.5%	55.6%	12.4%	5.3%	0.3%
Agriculture related activities should be promoted in the Town of New Hartford (festivals etc.)	17.6%	45.7%	26.2%	8.8%	1.7%
More large scale retail centers are needed in the Town of New Hartford	4.6%	12.4%	12.8%	40.9%	29.4%
Farming opportunities should be promoted in the Town of New Hartford	12.0%	36.3%	34.1%	14.8%	2.9%
I do the majority of my retail shopping in the Town of New Hartford	33.0%	57.3%	3.2%	5.2%	1.2%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.10 Growth and Development

When asked about the level of annual population growth they would prefer in the Town 42% of respondents indicated 2-5%, meaning an annual population growth of 421 to 1,058 people per year, 37% of respondents indicated 1-2% and 15% indicated 0-1%. Few respondents say they want to Town to grow quickly.

Table 3-10 Survey Results: Growth and Development

The 2000 Census population of the Town was 21,172. What type of annual population growth would you prefer to see in the next 10 years: (Circle One)	
a.Minimal Growth - 0-1% growth (0-210 people/per year)	15.2%
b.Slow Growth - 1-2% growth (211- 420 people/per year)	36.8%
c.Moderate Growth - 2-5% growth (421-1058 people/per year)	41.6%
d.Moderately Fast Growth – 5-9% (1059-1905 people/per year)	5.1%
e.Rapid Growth – 10% plus growth (over 1905 people/per year)	1.4%

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

3.11 Personal Information

About two-thirds of survey respondents have lived in the Town of New Hartford for more than 15 years and the Town enjoys a high degree of loyalty from these residents with more than 70% indicating they have no plans to leave. Among respondents who say they will or may move away, reasons most frequently cited for this decision include taxes. Age, retirement and downsizing were also mentioned. Among respondents not planning to leave, reasons cited include family, “grew up here” and it’s my home.

Respondents think of themselves as well informed about local government issues by only a slim margin; 54% say they are well informed. Most, 78%, say they are unfamiliar with the Town Comprehensive Plan.

Table 3-11 Personal Information

	0-2 years	3-5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	Over 15 years
How long have you lived in the Town of New Hartford?	5.6%	8.4%	10.2%	9.8%	66.1%
Do you have plans to move from the Town of New Hartford	Yes	No	Maybe		
	5.1%	71.6%	23.4%		
	Yes	No			
I am familiar with the Town of New Hartford's current Comprehensive Plan	22.3%	77.7%			
Generally, I consider myself well informed about local government issues and operation in the Town of New Hartford	53.9%	46.1%			

Source: peter j. smith & company, inc.

4.0 Public Meeting

An interactive public meeting was held on December 8, 2005 with 23 participants. The meeting was facilitated by peter j. smith & company, inc. and included an explanation of the planning process, presentation of inventory findings to date and an interactive segment.

During the interactive segment, attendees used workbooks and maps to identify issues of concern within four general categories: Land Use, Circulation, Economic and Community Services. The following summarizes information received from questionnaires and group exercises.

4.1 Land Use

In response to land use questions, the majority of respondents indicated that there should be stricter land use regulations (72%) and that design standards/guidelines should be developed (73%). There was also general agreement on the need to preserve unique natural features and or agricultural land (94%) and for additional low-cost housing (75%).

Public Input Meeting: Land Use Questionnaire Results

Land Use	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Stricter land use regulations (zoning, signage, landscaping etc.) should be -developed to enhance the Town.	44%	28%	22%	6%	0%
There is a need to develop design standards or guidelines to improve the overall look and quality of residential and commercial design in the Town.	53%	20%	27%	0%	0%
The Town should consider preserving unique natural features and/or natural agricultural land in New Hartford to protect open space and agricultural areas.	82%	12%	6%	0%	0%
Additional low-cost housing should be developed in New Hartford.	50%	25%	19%	6%	0%
Land use conflicts exist at certain location within New Hartford.	11%	44%	22%	11%	11%

4.2 Circulation

Most respondents strongly agreed that they were concerned about the volume of traffic in the Town. There was general agreement that a comprehensive trail system was needed in the Town (75%) as well as more sidewalks (64%) and official bike lanes (61%).

Public Input Meeting: Circulation

Circulation	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I am concerned with the volume of traffic in the Town.	69%	19%	6%	6%	0%
There is a need for more sidewalks in the Town of New Hartford.	53%	12%	18%	18%	0%
There is a need for official bike lanes in Town of New Hartford.	50%	11%	33%	6%	0%
Traffic conflict and safety is an issue in the Town.	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%
A comprehensive trail system is needed in the Town.	56%	19%	19%	6%	0%
Additional roads are needed in the Town.	29%	18%	24%	6%	24%

4.3 Economic

When asked if additional commercial development was needed, 73% of respondents disagreed. However, a majority agreed that the town has identifiable town centers/hubs (86%), that tourism should be developed (63%) and additional development was needed (53%).

Public Input Meeting: Economic

Economic	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
There is a need for additional commercial development .	11%	6%	11%	17%	56%
There is a need for additional industrial development .	18%	35%	12%	35%	0%
Opportunities for tourism development should be identified and pursued.	25%	38%	31%	6%	0%
The Town of New Hartford is characterized by identifiable town center(s) or hub(s) .	29%	57%	7%	7%	0%

4.4 Community Services

Over 75% of respondents agreed that the Town should identify areas for parks and open spaces. There was also general agreement on the need to address maintenance issues (59%) and to preserve the Town's distinct neighborhoods (75%).

Public Input Meeting: Community Service

Community Service	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Town of New Hartford should identify areas for parks and open space.	43%	36%	14%	0%	7%
There are maintenance issues that need to be addressed by the Town.	17%	42%	33%	8%	0%
Infrastructure facilities (sewer, water, drainage) in the Town are adequate for current and future needs.	17%	25%	33%	17%	8%
The Town of New Hartford has distinct neighborhoods that should be preserved.	50%	25%	25%	0%	0%

4.5 Priority Issues

Each group of participants was asked to identify the group's three priority issues. The following is a list of the identified priorities.

- Town Center - Consolidated Administration, Police, Fire, Highway (2 groups)
- Trail System Connecting Open Space
- Maintain tax levels - Consolidate with county services
- Fill in Road ditches with culvert pipes
- Encourage Industrial Growth, curtail retail development until growth in population supports
- Preserve Sauquoit Creek Watershed
- Content sensitive commercial development - Think of how it fits into the community
- Preserve Agriculture- Limit sprawl - utilize existing structures

- More Green Space
- Traffic on Seneca Turnpike
- Commercial Hub around Sangertown Mall

Participants were also asked to indicate their preference for the future of New Hartford by ranking four statements on a scale of 1-4, where 1 is most important and 4 is the least important the following. The statement “Limit residential/commercial/industrial development and maintain existing character” received the highest percentage (69%) of number 1 rankings.

	Ranked 1	Ranked 2	Ranked 3	Ranked 4
In the future, I would like New Hartford to:				
Encourage only residential development	31%	38%	0%	19%
Encourage more commercial development in appropriate locations	0%	13%	44%	31%
Encourage more industrial development in appropriate locations	13%	25%	44%	13%
Limit residential/commercial/industrial development and maintain existing character through the acquisition of open space	69%	6%	6%	19%

The map on the following page is a synthesis of the input received by residents.

