

Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan Update

PUBLIC HEARING

08/02/2022



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Comprehensive Plan Committee (CPC)

- Teresa Kenny, Supervisor
- Jane Slavin, OBZPAE
- Jim Dean, Highway
- Eamon Reilly, DEME
- Aric Gorton, Parks and Recreation
- Rick Pakola, Deputy Town Attorney
- Allison Kardon, Assistant to the Supervisor

Consultant Team



Ashley Ley, AICP (Project Manager)
Elaine Du (Traffic Engineer/Planner)
Jason Mencher (Planner)



Shachi Pandey, AICP (Principal)
Yvonne Fang (Urban Designer)



AGENDA

1 / Introduction [Supervisor Kenny]

2 / Overview of Comprehensive Plan and Process [AKRF and MUD]

3 / Public Comments

4 / Closing Remarks [AKRF]



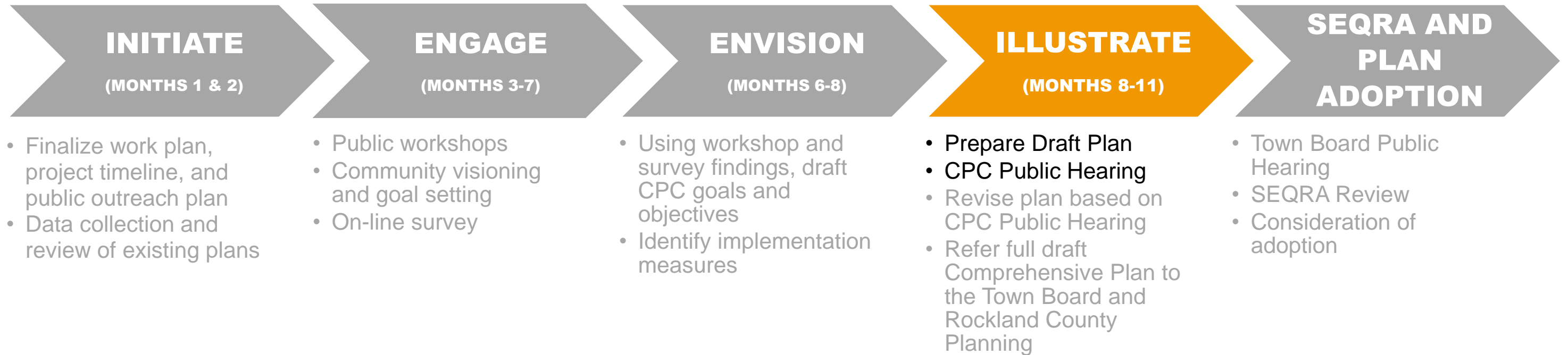
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OVERVIEW OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND PROCESS



