

Municipal Plan – Implementation Assessment

Guidelines and Standards for Confirmation of Municipal Planning Processes

Municipality: Swanton

Date: 9/5/23

Municipal Plan Expiration: 9/23/23

Planning Process Currently Confirmed? Yes No

Activity	Progress? (select all that may apply)	Explanation of Progress
<p>Preparation or adoption of bylaws or amendments:</p>	<p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Currently Implementing <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority During Time Period <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority in Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Hindered or Delayed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Activity </p>	<p>The Town of Swanton Plan that expires in September of 2023 has several implementation tasks related to the town’s development regulations, including the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review zoning and subdivision bylaws to allow for higher density housing in appropriate locations in and near the Village. 2. Amend the Swanton Development Regulations to require the development of multi-use paths/sidewalks during the subdivision and/or site plan approval process to provide increased pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to existing municipal infrastructure and to proposed development. 3. Establish a Village Historic District in the Development Regulations. The Development Regulations shall address issues related to exterior architectural and aesthetic guidelines. <p>It appears that Task 2 has been met. It appears Task 3 was not completed but is still a priority in the newly adopted Town Plan. NRPC understands that Task 1 is a current priority and that the town plans to apply for grants funds in FY24 for this purpose.</p>

<p>Capital budgets and programs:</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Activity Completed <input type="checkbox"/> Currently Implementing <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority During Time Period <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority in Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Hindered or Delayed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Activity </p>	<p>Swanton does not currently have a capital budget and plan; however it remains a priority in their newly adopted plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a five-year capital budget and plan. Update it annually and consider possible funding mechanisms such as impact fees to reduce tax burden on existing Swanton residents. 2. Conduct an energy audit of municipal buildings to identify weatherization retrofits and incorporate the recommendations into the municipal capital budget.
<p>Supplemental plans: (list one or more identified in the plan, but not necessarily all. Examples: Hazard Mitigation Plan, Sidewalk Plan, etc.)</p>	<p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Completed <input type="checkbox"/> Currently Implementing <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority During Time Period <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority in Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Hindered or Delayed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Activity </p>	<p>The Town of Swanton has a current Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by FEMA.</p> <p>The newly updated plan includes a recommendation to develop a plan for the long-term maintenance of municipal buildings and infrastructure. Ensure there is capacity within the organization to plan for those needs, and ensure those needs are adequately funded.</p>
<p>Other actions, programs, or measures undertaken or scheduled to implement the adopted plan: (list one or more identified in the plan, but not necessarily all)</p>	<p> Activity Completed Currently Implementing <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority During Time Period <input type="checkbox"/> Not a Priority in Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Hindered or Delayed <input type="checkbox"/> No Activity </p>	<p>The Town and Village are currently implementing a variety of projects and programs that implement the Town Plan including but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Village is working on making the village more pedestrian and bicycle friendly and is applying for design and construction funds to implement a recently completed scoping study. • The Village is working on redeveloping brownfields in the Northern Gateway district, which is a recommendation in the plan. • The plan includes a recommendation to assess current municipal recreational facilities and develop a plan to improve their condition and ensure there are sufficient recreational facilities for all ages.

24 V.S.A. 4350(c): *In order to retain confirmation or the planning process, a municipality shall document that it has reviewed and is actively engaged in a process to implement its adopted plan.*

(1) When assessing whether a municipality has been actively engaged in a process to implement its adopted plan, the regional planning commission shall consider the activities of the local boards and commissions with regard to the preparation or adoption of bylaws and amendments; capital budgets and programs; supplemental plan; or other actions, programs, or measures undertaken or scheduled to implement the adopted plan. The regional planning commission shall consider factors that may have hindered or delayed municipal implementation efforts.

(2) The consultation may include guidance by the regional planning commission with regard to resources and technical support available to the municipality its adopted plan and recommendations by the regional planning commission for plan amendments and for updating the plan prior to readoption under section 4387 of this title.

In order to obtain or retain confirmation, a municipality must be actively engaged in a process to implement its adopted plan. Actively engaged is defined as making progress in all of the four implementation categories above or a determination that the plan does not call for any implementation actions in a category.

Notes: