



Rouss City Hall
15 North Cameron Street
Winchester, VA 22601

Telephone: (540) 667-1815
FAX: (540) 722-3618
TDD: (540) 722-0782
Website: www.winchesterva.gov

Greetings:

On behalf of the Winchester Planning Commission and the Winchester Common Council, we are pleased to present this 2022 update of the City of Winchester Comprehensive Plan. Virginia Code requires Planning Commissions to prepare and recommend a Comprehensive Plan to the City Council. This Comprehensive Plan provides land-use guidance for today and the future.

This update represents a significant revision to the Plan. The Commission conducted an extensive review of existing conditions, capturing all development since the last update in 2011, and considered alternative future visions by geographic planning area. This revised Comprehensive Plan includes input from citizens from across the City. It focuses on many areas where change is desired and needed.

Modern comprehensive planning that provides guidelines for future growth in Winchester dates back at least to 1958, although planning started more than 250 years back when young George Washington served as a surveyor for Lord Fairfax. Winchester's founder, Col. James Wood worked with Lord Fairfax to plan and chart the City.

This updated Plan offers strategic guidance for future public and private redevelopment decisions, that will impact the physical form of land development. Sustainable growth must be pursued in a manner that respects the preservation of natural, cultural, and historic resources. Environmental, economic, and social factors must also be considered. This update emphasizes the need to work together as one community with our neighbors in Frederick County since many issues transcend corporate political boundaries.

Consistent with State Code, this Plan incorporates principles of New Urbanism, Urban Development Areas, and Traditional Neighborhood Design. Adherence to this Plan will serve to improve the quality of life for the citizens of this community well into the future.

The City of Winchester is indebted to all the Planning Commissioners past and present who, without compensation, gave generously of their time over the past several years working on this Plan update.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark A. Loring".

Mark A. Loring
Chairman, Planning Commission

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John David Smith, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

John David Smith, Jr.
Mayor

"To provide a safe, vibrant, sustainable community while striving to constantly improve the quality of life for our citizens and economic partners."