

Implementation – Our Road Map to 2050 – Vision to Action

This plan is rooted in our commitment to sustainability, stewardship, and the values we share as a community. It reflects a collective vision for maintaining our vitality as both a cherished home and a premier destination. Building on that vision, this implementation element provides a community-driven roadmap for putting our goals into action. It outlines clear steps, identifies priorities, and clarifies who should lead or support each effort. Thoughtfully designed to balance the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, this element ensures growth is well managed, community character is preserved, and quality of life remains a priority. It serves as a strategic framework that links our values to specific actions, guiding decision-making, investment, and policy development over time.

Achieving this vision will require sustained collaboration among municipal staff, elected and appointed officials, residents, local businesses, developers, regional partners, and other stakeholders. Successful implementation also depends on strong partnerships with public agencies, neighborhood groups, adjacent municipalities, and the local business community. Given the plan's scope, broad participation is essential. A strong implementation program relies on community buy-in, active engagement, and open, ongoing communication with partners such as Downstreet and other housing developers, the Stowe School Board, the Vermont Agency of Transportation, LCPC, and local service and utility providers. Property owners and developers are likewise encouraged to pursue improvements and new construction that support the goals and priorities of this plan.

This implementation element is organized into three key components: **Goals, Policies, and Action Tasks**, each providing clear direction towards realizing our shared community vision. The goals, policies, and action tasks reflect a deliberate effort to balance our community's long-term sustainability with its role as a vibrant, year-round tourism destination. They aim to preserve quality of life, enhance services, expand housing availability and affordability, protect natural resources, and improve recreational opportunities, while acknowledging the constraints of limited municipal staff and financial resources. At its core, this approach is guided by the values that define our community: a deep appreciation for our natural beauty, a strong sense of place, and a shared community spirit. While trade-offs are inevitable, the intent is to move forward with care, making thoughtful, balanced decisions that protect the irreplaceable qualities that shape our community character, composition, economy, and future.

Goals express broad, long-term aspirations that reflect our community's vision for the future. They describe what we aim to achieve over time and serve as guiding statements of intent.

Policies provide direction for decision-making and help advance our community's goals. They state the Town's official position or intent on specific issues and guide the actions of Town officials, boards, and commissions. In certain cases, such as Act 250 or Section 248a proceedings, policy statements may also serve as the basis for determining a project's conformance with our municipal plan.

Action Tasks identify the specific steps, projects, and programs that designated partners can undertake to implement the plan’s policies and advance community goals. These tasks translate the community’s aspirations into practical next steps. The implementation program is designed to be both strategic and flexible; not all tasks are expected to be completed within the plan’s eight-year timeframe, and those requiring Town funding will move forward through the regular budgeting process. Action Tasks may take many forms, including awareness efforts, incentives, programs, projects, regulations, services, or studies. Some tasks are ready to proceed immediately, while others will require additional analysis, such as feasibility studies, to assess their practicality and potential impact. Once underway, certain initiatives may be completed quickly, whereas others may take many years, or even decades, to fully achieve.

A timeframe is assigned to each Action Task. Ongoing tasks are part of the routine responsibilities of the designated entities; some may occur at set intervals or only as needed. In-progress strategies are actions or projects already underway at the time this plan was written.

Action Tasks are further categorized by anticipated timing: short-term (expected to begin or be completed within one to two years of plan adoption), mid-term (within three to eight years), and long-term (more than eight years). Long-term tasks are not likely to be advanced within the life of this plan but may move forward sooner if conditions change or new opportunities arise.

For each Action Task, the plan identifies the primary leaders, such as municipal officials, departments, and community partners, responsible for guiding implementation and coordinating administrative efforts and public improvement projects. These

Municipal Board & Commission	Abbreviation	Municipal Department	Abbreviation	Other Partners*	Abbreviation
Selectboard	SB	Administration/ Town Manager	TM	Green Mountain Transit	GMT
Water Commissioners	WC	Stowe Electric Department	SED	Stowe Area Association	SAA
Sewer Commissioners	SC	Planning & Zoning Department	P & Z	Stowe Vibrancy	SV
Planning Commission	PC	Public Works Department	DPW	The Current	TC
Historic Preservation Commission	HPC	Water Department	WD	Stowe School Board	SSB
Arts and Cultural Council	ACC	Sewer Department	SD	Lamoille County Planning Commission	LCPC
Library Trustees	LT	Police Department	PD	Stowe Historic Society	HS
Conservation Commission	CONS.	Parks & Recreation Department	P & R	VT Agency of Transportation	VTRANS
Recreation Commission	RC	Town Clerk	TC	Stowe Land Trust	SLT
Cemetery Commission	CC	Fire & Rescue Department	F & R	Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District	LRSWMD
		Emergency Management	EMD		
		Health Officer	HO		

Suggested partners that are not within Town government are identified by an asterisk (*).

assignments are flexible, and effective collaboration between public and private stakeholders is encouraged to help achieve the community's vision and goals.

This implementation element also serves as the Town's official policy guide and strategic framework for land use, development, municipal programs and services, and public improvements. It is intended as a "go-to" resource for municipal staff, the Selectboard, and other boards and commissions, providing guidance on programs, policies, projects, and other municipal initiatives. To remain relevant, the plan and this implementation element should be consulted annually during budget preparation and capital improvement planning. Regular review and updates will ensure it reflects evolving community needs and stays closely connected to the work of community leaders and municipal staff.

To ensure regular usage and further educate the community about the plan, the Town will:

- Make the plan readily accessible online.
- Help the public understand the plan and its relevance to development projects and proposals.
- Support the Selectboard and other municipal boards and commissions in administering, interpreting, and applying the plan.
- Brief department heads and officials on the plan's purpose, benefits, and key priorities.
- Provide new staff, officials, and new municipal board and commission members with an orientation highlighting major goals and essential policies.
- Maintain a current list of potential amendments, issues, or needs that may require updates, additions, or deletions from the plan.

Our shared community vision and the goals of this plan may be effectuated through the following tools and statutory authority:

Non-Regulatory Implementation Tools

1. Capital Budget & Program [24 V.S.A. §§ 4403 & 4430]
2. Tax Stabilization Contracts [24 V.S.A. § 4403, 32 V.S.A. §4969]
3. Special Assessment Districts [24 V.S.A. Chapter 87]
4. Purchase or Acceptance of Development Rights [24 V.S.A. § 4403, 10 V.S.A. Chapter 155]
5. Plans or Inventories Supporting the Municipal Plan [24 V.S.A. § 4403]
6. Advisory Commissions or Committees [24 V.S.A. § 4403]
7. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) [24 V.S.A. § 4403, 24 V.S.A. Chapter 53]
8. Designation under the Vermont Downtown Program
9. Local conservation fund to purchase important natural lands

Regulatory Implementation Tools

1. Permits for highway access or work within municipal Rights-of-Way [19 V.S.A. §1111]
2. Town Highway & Bridge Standards [19 V.S.A. §304(a)(23)]
3. Subdivision Regulations [24 V.S.A. §4418]
4. Zoning Bylaws [24 V.S.A. §§ 4411, 4414]
5. Site Plan Review [24 V.S.A. §4416]
6. Local Act 250 Review [24 V.S.A. §4420]
7. Official Map [24 V.S.A. §4421]
8. Impact Fees [24 V.S.A. Chapter 131]
9. Adequate Public Facilities and Phasing of Development [24 V.S.A. §4422]
10. Transfer of development Rights [24 V.S.A. §4423]
11. Shoreland or Flood Hazard Area Bylaws [24 V.S.A. §4424]
12. Other Ordinances [24 V.S.A. Chapter 59]

Other Tools

1. Municipal participation in the Public Utility Commission's review of public utility projects that require a Certificate of Public Good under 30 V.S.A. §248.

Essential Projects – Priority Implementation Plan

Within each of our four Vision Elements, the highest-priority actions are identified as “Essential Projects.” These are the highest priority projects that will drive implementation of this plan. Essential Projects provide significant benefits to the Stowe community, such as building community connections, regulatory implementation, studies and planning, or capital improvements.

	Building Community	Regulatory Implementation	Studies & Planning	Capital Improvements
Strong, Authentic Community and Small- Town Feel				
Healthy, Beautiful Environment and Outdoor Access				
Quality of Life & Opportunities for All				
Balanced, Responsible and Resilient Growth				



Community Engagement & Local Planning Process

Goal: Foster an engaged and informed community by ensuring that all Stowe residents and property owners have meaningful opportunities to participate in local planning and decision-making, shaping a future that reflects our shared vision and community values. To ensure the widespread involvement of Stowe citizens and property owners at all levels of the local planning and decision-making process.

Policies

1. ~~Public involvement and community engagement will be actively encouraged in all stages of planning and decision-making, ensuring transparency and open forums for meaningful and inclusive participation.~~
~~1. Opportunities for citizen input will be provided, and participation encouraged, at every stage of the planning and decision-making process and decision-making shall only occur in an open, public environment.~~
2. Community engagement and feedback will be sought on all matters of broad community interest. Statutory public hearing requirements will be recognized as an absolute minimum level of public involvement, and will be exceeded in all instances where public interest is evident.
3. Regular efforts will be made to solicit community input through diverse and accessible methods.~~Public opinion will be solicited on a regular basis using a range of communication tools—including front porch forum, mailings, the Town website, surveys, social media, and the Stowe Reporter—to keep residents and visitors informed and engaged.~~~~Public forums, direct mailings, the Town's web page, electronic surveying, social media and other Internet resources, and the Stowe Reporter will be used to inform the public of governmental activities on a regular basis.~~
4. The Town will seek input from~~The attitudes and opinions of Stowe's~~ non-resident property owners will be solicited, to the extent when practical, on matters of broad community ~~concern~~ interest.
5. Prioritize wellness initiatives that are accessible to residents of all ages, abilities, and income levels. Ensure diverse voices are included in planning, decision-making, and program design.
6. Local land use regulations and related planning programs will be administered in a fair and consistent manner, and the Town Plan will be used as the key resource document regarding questions of interpretation or intent.
7. The Town Plan and related planning documents will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and amended as appropriate to address changing circumstances.
8. When updating the Town Plan, the goals and policies of municipal plans of neighboring communities as well as the Lamoille County Regional Plan, shall be reviewed and considered to provide consistency within the region.

