



**Arcade Comprehensive Plan
Steering Committee
Meeting Notes**

**July 11th, 2023; 6:30 pm
Village Hall**

I. Review Prior Meeting Notes

The committee received meeting notes as part of the agenda distribution. All members present concurred that the notes were accurate. Emma Falkenstein advised that MRB Group would add the meeting notes to the comprehensive plan website.

II. Community Profile & Strategic Communication Plan Update

Emma Falkenstein provided an update on the strategic communication plan and community profile. She noted that both documents had been submitted to DOS for review, and that the consultant team is waiting to hear back. She stated that the consultant team should receive feedback in the next two weeks.

III. Visioning and Values Exercise

Matt Horn provided an overview of the layers of the comprehensive planning process. He emphasizes how the comprehensive plan's vision statement should be authentic yet aspirational for where the Steering Committee hopes Arcade will be in 2045. He noted that the vision statement is supported by the plan's planning principles (values) that will guide how the Village and the Town evaluate decisions and opportunities based on their alignment with the comprehensive plan.

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State Environmental Protection Fund.

The combination of the vision and planning principles provide the foundation from which the rest of the plan is created.

Following the overview of the importance of the vision and planning principles, Matt Horn led the Steering Committee through a series of thought prompts to dissect what Steering Committee members value about Arcade. The Steering Committee engaged in discussion regarding the aspects of Arcade they really like, potential aspects of the community that might prohibit resident retention and key areas they hope the Village and Town will cultivate over the next two decades.

The following is a summary of the main themes from the vision/values exercise:

What people love about Arcade:

- Welcoming/friendly community
- Family oriented → good schools & community events & Kid-friendly activities Community amenities
- Agricultural/rural small town feel/charm
- Affordable → good quality of life
- Location → proximity & accessibility to everything you need
- Four Seasons → year-round outdoor activities
- Village/neighborhood feel → people know their neighbors
- Business community → affordability (good electric rates) and village location is an attractive place to have a business

What might deter someone from living in Arcade:

- Lack of good paying jobs w/ opportunities to grow → limited social mobility
- Lack of quality affordable housing → for renters & seniors
- Limited public transportation
- Not enough things to draw/retain young people

Vision for Arcade in 2045

- Quality of Life

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- Businesses offer quality pay to ensure good livability for their employees
- Diverse & affordable housing supply
- Village Main Street is vibrant → filled w/ small businesses, clean & beautiful, restaurants/attractions
- Village is walkable & compact – safe for pedestrians & cars
- Good place to live where you work → attract/retain residents for local industries & remote work
- Community oriented people w/ strong work ethic
- Affordable for people & businesses
- Public safety/Police keep good relationship w/ the community
- Good multi-modal mobility → pedestrian, bikes, trails, public transit, trains
- Goal to increase by 100 living/working units

After completing the exercise, Emma Falkenstein advised the Steering Committee that she would take all the ideas gathered from the meeting to draft vision and values themes for the Steering Committee to review prior to the August meeting.

IV. Smart Growth Presentation

Emma Falkenstein gave a presentation on the 10 principles of Smart Growth. She noted how a key component of Smart Growth is the interconnected nature of the social, environmental, and economic aspects of community planning. She emphasized how many of the Steering Committee's comments during the vision/values exercise align with the principles of Smart Growth. She stated how the Village and Town are in a great position to maximize the benefits of taking a Smart Growth approach to comprehensive planning.

V. Activity Prior to Next Meeting

Emma Falkenstein noted that the consultant team will follow up with DOS regarding the strategic communication plan and community profile. Additionally, Emma noted that she will consolidate the themes from the vision/values exercise and distribute the notes for the Steering

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Committee to review prior to the August meeting. Matt Horn noted that the Steering Committee will have a follow up discussion to calibrate the vision/values themes at the August meeting. Matt also noted that Roxanne Kise will begin preparations for the Public Forum in September.

VI. Other Business

VII. Next Meeting

August 8, 2023 at the Arcade Village Hall.

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