

Additions/Alterations to the Litchfield Comprehensive Plan

The following are changes made to the text of the DRAFT plan presented in March, 2013 in response to public review and comments. The CURRENT plan to be voted on already contains the changes described below. Note that additions have changed some page numbers.

- Page 19, paragraph 3: Inserted the sentence “According to the code enforcement officer, Litchfield experiences two or three conversions per year. “
- Page 33, paragraph 4: Added reference to the Senior Advisory Committee’s part-time Senior Center Director.
- Page 34, paragraph 1: Added reference to the Senior Advisory Committee’s part-time Senior Center Director.
- Page 34, “Issues”: Added a paragraph addressing coordination between two part-time directors, as follows: “The Town employs part-time Senior Center Director and part-time Recreation Director. While it is important to maintain an emphasis on both senior activities and youth recreation, the overall program may benefit from closer coordination, perhaps joining the functions into a ‘Community Activities Director’.”
- Pages 30 and 36. Changed the wording of action “A” to read “The Selectmen should develop a plan to combine the responsibilities of recreation director/recreation committee and senior center director/senior advisory committee into a coordinated “Community Activities Program,” that will support activities in town for all ages.”
- Page 37, action “E”: Changed the wording to incorporate the recommendation for a newly-formed community activities program.
- Page 40, paragraph 2: Rewritten with updated information to read “Bald Eagles are identified as a species of special concern due to their rarity and are protected by the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Act. . . . Great Blue Herons are also listed as a species of special concern, although no management recommendations have been issued. A Great Blue Heron nesting site has been observed on the eastern shore of Woodbury Pond.”
- Page 40: A paragraph has been added referencing the deer wintering areas on the *Critical Natural Resources Map* and describing the role and importance of deer wintering areas.
- Page 40: Table 4 contains dated information and did not correspond to the *Critical Natural Resources Map*. The table has been deleted, and a reference added to paragraph 5 about the 13 wetlands currently mapped. (Succeeding tables renumbered)
- Page 41, “Rare Plant Species:” Small purple bladderwort is no longer tracked and may be non-existent, so it has been removed from the listing (was #3.)
- Page 44, Action “C:” Added a sentence “The board should also use *BWH* maps and data routinely to assist in reviewing development applications.”
- Page 55 (formerly page 56): The information on the Tacoma Lakes Improvement Society was inaccurate. The new wording is taken from the TLIS website.
- Page 55 (formerly page 56): The Four Towns Watershed Association is no longer involved with the dam, and the text has been changed to reflect that fact.
- Pages 45 and 61: Wording changed in action “A” (“B” on page 61) to reflect proper relationship between the town and conservation associations.

Page 64 (formerly page 65): Added several sentences to the paragraph on emergency management.

Page 67: A paragraph has been added to the section on public works, titled “Woodbury Pond (Purgatory) Dam” addressing the responsibility and current status of the dam.

Page 73: A paragraph has been added to the “issues” discussion: “Linked to the issue of participation is the issue of communications. The Town has done exceptionally well to maintain its newsletter, the *Sodalite* and its website. But as online communications become increasingly a part of everyday life, the town will need to adapt its practices. The website can be beefed up and used as more of a communications tool, and the Town should explore providing more online services and engaging social media to communicate local issues or receive feedback. These practices could help to improve local participation, while not necessarily resulting in more bodies at town meeting.”

Page 73 “Achievements”: A paragraph has been added to note the adoption of an emergency management ordinance.

Page 74, Policy 2: Amended to specify how the emergency management ordinance should be implemented.

Page 74, Action “C” (and 110): Added “town administration” to list of services to be assessed.

Page 74: Added a new Action “D” (formerly part of “C”; subsequent actions renumbered) “The Selectmen should expand transfer station services to include weekday hours (immediate) and appoint a committee to explore ways to improve disposal of solid waste, residential construction and demolition debris, and household hazardous waste (mid-term).

Page 75: Added a new action “J”: “The Selectmen should assign responsibility for addressing deficiencies at the Woodbury Pond Dam and appropriate funds as necessary.”

Page 75: Added a new action “K”: “The Town Manager should explore and implement mechanisms to improve online communications and services.”

Page 78, 7th paragraph (begins “That Tacoma Lakes ...): The paragraph has been reworded to emphasize the efforts of the private organizations and clarify the role that the town plays.

Page 85, Action “F”: Deleted “continue to” in reference to monitoring, as the Town does not presently monitor.

Page 93, last paragraph: Added a sentence “Local businesses experience a bump in commerce as a result of seasonal residents and visitors, but the town does not have a means to take advantage of this opportunity.”

Page 94, Action “B”: Added “seasonal residents” to list of local economic assets.

Page 108, Action “B”: Change in wording to clarify that the boundaries of existing growth areas are not proposed to change.

Page 111, Table 13 (formerly table 14): Added “Woodbury Pond Dam” to capital improvements listing, with moderate priority and funding from local appropriations.

Chapter 16 (page 112): The recommendations in this chapter were bulleted, are now numbered. Numbering is for ease of reference only, and does not correspond to numbers or letters in the respective chapters. Also, since the recommendations are mirrored from the respective chapters, any changes at the chapter level have been transferred to this chapter.

Page 120, second-to-last paragraph: Removed the term “logical association” and substituted “is not a natural fit with other towns, either in proximity or in the type of services we offer.”