

**TOWN OF SCHROON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**  
**DRAFT VISION, GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT**  
**JUNE 25, 2024**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The following report lays out the Comprehensive Plan Committee's draft Vision, Goals, and Recommendations for key topic areas identified during the public outreach and information gathering phase of the process. These eight topic areas include:

- o Land Use, Growth, and Development
- o Housing
- o Tourism and Economic Development
- o Natural Resource Protection and Lake Management
- o Parks and Recreation
- o Arts & Culture
- o Town Services, Transportation, & Infrastructure
- o Sustainability and Resilience

The draft Vision, Goals, and Recommendations presented in this report were formulated by the Comprehensive Plan Committee using community feedback gained from public meetings, surveys, stakeholder meetings, and conversations with residents. The goals and recommendations address issues that are important to the community and reflect the needs and views of residents and business owners. Assistance has been provided by the Planning Team of LaBella Associates and Clothier Planning & Consulting. Public Workshop #2 focused on prioritization of the recommendations. Participants were asked to identify the most important recommendation for each topic area. The recommendations deemed most important are shown in italics under each topic.

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Environmental Protection Fund.

## **VISION**

*The Vision Statement describes the desired future state of the Town of Schroon and provides a picture of what the community is working towards. The statement is a combination of existing conditions that the community desires to protect and aspirational elements that the community has not yet achieved but wishes to see manifested in its desired future state. This Vision Statement serves as the organizing feature of the Comprehensive Plan's goals and recommendations. The following narrative describes the Town of Schroon's future vision for the community.*

The Town of Schroon is a beautiful walkable community that cherishes its small-town character and strong sense of community spirit while embracing the values of friendliness, inclusivity, and sustainability. The Town fosters a strong sense of place that grounds residents to stay in the community and serves as a magnet for others to return, visit or invest in the community. At the heart of it all lies an engrained spirit of volunteerism and civic engagement where active volunteers embody the true essence of community. Access to the shores of the lake serves as a cornerstone of our identity, offering recreation and exceptional views of the mountains and forests. The Town offers the perfect blend of modern convenience and superb amenities in a classic Adirondack setting.

The main street is a dynamic hub of commerce, arts, and culture that hugs the beautiful Schroon Lake shoreline. We strive to maintain a supportive environment for local businesses, nurturing economic growth while preserving the charm and authenticity that defines our main street. Town services are reliable and responsive to the residents and local economy, supporting a high quality of rural life and opportunities for growth while maintaining the lowest possible tax rate.

Through a distinctive branding message, the Town promotes expanded local and regional recreational, environmental, and heritage tourism opportunities, evoking unique visitor experiences. As an arts and culture destination with elite performance and visual arts venues, the Town promotes these assets to shape the identity of the Town and draw visitor interest. The condition, accessibility, and connectivity of all recreational facilities, along with related tourism infrastructure and visitor support services are continually maintained and upgraded to meet the needs of residents and visitors.

To enable the Town to expand opportunities for residential and business growth while maintaining the Adirondack character of the community, land use and zoning tools are updated and obstacles to growth are addressed. A diversity of affordable housing attracts new families while allowing existing residents to retire in their community. To enhance opportunities for growth, a proactive approach is implemented for upgrading and expanding sewer and water infrastructure.

Natural resources are protected long term from invasive species, flooding, erosion and impacts from development. A proactive approach has been developed to address the short- and long-term impacts from extreme weather events. Successful lake management continues through the strategic, proactive, and collaborative approach of local lake associations. Lake associations are empowered to educate residents, monitor water quality, and manage invasive species.

# LAND USE, GROWTH, AND DEVELOPMENT

## Relevant Smart Growth Principles:

- Mix land uses
- Take advantage of compact design
- Direct development towards existing communities
- Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost-effective
- Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions

**GOAL #1**      **Develop a land use plan that will encourage economic growth and infill in appropriate locations while protecting the natural resources and social quality of life in the community.**

## **Priority Recommendation: Rewrite the Town zoning code as a unified development code.**

The current zoning regulations were adopted in 1971 and have been amended several times. However, the regulations are insufficient for dealing with many modern land use issues and therefore a total code rewrite is recommended.