PLANNING PROCESS

Public Hearing #1

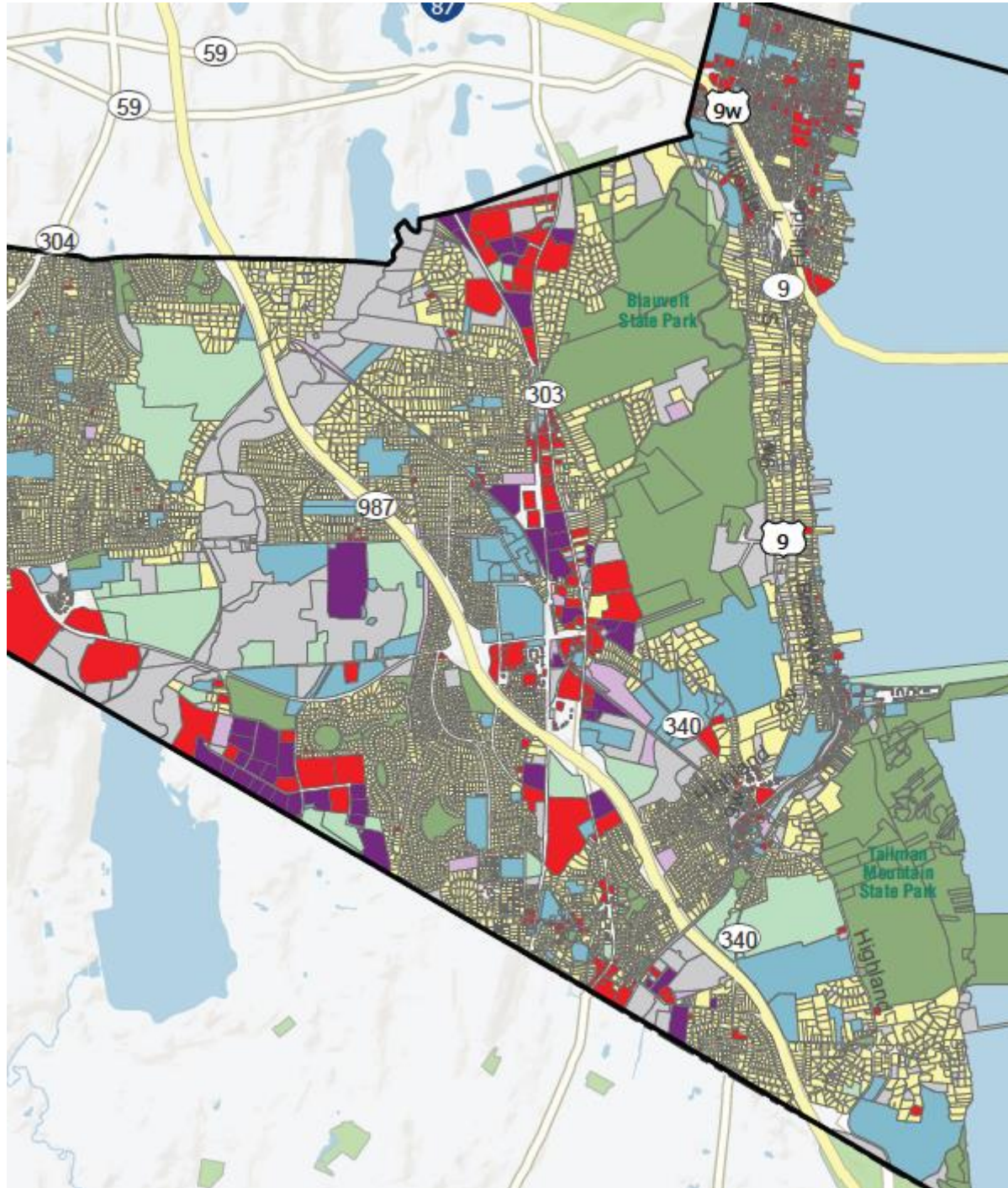


PLANNING PROCESS

- On-line survey
- Three in-person public workshops
- Virtual public workshop
- Public engagement virtual platform
- Regular CPC meetings



LAND USE AND ZONING



Key Strategies

1. Improve readability of Zoning Code. Consolidate some of the zoning districts. Restructure the use and bulk tables.
2. Update the Route 303 Overlay District for clarity, enforcement, and to minimize variance requests.
3. Update nuisance regulations, such as minimum buffer, noise, light, and odor regulations, to improve resident quality of life.
4. Update Special Permit and Conditional Use Permit Standards to address current uses and concerns, particularly for warehouse and distribution centers.
5. Develop design guidelines for façades, signage, and streetscapes to preserve, protect, and enhance the unique characteristics of each hamlet.
6. Establish performance standards within the Town's zoning code to mitigate traffic impacts.
7. Increase opportunities for mixed-use districts and create transitional districts between hamlet centers and suburban neighborhoods.



COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND HISTORIC RESOURCES



Key Strategies

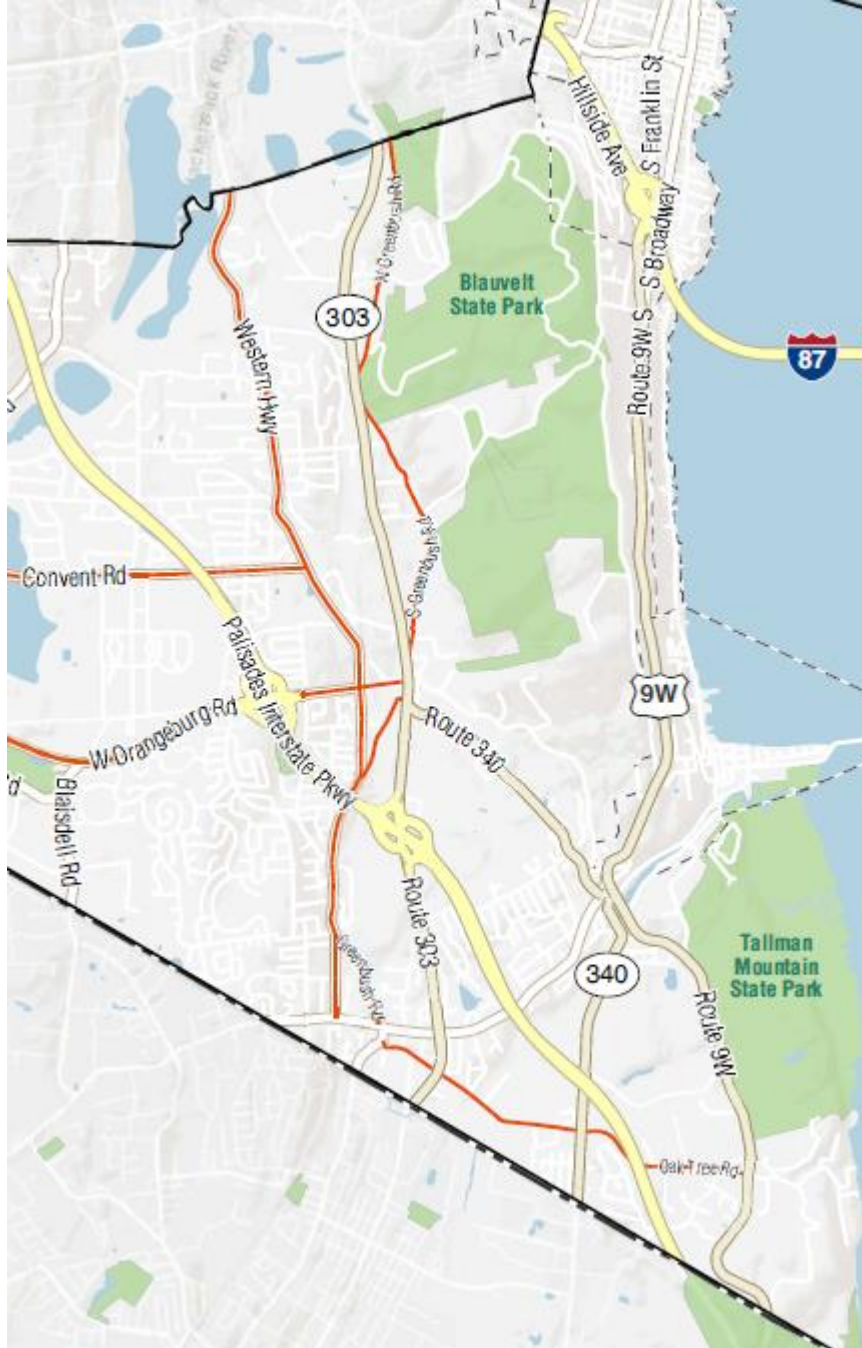
1. Maintain the Town's existing historic preservation tools.
2. Develop design guidelines and performance standards for Historic Areas to facilitate the design review process.
3. Publish online an inventory of locally-designated historic roads.
4. Conduct a historic resources survey of potentially eligible buildings and sites in Orangetown.
5. Pursue enrollment in the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program administered by the State to receive services from the State Historic Preservation Office, including technical preservation assistance, training opportunities, and exclusive grants.



TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY, AND PARKING

Key Strategies

1. Add sidewalks and protected on-street bicycle lanes where roadway space is available.
2. Expand active transportation network by connecting existing trails and converting abandoned rail lines into new multiuse paths.
3. Apply Orangetown Complete Streets Policy to all roadway projects. Plan Complete Street projects within the Town. Add traffic calming in residential areas.
4. Limit and consolidate driveways along major roadways, including NY State Routes 303, 304, and 340.
5. Develop a truck route map to direct trucks to major roadways instead of cutting through downtown areas.
6. Collaborate with public transportation providers to study and expand existing public transportation service.
7. Add and expand Park & Ride lots near major commuter stations and increase parking supply in areas with high demand.



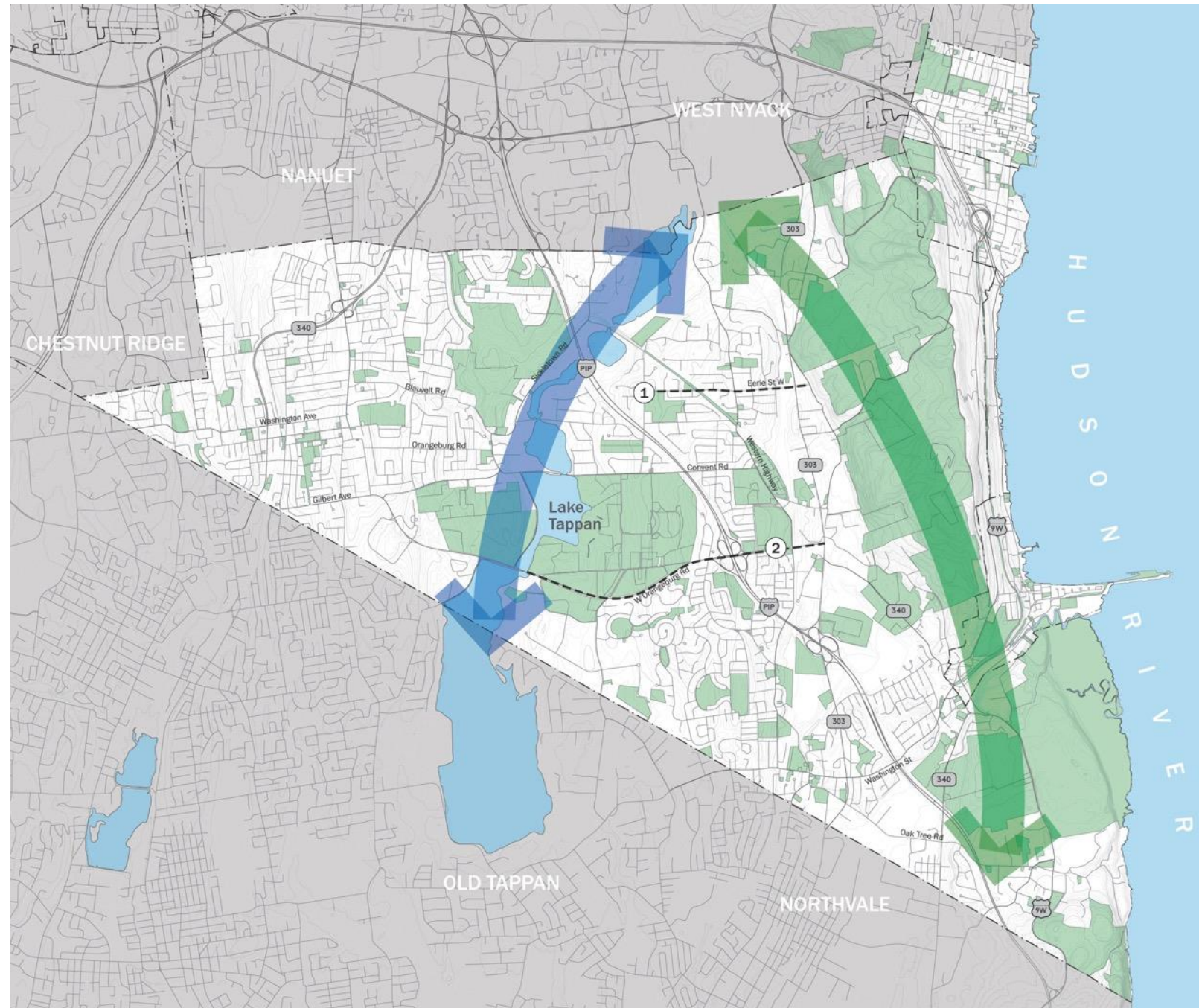
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

