


**Town of Coeymans
Comprehensive Plan**



Town of Coeymans
Draft Comprehensive Plan:
Presentation of Goals & Strategies

Laberge Group Goals & Strategies Presentation
May 9, 2006

**Town of Coeymans
Comprehensive Plan**

Laberge Group

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**Town of Coeymans
Comprehensive Plan**

Presentation Outline

- Introductions
- Overview of Planning Process To-Date
- What is a Goal?
- What is a Strategy?
- Goals & Strategies for Coeymans
- What's next?

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**Town of Coeymans
Comprehensive Plan**

Overview of Planning Process

The foundation of a good Comprehensive Plan is the incorporation of public input early and often throughout the Plan's development.

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**Town of Coeymans
Comprehensive Plan**

Why Prepare a Comprehensive Plan?

- To Establish a Community Vision.
- To Understand your Assets and Liabilities.
- To Protect Important Resources.
- To Improve Economic Conditions.
- To Provide Direction to Governmental Agencies.
- To Improve Access to Financial & Technical Assistance.

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**Town of Coeymans
Comprehensive Plan**

Comprehensive Plan Development Process

Phase I Project Initiation

Phase II Issue Identification, Data Gathering & Analysis

Phase III Develop Goals & Recommendations

Phase IV Draft Comprehensive Plan

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Tasks Accomplished to Date

- Advisory Committee Meetings
- Profile of Existing Conditions
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Asset and Liability Workshop
- Image Assessment Survey
- Issue Roundtable Visioning Exercise # 1
- Issue Roundtable Visioning Exercise # 2
- Resident Survey

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Next Steps


- Development of Goals
- Draft Plan (May 2006)
- Draft Review Process and SEQRA Review (June 2006)
- Public Hearings (June 2006)
- Plan Adoption (July 2006)

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Stakeholder Interviews

- In-person interviews with individuals & groups identified by Town.
- Provided guidance on specific Town issues:
 - Environmental concerns
 - Infrastructure
 - Traffic issues
 - Historic preservation
 - Recreational resources



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Asset & Liability Workshop


Top 5 Assets:

1. Scenic & Natural Resources
2. Regional Location/Proximity
3. History
4. Potential
5. Small Town/Quality of Life



Top 5 Liabilities:

1. Proposed Landfill
2. Poor Physical Appearance
3. Poor Self-perception
4. Lack of Planning/Vision
5. Lack of Cooperation between Village & Town



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Image Assessment Survey


Aim: To ensure that the Comprehensive Plan is unique to Coeymans and to illustrate future types of development to be avoided and/or encouraged.

Methodology:

- Eight categories (commercial, housing, open space & recreation, parking lots, pedestrian realm, signs, streetscape, and waterfront)
- Rate each slide on a scale of -3 to +3

Analysis (3-Step Process):

- Average score of each individual category
- Highest and lowest scores in each category
- Detailed overview of each category

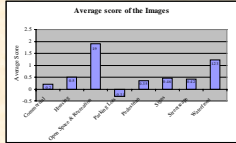


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Analysis

Average score of each category




Category	Average Score
Commercial	0.5
Housing	0.5
Open Space & Recreation	1.5
Parking	0.5
Pedestrian	0.5
Signs	0.5
Streetscape	1.5
Waterfront	2.0

Streetscape



Slide 59 Average Score: (1.5) Slide 64 Average Score: (-1.3)

Waterfront




Slide 60 Average Score: (2.0) Slide 68 Average Score: (0.2)

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Positive Images:

- Open Space & Recreation.
- Waterfront.
- Pedestrian elements.
- Commercial properties with a balanced built environment.
- Commercial properties with proportional small to mid-size signage.
- Parking areas with an abundance of green space.
- Housing (single-family, town houses, pleasing landscape).




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Negative Images:

- Parking with excessive asphalt.
- Overhead utility wires.
- Poorly maintained façades.
- Lack of proper streetscape elements.
- Cluttered & very large signage.
- Disorderly strip mall development.
- Lack of landscaping.



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Roundtable Visioning #1

Focus Topics:

1. **Environment** - Solutions: Protection of natural, open space, scenic & agricultural resources.
2. **Housing** - Solutions: Identified location of future housing, type, design, and connectivity to neighborhoods.
3. **Economic Development** - Solutions: Identified location of future commercial development & marketing needs.
4. **Transportation** - Solutions: Pedestrian, bike safety, traffic volume, speed & access recommendations.

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Roundtable Visioning #2

Focus Topics:


1. **Municipal Services** - Solutions: Police, fire, sewer, water highway, youth & senior service recommendations.
2. **Land Use Policies & Regulations** - Solutions: Suggestions provided to update zoning & other local policies.
3. **Parks & Recreation** - Solutions: Improvements and/or expansion of parks & recreational resources identified.
4. **Cultural & Historic Resources** - Solutions: Preserve, enhance & promote local cultural & historical resources.