- The Unified Development Code should combine all regulations related to planning, zoning, and building in the Town, including SEQR, Unsafe Buildings, Subdivision Rules and Regulations, and Short-Term Rentals.
- Update the Subdivision Rules and Regulations
- Review the current zoning district boundaries and consider a reduction of zones within the hamlet. New zoning districts should take into consideration existing and future land uses. Consider aligning zoning districts outside of the hamlet with APA land classifications so zoning requirements are consistent at the Town and APA level which could lead to more expeditious review of applications.
- Update and expand definitions to include more residential and commercial uses.
- Review and update Planning Board responsibilities to include site plan review and SEQR review. Focus reviews more on impacts and less on the specific use. Standards should address commercial building facades, setbacks, landscaping, signage, building character, and parking.
- Develop site plan review procedures and criteria for reviewing applications to include storm water management requirements and lighting that is consistent with [International Dark Sky Community Program Guidelines](#).
- Develop flood prevention criteria to avoid or mitigate potential flood damage. This section of the zoning code should be consistent with [FEMA Guidelines and Standards for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping Activities Under the Risk MAP Program](#). The criteria should be consistent with FEMA floodplain mapping in the Town of Schroon

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and outline administrative procedures for reviewing projects and enforcing regulations. The Town should identify a Floodplain Administrator.

- Allow for and encourage accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all residential districts with a streamlined review process to allow for regulatory oversight with reduced costs and time for the applicant.
- Address barriers to housing development with an emphasis on expanding housing options to include accessory dwellings, tiny homes, duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhomes, multi-family, and cluster cottages. Consider reducing minimum lot sizes and increasing allowable lot coverage, which can lower development costs and reduce barriers for adding ADUs. The current zoning code allows two-family dwellings in all districts but requires each dwelling to meet the minimum lot size, which means all two-family dwellings require a double lot.
- Allow for more than one use or more than one principle building on a single lot within the hamlet. The current code allows more than one principle building but requires an increase in lot size proportional to the number of principle buildings on the lot. Consider standards for maximum lot coverage instead of the larger lot requirement.
- Update the zoning code to comply with NY State regulations on manufactured (mobile) homes. As housing prices continue to increase at a rate that outpaces increases in incomes, manufactured homes may provide an affordable alternative. In the Town of Schroon manufactured (mobile) homes are currently allowed only in districts R-20 and R-10 and require a special permit. [Title 2 of Article 21-B of New York State Executive Law](#) became effective November 20, 2015, and it places limits on local government regulation of manufactured homes. Pursuant to this law, municipalities are no longer permitted to prohibit manufactured homes in zoning districts that permit single family homes, provided they are affixed to a permanent foundation and conforms with the identical development specifications and standards, including general aesthetic and architectural standards, applicable to conventional, site-built single-family dwellings. The zoning regulations will need to be modified to permit manufactured homes in all zoning districts that allow single family dwellings.
- Develop standards for the storage of recreational vehicles and use of recreational vehicles for temporary housing during construction.
- Develop regulations for commercial signage. Include criteria for regulating the number of signs allowed per business, location of signage, types of signage permitted, and sign design guidelines.

### **Other Recommendations**

1. Continue focusing higher density commercial and residential development within the hamlet where there is access to municipal water and sewer infrastructure.
2. Promote mixed-use development within the Route 9 corridor.

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3. Encourage a variety of low to moderate density residential development outside of the hamlet (see Housing recommendations).
4. Update the Town water and sewer regulations.
5. *Expand or upgrade the water and sewer districts to accommodate new housing development. Explore potential for hamlet expansion at Pickard Lane and other areas if water and sewer system can be expanded beyond the hamlet (this is also a Housing recommendation).*
6. Given the lack of available land and sewer capacity within the hamlet, encourage infill development and redevelopment of commercial properties. Develop incentives for adaptive reuse of buildings within the Route 9 corridor.
7. Consider adoption of design guidelines for the main street corridor to ensure that new development or redeveloped properties are consistent with the community character and promote walkability.
8. Review procedures for enforcement of zoning regulations, property maintenance and building codes.
9. Identify and purchase permit software to digitize all building, planning and zoning applications, approvals and permits.
10. Mandate and budget resources for Town Planning and Zoning Board members to receive 4-hours of in- service credits per year and file applicable paperwork with designated Town staff.
11. Provide training for local government officials on the need of a NYSDEC permit and SWPPP for land disturbances over 1 acre.
12. Consider creating a new administrative assistant position within the Town that can be shared across departments. The position will provide planning and zoning support to the code enforcement officer.
13. Establish a noise ordinance for the Town that includes enforcement mechanisms.