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Strong Authentic Community and Small-Town Feel



Action Tasks - Community Engagement & Local Planning Process	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Maintain a database system to track key growth indicators on an ongoing basis, including but not limited to population, housing, employment, permit, grand list, energy consumption and seasonal occupancy data.	Planning & Zoning Dept. Assistant Town Manager Stowe Electric Dept.	Ongoing	
Evaluate growth projections for incorporation in the town's planning process and related policies and programs.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Department	Ongoing	
Update town ordinances and programs as appropriate, including but not limited to, zoning and subdivision regulations, public facility ordinances and policies, short-term rental , and the special events ordinance.	Planning Commission Town Manager Selectboard	Ongoing	
Annually revise and maintain a capital budget and program that schedules capital improvements in relation to anticipated growth, local development objectives, and available financing and considers the cost/benefit of energy-efficient projects.	Town Manager Selectboard Public Works Planning & Zoning Department Planning Commission	Ongoing	
Maintain active membership on the board of the Lamoille County Planning Commission to represent Stowe's interests in local and regional development and growth management initiatives, including the Lamoille County Regional Plan.	Selectboard Planning Commission	Ongoing	
Participate in Act 250, Section 248 and other state regulatory proceedings as appropriate to ensure that town growth and development needs and limitations are adequately addressed, in conformance with the Stowe Town Plan.	Selectboard Planning Commission	Ongoing	
Appoint ad hoc committees as appropriate to advise the Selectboard on specific planning-related issues and projects.	Planning Commission Selectboard	Ongoing	
Update the Stowe Town Plan at a minimum of every eight years as required by state statute, or more often as circumstances dictate.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Department Selectboard	Ongoing	
The Planning Commission shall Review the Town Plan each year to ensure progress in the ongoing implementation of the plan.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Department	Annually	
Develop and support community programs and events that foster neighborhood connections, volunteerism, intergenerational engagement, and celebrate diversity and inclusion.	Parks & Rec Dept. Town Manager	Ongoing	

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Historic & Cultural Resources

Goal: Identify, preserve, and protect Stowe's historic and cultural resources, including structures, districts, landscapes, significant views, and archaeological sites, that define our community character and sense of place.

Policies

1. Preserve and protect Stowe's historic buildings and districts, cemeteries, and cultural landscapes as essential components of the town's heritage, ensuring their integrity, authenticity, and long-term preservation.
2. Foster public understanding and appreciation of Stowe's history, architecture, and cultural resources through education, outreach, and heritage celebrations.
3. Encourage new development that is compatible with the town's historic character, visual quality, and traditional settlement patterns.
4. Protect visual and aesthetic character through zoning, design review, and planning practices that consistently safeguard both historic and contemporary development.
5. Maintain Stowe's status as a Certified Local Government to access funding, technical assistance, and educational resources for historic preservation.
6. Promote incentives, programs, and regulatory tools that encourage the preservation, rehabilitation, and ongoing maintenance of historic resources.
7. Integrate historic resource considerations into all municipal planning and capital improvement projects, where appropriate.
8. [Historic residential and mixed-use buildings should be preserved and rehabilitated as feasible.](#)
9. Support the adaptive reuse of historic buildings to meet modern needs while retaining their character defining architectural features.

Action Tasks - Historic & Cultural Resources	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Maintain and routinely update Stowe's inventory of historic structures and districts. Update the Stowe Historic Sites Survey. Include updated survey results in future zoning amendments to ensure their continued protection.	HPC Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission	Short-Term	
Monitor and maintain the condition of municipally owned historic buildings and sites, including the Parker Barn, prioritizing preservation and early intervention for at-risk resources.	HPC Parks & Rec Dept. DPW	Ongoing	
Develop and distribute educational materials, such as brochures, walking tour guides, and signage.	HPC Stowe Historical Society	Ongoing	
Partner with the Historical Society and other organizations to host lectures, tours, and community events celebrating Stowe's history.	HPC Planning & Zoning Dept.	Ongoing	
Incorporate interpretive elements and storytelling into public spaces, trailheads, and historic sites.	HPC Arts & Culture Committee	Ongoing	
Maintain the Town's Certified Local Government status to access state and federal preservation grants and resources.	HPC Planning & Zoning Dept. Selectboard	Ongoing	
Provide property owners information on state and federal financial incentives, such as grants, tax credits, or other programs, to support historic building renovation, restoration, and maintenance.	HPC Planning & Zoning Dept.	Ongoing	
Explore and consider amending zoning regulations to include demolition by neglect provisions.	HPC Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission	Short-Term	
Develop and adopt design guidelines for new construction and the rehabilitation of historic buildings to ensure compatibility with the town's historic character and existing settlement patterns.	HPC Planning & Zoning Dept.	Mid-Term	



Arts and Culture

Goal: ~~To actively promote local arts and culture, to the benefit of Stowe area residents, visitors, and businesses; and to continue to~~ become the primary regional center and visitor destination for arts and culture in northern Vermont, ~~with prominent~~ local arts and culture, that benefits Stowe residents, visitors, and businesses.

Policies

1. Support private initiatives that expand cultural events and facilities, and improve meeting, exhibit, and performance spaces within designated growth centers, including Stowe Village and Moscow Village, through the Town's Zoning Regulations.
2. ~~Make~~ municipal facilities ~~will be made~~ available for special events, exhibits, and use by area arts organizations as appropriate, based on availability, capacity, and associated costs.
3. ~~Support development of new~~ space or facilities for the arts and special events ~~should be developed as feasible~~, in relation to existing and projected demand, within designated growth centers.
4. ~~The town will continue to~~ Support the Cultural Campus, Stowe Free Library, The Current, the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum, the Stowe Theater Guild, Stowe Performing Arts, and the Stowe Historical Society; ~~as well as celebrating all its cultural assets that make it a regional center and cultural destination for residents and visitors.~~
5. The construction or substantial renovation of public buildings, parks, ~~playgrounds~~, and public spaces, ~~should shall be~~ incorporated ~~as part of the overall~~ budget expenditure for public art, ~~with advice and counsel of the under advisement of the~~ Stowe Arts and Culture Council.
6. ~~Preserve and maintain~~ Stowe's cultural resources, including its historic sites, buildings, monuments, and public art, ~~should be preserved and maintained~~ for present and future Stowe residents; adaptive reuse of historic structures will be encouraged as appropriate under the Town's Zoning Regulations.
7. ~~New public buildings should be~~ Sited, designed, and build ~~new public buildings~~ to reflect their monumental place within, and long-term importance to the community.

Strong Authentic Community and Small-Town Feel



Action Tasks - Arts and Culture	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Support the work of the Stowe Arts and Cultural Council to promote investment in local arts organizations through the work of the Stowe Arts and Cultural Council.	Selectboard Arts and Cultural Council	Short-Term	
Evaluate the capacity and improvement needs of municipal facilities, as part of the development of facility plans, for their use by area arts associations for special events and programs.	Selectboard	Short-Term	
Develop and deploy as part of its normal upgrading and maintenance programs, wayfinding identifiers and other physical and virtual efforts to help residents and visitors identify and locate Stowe's arts and cultural assets, emphasizing Stowe's unique attractiveness as an arts and culture destination.	Arts and Cultural Council *Stowe Area Association Stowe Vibrancy Planning Commission	Short-Term to Mid-Term	
Support the Stowe Free Library's vision of being a vibrant community center and a portal to knowledge, opportunity, and diverse resources by continuing to invest in a well-trained staff, a relevant collection, and a functional and beautiful building. to further the Stowe Free Library's vision of being a vibrant community center and a portal to knowledge, opportunity, and diverse resources.	Town Staff Selectboard Library Trustees	Ongoing	
Support The Current's mission as a resource for the community, including a Make town-owned land available for a year-round outdoor sculpture exhibition and town land use for this purpose.	* The Current Selectboard Town staff	Ongoing	
Review and consider amendments to the Special Events Ordinance to: a) Require large events to be held only at venues permitted to accommodate large groups. b) Prohibit large special events during peak holiday weekends to reduce travel impacts. c) Evaluate staffing and human resources needs to ensure adequate public safety support.	Town Manager Selectboard	Short-Term	



Natural Resources/Environmental Quality

Goal: Preserve and enhance Stowe's natural resources, scenic landscapes, and environmental quality; to strengthen resilience, foster connections to nature, and provide lasting benefits for both current and future residents and visitors.

Policies

1. Support land conservation efforts, particularly through partnerships with organizations like Stowe Land Trust, to protect lands of ecological, recreational, agricultural, and scenic value.
2. Safeguard and enhance the health of local rivers, streams, and water quality by maintaining vegetated buffers, controlling runoff and erosion through enforcement of land use regulations, and implementing accepted agricultural and forestry practices on town-owned lands.
3. ~~Land development shall be carefully planned and managed to avoid forest fragmentation and minimize adverse impacts on environmentally sensitive areas including wetlands, floodplains, prime agricultural soils, steep slopes, hillsides, ridgelines, and groundwater source protection zones to protect water quality, scenic views, and public safety shall be avoided.~~
4. Protect critical wildlife habitats, including but not limited to deer wintering areas, rare and/or endangered species habitat, local fisheries, critical bear and bird habitat significant forest habitat blocks and identified travel corridors, as mapped by the VT Department of Fish & Wildlife, from harmful development and land management activities.
5. Preserve publicly owned conserved lands for ~~conservation~~, open space, and recreation, ensuring their long-term ecological health through responsible management and ongoing stewardship. The Conservation Commission shall serve as the primary steward for town-owned conserved land.
6. Collaborate with neighboring towns and conservation partners to protect significant natural resources, including the Shutesville Hill Wildlife Corridor.
7. Ensure extraction of sand, gravel, and stone is conducted responsibly with minimal neighborhood impact, protection of water resources, and proper site restoration.
8. Development within municipal water supply source protection areas must be designed and managed to avoid adverse impacts on groundwater resources, consistent with the Town's Source Protection Plans
9. The economic viability of agriculture and forestry in Stowe will be supported and enhanced by:
 - a) Maintaining Farmer's Contracts to reduce property taxes on working farms;
 - b) Local participation in the Vermont Current Use Program to support the viability and maintenance of farm and forest land;
 - c) Actions that enable the creation of local businesses that provide a market for locally produced value-added agricultural and forestry products;



- d) Opportunities for the public to purchase local and organic agricultural and forest products through farmers markets, community gardens, farm stands and community supported agriculture; and
- e) The continued operation of existing farmers markets.

Action Tasks - Natural Resources/Environmental Quality	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Create a comprehensive inventory and assessment of existing recreational trails on town-owned conserved properties and collaborate with partners to maintain them in accordance with land management plans and sustainable best practices.			
Develop an annual monitoring program for town-owned conserved lands. Review annual monitoring reports and address concerns as needed.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Review and update land management plans for all town-owned conserved properties as needed or as otherwise required by the conservation easement or land management plan.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Inventory invasive species on town-owned conserved properties, develop a prevention and control plan, and implement ongoing monitoring to detect and remove new invasions early.	Conservation Commission	Short-Term	
Inventory and assess trailhead kiosks on all town-owned conserved properties to ensure updated rules, guidelines, and maps are available, and create complementary educational brochures and maps for distribution.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Continue to administer and enforce local floodplain regulations to maintain compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program.	Planning & Zoning Department	Ongoing	
Develop a natural resource inventory and ecological assessment for town-owned conserved properties.	Conservation Commission	Mid-Term	
Identify areas on town-owned conserved properties where riparian buffer plantings could be added or enhanced.	Conservation Commission	Short-Term	
Collaborate with Stowe schools to engage students in hands-on water quality monitoring and educational activities that promote community awareness of riparian area protection and watershed health.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Monitor and maintain historic sites on town-owned properties. Repair and replace interpretive signage as needed.	Conservation Commission & Historic Preservation Commission	Ongoing	
Continue to support and expand community environmental education programs, such as the Bear Aware Campaign, by introducing new information, events, and activities each year to increase public awareness and engagement.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Evaluate and incorporate permeable pavement and green stormwater infrastructure into future zoning updates to improve water quality and increase flood resilience.	Planning Commission	Short-Term	
Protect water quality through regular testing, monitoring, and participation in regional water quality programs.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Provide training and educational resources for the Department of Public Works on invasive plant prevention and responsible salt application.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Update Source Protection Plans for municipal groundwater supplies every three years.	Water Department	Ongoing	
Re-evaluate the RHOD boundaries using current tools to ensure Stowe's ridgelines and forested hillsides continue to be well protected.	Planning Commission	Short-Term	

Commented [SM1]: Suggest consolidating these related action items.



Our Forests

Goal: Protect, maintain, and enhance the ecological integrity, size, and connectivity of intact forest blocks and habitat corridors to support healthy ecosystems, thriving wildlife, and sustainable working forests that provide lasting benefits for both nature and our community.

Policies:

1. When land is subdivided, provisions should be made to ensure access for future forest management and forestry operations and to avoid potential conflicts between land uses.
2. Major subdivisions and Planned Developments must be designed and sited to preserve large, connected areas of active or potential wildlife habitat.
3. Prevent fragmentation of large, high-value wildlife habitat blocks and preserve corridors that connect them to support wildlife movement and migration. Require cluster development where it can accomplish these objectives.
4. Development must be designed and located to avoid fragmenting large, contiguous forest blocks. Within identified forest blocks, placement of roads, driveways, utilities, and buildings shall occur along the edges to limit fragmentation from roads, clearing, and buildings. If edge siting is not physically feasible, development must be clustered and located to minimize disruption to the block's integrity.
5. Protect bear habitat and deer wintering areas from development and other uses that may threaten the ability of the habitat to support these animals.
6. When important natural features, soil conditions, or special resources, such as agricultural or forested land, are present, require clustered or peripheral development to protect these resources and avoid fragmentation or scattered development.
7. Roads longer than 1,000 feet are prohibited within the forest blocks as identified on [insert figure number] unless a longer road reduces impacts on natural resources.
8. Where development takes place within a habitat connector as identified [insert figure number], development shall be located at the edges of the connector area in order to facilitate wildlife travel through the area. In the event that there is no land that is practical for development outside the wildlife connector, development must be designed to minimize impacts on the continued viability and use of the corridor.
9. Support land conservation in the Shutesville Hill Wildlife Corridor by partnering with non-profit organizations to secure conservation easements and fee title acquisitions on priority parcels, ensuring the permanent protection of forested and open lands to preserve habitat and maintain ecological connectivity.

10. An adequate land base to support present and future forestry and agricultural activities will be maintained through:

- a) The transfer of development rights from designated sending areas to appropriate receiving areas inside growth centers;
- b) The clustering of residential development, related to the subdivision of existing farm, forestland and open space, to facilitate the preservation of open space and keep productive land without reducing allowable density;
- c) Supporting a viable commercial recreation industry to encourage seasonal diversification and multiple uses of farm and forestland; and
- d) The permanent conservation of significant productive farm and forestland.

Healthy Beautiful Environment and Outdoor Access



Action Tasks- Our Forests	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Explore and consider the adoption of a conservation or natural resource overlay district for areas defined by the presence of one or more natural resources that include features like important wildlife habitat or plant species, high elevations, wildlife corridors and crossing areas (habitat connectors), intact forest blocks, and water source protection areas.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept.	Short-Term	
Incorporate conditional use standards in the zoning regulations that address forest and wildlife resources and minimize forest fragmentation.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Short-Term	
Incorporate site plan review standards into zoning regulations to ensure the preservation and protection of important site features, such as significant natural resources, forest stands, wetlands, and endangered species, through context-sensitive layout and design.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Short-Term	
Protect wildlife habitat by developing and adopt land use regulations that protect wildlife habitat by prioritizing valuable habitat areas. Potential measures include performance standards, buffer requirements, expanded streambank setbacks, provisions for low-density development, and the use of clustered development patterns.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Short-Term	
Amend subdivision and planned development regulations to protect natural resources by establishing review standards that guide the placement of clearing, building envelopes, roads, utilities, structures, and open space. Require clustered development where appropriate to preserve large forest blocks and support wildlife habitat.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Short-Term	
Promote the Current Use program and encourage property owners to develop and follow management plans to support long-term stewardship of their land.	Conservation Commission Stowe Land Trust	Ongoing	
Engage with landowners about the benefits and opportunities of conservation easements.	Conservation Commission Stowe Land Trust	Ongoing	
Manage municipal forests for multiple purposes, including timber production, water quality, wildlife habitat, education, and recreation, using revenue from sustainable timber harvests to fund stewardship, recreation, and conservation efforts.	Conservation Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Ongoing	
Support/Connect landowners in the Shutesville Hill Wildlife Corridor (SHWC) by connecting them with nonprofit organizations, providing educational materials on the corridor's local and regional importance, and offering technical assistance to manage their properties in ways that enhance the corridor's ecological function.	Conservation Commission Stowe Land Trust	Ongoing	
Collaborate with transportation officials to identify, evaluate, and implement improvements along Routes 100 and 108, as well as local roads, to enhance safe wildlife passage.	Conservation Commission P & Z Dept. DPW	Ongoing	
Working with a licensed forester, implement with a licensed forester a timber and habitat strategy in Sterling Forest to sustain habitat and timber resources while improving recreational trail opportunities.	Conservation Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Mid-Term	
Evaluate and revise zoning and subdivision regulations to promote the preservation of large, forested areas and limit forest clearing.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Short-Term	

Commented [SM2]: Suggest consolidating these similar and related action items.



Recreation

Goal: Ensure year-round, diverse, and inclusive recreational opportunities that are accessible, affordable, and environmentally sustainable - promoting healthy lifestyles, strengthening community connections, and deepening our appreciation for Stowe's natural beauty.

Policies

1. [Prioritize the enhancement and improvement of athletic facilities and the support of recreational programs to attract families and foster a healthy and engaged year-round residential community.](#)
2. ~~The Town will~~ [Proactively plan for future recreational needs to serve a growing resident population and increasing visitor use.](#)
3. ~~The Town will~~ [Enhance and improve existing recreational facilities, including: trails and trail-related amenities; athletic facilities and ballfields; recreation programs; and explore potential extensions of the Stowe Recreation Path.](#)
4. [Maintain and steward](#) Town-owned conserved properties ~~will be maintained and stewarded~~ in accordance with their adopted management plans (e.g. Mayo Farm Management Plan; Moscow Recreation Field Management Plan, Sterling Forest Management Plan, Cady Hill Forest Management Plan, Sunset Rock Management Plan) as prepared by the Conservation Commission and/or Recreation Commission.
5. ~~The Maintain, and improve when necessary, the~~ Mayo Farm Community Events Field ~~will be maintained, and upgraded as necessary,~~ for special events and ~~will be used for~~ recreational [use during non-event periods.](#)
6. ~~The Town will~~ [Continue to allow snowmobile access to town-owned properties and town roads in appropriate locations.](#)
7. Memorial Park and its associated facilities will serve as the focus of recreational activities in Stowe Village. The Town will continue to advance the Memorial Park Master Plan.
8. ~~The Town will~~ [Promote the sustainable use and enjoyment of its recreational resources while enhancing Stowe's reputation as the region's premier four-season outdoor recreation destination.](#)
9. ~~The Town will~~ [Retain ownership of its](#) Class 4 roads and legal trails as important recreational resources.
10. ~~The Town designates the Stowe Trails Partnership as the trail corridor manager for mountain biking trails in Cady Hill Forest and Sterling Forest, and will continue to support, Mm~~ maintain, and enhance [mountain biking trails in Cady Hill Forest and Sterling Forest these trails](#) to strengthen the Town's reputation as a premier mountain biking destination. [Support Stowe Trails Partnership as the designated trail corridor manager of these trails.](#)
11. ~~The Town will continue to~~ [Provide and protect access to public lands, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of background or ability, have equitable access to recreational activities and spaces.](#)



12. [Maintain, enhance, and expand community centers, playgrounds, pools, sports fields, and other public facilities to provide diverse wellness and recreational opportunities for all residents.](#)
13. [Protect trails, open spaces, rivers, and scenic landscapes. Integrate green infrastructure and sustainable practices into recreation, wellness, and land use planning.](#)
14. [Support the efforts of local public and private organizations working to enhance the recreational assets within the community, including:](#)
 - a. [Working with VAST and the Stowe Snowmobile Club; and](#)
 - b. [Supporting the Stowe Trails Partnership in their efforts regarding maintaining and building recreational trails.](#)

Action Tasks - Recreation	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Implement the Memorial Park Master Plan and invest in expanded recreation and community facilities.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Short-Term	
Develop an outdoor recreation and trails master plan that documents existing recreational resources, programs, and facility needs.	Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission Rec Commission	Mid-Term	
Integrate recreational needs into the Capital Improvement Program by plan and budgeting for new recreational facilities and improvements to existing facilities. Integrate these recreational needs into the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).	Parks & Rec Dept. Town Manager	Ongoing	
Conduct a comprehensive existing conditions assessment of the Stowe Recreation Path to identify infrastructure and bridge conditions and develop a prioritized improvement and/or replacement plan. Where needed, upgrade and replace Rec Path bridges with wider spans to reduce flood risks and enhance resiliency.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Mid-Term	
In partnership with local organizations, expand and implement monitoring tools, such as trail and vehicle counters, to collect data on usage patterns. Use this data to inform and implement management strategies that enhance visitor experience and protect natural resources.	Parks & Rec Dept. Planning & Zoning Dept.	Ongoing	
Explore long-term options for developing a future recreational field house and community recreation center to support year-round recreational programming and accommodate multi-generational needs.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Long-Term	
Explore options to enhance existing municipal parks including the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provide public restroom facilities in municipal parks. b) Installation of fencing, gates, and vehicle barriers with uniform design. c) Construct new picnic shelters and other accessory structures. 	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Mid-Term	
Evaluate existing recreation facilities and for any environmental or site constraints. If current facilities are found to be inadequate, develop a plan to acquire or repurpose land to better support community recreation programs and facilities.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Short-Term	
Evaluate and consider amending the Mayo Farm Management Plan and conservation easement to potentially allow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Expand or relocate the designated recreation zone to better meet future community needs; b) Transition portions of land currently used for agriculture or special events to dedicated recreational use, with clear separation between athletic fields and event spaces; c) Optimize the use of the existing Recreation Zone, including Field K and Polo Fields, for activities and/or amenities such as volleyball courts, additional parking, or other recreational facilities based on community demand. 	Conservation Commission Rec Commission Parks & Rec Dept. Planning & Zoning Dept.	Short-Term	
Explore options for improving existing athletic fields and the creation of future additional fields.	Parks & Rec Dept.	Ongoing	