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Resident Survey

Survey provided specific information from the Town's residents on current growth trends, municipal services and current community resources.



Survey results will be posted online Wednesday, May 17th.

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Goals Development...

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **What is a goal?**

A goal is a general statement of a future condition which is considered desirable for the community; it is an end towards which actions are aimed.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **What is a strategy?**

A strategy is a specific proposal to do something that relates directly to accomplishing the goal; it identifies the how, where, and amount to be done.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan

Goals & Strategies were developed for each of the following:

- Land Use & Zoning
- Natural Resources
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Historical & Cultural Resources
- Municipal & Community Services
- Recreational Resources
- Transportation
- Government Administration & Policies

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Land Use & Zoning**



Goals:

- Preserve and enhance rural character while balancing a mix of land uses.
- Encourage development with minimal negative impacts.
- Protect visual character.

Strategies:

- Modify & update the Zoning Ordinance.
- Create Architectural Design & Signage Guidelines.
- Stronger Site Plan Review Regulations.
- Establish Performance Standards.
- Preserve agricultural lands.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Natural Resources**



Goals:

- Preserve environmentally sensitive lands.
- Preserve & protect water bodies.
- Preserve & protect unique scenic resources.

Strategies:

- Reinstate the Environmental Conservation Board.
- Inventory Town-wide natural resources.
- Groundwater & Wellhead Protection Law.
- Permanently protect sensitive lands (acquisition and/or conservation easements).

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Economic Development**

Goals:

- Develop a vital business-friendly environment.
- Expand & stabilize the Town's tax base.
- Expand available Town-wide goods & services.
- Develop tourism resources.

Strategies:

- Promote Town's identity as a "Hudson River Community".
- Acquire properties in tax default.
- Create a Grant/Loan Program for commercial façade improvements.
- Develop an entrepreneur assistance program.
- Develop tourism brochure.



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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Housing**




Goals:



- Provide a balanced blend of housing types & price ranges.
- Preserve & enhance existing residential neighborhoods.

Strategies:

- Establish a housing rehabilitation program.
- Develop pro-active neighborhood associations.
- Encourage Senior (55+) housing opportunities.
- Adopt a Residential Occupancy Permit Law.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Historic & Cultural Resources**

Goals:

- Preserve and enhance historical/cultural resources for current residents and future generations.

Strategies:

- Designate Historic Districts where concentrated historic resources exist.
- Adopt a Historic Preservation Law.
- Create a Historic Preservation Committee.
- Complete a Historic Resources Survey.
- Develop heritage tourism resources.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Municipal & Community Services**




Goals:

- Promote inter & intra-municipal cooperation.
- Continue to provide high quality public services.
- Expand public infrastructure to meet the needs of residents.
- Provide public facilities that meet the needs of residents.

Strategies:

- Adopt a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- Investigate the need to expand water/sewer infrastructure.
- Investigate developing a combined Community/Senior Center.
- Develop a transfer station.

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Goals:


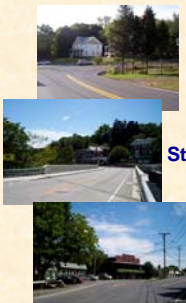
- Develop a park & recreation system.
- Promote recreational activities in waterfront areas.
- Improve accessibility to parks & passive recreational areas.

Strategies:

- Develop an Open Space & Recreation Plan.
- Develop a Park Maintenance Program.
- Develop a Recreational Trail Plan.
- Improve Joralemon Park as a year-round recreational facility.
- Expand recreational opportunities at Coeymans Landing Park.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Transportation**

Goals:


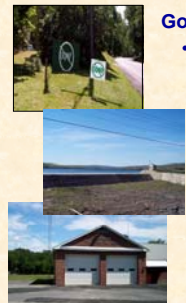
- Foster a safe & efficient transportation network throughout the Town.
- Enhance mobility & accessibility throughout the Town.

Strategies:

- Develop a standard for new roads.
- Develop driveway access design standards.
- Accommodate bicycle & pedestrian traffic.
- Install traffic calming devices.
- Expand senior transportation services.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan **Government Administration & Policies**

Goals:

- Promote government action and policies designed to protect the quality of life in Coeymans and the health, safety and welfare of the Town's residents.

Strategies:

- Continue to prohibit proposed ANSWERS Landfill.
- Encourage development on vacant parcels with available infrastructure.
- Adopt Development Impact Fees.
- Enforce the building code.
- Develop a program to enhance the Town's aesthetics.

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Town of Coeymans Comprehensive Plan

What's next...

- Technical Recommendations.
- Draft Comprehensive Plan for Public Review
 - Review period: May 17 - June 16, 2006.
 - Paper copy available at Town Hall.
 - Electronic copy available online.



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Thank You!



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