

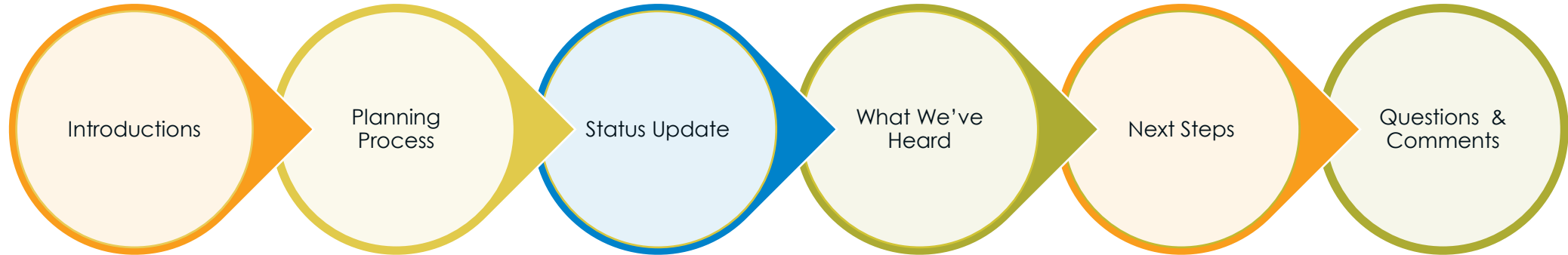
An aerial photograph of a town in a valley, with rolling hills in the background. The left side of the image is partially obscured by a large, semi-transparent orange rectangle. The town features several buildings, including a large school-like structure, and a road network. The background shows a dense forest of trees on the hillsides.

