

city of
WINCHESTER

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2011

As Adopted May, 10, 2011

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Greetings:

On behalf of the Winchester Planning Commission and the Winchester Common Council, we are pleased to present this update of the City of Winchester Comprehensive Plan. Virginia Code requires Planning Commissions to prepare and recommend a Comprehensive Plan to the governing body in all Virginia jurisdictions. This update represents a major revision to the Plan. The Commission conducted extensive review of existing conditions as well as exploration of alternative future visions. The attached Plan represents a departure from the status quo in many areas of the City where change is desired.

Comprehensive planning 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 Fairfax to plat out the City.

This Plan offers strategic guidance for future public and private redevelopment decisions which will have impacts on the physical form of land development. Sustainable growth must be pursued in a manner that respects preservation of natural, cultural and historic resources. Environmental, economic, and social factors must all be considered. This update continues to emphasize 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 is indebted to all of the Planning Commissioners past and present who, without compensation, gave generously of their time over the past five year period working on this Plan update. Special thanks is offered to former Chairman Susan Masters and former Vice Chairman Philip Weber, Jr. for their leadership and service on the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nate L. Adams, III".

Nate L. Adams, III
Chairman, Planning Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth A. Minor".

Elizabeth A. Minor
Mayor

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