Healthy Beautiful Environment and Outdoor Access



	Rec Commission		
Enhance and expand recreation programs to serve all age groups -teens, seniors, adults, preschoolers, and elementary-aged children - by providing both structured and non-programmed activities, increasing public outreach, and organizing seasonal community events. Enhance the Recreation Path for year-round use including the following: a. Continuing to groom the path for cross country skiing; b. Maintaining adequate signage to delineate use and directions; and c. Exploring the installation of low impact subtle ground lighting for evening usage.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Ongoing	
Amend the zoning and/or subdivision regulations to require recreation facilities, including but not limited to trails, pathways, playgrounds, conservation areas, water access, etc., to be incorporated as features of new multi-family development and subdivision projects. Such facilities should remain open to the public.	Planning Commission Selectboard	Short-Term	
Expand trail networks and recreation paths to support year-round biking, hiking, walking, and cross-country skiing.			
Evaluate existing park and recreation facilities and integrate outdoor fitness stations, playgrounds, and community gardens, where appropriate.			
Evaluate existing park and recreation facilities to ensure facilities are ADA-compliant to allow participation by residents of all abilities.			
Expand open spaces, scenic areas, and trails while integrating nature-based wellness programs and promoting sustainable practices to support long-term community health.			

Commented [SM3]: These were incorporated from the healthy community section, suggest consolidating them into 1-2 action tasks.



Economic Development

Goal: A vibrant, inclusive, and resilient local economy that balances Stowe's unique identity as both a traditional New England village and a four-season destination. We will pursue thoughtful, sustainable growth that balances quality of life for residents, workers, and visitors by protecting our natural environment, strengthening community infrastructure, investing in livability, attracting and retaining a diverse, innovative local workforce, and preserving the character and vitality of the community [for generations to come](#).

Policies

1. [Foster community pride by honoring and celebrating](#) Stowe's heritage, scenic beauty, and shared values, while [promoting respect for celebrating](#) our sense of place and community character.
2. Prioritize initiatives that promote responsible tourism practices that minimize environmental impacts, support long-term ecosystem health, and reflect Stowe's community vision and values.
3. Support accessible and inclusive housing and employment opportunities to strengthen a resilient and diverse year-round community.
4. Strengthen collaboration between the Town, residents, local businesses, and tourism organizations to address shared challenges and opportunities related to housing, tourism, and quality of life.
5. Reinforce Stowe Village as the civic, cultural, and economic heart of the community, supporting its role as a vibrant and welcoming center for community gathering and local business.
6. Support and celebrate local arts, culture, and heritage as vital components of our community identity and tourism economy.
7. Protect our historic, scenic, and ecological resources, [while supporting](#) the long-term viability of our agricultural lands, and [our](#) outdoor recreation economy. Ensure that tourism activities prioritize the protection and sustainable management of these community assets, recognizing the critical role of a healthy environment in supporting our local economy.
8. Promote ongoing coordination with Stowe Mountain Resort and other major stakeholders to align goals, strengthen partnerships, and manage tourism-related impacts.
9. [Encourage diverse, year-round tourism opportunities that reflect the community's long-term vision and preserve Stowe's small-town character.](#)
10. [A balance between development at Stowe Mountain Resort and other existing commercial centers \(Stowe Village, Lower Village, HT, MRV and MRC\) will be maintained by:](#)
 - a. [Supporting Stowe's Designated Downtown as the civic, cultural, commercial and residential center of the community; and](#)



b. Improving physical links (e.g., recreation path, public transit service) connecting Stowe Mountain Resort with Stowe Village, and other designated growth centers along the Mountain Road and Route 100.

a-c. Supporting in-fill development within designated growth areas.

Action Tasks - Economic Development	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Collaborate with Stowe Area Association, Stowe Vibrancy, and other stakeholders to develop and implement educational campaigns that foster respect for our community, culture, and environment, encourage environmental and destination stewardship, and support sustainable transportation.	Town Manager Selectboard	Ongoing	
Partner with Lamoille County Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) and Stowe Area Association to encourage business diversification that supports the creation of both year-round and seasonal jobs with competitive wages, helping to strengthen the local economy and meet the financial needs of Stowe's workforce.	Town Manager Selectboard	Ongoing	
Encourage residential lodging and local tourism-related businesses to adopt and model sustainable practices - such as water conservation, energy efficiency, waste reduction, and use of alternative transportation - that reduce environmental impacts, support community well-being, and strengthen long-term resilience.	Conservation Commission & Stowe Area Association	Ongoing	
Continue to p Partner with Stowe Vibrancy to participate in the Designated Downtown program and implement other downtown revitalization projects.	Town Manager Selectboard	Ongoing	
Partner with regional educational institutions to create workforce training programs and educational opportunities that build on Stowe's strengths and support local economic development.	Town Manager Selectboard	Ongoing	
Evaluate the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations and amend where determined necessary to: a) Encourage mixed-use developments that integrate housing and commercial uses to create vibrant, walkable developments. b) Evaluate current land availability, usage, and future needs for commercial development to ensure sufficient space for sustainable, balanced economic growth that supports a range of local services and employment opportunities. c) Encourage the development of services, housing, and businesses that meet the needs of Stowe's growing senior population and enhance overall community well-being. d) Incentivize infill and redevelopment of underutilized properties to meet commercial needs and support efficient land use.	Planning Commission & Planning & Zoning Department	Short-Term	
Implement recommendations in the Housing Needs Assessment to create diverse, affordable housing opportunities for residents and workers.	Planning Commission Town Manager Selectboard	Short-Term	
Develop a d estination s tewardship p lan to evaluate how recreation, tourism, and residential development affect Stowe's land use and economy. Use the findings and recommendations to guide future updates to the Town Plan.	Planning & Zoning Department Planning Commission Stowe Area Association	Mid-Term	
Pursue state designation for designated growth centers and historic villages, including the Mountain Road Village, Mountain Road Crossroads, and Moscow Village.	Planning & Zoning Department Planning Commission Selectboard	Short-Term & In Progress	
Work collaboratively with larger employers and the local business community to host regular community forums and listening sessions with larger employers and the local business community that to address tourism impacts and help identify, understand, and address local workforce housing needs.	Planning Commission Stowe Area Association	Ongoing	



Education

Goal: Preserve Stowe's tradition of educational excellence by supporting academic, athletic, social, cultural, and community programs in safe, engaging facilities that serve all ages and strengthen a connected, informed, [and civically active](#) community.

Policies

1. Advocate for Stowe's representation in redistricting and school consolidation discussions to ensure the community's interests are preserved.
2. Prioritize housing development that sustains year-round residency and supports school-aged families to maintain minimum class sizes, [while also balancing the community's needs for senior and seasonal housing.](#)
3. Support library programs, recreation activities, [childcare programs,](#) and other after-school initiatives that strengthen resources for local children and families.
4. Improve recreational facilities and programs to attract and retain families, increase school enrollment, and foster a vibrant community.
5. Collaborate closely with the Stowe School Board to ensure policy alignment and a unified voice in regional and state-level education planning.
6. Make municipal buildings and public spaces [accessible/available](#) for community events, programs, and gatherings that serve residents of all ages.
7. [Encourage student participation in municipal government by including student representatives on boards and commissions and fostering regular engagement with teachers and support networks. Encourage the school board to include a student representative as appropriate.](#)
8. [Ensure high-quality schools, recreation programs, and youth services that promote physical, mental, and social wellness, supporting the growth and well-being of young residents.](#)

Action Tasks - Education	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Explore extending the Stowe Rec Path to serve Stowe High School and Middle School and investigate options to connect the path to Moscow.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Mid-Term	
Conduct a walking audit of Stowe Village and Lower Village to identify pedestrian improvements and prioritize them in the capital budget process.	Planning Commission & DPW	Short-Term	
Expand play spaces by constructing new playgrounds in public parks, considering locations such as but not limited to Mayo Farm and Thompson Park.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Ongoing	
Explore joint Town-School projects for athletic fields and sporting facilities that serve the Stowe community.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission School Board	Ongoing	
Implement the Memorial Park Master Plan and invest in expanded recreation and community facilities.	Parks & Rec Dept. Rec Commission	Short-Term	

Quality of Life and Opportunities for All



Hold an annual joint meeting between the School Board, Selectboard, and Planning Commission to coordinate on shared priorities.	Planning Commission Selectboard School Board	Ongoing	
Work Meet with the Stowe School Board to align educational services with planned growth and conduct facility assessments to meet minimum class size requirements.	Planning Commission Selectboard	Annually	
Work with the Stowe School Board to monitor the School District Redistricting Task Force, engage the community in visioning for education under new structures, assess facilities and programs, and build partnerships with other districts.	Selectboard School Board		
Create contingency plans for schools at risk of falling below minimum class sizes to ensure long-term viability.	Selectboard School Board		
Explore improvements to school transportation, including reducing bus route times and evaluating shared public transportation options.	Selectboard School Board	Ongoing	
Explore and evaluate opportunities to repurpose underutilized school facility space for adult education, satellite technical training, youth programming, and other activities to support the community.	Selectboard School Board	Ongoing	

Commented [SM1]: @John- Should these remain? Be rephrased?

Public Safety & Emergency Services

Goal: [Ensure a](#) safe, resilient, and thriving community [by providing](#)adequately served by professional, coordinated, and cost-effective police, fire, rescue, and emergency management services that protect public safety and enhance quality of life for all residents and visitors.

