
CITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE

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PRESS RELEASE

City of Biddeford Launches Citywide Planning Process

Residents asked to provide input for the 2021 Comprehensive Plan Update

BIDDEFORD (March 3, 2021) — The City of Biddeford will be updating its Comprehensive Plan in 2021, and is calling on the community to provide input.

The Comprehensive Plan serves as a policy document that guides growth in Biddeford. It includes an inventory and analysis of existing resources in Biddeford, as well as a vision for the future that is developed with resident feedback.

Since the adoption of the current Comprehensive Plan in 1999, Biddeford's character has changed significantly. The City's goal is to update the plan to reflect the community's current priorities and values. Public input will specifically be sought on neighborhoods, housing, environmental issues, climate change, public facilities, transportation, and downtown mill district and business development issues.

"Biddeford has been experiencing a boom in development over the past few years. Now is the time to bring the community together to create a shared vision for Biddeford, so that we can plan our city's continued growth in a thoughtful manner," said Bill Southwick, the chair of Biddeford's Planning Board.

With COVID-19 limiting opportunities for safe in-person gatherings for the foreseeable future, the Comprehensive Plan public participation process will move forward in 2021 primarily using virtual public events and surveys for feedback. Members of the public will be able to engage with the material in the plan by watching video clips and reviewing key fact sheets before providing feedback. Several "focus group"-style online meetings will then be held in late spring following the release of each of the surveys.

Online opportunities for participation will launch on the City of Biddeford website at www.biddefordmaine.org/comprehensiveplan on a weekly basis beginning in mid-March. Residents are encouraged to sign up for the Comprehensive Plan Updates email list at the same link to receive a notification when new information is posted.

For more information, please contact the Planning and Development Department at 207-284-9115.

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