Town of Lafayette

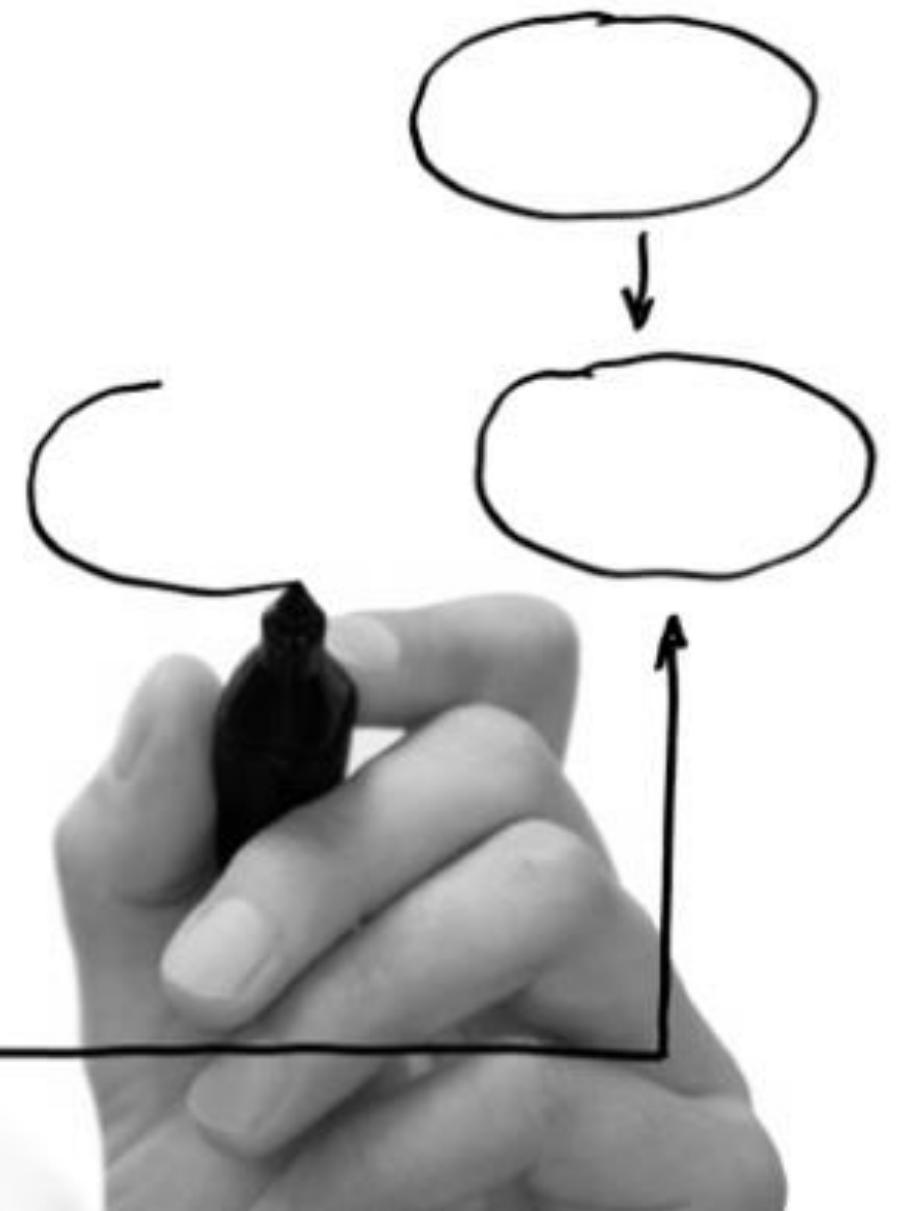
2021 Comprehensive Plan

Town Board Update | September 14, 2021

Tonight's Agenda



Planning Process & Status Update



Process & Timeline



DRAFT Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Community Profile
3. Vision & Goal Framework
4. Future Land Use Map & Hamlet Development Strategy
5. Implementation Matrix
6. Conclusion

Red = Drafted
Green = Currently Being Drafted

Community Profile

- Regional Context & Local History
- Population & Demographics
- Local Economy
- Natural Resources
- Agriculture & Open Spaces
- Parks & Recreation
- LaFayette Hamlet
- Housing
- Infrastructure & Transportation
- Land Use & Zoning

assists in maintaining valuable open space within the Town, the other result is that, much of the Town's development over the years has occurred along rural highways and major roads. Historically, smaller parcels along these roads have been separated from larger parcels and developed. Along portions of some highways, such as the northern sections of Coyle Road and Apulia Road, nearly every frontage lot has been developed.

In some areas, lots are too steep to develop, except immediately adjacent to the roads. In other cases, farmers continue to farm their land, but sell portions of their farm to provide family members with land, or for additional income, especially for larger one-time expenses like buying a new tractor or sending a child to college. The portion sold is often along the road frontage, because there is no need to build a road to the interior of the property. This has also occurred on many vacant lots in Town, probably also to avoid the costly construction of new roads. While this type of development is understandable, and typical of rural areas all over New York State, there are several reasons it should be avoided. As more frontage lots are developed along these through roads and highways, more potential conflict points are created between cars traveling on the highway and cars entering the road from residential parcels. In addition, this type of development effectively hides existing picturesque open space behind a thin crust of development. For example, a road that was once lined by farms can still remain mostly open, but with houses lining the road, the farmland and open space are no longer visible.

The vast, scenic open space within LaFayette is one of its most precious resources, and this plan will outline tools, policies, and strategies that the Town can use moving forward to ensure that it is preserved and protected appropriately in the future.



2.5.2 Agriculture

Agriculture plays an important role in LaFayette, contributing both to the economy and to the open space and rural character of the Town. Approximately 18% of land in the Town is used for productive agriculture. The total acreage within the Town used for agricultural purposes has decreased slightly from 5,136 to 4,927 over the past ten years, representing a total of less than 1% of the Town's land converted from agricultural uses to other uses. This acreage is comprised of 92 productive agricultural parcels under 55 different owners. Again, this number has stayed relatively consistent over the past decade. The static nature of these figures within the past ten years indicates that agriculture remains a stable and viable industry within the Town, despite development pressure that exists within the County that may threaten agricultural lands.

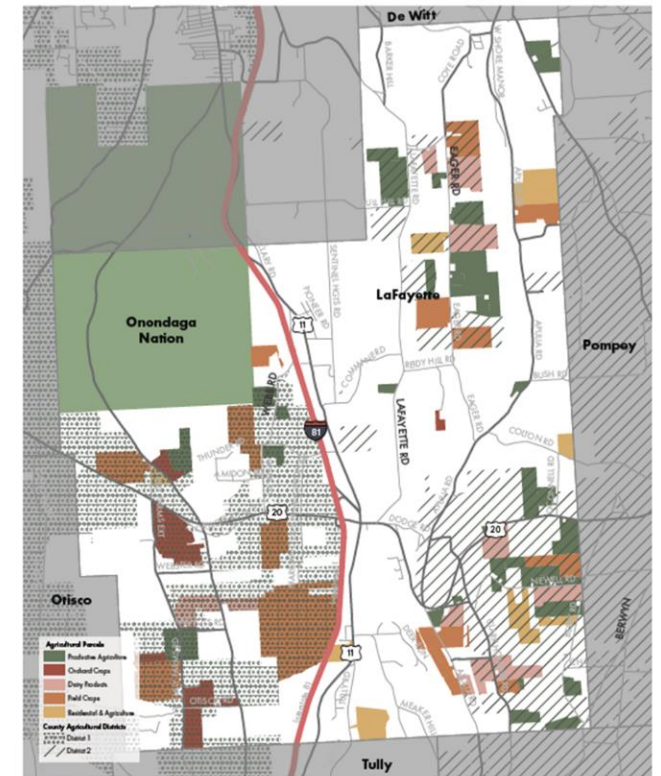
The majority of the farms in the Town produce field crops, such as potatoes, wheat, hay, corn, or oats; followed by dairy farms. The distribution of types of farms are shown in Table 2.1 below:

Table 2.1: Types of Farm in LaFayette

Type	Acres		% Change (2010-2020)
	2020	2010	
Dairy Products	734	852	-14%
Field Crops	1,820	2,103	-13%
Orchard Crops	430	461	-7%
Productive Agriculture	1,417	1,338	+6%
Residential & Agriculture	526	362	+45%
Total	4,927	5,136	-4%

*Productive Agriculture refers to land use as part of an operational farm, not specifically related to other categories.

This distribution of agricultural products produced in the Town is consistent with the profile of farms throughout the County. The majority of farms in LaFayette belong to one of two agriculture districts. Onondaga County Agriculture District 1 includes farms west of I-81 in the Towns of LaFayette, Tully, Onondaga, and Otisco and District 4 includes farms east of I-81 in the Towns of LaFayette, Tully, Pompey, Fabius, and Dewitt (Map 5). The active farms in the Town are part of the 623 farms, or 160,717 acres of agricultural land county-wide, according to the 2017 Census of Agriculture. While the overall number of farms has decreased in the County since 2012, the acreage and average size of farms in the County has increased. This suggests that larger agricultural operations are acquiring smaller local farms throughout the County. According to the Census of Agriculture, Onondaga County farms made record breaking total farm sales of \$178.4 million in 2017, up from \$152.4 million in 2012.



Map 5: Agricultural Land & Districts

Vision & Goal Framework

Five Goals:

1. Hamlet Revitalization
 2. Rural Character Preservation
 3. Economic Development
 4. Infrastructure & Community Assets
 5. Effective & Collaborative Local Governance
- 4-6 Corresponding Objectives
- 9-12 Corresponding Action Items

3. VISION & GOAL FRAMEWORK

A successful comprehensive plan is developed and implemented on multiple levels, addressing the short- and long-term needs of a community while providing varying levels of detail. In an effort to accomplish this, the Lafayette Comprehensive Plan Vision & Goal framework is comprised of the following elements:

VISION

A general statement that describes the aspiration of the Town. It is an end towards which all dramatically change over time but rather be consistent throughout the planning horizon. Ideally be useful for the 10-year planning horizon.

GOAL

Similar to the vision statement in that it is a general concept of a future condition towards which of a goal is much more narrow. It should support the position statement by addressing a specific community. Policies should not dramatically change over time, but rather be consistent through

OBJECTIVE

A statement of a measurable activity to be accomplished in pursuit of the goal; it refers to something attainable by the town and its partners. Think in terms of actions such as "increase," "develop," "Town might already be undertaking some of the objectives articulated in this Plan, including those continued moving forward until they have been achieved. The lifespan of an objective is usually

ACTION ITEM

A specific proposal to accomplish an objective; it can take the form of a plan, project, program, or an action can be immediate or vary from one to 10 years, depending on the item.



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GOAL #1: HAMLET REVITALIZATION

The Lafayette Hamlet, located at the crossroads of Routes 11 and 20, has a rich history as the focal point and center of activity within the Town. It is the goal of the Town to respect the legacy of the Hamlet, and restore its role as the heart of the community. The Town recognizes that the success of the Hamlet is dependent on safe access for pedestrians and motorists, visually appealing storefronts, and comfortable public spaces. Therefore, future investment in the hamlet will enhance its traditional character and walkability and foster an inviting public realm with a diverse mix of uses.



OBJECTIVES

- A. Ensure that the Hamlet has the necessary modern infrastructure facilities to support activity and commercial development.
- B. Support appropriate commercial development that contributes to the character of the Hamlet.
- C. Establish a community identity through placemaking strategies that create an inviting, visually attractive center of activity for residents and visitors to enjoy.
- D. Preserve the historic character of the hamlet through the preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of existing historic structures.
- E. Foster multi-modal connectivity within the Hamlet by creating dedicated travel facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Review and revise the Town Code to ensure that its land use regulations support the desired scale, character, and type of development within the Hamlet.
2. Foster a pedestrian-friendly environment through implementing placemaking and traffic calming strategies such as public art, parklets, street trees, lawns, bump-outs, high-visibility crosswalks, and street furniture.
3. Conduct a water and sewer feasibility study and pursue funding to develop the public infrastructure within the Hamlet necessary to encourage private investment and remove blight.
4. Pursue grant funding to assist in rehabilitation of deteriorating properties and preservation of historic structures.
5. Collaborate with Hotel owners to consider options for a future development strategy of the property.
6. Work with NYS DOT to revise preliminary intersection design concept to ensure increased safety, comfort, and access for all transportation modes while maintaining traffic flows along Route 20 and Route 11.
7. Review and revise the Town Code to include nonresidential design standards or guidelines to ensure future development is of a desirable aesthetic to the Town and that the development of the hamlet and surrounding area is compatible and mutually supportive.
8. Inventory sidewalk sections and address those in need of repair. Identify gaps within the existing network. Consider establishing a maintenance plan.
9. Conduct a property condition inventory and develop a strategy for reviving abandoned, dilapidated sites and vacant lots; and consider developing a property maintenance code for derelict or deteriorating structures and site.