Policies

- Emergency services will be provided at appropriate levels of service, as determined by locally defined needs and generally accepted standards for communities comparable to Stowe.
- [The Town will p](#)lan for anticipated future demand for services and facilities to accommodate future [development and](#) population growth.
- [Enhance](#) efficiencies [will be maximized](#) through greater coordination and integration of local emergency services, and ongoing coordination with regional service providers.
- [Stowe High School will serve as the Town's primary emergency shelter during major emergency events, providing safe refuge and essential services for residents and visitors when needed.](#)

Action Tasks - Public Safety & Emergency Services	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Continue to p Participate in cooperative dispatch services with the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department.	Police Department Selectboard	Ongoing	
Continue to p Provide mutual aid service with the Morristown and Waterbury fire departments.	Fire & Rescue Department	Ongoing	
Maintain a replacement schedule for emergency response vehicles and equipment.	Selectboard Town Manager	Ongoing	



Continue to r Replace undersized water mains when possible to improve firefighting capabilities.	Fire & Rescue Department DPW	Ongoing	
Monitor Fire & Rescue Department staffing and volunteer levels for both the Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services to identify and anticipate possible shortages of volunteers in future years. Develop strategies for recruiting additional staff as necessary.	Fire & Rescue Department Emergency Medical Services	Ongoing	
Work with the Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) to coordinate emergency planning with neighboring communities.	Planning Commission Planning Director DPW Fire & Rescue Department Police Department Emergency Medical Services Emergency Management Director LCPC*	Ongoing	
Develop strategies for recruiting additional volunteers for the Stowe Fire Department and the Emergency Services Department.	Fire Chief EMS Chief Town Manager Selectboard	Short-term	
Integrate the Stowe Fire Department Recommended Construction Standards for Roads & Driveways into the Town's adopted Zoning Regulations.	Fire & Rescue Department Planning Commission Selectboard	Short-Term	
Annually Adopt a Local Emergency Management Plan.	EMD Selectboard	Ongoing	
Annually review and identify required equipment and building upgrades to ensure the emergency shelter remains fully prepared to protect public safety during disaster events.	EMD Selectboard	Ongoing	
Annually evaluate development and growth, current service levels, and identified capacity constraints. Integrate future facility and service expansions into the Capital Improvement Program.	Town Manager Selectboard	Ongoing	

Cemeteries

Goal: To provide adequate, well maintained cemetery space to accommodate future demand.

Policies

- ~~The Cemetery Commission will p~~Provide a well-maintained setting for the interment and commemoration of the dead and for the comfort and inspiration of the bereaved and the general public.
- Stowe's cemeteries will be enhanced and maintained in accordance with any management plans prepared by the Stowe Cemetery Commission and approved by the Stowe Selectboard.



Action Tasks - Cemeteries	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Review applications for Private Residential Cemeteries and make recommendations to the DRB.	Cemetery Commission	Ongoing	
Prepare and maintain a plot map for the Riverbank Cemetery.	Cemetery Commission Town Clerk Parks & Rec Department	Ongoing	
Continue to administer, and update as appropriate, Cemetery Rules, Regulations and fees.	Cemetery Commission	Ongoing	
Review and update, as needed, brochure of Stowe cemeteries as a resource for residents and visitors.	Cemetery Commission Stowe Historic Society Planning Director SHPC	Ongoing	
Explore options and possible funding sources for displaying historic objects.	Cemetery Commission Planning Director SHPC	Long-Term	
Plan for the expansion of the Riverbank Cemetery to accommodate future demand.	Cemetery Commission	Long-Term	
Renovate, and m Maintain the two antique hearses at the Riverbank Cemetery and explore options for making it better known to the public.	Cemetery Commission	Mid-Term	
Renovate the White House at the Riverbank Cemetery to use for memorial services.	Cemetery Commission SHPC	Long-Term	
Develop a plan to restore the historic entrance to the Riverbank Cemetery.	Cemetery Commission	Mid Long-Term	
Explore an alternate secondary access to Riverbank Cemetery.	Cemetery Commission DPW Parks & Rec Department	Short-Term	
Continue to explore and consider possible areas for natural burial sites.	Cemetery Commission	Mid-Term	

Municipal Utilities

Goal: ~~Maintain and improve our utility infrastructure to ensure A~~ dependable [supply of](#) electricity, clean water, and wastewater services [with well maintained and improved infrastructure, that also, while protecting, protects](#) public health, the environment, community well-being, and [supporting supports](#) balanced, responsible growth.

Policies

1. Operate, and expand when appropriate, our municipal water system and wastewater treatment plant and associated allocation of plant capacity, in a manner that reinforces our land use, economic development, [desired](#) housing, and natural resource protection goals and policies of this plan.
 - 1-
2. Limit the allocation of wastewater treatment capacity to properties located within the sewer service area, [with priority given to desired housing projects-](#)
 - 2-



3. Future expansions of the sewer service area will be to remedy failing on-site septic systems or to support any approved future expansions of the Town's locally designated growth areas (Ski-PUD, Stowe Village, Lower Village, Mountain Road Village and Mountain Road Crossroads) [and Moscow Village](#).

~~3.~~

4. The beneficiary of water and/or sewer line expansions should pay for the cost (e.g. developer, property owner(s)).

~~4.~~

5. The Town will not enter into bond agreements for future municipal sewer expansions unless it has confidence that anticipated connection fees and other sewer service revenues will be sufficient to service the bonded indebtedness.

~~5.~~

6. Land use and development activity within water supply Source Protection Areas (SPAs) shall not result in the pollution or degradation of groundwater quality.

~~6.7.~~ [Avoid the use lawn chemicals, weed killer, and fertilizers on land surrounding municipal wells in Zone 2 of the Source Protection Areas.](#)

Action Tasks - Municipal Utilities	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Maintenance Maintain and replacement of new and existing sewer lines, as necessary, should continue .	DPW Wastewater Superintendent	Ongoing	
Continue to provide Cross training of sewer and water department personnel.	DPW Wastewater & Water Superintendent	Short-Term	
Obtain information to identify failed septic systems and require repair or connection of such systems located within the sewer district to the expanded facility.	Health Officer DPW Wastewater Superintendent	Ongoing	
Consider the upgrading and reclassification of the town's wastewater treatment plant to a higher capacity if necessary.	Selectboard	Long-Term	
Develop a capital improvement program that prioritizes and recognizes the cost of maintaining our water system infrastructure , sewer collection system, and wastewater treatment facility.	Town Manager DPW Selectboard	Ongoing	
Replace the Lower Village pump station.	DPW	Short-Term	
Update the Sewer Ordinance as needed, including especially the Allocation section.	Town Manager DPW Selectboard/Sewer Commissioners	Ongoing	
Evaluate possible amendments to the Short-Term Rental Ordinance to ensure that septic systems within Source Protection Overlay Districts operate within their permitted design capacity, thereby protecting groundwater resources from potential contamination.	Town Manager DPW Selectboard	Short-Term	
Update, every three years, source protection plans for municipal water supplies.	Water Superintendent DPW	Ongoing	

Quality of Life and Opportunities for All



Continue to replace lines and manholes in and around the village core service area as needed.	Water Superintendent DPW	Ongoing	
Continue to provide cross training of water department personnel	DPW	Short-term	
4. Develop a policy, plan, and schedule for consolidating existing fire districts and private water supply service areas with the municipal water department.	Public Works Director Water Superintendent	Mid-term	
Study the expansion of water service to developed areas of the town including but not limited to Moscow Village.	Selectboard/Water Commissioners DPW	Ongoing	
The Town will continue its practice to not use lawn chemicals, weed killer, and fertilizers on land surrounding municipal wells in Zone 2 of the Source Protection Areas.	Parks & Rec Dept	Ongoing	
Consider amending the zoning regulations to include the adoption of an Edson Hill Source Protection Overlay District within the zoning regulations to control inappropriate development within the municipal source protection areas.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Dept. Selectboard	Mid-Term	
9. Investigate options for another municipal water supply source at the Village Green well site.	DPW Water Superintendent	Mid-Term	
10. Explore possible funding sources for installing generators at pump stations. Done	DPW Water Superintendent	Mid-Term	
Develop a Municipal Water Ordinance.	Town Manager DPW Water Superintendent Selectboard/Water Commissioners	Mid-Term	
Continue to monitor municipal water sources for PFAS, following EPA & State of Vermont testing procedures, consider treatment options, and evaluate alternative public water sources.	DPW Water Superintendent	Ongoing	
Continue to update service line inventory.	Water Superintendent	Ongoing	
Conduct a Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and develop an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to ensure the safety and reliability of the municipal water supplies, and update the assessment regularly.	DPW Water Superintendent	Short-Term & Ongoing	
Advance the repowering of the Smith's Falls dam for increased generation and flood mitigation.	Stowe Electric Department	Short-Term	
Install the addition of a 70-kW rooftop solar system to the Moscow SED Garage.	Stowe Electric Department	Short-Term	
Convert the historic Millwright's Office into a distribution control room and emergency operations center with new rooftop solar.	Stowe Electric Department	Short-Term	
Install a new distribution circuit to enhance system reliability and provide redundancy for winter storm hardening.	Stowe Electric Department	Short-Term	
Install a new loop feed project to enhance reliability for Stowe High School, which also serves as the Town of Stowe's emergency shelter.	Stowe Electric Department	Short-Term	
Secure FEMA 406 mitigation funding to harden the 34.5kV overhead and underground segments of the "mountain line", add new equipment to the Houston substation, and modernize the Lodge substation to minimize future outages caused by storm events.	Stowe Electric Department	Short-Term	
Implement Phase 2 of the USDA RUS distribution system upgrades for improved resiliency and reliability, including upgrading existing AMI metering.	Stowe Electric Department	Short-Term	
Consider utility-scale solar generation and utility-scale battery storage.	Stowe Electric Department	Long-Term	



Solid Waste

Goal: Ensure that Stowe's solid waste is managed efficiently, safely, and in an environmentally responsible manner, while promoting recycling, reuse, and long-term sustainability for the community.

Policies

1. Promote waste reduction in the community to minimize the amount of waste entering and leaving the Stowe Transfer Station.
2. Support expanded recycling and composting programs to divert materials and food scraps from landfills and promote sustainable waste management.
3. Continue membership and active participation in the Lamoille County Solid Waste Management District to collaboratively address both new and ongoing solid waste challenges.
4. Ensure broad community participation in developing solid waste solutions that are sustainable, environmentally responsible, and fiscally sound.
5. Continue to support the location of a transfer station in Stowe.
6. Promote community use of bear-proof containers and secure waste storage to prevent wildlife conflicts and support safe, responsible solid waste management.
7. Support and promote Green Up Day as an important community tradition that fosters environmental stewardship, community pride, and the beautification of Stowe.

Action Tasks - Solid Waste	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
In conjunction with the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District (LRSWMD), inform and educate the public on solid waste issues.	Selectboard *LRSWMD	Ongoing	
Maintain active membership on the LRSWMD board of directors.	Selectboard	Ongoing	
Provide opportunities for recycling at all municipal buildings and parks, as well as in Stowe Village.	Selectboard Parks & Rec Department	Ongoing	
Upgrade all municipal trash, recycling containers, and dumpsters with bear-resistant models.	Parks & Rec Department	Ongoing	
Provide ongoing education and outreach on best practices for securing trash and food waste.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Explore the possibility of relocating the Stowe Transfer Station to an alternate site within Stowe.	Town Manager Selectboard	Mid-Term	
Consider amending the Health, Sanitation, & Sewer Ordinance to strengthen the requirements for garbage disposal and better protect wildlife.	Town Manager Selectboard	Short-Term	



Communications

Goal: Ensure that all residents, visitors, and businesses in Stowe have access to reliable, modern telecommunications infrastructure and services [including universal broadband access and cellular service](#), while protecting the town's scenic, recreational, and historic character and supporting sustainable economic and community development.

