

**North Hampton Master Plan
Vision Chapter Preamble
Adopted 4/16/19**

The North Hampton Master Plan Vision Chapter has been adopted by the North Hampton Planning Board for the purposes of “*articulating the desires of the citizens affected by the master plan*” as required under RSA 674. Furthermore, the Vision Chapter is intended to direct the other Master Plan components by:

- Including Principles and Strategies distilled from past and current desires about North Hampton's future that residents expressed in surveys, charettes, adopted zoning ordinances, and existing and past Master Plan chapters.
- Including the Principles and Strategies that are not prioritized and are intended for use holistically to guide decisions that affect the future of North Hampton.
- Encouraging Town Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Departments to use the Principles and Strategies while developing work plans, projects, or regulations affecting the Town's future or while collaborating with the Planning Board to develop individual Master Plan chapters.
- Acknowledging individual chapters within the Master Plan may contain a vision statement specific to their content, as well as specific goals, strategies, and actions that focus the Vision Chapter's subsuming Principles and Strategies through the lens of the substance of that individual chapter.

Town of North Hampton Master Plan - Vision Chapter

Adopted 17 January 2006 Updated: 16 April 2019

Principal 1) Maintain and protect rural New England seacoast character, heritage, and natural resources.

Strategies

- A. Protect natural resources – water, wetlands, forests, pastures, wildlife, and their habitats.
- B. Maintain and restore historic public buildings, antique houses, barns, and stone walls.
- C. Use conservation subdivisions to protect undeveloped land and natural resources.
- D. Encourage businesses that residents desire and limit undesired ones.
- E. Improve the appearance of Route 1.

Principal 2) Manage operating expenses and capital investments and provide levels of service residents expect.

Strategies

- A. Respond to residents' expectations for services and facilities.
- B. Respect residents' willingness to provide funding for vehicles, equipment, and facilities necessary to maintain the quality and level of services.
- C. Manage capital expenditures within a coordinated plan across all Town functions, including the school.
- D. Encourage business development that residents desire and makes a net positive contribution in taxes to support Town services and facilities.
- E. Implement an energy conservation plan for all Town facilities and equipment.
- F. Establish funding and procedures for routine maintenance of facilities and equipment.
- G. Ensure coordination among Town departments and between Town departments and the School for efficient use of facilities for recreation and meetings.

Principal 3) Strengthen sense of community.

Strategies

- A. Continue effective and broad communication to engage residents in important decisions.
- B. Ensure open, honest, and frequent communication among Town departments, between Town departments and residents, and among residents.
- C. Rely on volunteers and provide opportunities for residents to become involved in Town affairs.
- D. Continue focusing commercial development to the Route 1 corridor while promoting a more vibrant and accessible business district.
- E. Encourage locally owned, small businesses vs chains, franchises, or big box stores.
- F. Strengthen the municipal complex as a pedestrian friendly "Town Center," interconnecting Town properties, School, Library, and Rails-Trails.
- G. Provide recreational features including, for example, sidewalks, bicycle paths, crosswalks at traffic signals, and activities for all age groups; and develop funds from sources other than property taxes.