Acquire 20+/- acres currently used as a sand pit immediately north of the old Commerce Park (Town and/or the Essex County IDA) or identify a new location that has the potential to be reclassified for industrial use under APA zoning.

## **HOUSING**

### **Relevant Smart Growth Principles:**

- Create a range of housing opportunities and choices
- Create walkable neighborhoods

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**Goal #1      Increase the supply and diversity of affordable housing options for all households.**

**Recommendations**

1. Establish an affordable housing committee or task force to partner with regional housing organizations to develop or rehab properties and facilitate implementation of housing recommendations. Regional partners include, but are not limited to, Adirondack Roots, Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board, Pride of Ticonderoga, Essex County Land Bank, Adirondack Community Housing Trust, AdkAction, Northern Forest Center, Living ADK, and the Adirondack Foundation.
2. Commission a housing market study that can be used to attract developers or secure funding/financing for housing development. The study should also identify housing typologies needed in the town and inventory existing underutilized properties and areas that are suitable for residential development.
3. Preserve existing housing stock. Partner with local housing organizations to provide home repair, mobile home replacement, and rehabilitation programs to prevent homes from falling into major disrepair. Ensure that rental housing stock is well-maintained and in compliance with state building codes.
4. *Increase supply and variety of housing, including single-family homes, small homes for seniors and first-time buyers, and quality long-term rentals.*
5. Work with regional housing organizations such as the Essex County Land Bank to rehabilitate vacant or abandoned residential structures.
6. Consider offering discounted application and permit fees for affordable housing, including tiny homes, accessory dwelling units, and manufactured (mobile) homes.
7. Encourage residents to add homes to the Adirondack Community Housing Trust to ensure workforce housing remains perpetually affordable.
8. Utilize the Adirondack Park Agency Community Housing Density Relief to encourage housing development in Moderate and Low Intensity zones outside of the hamlet. Additional details are available in the [Adirondack Park Agency Act](#), page 10 in Section 802.50(h).
9. Create short-term rental policies that balance tourism and other economic considerations with the need to provide for workforce housing. A variety of regulatory options should be considered as part of a community discussion aimed at limiting the negative impacts of short-term rentals on residents and neighborhoods while encouraging opportunities for local income. Create incentives for creating or retaining long-term rentals.

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10. Expand or upgrade the water and sewer districts to accommodate new housing development. Explore potential hamlet expansion if water and sewer system can be expanded beyond the hamlet (this is also a Land Use recommendation).

## **TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Relevant Smart Growth Principles:**

- Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place
- Direct development towards existing communities
- Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost-effective
- Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions

**Goal #1      Develop an economic development model that strives to reach new visitors through a strong and distinctive branding message that evokes a unique experience and results in a growing population and economy.**

### **Recommendations**

1. *Develop a marketing plan for Schroon's creative economy that blends outdoor pursuits with the fine arts and performing arts venues. Expand signature community events and expand winter events. Create a brand strategy for the Town that highlights Schroon as the place for the "Ultimate American Adirondack Experience".*
2. Create and participate in a sub-group of chambers that are working on regionally cooperative tourism initiatives and events that recognize their unique resources and create synergy between communities.
3. Become a *Certified Trail Town*, a year-round economic development strategy that welcomes short and long-distance hikers, mountain bikers, road bikers, skiers and snowmobilers.
4. Develop a set of trail experiences that draw people to the trails throughout the community. Expand existing trail and water itineraries that cover up to a week of challenging adventures. Provide visitors with detailed information and a comprehensive map of town and state trail systems in the Town of Schroon.

**Goal #2      Strengthen and diversify the business community.**

### **Recommendations:**

1. Fund a position for an economic development professional that would concentrate on revitalization of the business district. The position would outline a list of businesses that would round out the downtown inventory focusing on attracting a customized mix of retail, restaurants and services for the business district that

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contribute to its uniqueness. Maintain a database of vacant commercial properties to convey to potential new owners. Include a detailed assessment of the condition, availability, and utilization of each property. Publish these potential opportunities on the websites of the town, realtors and chamber

2. .Explore the feasibility of developing a pilot arts business incubator program to attract artists and artisans to vacant buildings in the downtown.
3. Review the viability and function of the Town's existing revolving loan fund. Explore options for providing financial assistance to upgrade existing accommodation businesses through the Business Loan Fund. Identify an entity to provide underwriting support for the revolving loan fund.

