

**APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT**

INTRODUCTION:

The Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning Development Act (24 VSA Chapter 117) requires that municipalities that choose to plan must have plans that meet the specific planning goals identified in subsection 4302. The purpose of this appendix is to indicate generally how the Dorset Town Plan meets these goals, and to provide references to the areas within the Plan where one can find more specific information on how the goals are addressed in Dorset.

The format of this appendix is to quote each of the State's goals, and to provide in point form a listing of the key elements in Dorset's Plan which support that goal, along with the Section or Subsection in the Dorset Plan where additional information and/ or policies are included.

State of Vermont Goal 1:

(1) To plan development so as to maintain the historic settlement pattern of compact village and urban centers separated by rural countryside.

(A) Intensive residential development should be encouraged primarily in areas related to community centers, and strip development along highways should be discouraged.

(B) Economic growth should be encouraged in locally designated growth areas, employed to revitalize existing village and urban centers, or both, and should be encouraged in growth centers designated under chapter 76A of this title.

(C) Public investments, including the construction or expansion of infrastructure, should reinforce the general character and planned growth patterns of the area.

(D) Development should be undertaken in accordance with smart growth principles as defined in subdivision 2791(13) of this title.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 1:

- Plan identifies a land use pattern which builds on the historic settlement pattern of development, under Section 4: Land Use Plan and Land Use Policies.
- Discourages strip development, under subsection 4.1.4
- The most intensive residential development is encourages primarily in the villages, subsection 4.2.1 & 4.2.1.1
- Small, village scale commercial development is encouraged in the villages. Village scale is defined, subsections 4.2.1.2 & 4.1.3
- New commercial-industrial development is encouraged in designated commercial –industrial growth areas, subsection 4.2.1.3
- Public services and facilities are encouraged to support the land use plan, for example, with encouragement for improvements to the village water systems, Section 8, subsection 8.2

APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT

- Policies to discourage new public investment in roads in the rural areas, subsection 7.5 & 4.2.2.1

State of Vermont Goal 2

(2) To provide a strong and diverse economy that provides satisfying and rewarding job opportunities and that maintains high environmental standards, and to expand economic opportunities in areas with high unemployment or low per capita incomes.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 2:

- The Plan seeks to maintain agriculture and forestry as viable activities, subsections 2.4, 4.2.2.1, 5.1, 4.2.2.2, 4.2.2.3, & 5.2
- High environmental standards are a key objective of the Plan, Section 5 (Resources)
- The Plan seeks to attract and encourage clean, light industry in its designated commercial-industrial areas, subsections 10.3 & 4.2.1.3
- Economic development data, goals, and policies have been identified and the need for an economic development study has been noted, Section 10

State of Vermont Goal 3:

(3) To broaden access to educational and vocational training opportunities sufficient to ensure the full realization of the abilities of all Vermonters.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 3:

- Educational facilities planning recognizes need for additional educational facilities, possibly in cooperation with adjacent municipalities, subsection 8.1
- Private facilities recognized as an option, subsection 8.1
- Location of new commercial-industrial uses may lead to additional training opportunities within the Town, subsection 4.2.1.3

State of Vermont Goal 4:

(4) To provide for safe, convenient, economic and energy efficient transportation systems that respect the integrity of the natural environment, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians and bicyclers.

(A) Highways, air, rail, and other means of transportation should be mutually supportive, balanced, and integrated.

APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 4:

- Plan addresses various forms of transportation available in the Town, including vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, and railway, Section 7
- Plan encourages maintenance and improvement of existing road system, subsections 7.1 & 7.5
- Better provision for bike and pedestrian transportation, subsection 7.3 & 7.5
- Encouragement of use of rail, subsection 7.4
- Energy policies are included and are in part related to transportation, Section 9

State of Vermont Goal 5:

(5) To identify, protect, and preserve important natural and historic features of the Vermont landscape, including:

(A) significant natural and fragile areas;

(B) outstanding water resources, including lakes, rivers, aquifers, shorelands and wetlands;

(C) significant scenic roads, waterways, and views;

(D) important historic structures, sites, or districts, archaeological sites, and archaeologically sensitive areas.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 5:

- Plan deals extensively with natural, scenic, and historic resources, Section 5
- Natural/fragile areas are identified on Map 2 and addressed in policies, Map 2, subsections 5.3 & 5.3.7
- Water resources are identified on Map 3, and addressed in policies, Map 3, subsections 5.3.4 & 5.3.7
- Scenic resources are addressed; policies are included, and potential scenic routes are suggested, subsection 5.5
- Important historic sites are listed, and policies are provided, Table 5, subsections 5.6
- Cluster forms of development may be required to preserve important natural resources, subsection 5.3.7

State of Vermont Goal 6:

**APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT**

(6) To maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife, and land resources.

(A) Vermont's air, water, wildlife, mineral and land resources should be planned for use and development according to the principles set forth in 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a).

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 6:

- The Plan identifies and describes the Town's natural resources, and includes policies for resource use and protection, Section 5
- Detailed policies are included for protection of underground water supplies, subsections 5.3.1, 5.3.2 & 5.3.7
- Wetlands are discussed and policies included, subsection 5.3.3 & 5.3.7
- Wildlife habitat lands are discussed and policies included. Deeryards are mapped, Map 2, subsections 5.3.5 & 5.3.7
- Extractive resources are discussed and policies included, subsection 5.7

State of Vermont Goal 7:

(7) To encourage the efficient use of energy and the development of renewable energy resources.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 7:

- Plan includes a discussion of the Town's energy resources, and includes policies which seek to conserve energy, and which recognize the importance of renewable energy resources within the Town, Section 9 and Appendix C: Dorset Energy Report 2013

State of Vermont Goal 8:

(8) To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for Vermont residents and visitors.

