

Introduction

Welcome to the Town of Lanark Comprehensive Plan. This Comprehensive Plan is the centerpiece of the community planning process, stating our community's development goals and outlining public policies for guiding future growth. It establishes an identifiable destination that allows both the governing body and private interests to plan and budget with an idea as to the direction the Town may move in the future, and helps to ensure that future growth is not only anticipated, but planned for. The Plan functions as a practical guide to coordinate day-to-day decisions. The Plan will provide Town and County officials with a guide for reviewing subdivision plats, certified survey maps, rezoning requests, and other land use proposals. This Plan will also be used as the basis for updating the Town zoning map.

In addition to aiding the public sector, this Plan should also benefit the private sector by providing advance notice of community needs and planned development patterns, which could affect specific lands. Private investors and developers may thereby proceed with a greater degree of assurance as to future Town and County intentions, such as planned road systems, zoning patterns, etc.

State Statute 66.1001(Appendix A) defines minimum requirements for what content should be included within a comprehensive plan. These requirements include nine "elements" or chapters describing: *issues and opportunities; housing; transportation; utilities and community facilities; agricultural, natural and cultural resources; economic development; intergovernmental cooperation, land use; and implementation*. The Town of Lanark has used the required elements as an outline for its plan document.