## **NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION & LAKE MANAGEMENT**

### **Relevant Smart Growth Principles:**

- Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas

### **Goal #1: Address stormwater management and erosion control issues.**

#### **Recommendations**

1. Stormwater Management. Follow the guidance and detailed recommendations for stormwater management for Schroon Lake and Paradox Lake as outlined in the Schroon Lake Watershed Management Plan Addendum (July 2019).
2. Erosion Control. Follow the guidance and detailed recommendations for erosion control for Schroon Lake and the Schroon River as outlined in the Schroon Lake Watershed Management Plan Addendum (July 2019).
3. Prepare a plan to address the sandbar delta that has built up where Schroon River flows into northern Schroon Lake. The sand has created navigation issues in this portion of the lake which includes the entrance to the Schroon Lake Marina canal and may be having a negative impact on the fishery.

### **GOAL #2 Support Invasive Species Management in Schroon Lake and Paradox Lake.**

#### **Recommendations**

1. Continue prevention methods including performing aquatic plant survey every five years, annual Asian clam surveys, boat steward program (expand coverage), and Milfoil Scout Program, and boat wash decontamination program. Continue current

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maintenance plan for hand harvesting and monitoring results for Eurasian watermilfoil control in Schroon Lake.

2. Support the existing Eurasian watermilfoil management strategy in Paradox Lake.
3. Increase boat launch steward coverage as funds allow. Conduct an invasive species survey of all wetlands and inlet areas and map infestations. Complete a comprehensive aquatic plant survey every 5 years.

### **Goal #3 Support continuous water quality monitoring efforts.**

#### **Recommendations**

1. Continue current level of Citizen's Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) in Schroon Lake and Paradox Lake.
2. *Expand water quality monitoring program to include e-coli and/or other bacterial assessments.*

### **GOAL #4 Support stewardship of local waterways.**

#### **Recommendations**

1. Continue strong support, cooperation, and partnership with East Schroon Lake Association, Schroon Lake Association, and Paradox Lake Association to support stewardship initiatives.

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

### **Relevant Smart Growth Principles:**

- Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place

### **Goal #1 Improve the facilities at Waterfront Park**

#### **Recommendations**

1. Develop a comprehensive master design and plan for the waterfront park that may include the following Assign a location for a formal canoe/kayak/SUP launch area on the south side of the Boathouse. At a minimum include the following considerations:
  - Designate a formal kayak launch area away from paved boat launch and provide kayak locker racks and bicycle racks.
  - Address the bank erosion north of the Town beach and along the shoreline at the south entrance into the beach area.

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- Assign a formal canoe/kayak/SUP launch area on the south side of the Boathouse. Install signage and a kayak storage locker to encourage users to visit Main Street.
  - Continue to improve public access to the town beach, launch and docks. Provide handicap access to the pier by improving the gravel surface between the parking area and pier.
  - Provide public information about the new boat inspection and wash station at the north end of Schroon Lake.
2. Conduct a building assessment and develop a plan for upgrading the Boathouse Theater and Schroon Lake Bandstand.

**Goal #2      Improve the current recreational activities and create new outdoor experiences**

**Recommendations**

1. *Develop a Master Plan for the Golf Course including the Club House and Ski Hill. Consider expanding from 9 to 18 holes, adding snowmaking, and developing trail systems on town land above the ski hill.*
2. Develop a feasibility plan to develop a fitness path and dog park on existing town-owned lands or acquire new land for these purposes.
3. Develop a Townwide Trail Plan that creates an organized network of trails with consistent information about permitted activities, etc. Create individual trail profiles and a series of land and water trail itineraries. Organize by level of difficulty, distance and length of time to traverse, and opportunities to connect to neighboring and regional trail systems. Accommodate day users, weekenders and long-distance users. Link individual trail segments with options for overnight accommodations. As part of the plan, develop a consolidated map of recreational trails and bicycle routes.
4. Improve conditions and connections and expand opportunities for new hiking and biking trails. Include the following recommendations:
  - Provide local hiking, biking, snowmobile trail connections to Frontier Town and to the hamlet of Pottersville.
  - Provide the trail link from Schroon Lake to the North Country Scenic Trail which will locally traverse the Hoffman Notch Wilderness by North Pond and Big Pond and then exit near the Northway underpass near Schroon Falls.
  - Create a hiking trail on the old town roadbed near Hollow Road and Thilo Roads.
  - Develop a mountain biking and snowmobile path on Thilo - Trout Brook Road to Charlie Hill Road to make a loop.
  - Complete new snowmobile trail on High Vista property.
  - Explore the feasibility of developing a mountain bike pump track.