Key Strategies

1. Explore grants and other funding opportunities for the Town and for small businesses.
2. Utilize placemaking strategies such as community events, holiday markets, farmers markets, art, and entertainment to activate the public realm.
3. Encourage small businesses that add to the vitality of hamlet centers by providing cultural, recreational, and entertainment amenities desired by the community.
4. Establish a local development corporation and create an Orangetown Economic Development Plan.
5. Attract new businesses of varying types and sizes to broaden business offerings and protect the Town's tax base.
6. Encourage infill development wherever possible, to maintain the 'feel' and 'character' of the hamlet downtowns.
7. Evaluate short- and long-term economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses in Orangetown, such as work-from-home and hybrid-work trends.



OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

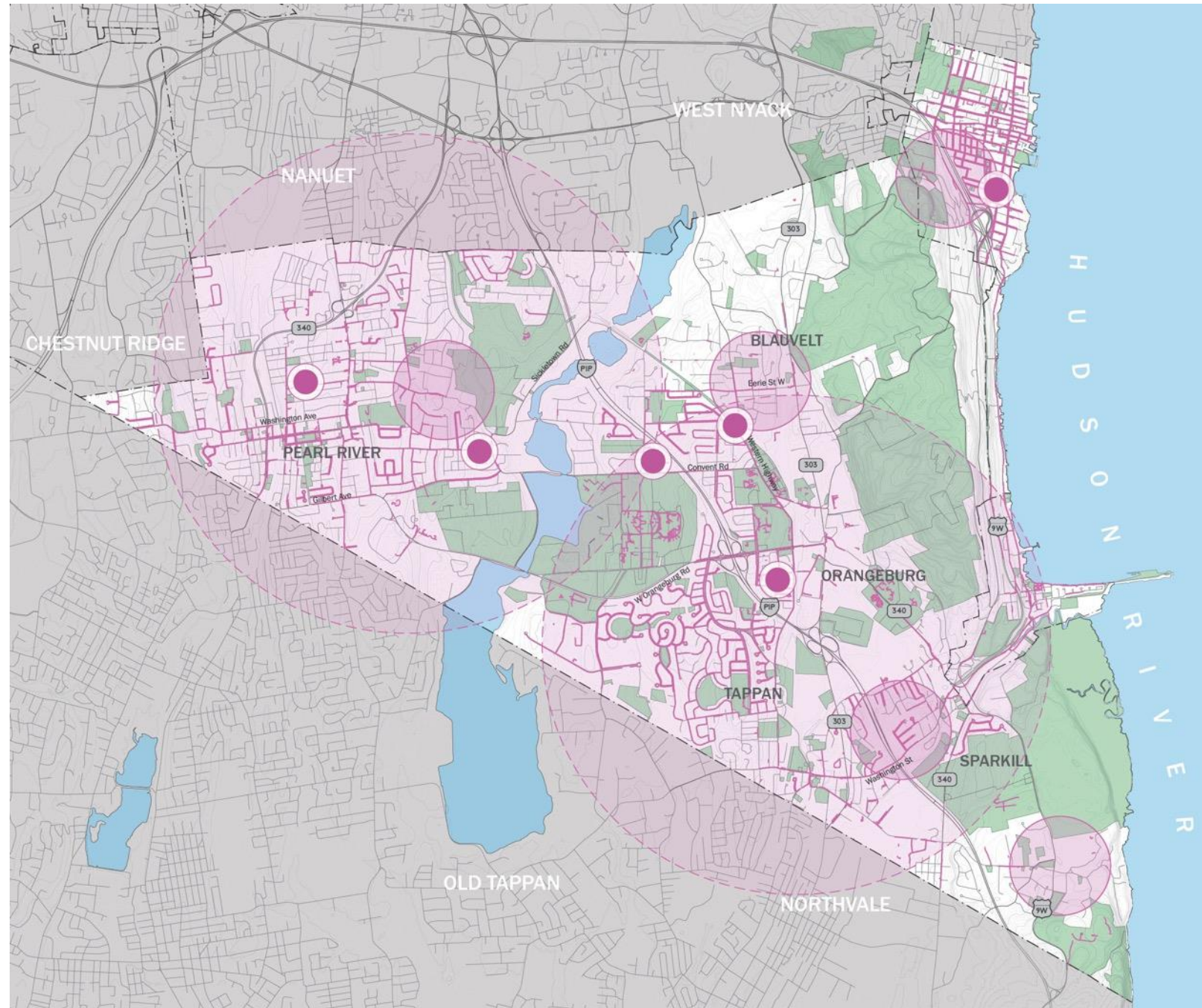


Key Strategies

1. Use cluster development and conservation easements to preserve large contiguous areas of open space and protect environmentally sensitive areas.
2. Develop a viewshed protection ordinance.
3. Recycle underutilized areas and obsolete infrastructure for recreational use.
4. Expand community programming and the ecological role of parks in habitat restoration.
5. Educate young residents about the environmental importance of parks and promote park stewardship.
6. Consider and adopt urban forestry and landscaping best practices.
7. Provide greater continuity between Orangetown's local parks and open spaces, the regional open space corridor, and waterfront areas.
8. Develop an Open Space Plan to continue expanding the Town's area under Parks and Open Space use.



SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE RESILIENCY



