



Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Update Committee *Preliminary Draft Vision and Goals – January 2018*

Vision Statement

In the Year 2030...

The City of Port Jervis is a destination for those seeking proximity to the great outdoors without sacrificing access to goods, services, employment, and connections to metropolitan areas. As the Gateway to the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway and to the Mid-Hudson Valley Region from points west, Port Jervis is a thriving economic outpost in the greater New York City area. The City's vibrant downtown, walkable neighborhoods and unique recreational assets make it an attractive destination in its own right. These qualities along with its small town feel, well-preserved history, good schools, engaged residents, and an active local business community also make it a great place to live and work. Port Jervis is safe, attractive, and affordable with arts and culture, parks and open spaces, and a strong sense of civic pride contributing to its excellent quality of life. The City's sound financial position allows it to invest in its infrastructure and provide necessary services and desired amenities to ensure a sustainable and resilient future.

Goals & Objectives

To achieve this vision, the City of Port Jervis has established a set of goals and objectives to guide decision-making. These goals address a wide range of issues that have been raised through the public involvement process and through the development of an inventory and analysis of existing conditions. The goals and objectives are as follows:

- **Goal:** A Downtown with vibrant business activity and quality housing choices. Downtown Port Jervis should be the commercial, social, cultural, and civic center of the City. Mixed-use buildings, with active uses on the ground floor and office and residential uses on upper floors, and traditional architectural forms and pedestrian-oriented urban design patterns are strongly encouraged.
 - **Objective:** Encourage and facilitate the reuse of existing buildings and redevelopment of underutilized sites and structures in Downtown Port Jervis.
 - **Objective:** Simplify the zoning code to improve clarity in the development review process. Consider the use of design guidelines/standards or a form-based code.
 - **Objective:** Provide property investment incentives to encourage reuse of existing structures.
 - **Objective:** Support the growth and expansion of local businesses and the attraction of new businesses to Port Jervis. Focus economic development efforts

- in the Downtown and in specific commercial or industrial districts where infrastructure already exists or can be readily provided.
- **Objective:** Work with Orange County and New York State to amend legislation in order to mitigate the commerce dampening effects of cross-border trade in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
 - **Goal:** A small, urban community that is connected to its Delaware River waterfront, has a strong relationship with the natural environment, and a unique sense of local identity.
 - **Objective:** Activate the City's Delaware River waterfront with public, recreational uses and improve connections between the waterfront, downtown, and other adjoining neighborhoods. Supplement waterfront recreational uses with appropriate commercial establishments.
 - **Objective:** Improve access to Elks-Brox Memorial Park and to the Port Jervis Watershed Park and Recreation Area.
 - **Objective:** Protect important natural resources such as stream corridors, steep slopes, floodplains, wetlands, and unique ecosystems.
 - **Objective:** Protect and showcase the City's rich history
 - **Goal:** Stabilized and strengthened neighborhoods that ensure safe and affordable housing with walkable access to parks, schools, neighborhood commercial establishments, and services as well as connections to Downtown.
 - **Objective:** Enhance community-wide mobility for residents and visitors to Port Jervis. Walking, biking, public transportation, and vehicular travel should all be attractive options for moving about the City.
 - **Objective:** Promote a mixture of housing options as allowable uses within the zoning code. This will also reduce the prevalence of pre-existing non-conforming uses that cause conflicts for Planning/Zoning Boards and inhibit property resale (via mortgage restrictions).
 - **Objective:** Strengthen code enforcement to protect resident safety and improve neighborhood quality of life.
 - **Objective:** Invest in streetscape amenities including street-lighting, street trees, and well-maintained sidewalks to improve neighborhood safety and attractiveness.
 - **Goal:** Efficiently and effectively maintained civic infrastructure that provides quality services, encourages economic development, and mitigates the effects of natural disasters.
 - **Objective:** Maintain and enhance the City's aging water, sewer, and local roadway infrastructure in a fiscally-responsible manner.
 - **Objective:** Work with utilities and providers of fiber optic and other communications infrastructure to ensure that high quality services are available to meet the growing needs of residents and businesses.
 - **Objective:** Consider adaptation strategies to ensure the resiliency of the City's infrastructure in response to a changing climate.