

Town of Bowdoinham Listening Session

Come Have a Say About Our Future!

Hosted by the Bowdoinham Comprehensive Planning Committee
Tuesday, March 15, 2022, Bowdoinham Community School, 23 Cemetery Rd

We, the Comprehensive Planning Committee members, want to create a Comprehensive Plan that represents what the Town wants. The Comprehensive Plan is a ten-year plan that lays out the work the Town should undertake in order to meet its goals, and serves as the basis for the Town's land use ordinances. A first step in comprehensive planning is to establish a Vision for the Town. What do we want our town to look like in the future?

We asked that question in several ways at a Public Forum on November 16, 2021 and via a Community Survey in January and February, 2022. At our second Public Forum we will present survey results and ask for public input on key topics. The result of the March 15 Forum will be a Draft Vision Statement that the we will then refine and recommend to the Select Board.

Agenda

6:15 **Arrival and Refreshments**

6:30 **Welcome**

Comprehensive Planning Committee Vice-Chair David Asmussen will offer opening remarks.
Facilitator Craig Freshley will explain how the meeting will work.

6:35 **What We've Heard So Far**

- Craig Freshley will present a brief overview of what we learned in the November 16 Forum.
- Peggy Christian will present a brief overview of what we learned in the January/February Surveys.
- There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

6:55 **Where and How to Protect what we Love?**

Based on what we've heard so far, we thought it prudent to collect additional public input on the following key topics:

- **Where** to proactively protect things like natural resources, view corridors, recreational access, rural character, etc.
 - Town Planner Jenn Curtis will facilitate a map-based discussion with drawings and notes encouraged.
- **How** should the town institute such protections? What's our appetite for zoning and other tools? How should we balance individual freedom with common good?
 - Facilitator Craig Freshley will facilitate a discussion on this topic and try to find some common ground.

We will divide into two groups to discuss these two topics. If most people want to do both topics, we will run them twice.

7:35 **How to Prepare for Climate Change?**

- How should our community adapt to climate change? What should we do to prepare? How should we do things differently?
- We will each share answers to these questions and actually put them up on the wall.
- We will discuss and organize them and see what themes emerge.

8:00 **Closing Comments**

- Craig will present any themes and/or conclusions that might have emerged.
- There will be an opportunity for anyone to raise last questions and comments.
- Each member of the Comprehensive Planning Committee will have a last word.

8:15 **Adjourn**