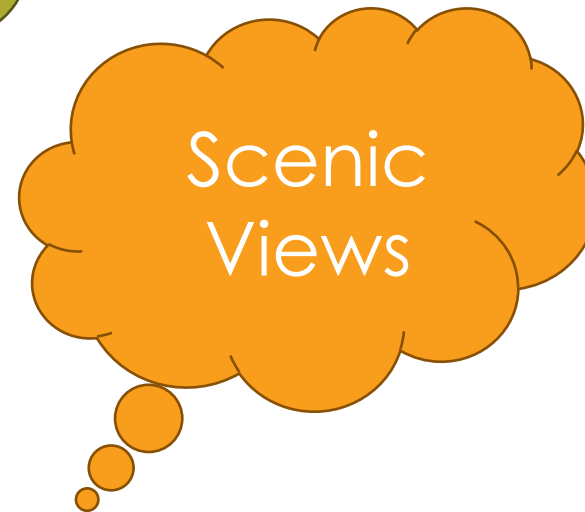
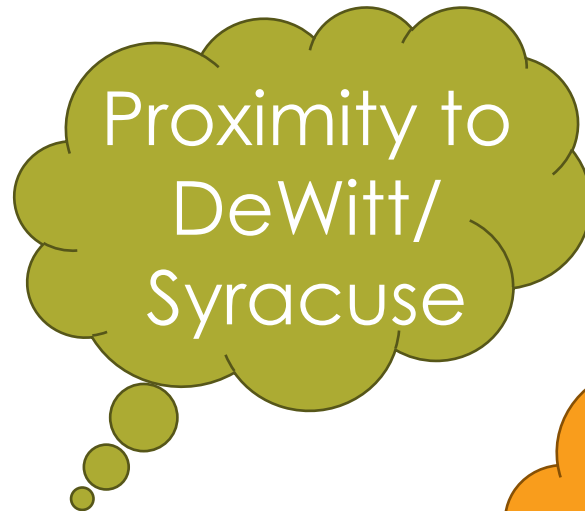
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What We've Heard



Mini-Survey: Community Profile

- What characteristics addressed in the Community Profile draw you to live in the Town of LaFayette?



Mini-Survey: Community Profile

- What are the main issues or challenges to be addressed within the Town of LaFayette?



Mini-Survey: Community Profile

- Where do the greatest opportunities lie with the Town of LaFayette?

Creating
Access
to
Natural
Resour

Fixing Up the
Four Corners

Attracting
high-
quality,
appropriat
e

Preservatio
n of
agriculture
& open
space

Chapter 3 & New Survey Questions Available Online

Town of LaFayette, NY

About Announcements Depts. Community Community Council Lafayette Business Network more...

LAFAYETTE

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

LaFayette is a beautiful rural town and a great place to live. Our vibrant hamlet, surrounding farmland, green spaces, and scenic views are preserved through thoughtfully managed development. Our proud Community is supported by proactive leadership. We welcome a diverse population, encourage the development of compatible businesses, and strive to capitalize on our existing assets and historic identity as the Crossroads of New York State.

Click below for news from the Town Supervisor
May 11, 2021

[LINK TO LAFAYETTE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FAQs](#)

[LINK TO LAFAYETTE PLAN UPDATE CHAPTER 3 DRAFT](#)

Please answer these two survey questions after review of the LaFayette Comp Plan Chapter 3 Draft link above

Name (optional)

First Last

First Last

* Indicates required field

Is there anything you think is missing from the Vision & Goal Framework? *

<https://www.townoflafayette.com/building-a-comprehensive-plan.html>



Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

- Finalize Future Land Use Map & Hamlet Development Strategy
- Develop Implementation Matrix
 - Lead Agencies/Partners
 - Cost Ranges
 - Timeframe
 - Potential Funding
 - Priorities (based on committee & community feedback)
- Host Open House
- Edits to draft Plan based on Open House feedback
- Public Hearings



Questions? Comments?