

- 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.