

2016

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Planning Board
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Town Council
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**[NEW SHOREHAM
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN]**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Town of New Shoreham Hazard Mitigation Plan (2015 draft under review by RIEMA)

Shoreline Access Working Group (SAWG) Report, 2015

ACRONYMS & DEFINITIONS

Acronyms

CGSP – Committee for the Great Salt Pond
CRMC – Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council
EPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency
FIRM – Flood Insurance Rate Map
GSP – Great Salt Pond
HDC – Historic District Commission
LCAS – Large Capital Asset Subcommittee
NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OWTS – On-site Wastewater Treatment System
RIDOT – Rhode Island Department of Transportation
RIGL – Rhode Island General Law
RIRRC – Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation
SAWG – Shoreline Access Working Group
SLAMM – Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model
TIP – Transportation Improvement Program

Definitions

Affordable housing is used to describe housing that is generally affordable, meaning that households would pay no more than 30% of their income on housing.

Attainable housing has a sales price or rental amount that is within the means of a household that is moderate income or less.

Agritourism refers to any agriculturally based operation or activity conducted for the enjoyment or education of visitors and that generates supplemental income for the farmer. Agritourism can include farm stands, pick-your-own, tours, classes, festivals and fairs, Christmas tree farms, pumpkin patches, winery weddings, guest ranches, and more.

American Community Survey is an ongoing statistical survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, sent to approximately 250,000 addresses monthly (or 3 million per year). It regularly gathers information previously contained only in the long form of the decennial census.

Area median income divides the income distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median income and one-half above the median. HUD uses the median income to calculate income limits for eligibility in a variety of housing programs.

Best Management Practices is often used to refer to both structural systems used to treat or store polluted stormwater, as well as, non-structural procedural practices such as educating a community about water quality measures.

Blueways are routes along a river or across other bodies of water, such as a lake or saltwater, for people using small beachable boats like kayaks, canoes, day sailors or rowboats.

Broadband refers to the amount of data that a consumer can download or upload from the internet in a given second; a wide band of frequencies is available to transmit information resulting in users being able to access the internet and internet related services at significantly higher speeds than those available through “dial-up” services.

Comprehensive permit is a state-law regulated, single application for special exception to build low and moderate income housing in lieu of separate application to applicable boards (developer goes only to the Planning Board for review and relief instead of also going to the Zoning Board). “Comp permits,” as they are called, require a minimum 25 percent affordable housing.

Conservation easement refers to a binding contractual agreement between typically a land trust or government entity and a landowner under which the landowner, permanently or during a time period specified in the agreement, agrees to conserve or restore habitat, open space, scenic, or other ecological resource values on the land covered by the easement.

Conservation-style subdivision is a site planning technique which bases the layout of building lots on the natural characteristics of the land and reduces lot sizes so that the remaining land can be used for recreation, common open space, and/or preservation of environmentally, historically and culturally sensitive features and structures.

Dredging is an excavation activity or operation usually carried out at least partly underwater, in shallow seas or fresh water areas with the purpose of gathering up bottom sediments and disposing of them at a different location. This technique is often used to keep waterways navigable.

Eutrophication is an excessive richness of nutrients in a waterbody (phosphates) frequently due to contaminants from upland runoff, which causes a dense growth of plant life and death of animal life from lack of oxygen.

Farm, Forest, and Open Space Program allows property to be assessed at its current use, not its value for development. The purpose of the law is not to reduce property taxes, but to conserve Rhode Island’s productive agricultural and forest land by reducing the chance it will have to be sold for development (RIGL 44-27).

Farm-to-table refers to a movement which promotes serving local food at restaurants.

FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) is the official map of a community on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has delineated the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), the Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

Fresnel lens is a type of compact lens originally developed by French physicist Augustin-Jean Fresnel for lighthouses. A Fresnel lens can capture more oblique light from a light source, thus allowing the light from a lighthouse equipped with one to be visible over greater distances.

Geographic Information System is a computer system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of spatial or geographical data.

Greenways are a track of land that is reserved for conservation or recreational use.

Highway Functional Classification System is used to define the role a road plays in the nation's highway network. A roadway's functional classification is based upon its level of travel mobility and access to property according to a hierarchy of travel service it provides. A roadway's functional classification now has increased importance when the State determines project priority in developing the state's Transportation Improvement Program.

HousingWorks is a coalition of public, non-profit and private organizations in Rhode Island, affiliated with Roger Williams University, which researches and advocates for affordable housing across the state.