Policies

1. Support the development and expansion of modern, [reliable](#), state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure throughout Stowe in a manner that fully aligns with the town's adopted community standards [through appropriate collaboration with providers](#).
2. Continue membership and active participation in the Lamoille FiberNet Communications Union District (LFCUD) [and Lamoille County Planning Commission \(LCPC\)](#) to collaboratively address both new and ongoing telecommunication challenges.
3. Participate in Public Utility Commission (Section 248a) review of new and upgraded telecommunication facilities to ensure that adopted community standards are given due consideration.
4. The Town of Stowe supports the installation of telecommunication facilities in appropriate locations as long as they meet the following community standards:
 - a) Telecommunication towers and accessory structures must meet the minimum setback requirements for the zoning district(s) in which they are located.
 - b) Telecommunication towers and accessory structures shall be located on non-agricultural land [unless located on](#) along field edges to avoid fragmentation of, and to minimize and mitigate adverse impacts to, agricultural land and open fields.
 - c) Telecommunication towers and accessory structures shall be sited outside of, or to the edge of scenic views or viewsheds so that they are not a prominent focal point.
 - d) Telecommunication towers and accessory structures shall be screened from view through the use of existing topography, structures, vegetation or strategically placed tree, shrub and ground cover plantings that do not block distant views.
5. The Town of Stowe encourages the collocation of telecommunication antennae of multiple providers on shared towers.
6. The Public Utility Commission shall give due consideration to the standards and guidelines of the Ridgeline and Hillside Overlay District when considering applications for any telecommunication facilities proposed within the district.
7. In the Stowe Historic Overlay District, telecommunications antennas, towers, and related fixtures [should shall](#) be installed on existing structures, such as church steeples or cupolas, rather than as free-standing ~~whenever feasible~~.



~~8. Where this is not possible, Towers, antennas, and any necessary support structures and~~ facilities must incorporate design elements, ~~such as~~ **but not limited to** compatible materials, colors, and finishes, ~~to~~ to minimize visual impact and maintain harmony with the surrounding historic and scenic environment.

~~9.8:~~ Towers, antennas, and any necessary support structures, including utility or service lines, shall be designed and located to prevent disruption to the scenic character or beauty of the area and to avoid creating an adverse aesthetic impact on prominent ridgelines, hilltops, trails, and scenic view corridors.

~~10.9.~~ New telecommunications and utility facilities, and related improvements, shall be located and designed to avoid critical wildlife habitats and wildlife corridors.

~~11. Capital facilities planning for roadway improvements and electric utility improvements shall be coordinated with all identified users of utility poles or providers of underground communications utilities with sufficient advance notice to enable providers to budget resources (labor and materials).~~

12. All new developments shall be required to provide telecommunications infrastructure (e.g. spare conduit, colocation facilities) capable of providing a minimum of 100/100 mbps symmetrical broadband access.

Action Tasks- Communications	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Conduct a local telecommunications assessment to identify existing access to telecommunications infrastructure, cellular service planning effort to identify and opportunities and strategies to use new technology for expanding access through a collaborative effort with local providers and other interested parties to achieve cell phone coverage throughout the town of Stowe.	Selectboard	Ongoing	
Continue to support the efforts of the Mount Mansfield Collocation Corporation to develop a long-range plan for the maintenance and, to the extent practical without disrupting telecommunications and broadcast service, the reduction of towers on the summit of Mount Mansfield.	Selectboard	Ongoing	
Continue to support efforts to make available high-speed internet service to all households and businesses in Stowe. Incorporate telecommunications infrastructure provision into the development review process to ensure all new developments provide appropriate broadband infrastructure, and accommodate future capacity, such as spare conduit.	Planning Commission Selectboard	Ongoing Short-Term	
Continue to support efforts to provide cell phone coverage throughout the town of Stowe. Review and enhance if necessary coordination of roadway and utility pole improvement and replacement with all telecommunication providers.	DPW Selectboard	Ongoing	
Evaluate options to provide free public Wi-Fi in Stowe Village to improve connectivity, support local businesses, enhance the visitor experience, and ensure equitable internet access for all residents.			






A Health Community and Human Services

Goal: To ensure access to high quality health and human services for all Stowe residents.

Policies

1. Health and human services should be delivered locally to those in need to the extent feasible.
2. Affordable public transportation should be provided as appropriate to ensure access to services located in other communities for Stowe's elderly and low-income populations.
3. Assisted living services and facilities should be permitted locally as needed to allow Stowe's elderly and disabled populations to remain independent, in their own homes, and in the community.
4. The development of day care facilities, group homes, and other facilities and services will be supported in appropriate locations under local regulations and ordinances.
5. Health and social services open to the general public should be centrally located in Stowe Village and/or other designated growth centers, on public transit routes.
6. The Town will continue to support, through annual appropriations, the efforts of regional health and human service providers in relation to local demand and the availability of funds.

<u>Action Tasks - A Health Community and Human Services</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Vision Elements</u>
<u>Work with service providers to promote and sustain the local delivery of services, including, but not limited to, the West Branch Meal Site, Lamoille County Food Share and the Morrisville Shopper Shuttle.</u>	Selectboard Town Manager P & Z *Service Providers	Ongoing	
<u>Re-evaluate community service appropriations annually in relation to local demand, the local delivery of services, and program cost effectiveness.</u>	Selectboard Town Manager	Ongoing	
<u>Partner with healthcare providers and community organizations to expand wellness programs, mental health resources, preventive care, and access to nutritious food for all residents.</u>	Selectboard Town Manager P & Z *Service Providers	Ongoing	



Settlement Pattern & Land Use

Goal: ~~Focus G~~ growth and development will be focused within our planned growth centers to protect our traditional pattern of compact, vibrant villages framed by open rural countryside.

Policies

1. Future growth will be welcomed when it contributes to the community by providing the infrastructure, services, and facilities needed to support it, ensuring that development not only meets its own needs but also strengthens our community's long-term vitality and resilience.
2. Focus higher-density residential, commercial, and mixed-use development in our planned growth centers, including Stowe Village, Lower Village, Mountain Road Village, Mountain Road Crossroads, Stowe Mountain Resort, and Von Trapp Family Lodge & Resort. Encourage infill and redevelopment within these areas to minimize outward expansion and protect open countryside.
3. Support Stowe Village and Lower Village as our primary civic, cultural, commercial, and residential centers through mixed-use infill, compatible design, and improved connectivity and infrastructure.
4. Promote well-integrated mixed-use development, streetscape enhancements, and village-scale pedestrian connections in Mountain Road Village and Mountain Road Crossroads.
5. Preserve Moscow Village's historic scale and community character, ensuring new development respects its mill village heritage.
6. Maintain forests, farmland, open space, high-elevation lands, and scenic gateways through zoning, subdivision regulations, and land conservation programs.
7. Require clustering in major subdivisions/planned developments to preserve open fields, scenic views, ridgelines, riparian areas, wildlife habitats and other important environments.
8. Maintain the character of Upper Mountain Road by allowing residential and limited commercial uses that are compatible with corridor's scale while avoiding strip development and adverse impacts to scenic views.
9. Support continued investment in and enhancement of SKI-PUDs within concentrated nodes, requiring new development to provide the services, infrastructure, and facilities needed to meet its own demands without creating undue burdens on the community.
10. Support the conservation of natural areas outside municipal utility service areas, while also encouraging land conservation within growth centers when it provides public access, recreational opportunities, or other community benefits.
11. Work with neighboring communities to preserve compact settlement patterns, rural landscapes, and open spaces, preventing sprawl and strip development along regional corridors, particularly Route 100 from Waterbury to Morristown.



[12.](#) Participate in Act 250 proceedings to support locally approved development projects within designated growth centers that comply with the goals and policies of the Stowe Town Plan.

~~12.~~[13.](#) [Invest in pedestrian pathways, bike lanes, sidewalks, and public transit systems that safely connect homes, schools, parks, and village centers, promoting active and sustainable transportation.](#)



Action Tasks - Settlement Pattern & Land Use	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Continue supporting Stowe Vibrancy in e Enhancing Stowe's Designated Downtown as the civic, economic, and cultural heart of our community through the work of Stowe Vibrancy.	Stowe Vibrancy DPW	Ongoing	
Seek Tier 1B designation for Stowe Village, Lower Village, and Mountain Road Village areas.	Selectboard	Underway	
Participate in Act 250 proceedings to support locally approved development projects within designated growth centers that comply with the goals and policies of the Stowe Town Plan.			
Regularly review development standards and densities in designated growth centers to ensure alignment with Town Plan objectives.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Department	Ongoing	
Collaborate with the Moscow community to s Seek Village Center designation for Moscow.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Department	Short-Term	
Consider expanding expansion of the Forest Reserve District to reduce forest fragmentation within the Mount Mansfield and Worcester Range habitat blocks.	Planning Commission	Mid-Term	
Explore Evaluate and consider combining Zoning Regulations and Subdivision Regulations into unified land use regulations.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Department	Short-Term	
Evaluate and consider the creation of a stormwater utility district.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Dept. DPW	Mid-Term	
Amend the Official Map by removing obsolete community needs and assessing new needs for inclusion.	Planning Commission Selectboard	Short-Term	
Develop a capacity-constrained map to identify areas with municipal water and sewer limitations.	Planning Commission & Public Works Department	Short-Term	
Evaluate the existing Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program for effectiveness, and determine whether it should be improved or discontinued based on its ability to meet goals of the Town Plan.	Planning Commission & Planning & Zoning Department	Mid-Term	
<p>Amend the Zoning Regulations to incorporateEvaluate the following revisions to the Zoning Regulations and/or Zoning Map and enact appropriate amendments:</p> <p>a) Review Moscow Commercial District boundaries to incorporate existing nonconforming properties and reflect current land uses and settlement patterns.</p> <p>b) Consider Creating a workforce housing PUD in the UMR with enhanced site plan and design standards.</p> <p>c) Redistrict the VIL-PUD into existing zoning districts or create new districts that reflect current land uses and development patterns.</p> <p>c)d) Consider re-districting the Meadowland Overlay District in the MRV (desired settlement pattern of the district).</p> <p>e) Assess RHOD boundaries to ensure forested hillsides receive adequate protection.</p> <p>f) <u>Require Master Plans that guide how the SKI-PUDs will be built over time.</u></p> <p>g) <u>The creation of excessively long dead-end roads should be avoided.</u></p> <p>h) <u>New roads within and adjacent to village centers should be incorporated into an interconnected network of roads.</u></p> <p>d)i) Landscaping should be incorporated in the design of parking lots and the location of parking lots at the rear of buildings should be encouraged, where possible.</p>	Planning Commission	Short-Term	



Flood Resiliency

Goal: Strengthen our flood resilience by protecting people, property, and public infrastructure from the impacts of flooding and erosion- safeguarding public safety, reducing long-term risks, and fostering a more prepared and adaptable community.