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### **Goal #3      Address trail use policies and practices**

#### **Recommendations**

1. Explore the feasibility of utilizing snowmobile trails for public walking and biking in the non-winter seasons when permitted in UMPs.
2. Address the needed amendment to NYS General Obligations Law to cover mountain biking.
3. Address the need for liability insurance of the town for recreational activities on town trails and abandoned roads.
4. Develop a maintenance plan for abandoned town roads that could be used for hiking, running, mountain biking, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling.
5. Work with NYSDEC to make sure current and future Unit Management Plans reflect the recommendations from this plan.

## **ARTS & CULTURE**

### **Relevant Smart Growth Principles:**

- Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place

### **Goal #1      Establish Schroon as a destination for a variety of visual and performance art events and festivals.**

#### **Recommendations**

6. Create an arts alliance to work collaboratively towards implementation of all arts and culture recommendations, including creation of a consolidated arts marketing campaign (possibly combined with outdoor recreation), establishment of a co-op art gallery or storefront, and expansion of local events.
7. Identify or create a year-round, multi-purpose arts venue to enrich access to the arts, attract visitors and spur economic activity. The venue may include:
  - Gallery spaces
  - A theater with a stage and seating for performances such as dance, theater, music concerts, and other live shows
  - Classrooms and studio spaces for art education programs such as classes, workshops and camps.
  - An outdoor sculpture garden or performance plaza for outdoor exhibitions and events.

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- An events space that could host opening galas, celebrations, and private parties.
8. Visually brand Schroon as an arts destination through public art. Commission permanent and/or temporary public art installations to transform public spaces and create points of interest. For permanent pieces, consider murals, sculptures, or mixed-media artistic elements to be integrated into high-visible locations. Options for temporary installations include rotating sculpture exhibits, decorative lighting designs or video projections on buildings, or earthworks. Consider customizing public amenities, such as benches, with locally-designed arts.
  9. Explore the feasibility of creating of a local historic district and establishing historic markers for buildings.
  10. Explore the feasibility of establishing a historic district in the town center and list it on the National Register of Historic Places. Buildings listed on the National Register or located within a listed historic district are eligible for historic rehabilitation tax credits.
  11. Develop a series of historic interpretation signs, kiosks, walking tours, and murals to highlight the local history and culture. Potential locations for signs include the six hotel sites and areas around the main street area.
  12. Assess the need for an arts kiosk or billboard in the main street area to advertise upcoming events.
  13. Continue to support the wide variety of arts and cultural events and festivals that take place throughout the year (see the Culture, Music & Art subcommittee report for a list of organizations, places, and events in the Town of Schroon).
  14. *Ensure Seagle Festival remains in Schroon Lake and continues to be an important arts organization and draw for the Town.*

## **TOWN SERVICES, TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Relevant Smart Growth Principles:**

- Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost-effective
- Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions
- Provide a variety of transportation choices
- Create walkable neighborhoods

**Goal #1 Provide high-quality, reliable, and sustainable infrastructure systems that support the current and future needs of the community, promote public health and safety, and facilitate economic development while minimizing environmental impacts.**

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## Recommendations

1. *Create a Capital Improvement Plan, including funding strategies, to ensure that infrastructure systems, such as roads, utilities, and public facilities, are well-designed, properly maintained, and able to meet the community's needs reliably. The plan could be drafted to address all infrastructure related recommendations.*
2. Complete a green infrastructure plan to determine how best to intercept stormwater runoff.

## Buildings

3. Continue to work with National Grid on LED streetlight conversion.
4. Ensure all exterior lighting on Town properties is compliant with Dark Sky Guidelines.
5. Conduct a building assessment and develop a plan for upgrading the Boathouse Theater and bandstand.

