

Sustainable Northampton:

Focus on....  *Land Use and Development*



Goals

Direct changes and improvements in accordance with the Future Land Use Map

Create and preserve high quality built environments in the downtown and village centers

Maintain a distinction between rural areas, residential neighborhoods and urban areas

Preserve and encourage agricultural uses in designated areas, such as the Meadows

Photos: Community Gardens; Leeds center; Childs Park; fans at Lassie League game at the Agnes "Gush" Valenta ball field at Sheldon Field

Direct changes and improvements in accordance with the Future Land Use Map

how our budgets are supporting this goal

FY 2011	FY 2012
Planning Department staffed the Zoning Revisions Committee.	Planning will begin implementing new Open Space Plan.
CEDO collaborated with Planning and Northampton Chamber of Commerce on revised zoning for the King Street corridor.	
This is the largest single focus area of the Planning and Development and is part of their daily work.	
Forbes Library maintains a collection of materials on urban planning, land use, and sustainable practices to help educate the community on best practices and research in these areas.	

how our budgets are supporting this goal

FY 2011	FY 2012
Lilly Library has worked to preserve a high quality for its building and grounds as demonstrated through the renovation and addition to the original building and receiving the Stavros Award for Accessibility in 2010.	
Board of health helps inform changes to the built environment that maximize opportunities for healthy living through, for example, easier access to physical activity.	

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how our budgets are supporting this goal

FY 2011

FY 2012

To further this goal, Planning oversees a comprehensive effort, involving extensive community discussion, support to city and community committees, community outreach, regulatory changes, permit review process changes, land acquisition, land management and other measures.

Fire Services works with Planning Board to ensure that rural development is both accessible and properly protected, thus making rural development outside of the water district feasible.

how our budgets are supporting this goal

FY 2011

FY 2012

Provided planning staff support to Grow Food Northampton, a citizen group to purchase land on the Bean/Allard property for a community farm & education center.

Parking Division worked with local farmers to create a new Farmers' Market located on the plaza adjacent to the Parking Garage on Tuesdays, April through November

SVAS maintains laboratory agricultural lands on its main campus, the Veterans Administration Hospital, and at Village Hill.

Residents alert Dispatch of improper use of the Meadows (gatherings with bon fires, erratic operation of vehicles) and they send officers to enforce and protect the Meadows and the fire department to extinguish any illegal fires to prevent them from spreading. Dispatch also approves and monitors requests for agricultural burns in the Meadows.

Preserve and encourage agricultural uses in designated areas, such as the Meadows