Inclusionary zoning ordinance is a local regulation which requires a given share of new construction to be affordable by people with low to moderate incomes.

Invasive species is an organism (plant, animal, fungus, or bacterium) that is not native and has negative effects on the economy, environment, or health. Not all introduced species are invasive.

Low-and-Moderate Income Housing or "LMI housing" is used to describe housing that has been subsidized and deed- or otherwise-restricted for a term not less than 30 years to ensure long-term accessibility to those of low- and moderate-incomes, as defined by the Low and Moderate Income Housing Act, RIGL § 45-53-3.

Low -and - Moderate Income Housing Act is the State law requiring that 10% of each municipality's housing stock be "affordable". "Affordable" units are required to have a government subsidy and deed restriction to assure they will remain affordable for a minimum of 30 years. The Act requires that communities that are not exempt, produce an "affordable housing plan" and file an annual progress report with the Housing Resources Commission.

Mixed use zoning sets standards for the blending of residential, commercial, cultural, or institutional uses. Mixed use zoning is generally closely linked to increased density, which allows for more compact efficient development while reducing energy consumption and transportation costs. The mixed use buildings that result can help strengthen or establish neighborhood character and encourage walking and bicycling.

Nonpoint source pollution comes from many diffuse sources associated with land use activities over a wide land area. When rainfall or snowmelt occurs, sediment, nutrients, organic and toxic substances are carried across the ground and into surface waters and groundwater.

Point source pollution means any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, conduit, container, concentrated animal feeding operation, vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

Payment in lieu is an alternative to the actual physical integration of affordable units into a given development. The developer makes a payment of a predetermined sum of money to the community to be used for future development of affordable housing units.

State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the multi-year program for scheduling and funding the planning, design, and construction phases of the entire range of transportation projects in the state.

Mandatory Recycling Rate includes common recyclables sent to RIRRC's Materials Recycling Facility plus other materials on the RIDEM's Mandatory Recyclables List including leaf and yard debris composted at RIRRC or elsewhere, as well as clothing and other metals reused or recycled elsewhere. RIRRC divides these tons by their total plus the total tons of trash delivered to RRRC for landfilling.

Rate of Overall Material Diversion from Landfill is a measure which expands on the Mandatory Recycling Rate by adding in all other materials that are diverted from the landfill for reuse or recycling. It includes special wastes such as tires, mattresses, clean wood, clothing and shoes, books, motor oil and filters, cooking oil, etc, not on the RIDEM'S Mandatory Recyclables list. RIRRC divides these tons by their total plus the total tons of trash delivered to RIRRC for landfilling.

Sea level rise refers to the current and projected rise in sea level associated with climate change and global warming.

Stewardship refers to the responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices in a way that takes full and balanced account of the interests of society, future generations, and other species, as well as of private needs, and accepts significant answerability to society.

Storm surge is a coastal flood of rising water as a result of atmospheric pressure changes and wind associated with a storm.

Type I Waters is identified as "Conservation" in the R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council's Water Type Classification. Type I waters include water areas that are within the boundaries of designated wildlife refuge areas, water areas that have retained undisturbed natural habitat or maintain scenic values of unique or unusual significance, and water areas that are particularly unsuitable for structures due to their exposure to severe wave action, flooding and erosion.

U.S. Census is a decennial population census mandated by the United States Constitution and carried out by the U.S. Census Bureau. It is the number one source of current population data and the latest Economic Indicators.

Value-added products most generally refers to manufacturing processes that increase the value of primary agricultural commodities (i.e. strawberries into jam). Value-added agriculture may also refer to increasing the economic value of a commodity through particular production processes, e.g., organic produce, or through regionally branded products that increase consumer appeal and willingness to pay a premium over similar but undifferentiated products.

Vernal ponds are temporary wetlands that fill after the snowfall each spring. They become the seasonal breeding and feeding grounds for many intriguing amphibians and insects, as well as the reptiles, birds, and mammals that depend on them for food.

Watershed is an area of land that feeds all the water running under it and draining off of it into a body of water.

Wayfinding typically refers to an attractive and consistent signage program used to orient and guide unfamiliar motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians, for the purposes of enhancing visitors' experience and promoting local economic development.

Wellhead protection area is a surface and subsurface land area regulated to prevent contamination of a well or well-field supplying a public water system. This program, established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, is implemented through state governments.

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