Key Strategies

1. Establish a Climate Working Group to seek funding for and to develop a Climate Action Plan.
2. Mitigate harmful impacts of flood events through development regulations and preventative measures.
3. Review and update local regulations to promote resilient construction practices, manage stormwater, and reduce flooding.
4. Map stormwater conveyance including drainage areas, outfalls, and discharge points.
5. Improve water quality by addressing root causes of contamination, protecting wetlands and watersheds, and aiding their ecological role.
6. Establish a GI and structural retrofitting program to reduce phosphorus, nitrogen, and pathogen loading.
7. Expand on existing stormwater public awareness programs to include a wider range of stakeholders.
8. Reduce carbon emissions and promote healthier air quality.
9. Limit the use of fossil fuels as a source of energy supply and incentivize the use of green building technologies for new development projects and retrofits.
10. Rigorously enforce Town Code §43-4.2 to limit light pollution.



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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Hearing Guidelines:

- 1) 5 minutes per speaker
- 2) Each person can speak once
- 3) Written comments are welcome and encouraged
- 4) Written comments will be accepted until Friday, August 12



NEXT STEPS

- Written comments accepted until August 12, 2022
- Next CPC work session will be to review public comments
- CPC work sessions are open to the public
- Agendas, minutes, and zoom information are posted on the Town's website

Finalizing the Plan



WHERE CAN I FIND INFORMATION ON THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

Keep up to date on the Town's Website:

<https://www.orangetown.com/orangetown-comprehensive-plan/>

Write to us at akardon@orangetown.com