Policies

1. Maintain, and update as needed, [its-our](#) Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
2. Development on steep slopes, hillsides and ridgelines ~~should~~[shall](#) be carefully controlled to avoid adverse impacts on scenic resources, water quality, hydrology and public safety.
3. Continue to restrict development in the Flood Hazard and Fluvial Erosion Hazard districts primarily to recreation and agricultural land uses, with the exception of those activities related to the maintenance and continued use of existing structures.
4. Continue to administer its Flood Hazard Regulations, to be updated as needed, to maintain eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program and compliance with Vermont Act 121.
5. Continue to administer the provisions of the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay District to limit development in the floodplain, erosion-prone areas, and within the River Corridor.
6. Continue to require within the zoning regulations a fifty-foot structure setback from all perennial streams along with required vegetative buffers.
7. Continue to support the Lamoille County Planning Commission, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Agency of Natural Resources, Stowe Land Trust and other organizations in their efforts to protect and improve riparian areas.

Action Tasks - Flood Resiliency	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Continue to prioritize and implement the recommendations of the 2007 West Branch Corridor Management Plan & 2010 Little River Corridor Management Plan.	Planning & Zoning Dept. Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Consider Evaluate participation in FEMA's Community Rating System in order to reduce flood insurance premiums for affected property owners.	Planning & Zoning Dept.	Mid-Term	
Work with private landowners to protect and enhance vegetated stream buffers along the town's watercourses.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Work with land conservation organizations and private landowners to continue to acquire river corridor easements along erosion prone watercourses.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	
Work with private landowners to move sections of the Stowe Recreation Path away from the West Branch to avoid armoring in these areas and allowing the river to return to a more natural state.	Planning & Zoning Dept. Parks & Rec Dept. DPW		
Continue to work with state and regional partners to prioritize upsizing the culverts on Route 108 near recent washout locations.	DPW	Ongoing	



Adopt River Corridor Protection in compliance with Act 121 and Consider strengthening the provisions of the Town's Flood Hazard Regulations to prohibit the construction of new structures within the Flood Hazard Overlay District.	Planning Commission Selectboard	Short-Term	
Design, construct, and maintain bridges, culverts, and roadways to withstand flood events consistent with updated hydrologic and hydraulic data.	DPW	Ongoing	
Amend the stormwater provisions in the zoning regulations to strengthen water detention and storage standards, and incorporate green infrastructure and low-impact development techniques to manage runoff, reduce peak flows, improve water quality, and enhance groundwater infiltration.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Dept. Selectboard	Short-Term	
Evaluate the creation of a municipal stormwater utility.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Dept. DPW	Mid-Term	
Amend the zoning regulations to include enhanced engineering requirements for the construction of man-made ponds.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Dept. DPW	Short-Term	
Prioritize flood-resilient infrastructure improvements in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).	Planning Commission Town Manager Selectboard	Ongoing	
Ensure that Stowe's emergency shelter is fully equipped, accessible, and ready in the event of a disaster.	EMD Police Dept.	Ongoing	
Explore potential zoning amendments to limit or prohibit development on steep slopes to protect environmental resources, maintain community character, and minimize long-term infrastructure costs.	Planning Commission Planning & Zoning Dept.	Short-Term	

Transportation

Goal: Develop an efficient, cost-effective, and accessible multi-modal transportation system that supports the active lifestyles of Stowe's residents and visitors, encourages transit use, leverages technology to improve operations, and addresses local safety and intersection concerns, all while preserving our community's unique historic and scenic character, without relying on widespread roadway expansions.

Policies

1. Provide a range of transportation options, including roads, public transit and bicycle and pedestrian facilities, to accommodate Stowe's current and future travel demand.
2. Plan for current and future transportation needs, ensuring that services and facilities can accommodate anticipated travel demand.
3. Class 1 and 2 town highways will be maintained and upgraded, as needed, to promote the efficient movement of traffic within and through town, without undermining the historic character and pedestrian safety in designated growth centers.
4. Class 3 town highways will be maintained and upgraded, as needed, to accommodate current and anticipated traffic volumes, while maintaining the unique character of the town's residential neighborhoods and rural areas.
5. Retain ownership of Class 4 town highways as important recreational resources and maintain them in accordance with the Class 4 Roads and Legal Trails Policy.



6. The Vermont State Standards for the Design of Transportation Construction, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation on Freeways, Roads and Streets, prepared by the Agency of Transportation, shall serve as the town's standards for maintenance and upgrade of town highways.
7. Stowe Village will serve as the multi-modal transportation center of the community.
8. To preserve the aesthetics, historic character, and integrity of Stowe Village, the Town recognizes that the Route 100/108 intersection may operate at a level of service "F" during peak periods. This reflects a deliberate choice to prioritize the village's character over maximum traffic flow.
9. Within Stowe Village, the Town will seek to provide adequate public parking to avoid the inefficient use of private property associated with on-site parking.
10. Traffic calming improvements will be incorporated, as appropriate, along major roadways in Stowe Village, Lower Village, Moscow Village, and the Mountain Road Village.
11. Regional solutions to traffic management and transportation issues will be coordinated through active municipal participation on the LCPC Transportation Advisory Committee and the Vermont Agency of Transportation.
12. Historic and scenic features located within the rights-of-way of Stowe's scenic roads will be preserved in accordance with our Scenic Roads Policy.
13. The Town will continue to support extensions of and connections to the Stowe Recreation Path.
14. The Town will continue to financially support local public transportation through its operational budget and continually work towards improving and expanding service and increasing ridership.
15. The use of public transportation and non-motorized forms of transportation will be encouraged in an effort to reduce traffic, pollution, and greenhouse gases.
16. All transportation improvement projects will comply with Vermont's "Complete Streets" law when appropriate.
17. Support the continued implementation of the Smugglers' Notch Scenic Corridor Management Plan and the Green Mountain Byway Corridor Management Plan.
18. Support regional planning efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian connections to neighboring towns.



Action Tasks - Transportation	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
Intersection & Roadways			
Advance intersection improvements at VT Route 108 and Luce Hill Road.	VTrans DPW Selectboard	Short-Term (2028)	
Advance intersection improvements at VT Route 100 and Moscow Road.	VTrans DPW Selectboard	Short/ Medium-Term	
Consider formalizing a drop-off bus area in front of the Green Mountain Inn with dedicated bus parking.	DPW Selectboard		
Safety & Traffic Calming			
<u>Evaluate traffic safety and operations along VT Route 100 and VT Route 108, including the need for dedicated turn lanes at higher-volume intersections, improvements to emergency vehicle access north of Luce Hill Road, and enhancements to sight distance at driveways and side streets—prioritizing areas with documented crash clusters.</u> <u>Evaluate the need for dedicated turn lanes at higher-volume intersections along VT Route 108 by reviewing current traffic volume data and crash history.</u>	<u>P & Z Dept.,</u> VTrans & LCPC	<u>Ongoing</u>	
<u>Evaluate options to improve emergency vehicle access and operations along VT 108 north of Luce Hill Road.</u>	VTrans & LCPC		
<u>Evaluate and improve sight distance at driveways and side streets along VT 100, VT 108, and Moscow Road, prioritizing locations with crash clusters.</u>	VTrans & LCPC		
Implement traffic calming in Moscow Village and Lower Stowe Village to reduce vehicle speeds and improve safety.	DPW VTrans Selectboard	Long-Term	
Bicycle & Pedestrian			
Provide bicycle and pedestrian facilities on public properties, including benches, e-bike charging stations, and secure bike parking, focusing on highly traveled areas such as municipal lots, parks, and recreation path entrances.	SED Parks Dept. P & Z Dept.	Ongoing	
Conduct a comprehensive walkability audit of Stowe Village to identify opportunities to improve pedestrian safety, accessibility, and overall walkability.	Planning Commission DPW	Short-Term	
Evaluate the installation of low impact ground lighting along the Stowe Recreation Path.	Parks & Rec DPW		
Improve Stowe Recreation Path crossings using FHWA best practices to enhance visibility and safety.	DPW VTrans		
<u>Improve mobility and safety through enhanced walking and biking infrastructure, traffic calming, and expanded public transit connections.</u>			
Expand the sidewalk network by addressing priority gaps, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VT 100 east side (Sylvan Park Road → 911 South Main Street (i.e., Dunkin Donuts) (<i>long-term</i>) <u>Moscow Road (River Road → Moscow Rec Field)</u> VT 100 west side (Cemetery Road → Shaw's/W. Hill Road) (<i>long-term</i>) VT 108 north side (Gale Farm Center → Cottage Club Road/The Alchemist) (short-term/2028) Luce Hill Road (→ Chase Park) (long-term) 	DPW VTrans Town Manager Selectboard	At Various Stages	
Signage			
Enhance wayfinding signage to destinations and public parking areas off Main Street.	DPW	Ongoing	
Event & Travel Demand Management			



Review and consider amendments to the Special Event Ordinance to enhance traveler information and signage, improve traffic, parking, and pedestrian flow, coordinate parking and shuttle operations, and promote sustainable transportation options such as biking, carpooling, and extended visitor stays.	Town Manager Selectboard	Short-Term	
Consider zoning amendments to incorporate Travel Demand Management (TDM) strategies for new development, including transportation impact fees and/or transportation management plans for projects generating trips above a defined threshold.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept. Selectboard	Short-Term	
Public Transit			
Evaluate potential sites <u>desired location(s)</u> for a public transportation hub including but not limited to Memorial Park.	DPW	Long-Term	
Enhance the Mountain Road Shuttle by consolidating stops for greater efficiency, upgrading shelters with weather protection and real-time information, improving crossings and bus pull-offs for safety, and coordinating with nearby businesses for maintenance and snow removal.	GMT VTrans DPW Town Manager Selectboard	Mid-Term	
Extend Mountain Road Shuttle service during peak visitor periods and major events including summer and fall weekends as demand grows. Focus routes on connecting the Village with lodging, restaurants, recreation areas, and event destinations to reduce vehicle traffic.	GMT LCPC Selectboard	Mid-Term	
Parking			
Identify and explore options for creating satellite parking <u>a Park and Ride area</u> facilities along Route 100 and Route 108 to encourage ride sharing and increased use of public transportation.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept. LCPC VTrans	Mid-Term	
Improve Stowe Village parking information. Develop an online map showing all parking locations, capacity, ADA and EV spaces, and associated regulations.	P & Z Dept. & DPW	Short-Term	
Evaluate the feasibility of remote parking with shuttle service, focusing on convenient access, frequent service, and quality amenities. Consider transit priority measures and incentives to encourage use.			
Explore entering into shared parking agreements with private property owners in Stowe Village and formalizing a shared use with USPS for the public parking.	Town Manager Selectboard	<u>Short-Term</u>	
Ongoing & Continuous Tasks			
Support and encourage the implementation (and update as needed) the VT Rte. 100/108 Corridor Management Plan.	*LCPC & VTrans	Ongoing	
Evaluate options for improving traffic flow at the Route 100/Route 108 intersection without adversely impacting the integrity and aesthetics of the historic district.	DPW Selectboard	Ongoing	
Promote the Green Mountain Transit Agency's Rideshare Program.	P & Z Dept. *Green Mt. Transit	Ongoing	
Regulatory Tasks			
Amend the Zoning Regulations to strengthen access management provisions, ensuring careful control of access to public and private roads to enhance safety, improve traffic flow, and minimize conflict points.	P & Z Dept. Planning Commission DPW	Short-Term	
Evaluate amendments to the Subdivision Regulation to require development roads to connect to contiguous existing or planned roads.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept.	Short-Term	