## Transportation

6. *Continue to improve walkability and address accessibility barriers by adding accessible crosswalks, benches, trash cans, streetlight banners, historic lighting, seasonal flowers, landscaping, and shade trees throughout the hamlet. Assess the conditions of all sidewalks and identify sidewalk segments in need of repair or replacement. Update the sidewalk inventory as repairs are made.*
7. Work with NYSDOT and Town of Chester to provide marked bike lanes on both sides of the Route 9 shoulders and install signage.
8. Consider adopting a Complete Streets Policy to ensure that all modes of transportation are considered in any infrastructure project involving street construction or reconstruction.
9. Improve parking. Maximize on-street parking spaces within the hamlet and explore opportunities to create new public parking lots in the town center. Consider establishing parking time limits and a designated space for commercial deliveries along with enforcement mechanisms. Conduct a parking study to identify opportunities for expanding parking that is consistent with Smart Growth principles, avoids an increase in paved surfaces adjacent to the lake, and is sensitive to community character.
10. Identify funding and install EV stations in key areas of the town.
11. Place digital radar speed signs on Route 9, including on the curve south of the business district.
12. Actively seek funding to implement highway facility improvements.
13. Coordinate with DOT to change the name of Route 9 to Main Street within the hamlet.

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## **Amenities**

14. Explore options for generating revenue from visitor use of public amenities.
15. Implement a wayfinding signage system throughout the hamlet that provides direction to key destinations such as public parking, the beach, and boat launch.

## **Water & Sewer Infrastructure**

16. Replace or relocate the Rogers Brook sewer line. The pipe is approaching the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced with modern materials. NYSDEC has stated a preference for moving the line out of the brook, but there are space constraints. Engineers need to identify a solution that is acceptable to DEC.
17. Water and sewer district maps are paper copy only that include both existing and proposed infrastructure. The district maps should be digitized so they can be easily updated when issues are identified, repairs are made, or new infrastructure is added.
18. Develop as-built plans for the water system.
19. Install stand-by generators for water pumps that fail when power is lost, which happens often, and town staff must manually operate the pumps.
20. Replace the leaking water tower, which may require acquisition of land.
21. Replace the Hillside Avenue water line.
22. Conduct an engineering study to explore options for adding capacity to the collection system south of Rogers Brook to support new development.
23. Identify strategies for protecting or relocating infrastructure that is vulnerable to flooding, including the two miles of sewer mainline along the shoreline and the Horseshoe Pond pump station.
24. Create an inventory of existing storm water infrastructure.
25. Continue to install security cameras and fencing to protect town infrastructure.
26. *Develop rules and regulations regarding septic inspection, regulation and treatments to limit wastewater pollution from getting into the Schroon Watershed.*
27. Adopt a local law that requires a full septic system inspection by a qualified inspector upon sale or transfer of a property.

## **Community Services**

28. *Continue to allocate funds for the Fire and Ambulance Districts to provide operating resources for the volunteer fire and rescue organizations and support investments in modern apparatus, equipment, and personal protective gear.*

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29. Consider offering incentives like tax abatement, discounts, or pension plan contributions to attract and retain volunteers for the fire and ambulance districts.
30. Work with local and regional partners to continue to expand and enhance access to high-speed broadband internet and cell service.
31. Work with Essex County to improve the layout and efficiency of the Transfer Station.

## **SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE**

### **Relevant Smart Growth Principles:**

- Take advantage of compact community design that enhances, preserves, and provides access to waterfront resources
- Strengthen and direct development towards existing communities

### **Goal #1: Address stressed or impacted lands and facilities.**

#### **Recommendations**

1. Appoint a local Task Force to address the sustainability of town resources and develop guidelines for future mitigation and resilience.
2. Conduct an assessment that identifies community vulnerabilities and identifies and prioritizes actions to reduce risks to the community.
3. *Identify and map buildings, infrastructure and areas that are prone to flooding after large storm events and assess the need for culvert and other stormwater infrastructure improvements. At a minimum address the following areas that have already been identified as presently experiencing issues: Alder Meadow Road; River Road; Continental Drive; North Shore Road; Emerson Road; Miller Road; Hoffman Road; Johnson Pond Road; and public lands within 100-year flood plain.*
4. Consider the benefits of becoming a Climate Smart Community. Climate Smart Communities (CSC) is a New York State program that helps local governments take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. The program offers grants, rebates for electric vehicles, and free technical assistance. The first action under the program is for the Town to pass the CSC pledge as a municipal resolution to join the program and become a Registered Climate Smart Community
5. Work with DEC to conduct an assessment of the condition and changes in sediment at the Starbuckville Dam.

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