(A) Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities.

(B) Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 8:

APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT

- The Plan recognizes the importance of recreation and seeks to provide for a variety of recreation opportunities, subsection 8.8
- The Plan seeks to preserve existing recreation opportunities, subsection 8.8.1
- Develop a trails system, subsection 8.8.1
- Seek new funding sources for recreation land/facilities, subsection 8.8.1
- Maintain public access to recreation resources, subsection 8.8.1
- The Plan suggests a future recreation and open space study, subsection 8.8.1

State of Vermont Goal 9:

(9) To encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest industries.

(A) Strategies to protect long-term viability of agricultural and forest lands should be encouraged and should include maintaining low overall density.

(B) The manufacture and marketing of value-added agricultural and forest products should be encouraged.

(C) The use of locally-grown food products should be encouraged.

(D) Sound forest and agricultural management practices should be encouraged.

(E) Public investment should be planned so as to minimize development pressure on agricultural and forest land.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 9:

- The Plan includes policies in the Land Use Section, to protect agricultural and forestry resources in the Town's rural areas, subsection 4.2.2
- The high forested lands of the Town are designated Forest I and Forest II, as a land use designation, subsection 4.2.2.2 & 4.2.2.3
- Specific policies, including a LESA system, are included for agricultural lands, subsection 5.1
- Specific policies, including a FLESA system, are included for forest lands, subsection 5.2
- Cluster forms of development may be required where necessary to preserve agricultural or forestry resources, subsection 5.1 & 5.2
- The facilities and services policies support the land use plan, which encourages development in designated "growth centers," rather than in the rural areas, Section 8

**APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT**

State of Vermont Goal 10:

(10) To provide for the wise and efficient use of Vermont's natural resources and to facilitate the appropriate extraction of earth resources and the proper restoration and preservation of the aesthetic qualities of the area.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 10

- A wide range of natural resources is addressed, including agricultural lands, forest lands, water resources, wildlife etc., Section 5
- Flood prone lands and steeply sloped lands are identified as Natural Hazard Lands, and policies are included to maintain these areas, subsection 5.4
- Extractive resources are recognized, and policies are included for their use, and for site restoration, subsection 5.7

State of Vermont Goal 11:

(11) To ensure the availability of safe and affordable housing for all Vermonters.

(A) Housing should be encouraged to meet the needs of a diversity of social and income groups in each Vermont community, particularly for those citizens of low and moderate income.

(B) New and rehabilitated housing should be safe, sanitary, located conveniently to employment and commercial centers, and coordinated with the provision of necessary public facilities and utilities.

(C) Sites for multi-family and manufactured housing should be readily available in locations similar to those generally used for single-family conventional dwellings.

(D) Accessory apartments within or attached to single-family residences which provide affordable housing in close proximity to cost-effective care and supervision for relatives, elders, or persons who have a disability should be allowed.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 11:

- The Plan reports in some detail on housing supply and affordability characteristics, subsections 6.1 & 6.2
- Policies are included to facilitate the provision of affordable housing, subsection 6.2.1
- Infill housing within the villages is encouraged, subsection 6.2.1

**APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT**

State of Vermont Goal 12:

(12) To plan for, finance and provide an efficient system of public facilities and services to meet future needs.

(A) Public facilities and services should include fire and police protection, emergency medical services, schools, water supply, and sewage and solid waste disposal.

(B) The rate of growth should not exceed the ability of the community and the area to provide facilities and services.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 12:

- The Plan identifies important community facilities and services, Map 4, Section 8
- Policies are included for educational facilities, water supply, sanitary sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, emergency services, local government, public buildings, and recreation, Section 8
- Growth management policies are included with the intent that growth does not outstrip the demand for facilities and services, subsection 6.3
- The Plan recommends preparation of a Capital Improvement Plan, and consideration of impact fees or other new revenue sources, subsections 8.6.1 & 8.8.1

State of Vermont Goal 13:

(13) To ensure the availability of safe and affordable child care and to integrate child care issues into the planning process, including child care financing, infrastructure, business assistance for child care providers, and child care work force development.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 13:

- The Plan identifies current child care provider and outlines a child care policy, subsection 8.9

State of Vermont Goal 14:

(14) To encourage flood resilient communities.

APPENDIX A
INDEX OF THE DORSET TOWN PLAN IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING GOALS
IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT

(A) New development in identified flood hazard, fluvial erosion, and river corridor protection areas should be avoided. If new development is to be built in such areas, it should not exacerbate flooding and fluvial erosion.

(B) The protection and restoration of floodplains and upland forested areas that attenuate and moderate flooding and fluvial erosion should be encouraged.

(C) Flood emergency preparedness and response planning should be encouraged.

Dorset Town Plan Key Elements Supporting Goal 14:

- Flood hazard areas section of the Town Plan identifies the need for the Town to regulate new development in flood hazard, fluvial erosion and river corridors to prevent future loss of property, Map 3, Section 5.4
- The Plan identifies structures in both the flood hazard area as defined by FEMA and in the fluvial erosion hazard zones, Table 4
- Surface water flood resiliency and fluvial erosion policies and actions identify issues and outline action items to address future flood loss mitigation measures, subsection 5.4.1 & 5.4.3