<p>Consider amendments to the Traffic & Vehicle Ordinance to encourage long-term parking on side streets and off-street lots by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing Main Street parking to a 1-hour limit. Allowing 3-hour parking on side streets between Main Street and Park Place. Removing time limits south of Park Place and off-street lots south of Pond Street. Maintaining 3-hour limits in lots within one block of Main Street. 	DPW Town Manager Selectboard	Short-Term	
Amend the Official Map to include recreational trail and roadway improvements and remove projects deemed no longer applicable.	Planning Commission & Selectboard	Short-Term	
Consider amendments to the Zoning Regulations to strengthen the requirements for bicycle and pedestrian improvements and connections. Consider requirements for bicycle storage and access to electrical outlets for charging.	Planning Commission P & Z Dept.	Short-Term	
Amend the Zoning Regulations to strengthen the private road and driveway standards. Consider the creation of a road and driveway ordinance	P & Z Dept. Planning Commission DPW	Short-Term	
Planning Tasks			
Update and implement the Mountain Road Village/VT Route 108 Master Plan, extending it through lower Mountain Road area, and include traffic-calming, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit improvements.	Selectboard Town Manager DPW	Ongoing	
Develop a plan to expand the anticipated life of the Town gravel pit and evaluate alternative sources of gravel.	DPW Town Manager	Mid-Term	
Develop a capital improvement program that plans, prioritizes and recognizes the cost of maintaining transportation infrastructure.	Town Manager DPW Selectboard	Short-Term	
Design, budget, and permit the replacement of Luce Hill Road bridge.	DPW	Long-Term	
Improve key village intersections (VT 100 & VT 108, VT 100 & School Street, VT 100 & Depot Street, and Park Street) as identified in the Traffic & Mobility Study.	DPW Selectboard	Long-Term	
<p>Evaluate options for improving traffic safety at the VT Route 100/Stagecoach Road intersection including, but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reconfiguring the intersection into a standard "T". The construction of a roundabout. 	DPW	Long-Term	
Evaluate potential extensions of the Stowe Recreation Path, including but not limited to serving the Stowe Middle & High School.	Rec Commission Parks & Rec Dept	Mid-Term	



Housing

Goal: Expand housing choice and affordability for residents of all income levels and life stages, ~~from seasonal workers to seniors~~, by ~~creating at least 100 new year-round, low- and moderate- income housing units over the next 10 years. -Achieve this by strategically investing in public utilities and directing focusing year-round new housing within to designated~~ growth centers and transit-accessible areas; ~~supporting~~ fostering a sustainable and vibrant community that protects local character, conserves the natural environment, and ~~sustains~~ ~~supports~~ the businesses, schools, and services ~~vital-essential~~ to our economy and quality of life.

Policies









1. Prioritize and support the development of a diverse range of livable, affordable, and energy-efficient housing ~~option~~ types and sizes, ~~including owner-occupied, rental, seasonal, year-round, and multi-family units~~, that meet the needs of residents of all ages, incomes, and household types and sizes, while helping to achieve housing targets.
2. Promote higher-density, mixed-use developments and a diversity of housing types within designated growth centers, utilizing existing services and infrastructure and located within walking distance of public transportation.
3. ~~Support~~ Require larger commercial and residential developments, as well as significant expansions to existing uses, to include a portion of ~~low- and moderate- income affordable~~ units or contribute equivalently, either on-site or through a fee-in-lieu program, to increase the supply of attainable housing.
4. ~~Encourage and support~~ Require large employers to provide adequate housing for their workforce, either through on-site housing, partnerships with housing developers, or other housing initiatives.
5. Support financial and regulatory incentives to advance the production of low- and moderate-income housing in our designated growth centers and areas served by municipal water and sewer.
6. Encourage residential in-fill development in and around Stowe Village, Lower Village and Moscow Village at a scale, ~~and~~ character ~~and density~~ consistent with existing neighborhoods and historic settlement patterns.
7. Restrict the conversion of residential dwellings to non-residential commercial uses.
8. Actively support public-private partnerships and investment in housing development to advance the Town's housing goal by producing, acquiring, managing, and preserving low- and moderate-income housing. Partner with appropriate entities to administer affordable housing responsibilities.
9. ~~Use Zoning Regulations as a tool to increase opportunities for~~ Continue to provide for the creation of accessory dwellings ~~to be used to provide long-term housing in residential areas. with a greater permitted maximum floor area than required by state statute.~~
10. Support Planned Residential Developments (PRD's) as a tool to provide affordable, workforce, and employee housing and permanent open space.
11. ~~Regulate~~ Monitor and adapt short-term rental ~~regulations~~ to balance the community's housing needs for year-round residents with the economic benefits of tourism and hospitality.
12. ~~Maintain~~ Leverage land use regulations ~~that to~~ encourage a diverse range of housing types and ~~densities~~ sizes in appropriate areas while preserving community character and natural resources.
13. ~~Plan for and~~ invest in public water, wastewater, and other infrastructure necessary to support ~~current and future housing development within designated growth areas~~ our housing goal and targets.
14. Promote incentives for developers and property owners, such as density bonuses or other tools, to increase housing options and ensure new units meet the needs of employees to support our local economy.



15. Support and, where appropriate, partner in state or locally authorized programs such as the Community Housing Incentive Program (CHIP) or Tax Increment Financing (TIF) that expand infrastructure and incentives ~~for low- and moderate-income housing development to support our housing goal and targets.~~
16. Support programs, services, and incentives that maintain year-round housing for families, essential workers, and seniors.

Action Tasks - Housing	Responsibility	Priority	Vision Elements
<u>Create clear terms and definitions for housing types and income brackets to improve communication, ensure consistency, and support our housing goal and targets.</u>	<u>Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission</u>	<u>Short-Term</u>	
Establish and maintain housing data to monitor housing supply, affordability, short-term rental activity, and demographic trends. Use the data to evaluate progress toward community housing goals and to inform ongoing policy and implementation efforts.	<u>Assistant Town Manager Planning & Zoning Dept. LCPC</u>	<u>Annually</u>	
<u>Annually evaluate progress toward community housing goal(s) to inform ongoing policy and implementation efforts.</u>	<u>Planning Commission</u>	<u>Annually</u>	
Establish and maintain a dedicated Housing Reserve Fund to advance the availability of safe and affordable housing.	<u>Finance Dept. Selectboard</u>	<u>Underway</u>	
Develop <u>Adopt</u> a Housing Reserve Fund policy to direct resources toward increasing the availability of advancing safe and; affordable housing in alignment with this plan's goals and policies.; supporting housing programs for year-round residents and local workers.	<u>Town Manager Selectboard</u>	<u>Short-Term</u>	
Identify and maintain an inventory of municipal and potential acquisition sites and prioritize their use or conveyance to support low- and moderate-income housing projects in partnership with non-profit and private developers.	<u>Assistant Town Manager Planning & Zoning Dept.</u>	<u>Mid-Term</u>	
Pursue and allocate <u>additional</u> municipal revenue sources, including appropriations, taxes, fees, and bonds, to support low- and moderate-income housing initiatives. Consider seeking a Charter change where necessary.	<u>Selectboard</u>	<u>Underway</u>	
Amend the Zoning Regulations to <u>consider allowing</u> additional accessory dwelling units, require smaller housing types; and other "missing-middle" year-round housing options, <u>evaluate allowed uses in residential districts</u> , and implement further refinements to encourage the development of low- and moderate-income housing.	<u>Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission</u>	<u>Short-Term</u>	
Develop and adopt an inclusionary zoning ordinance which requires larger developments include <u>low- and moderate-income affordable</u> units or provide equivalent contributions that increase the local supply of affordable housing.	<u>Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission Selectboard</u>	<u>Short-Term</u>	
Consider <u>Continue to</u> amending the Short-Term Rental Ordinance to protect residential neighborhoods and promote year-round residency through measures such as limiting new registrations and restricting rentals in rural areas.	<u>Town Manager Planning Commission Selectboard</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>	



Consider-Develop amendments to water and sewer allocation policies to advance the availability of low- and moderate-income housing consistent with the goals and policies of this plan.	Town Manager DPW Water & Sewer Commissioners	Mid-Term	
Consider-Develop amendments to the Zoning Regulations to require larger developments to submit a housing mitigation plan demonstrating how the project's employee housing needs will be accommodated or mitigated.	Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission	Mid-Term	
Consider-Pursue amending the Town's Act 250 permit to allow for increased municipal sewer allocation in the UMR Zoning District to support the development of employee and low- and moderate-income housing.	Planning & Zoning Dept. DPW Town Manager Planning Commission Selectboard	Mid-Term	
Explore-Evaluate and consider the creation of an Employee & Workforce Housing PRD in the UMR Zoning District with an emphasis on compatible smaller-scale, multi-unit housing.	Planning & Zoning Dept. Planning Commission	Short-Term	
Work with land conservation organizations to consider-prioritize conservation projects with a low- and moderate-income housing component.	Planning & Zoning Dept.	Ongoing	
Collaborate with housing developers and other partners to support the transition to/or development of new year-round low- and moderate-income housing units and implement recommendations from the 2025 Stowe's Housing Needs Assessment Report.	Planning & Zoning Dept. Town Manager	Ongoing	
Work with the LCPC to obtain the greater "step" benefits available to Village Centers and Downtowns and adopt the local pre-requisites for Tier 1b status per Act 181.	Planning Commission Selectboard	Underway	
Work with the Stowe Health Officer, regional, and state health partners to share information regarding existing state testing programs designed to promote home safety, such as lead paint, radon and water testing, and ensure these resources are accessible to the community through a variety of communication methods.	Health Officer	Ongoing	
Promote workforce and affordable housing to retain full-time residents and families, including incentives to maintain homes as primary residences and limit conversions to short-term rentals.			