

Why have a Comprehensive Plan?

Communities decide to undertake the planning process for a variety of reasons. Having an up-to-date plan helps:

1) to sustain rural living and vibrant village centers • Preserve a healthy landscape and walkable communities • Balance economic prosperity with quality of life • Protect working waterfronts and community farms • Develop a discussion among neighbors • Develop a basis for sound decisions in town management

2) to qualify for certain state grant and loan programs. Examples of these programs include: • Community Development Block Grants • Land for Maine's Future • Municipal Investment Trust Fund • DEP 319(h) Non-Point Source Protection Grants • DEP State Revolving Loan Fund • SPO Plan Implementation Grants • Land and Water Conservation Fund

3) to provide legal protection for any ordinances the town votes to approve.

Note: Comprehensive plans do not create any new ordinances, regulations or zoning.

Why is Brooklin updating their Comprehensive Plan now?

Brooklin created their first Comprehensive Plan in 2003. The State of Maine recommends that Comprehensive Plans be updated every 10 years.

It is time to update our plan to give our town the best chance to qualify for grant and loan programs that the town may vote to participate in, such as maintaining and updating infrastructure, dealing with growing demand for development and civic services, and dealing with challenges that may arise from climate change.

It will also best help guide town management in any current and new challenges and opportunities that may arise over the next decade.