

North Hero Town Plan: Required Elements and State Planning Goals

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24 V.S.A. § 4382: Required Planning Elements

These requirements define the basic elements that your municipal plan must address. Your community decides how to address the required elements. New requirements since the last Town Plan was adopted are highlighted in blue.

1. Statement of Objectives, Policies, Programs
2. Land Use Plan and Map
3. Transportation Plan and Map
4. Utility and Facility Plan and Map
5. Rare Natural Resources/Historic Resources Plan
 - a. Indicate areas that are important as forest blocks and habitat connectors and plan for land development in those areas to minimize forest fragmentation
6. Educational Facilities Plan and Map
7. Implementation Program
8. Compatibility Statement (Adjacent Municipalities and the Region)
9. Energy Plan
10. Housing Element
 - a. Data on year-round and seasonal dwellings
 - b. Specific actions to address the housing needs of persons with low income and persons with moderate income
11. Economic Development Element
12. Flood Resiliency Plan

24 V.S.A. § 4302: State Planning Goals

To have a regionally approved plan, municipal plans must be consistent with 15 state planning goals. “Consistent” means that the plan must make substantial progress toward attainment of the goals. A list and description of each goal is provided on the next page. New portions of planning goals since the last Town Plan was adopted are highlighted in blue.

1	Compact Village Centers	• The Village Center and adjacent areas should accommodate a majority of housing growth to achieve housing targets • Economic growth should be encouraged in these areas, and strip development along highways should be avoided • Public investments should reinforce the planned growth patterns of the area
2	Economy	Strong and diverse economy that provides satisfying and rewarding job opportunities
3	Education	Broaden access to educational and vocational training opportunities
4	Transportation	Safe, convenient and efficient transportation system, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians and bicyclers
5	Natural & Historic Resources	Identify, protect and preserve important natural and historic features
6	Land Resources	Maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife, forests and other land resources
7	Energy	Encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy
8	Recreation	Maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for residents and visitors
9	Agriculture and Forestry	Strategies to protect agricultural and forest lands, including value added products, locally grown food, sound management practices, and minimizing development pressure on ag land
10	Earth Resources	Facilitate the appropriate extraction of earth resources
11	Housing	• Housing should meet the needs of a diversity of social and income groups, particularly low and moderate income, and consistent with housing targets • Safe, sanitary, located conveniently to employment and commercial centers, coordinated with the provision of necessary public facilities and utilities. • Sites for multifamily and manufactured housing should be readily available in locations similar to those generally used for single-family conventional dwellings. • Accessory dwelling units should be allowed
12	Public Services	Plan for, finance and provide an efficient system of public facilities and services to meet future needs.
13	Childcare	Ensure the availability of safe and affordable child care
14	Flood Resilience	Avoid new development in flood hazard areas, promote floodplain restoration, and encourage flood emergency preparedness and response planning
15	Environmental Justice	Equitably distribute environmental benefits and burdens