



# TOWN OF BRISTOL

## Comprehensive Plan Update

October 17, 2018

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## List of Acronyms

CCE – Cornell Cooperative Extension (of Ontario County)

FLCC – Finger Lakes Community College

IDA – Industrial Development Association

GIS – Geographic Information Services

GFLRPC – Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council

GTC – Genesee Transportation Council

GVC – Genesee Valley Conservancy

GVCC – Genesee Valley Cycling Club

NOFA – Northeast Organic Farmers Association

NYS DAM – New York State Dept. of Agriculture and Markets

NYS DEC - New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

NYS DOT - New York State Dept. of Transportation

NYSERDA – New York State Energy Research & Development Authority

OCSWCD – Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District

USDA – United States Dept. of Agriculture



## 1.0 Introduction

A comprehensive plan is more than just a document full of pictures, charts, maps, and text; it is a roadmap to guide the community in policies and decisions related to growth, development, and preservation. A good plan is a vital tool that provides the link between what the community wants and what it will get in the future. Rural communities such as Bristol need to develop a Plan that is the centerpiece of the community development planning process, stating the community's development goals and outlining public policies for guiding future growth. The Plan establishes an identifiable vision that allows both the governing body and private interests to plan and budget with an idea as to the direction the Town may move in the future, and helps to ensure that future growth is not only anticipated, but planned for. This plan functions as a practical guide to coordinate day-to-day decisions so they make sense in the future.

### 1.1 Background

A Comprehensive Plan provides the community's vision of the future. This vision is established by gathering input and feedback from all the stakeholders in the community.

*New York State Town Law §272-a* authorizes local municipalities to develop and adopt a Comprehensive Plan with due consideration given to the needs of the people of the community. The Law states:

*"Among the most important powers and duties granted by the legislature to a town government is the authority and responsibility to undertake town Comprehensive*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

*Planning and to regulate land use for the purpose of protecting the public health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens.”*

The Law defines a Comprehensive Plan as:

*“...the materials, written and/or graphic, including but not limited to maps, charts, studies, resolutions, reports and other descriptive material that identify the goals, objectives, principles, guidelines, policies, standards, devices and instruments for the immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth and development of the town (...). The town comprehensive plan shall...serve as a basis for land use regulation, infrastructure development and public and private investment, and any plans which may detail one or more topics of a town comprehensive plan.”*

As stated in this law, a Comprehensive Plan has many important uses and benefits. One of these relates to the Town’s zoning authority. Municipalities have been empowered to regulate land uses within the community, but their decisions are based on sound long-term planning principles that represent a consensus of the community. The process of developing a Comprehensive Plan, which includes community input, provides the Town with a rational basis for decisions regarding zoning and other land use regulations. The Plan is a powerful tool to help the Town manage and direct growth in a manner that meets the community’s vision for the future.

Based on this vision, a Comprehensive Plan outlines specific goals and objectives that reflect the principles and concepts that the community feels will support growth while maintaining or enhancing the character of the Town and quality of life. The vision established in the Plan, as well as the outlined goals and objectives, help guide the Town's officials in making future decisions, including those related to land use, infrastructure development, and fund allocation. In addition, all County, State or Federal governmental agencies planning capital projects that will affect lands in the Town must consider the Plan as part of their decision-making processes. Finally, a Town’s Comprehensive Plan can help support applications for governmental grants and other assistance as it shows the cooperation and commitment of the community.

The Town, following an official public hearing, formally adopts a Comprehensive Plan. However, the Plan remains as a flexible document and can be reviewed and adapted as needed. In fact, periodic reviews are highly recommended so the plan can adapt to changes that reflect current or anticipated conditions within the Town. The Plan is intended to serve as a guide for a period of approximately 10 years.

Bristol's first Comprehensive Master Plan was presented to the Town Board in September 1967. Subsequently, the plan was updated in 1972, re-approved without changes in 1992, and updated again in 1997 and March 2007. In March of 2016, recognizing that the 2007 plan no longer adequately addressed all the issues and opportunities of the community, the Town Board appointed a Comprehensive Plan Committee to undertake the necessary updates, changes, and additions. The current plan was developed with the support and input from members of Bristol's Town Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals, as well as residents, property owners, business owners, and other stakeholders.

### 1.2 The Planning Process

The Planning Process involves several key steps, beginning with an inventory of information on physical resources of the community, as well as the demographic and social aspects, all of which provide the background for *what we have to work with*. Input and feedback from residents, business owners, and other local stakeholders are also included, not only at the beginning stages, but throughout the planning process to give additional background information.

From there, a future community vision is developed, providing the overall direction of *where we want to be*. Individual goals and policies are then identified; providing a much more narrowed scope dealing with certain issues, opportunities, and weaknesses within the community.

An action plan is the capstone of the process; building upon the vision and goals with specific actions to be undertaken to achieve the vision of *how do we get there*. Implementation is a key part of this portion of the plan to identify priorities, partnerships, and strategies moving forward. Also included in this section is a future land use plan, which provides a graphic representation for areas of the community to be developed or conserved, physical changes, and investment. It also provides the framework for any potential zoning changes.

### 1.3 Bristol's Unique Character

The Town of Bristol is nestled in the Bristol Hills, which are visible from Rochester, 35 miles away. It is a scenic, rural location treasured by families who have lived here for many generations and those who have joined the community more recently. Farmland, fields, woods, ponds, streams, and abundant wildlife all form part of a unique, peaceful setting enjoyed by residents and visitors.



Through the years agriculture has been an important part of the fabric of the community. In the old days hops were a main crop, a variety of fruits were grown, to be preserved in dry houses, and sheep farms produced meat and wool, as well as tallow for candles. Farms still dot the landscape, from small organic ones where vegetables are grown, honey bee hives are kept, and maple sugar is tapped, to family-sized dairy and horse farms. Crops such as hay, corn, soybeans, wheat and oats are grown throughout the Town of Bristol, forming part of its scenic view sheds.

Bristol's business community is small but growing and includes light industry, niche retail, and a wide range of home-based businesses. They, too, are part of what makes Bristol unique.

The town itself is historic, with a lovely library and the vintage Town Hall located across from Levi Corser Memorial Park, where people meet on a summer's eve and kids play baseball or soccer. In June, our traditional "Fun Day" is celebrated here, with folk music, arts and crafts booths, a library book sale, an antique car and tractor show, a silent auction, a chicken barbecue put on by the Volunteer Fire Department, and homemade pies sold by the ladies of Harmony Circle—a philanthropic organization. It is an event that highlights the strengths and bonds of our community.



Bristol's residents are lucky to call this place home.

### 1.4 Public Input & Participation

Since a town's Comprehensive Plan represents the community's vision of the future, public input and participation form a crucial part of the process toward its creation. A local survey conducted in 2005 clearly showed respondents' appreciation for the town's pristine environment and its agricultural lands, as well as the need to preserve them. It also showed the value placed on maintaining the character of the community in the face of growth.

At this time, well over a decade later, the same general feelings exist about the need to preserve our environment, agriculture, and community character while carefully planning our growth. Now, as then, community members expressed their wish to hold on to what makes Bristol unique, while acknowledging the pressing need for economic development and preparing for the future.

This was evident from public input obtained in several ways.

- **Steering Committee Meetings:** Monthly meetings were held throughout the process to provide direct interaction with members of the community. The steering committee acted as the primary driver of the plan update and later as the sounding board for the Town's planning consultant, providing direction and background information. These meetings were open to the public and regularly announced.
- **Visioning/SWOT Meeting:** Early on in the process, a visioning exercise was undertaken that involved a SWOT analysis. This exercise is a free-flowing discussion that identifies Strengths and Weaknesses (internal to the Town) and Opportunities and Threats (external to the Town). In addition to the steering committee members, Planning Board, Town Board, and outside guests were invited to take part and provide additional insight.
- **Bristol Fun Day:** The annual Bristol Fun Day in June 2016 was an appropriate event to advertise the Plan update, talk with members of the community in an informal manner, and gather some initial input. Those who stopped by were asked to fill out a brief questionnaire or take an online survey asking the same questions. Though few responses were shared, it did bring the plan to light in the community and got the attention of residents. Three questions were asked:
  - Are you a Town of Bristol resident?
  - In the future, I see Bristol as...
  - What I want from my community is...

Ten online surveys and nine paper responses were collected. The majority of the respondents, 84% of whom identified themselves as Bristol residents, expressed the desire to see Bristol retain its rural character with an eye to balanced,

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

appropriate economic development, sustainability and preservation of natural resources.

- **Public Kickoff:** A public meeting was held on October 26, 2016 at the Bristol Volunteer Fire Hall to introduce the community to the project, educate them on the process, share preliminary information, and most importantly gather initial feedback.

Outreach took place via announcements on the Town's website, posters at public locations, and flyers handed out or mailed, including to local business owners.

Approximately 40 residents and business owners joined the 10 members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee for an informative, interactive evening. Town Supervisor Bob Green opened the meeting and introduced the Comprehensive Plan Committee. Committee Chair Justin Steinbach delivered a power point presentation to explain the need for a Comprehensive Plan, the process for its creation, and to show a profile of the town and its history. Attendees then broke into smaller groups where committee members engaged them in brainstorming sessions with regard to three questions:



- What do you value most in the Town?
- What are the biggest issues facing Bristol today?
- What would make our Town even better than it is today?

Answers were written down and subsequently shared with the entire assembly.

Summarized results are listed on the following page.

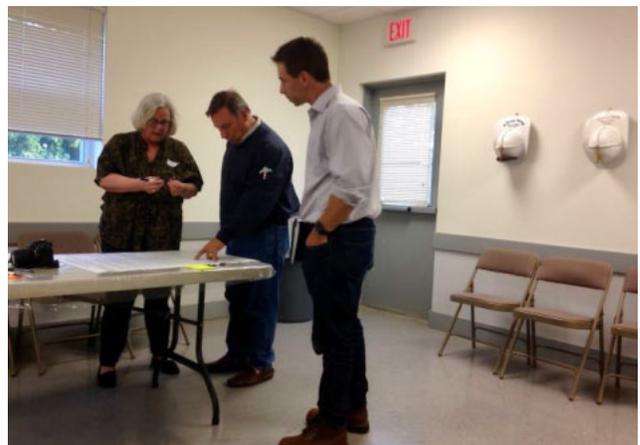
## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1) What do you value most in the Town?
  - a. Its rural character and peace and quiet, while still being close to an urban area for healthcare, shopping and entertainment.
  - b. The beautiful, unpolluted, scenic countryside with homes set among farms and forests.
  - c. Good neighbors who respect each other's privacy.
  - d. Community services/facilities like the fire department, library and parks.
- 2) What are the biggest issues facing Bristol today?
  - a. How to provide modern features like fast internet and cell phone connection, as well as good roads, ambulance service, and public water/sewage.
  - b. Lack of the tax base to support many services.
  - c. How to attract more businesses – while protecting small town character and preventing suburban sprawl/pollution.
  - d. The needs of an aging population.
- 3) What would make our Town even better than it is today?

With regard to this question, following the small-group brainstorming sessions all attendees were given four stickers each, which they were invited to affix next to statements they most agreed with. After tabulation and analysis, the top responses (ranked according to ratings) were found to be:

  1. Business development.
  2. Preservation of community character.
  3. Protection of the environment.
  4. Increased tourism.
  5. Improvement of infrastructure.
  6. More renewable energy.
  7. Expansion of parks and recreational opportunities.
  8. Better internet access.

- **Second Public Meeting:** On June 13, 2018, a second public meeting was held at the Bristol Fire Hall to provide residents an opportunity to hear how the process for updating the Plan has progressed and see the draft goals and objectives that were developed. As indicated during the presentation, the goals and objectives were a direct result of committee research, input from the previous community meeting, and a comprehensive review of the



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previous Comprehensive Plan. The primary intent of this meeting was to gather additional input from residents to determine if the Plan was “on the right track” and whether any adjustments were needed prior to developing a final draft. In addition, the future land use map was showcased with a brief description of what it entailed and its purpose in the Plan moving forward. Overall, the general feeling from the community was positive with some revisions made based on feedback.





## 2.0 Community Profile & Existing Conditions

### 2.1 History

When the Seneca tribe first roamed these hills and valleys, they walked through dense growth of maple and elm on the valley floor and oak, chestnut, pine, beech, hemlock, ash, hickory, butternut and wild cherry on the hills. Wolves, bears, and cougars were competition for the Native Americans who stalked deer. The smaller wildlife, bobcats, fishers, raccoons, squirrels, and turkeys were also plentiful and came to drink from Mud Creek.

History records that the first white men to visit Bristol were the French explorer Robert de La Salle and the Jesuit missionary Galinee in August of 1669. While waiting for an Iroquois escort to take them to Ohio, the explorers were shown "Burning Springs." Galinee recorded, "In order to pass away the time, I went with Robert de La Salle, under the escort of two Indians, about four leagues (10 miles) to the south of the village (Victor) where we were staying (Ganondagan), to see the very extraordinary spring. Issuing from a moderately high rock, it forms a small brook. The water is very clear, but it has a bad odor, like that of the mineral marshes of Paris, when the mud is stirred with the foot. I applied a torch and the water immediately took fire and burned like brandy, and was not extinguished until it rained. The flame is among the Indians a sign of abundance or fertility, according as it exhibits the contrary qualities. There is no appearance of Sulphur, or any other combustible material. The water has not even any taste and I can neither offer nor imagine any better explanation than that it acquires this combustible property by passing over some aluminous land."

## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

None realized that it was natural gas coming from underground and bubbling through the water that caused the water to burn. Probably set afire by lightning when the Native Americans found it for the first time, the flame was several feet high and burned until extinguished by heavy rains or high winds. More than a hundred years passed before it was discovered that the gas could be used for heat and light.

When Walter Case owned the “Burning Springs” farm (Case Rd.), he and his wife cooked over the flame which at that time rose to a height of eighteen inches. The drilling of gas wells in the area caused the flame to become smaller.

On September 11, 1779 General Sullivan’s troops marched through Bristol on what is now Vincent Hill Rd., crossed Mud Creek and followed the Indian trail to Honeoye. They burned the village near Flatiron Road, just as they had destroyed the Indian village at the top of “Arsenal Hill” in Canandaigua (as referenced by “Early History of Bristol” written by Beth Thomas).

### *The Beginning of Bristol and Early Government*

In 1789 the town of Bristol was formed, consisting of Township 8 & 9 from the Phelps & Gorham Purchase. Bristol was one of the first thirteen townships to be formed in Ontario County. In 1825 there was a published proposal to unite the south part of Bristol with part or all of other towns in Ontario, Livingston and Steuben Counties into a new county. This did not happen. However, in March of 1838 the town of South Bristol was formed, officially breaking away from the whole parcel of Bristol. The Town of South Bristol comprises the whole of Township No. 8, fourth range and part of No.8, third range.

There were 6 centers of activity in the early years and they were known as Muttonville, Bristol Center, Egypt, Baptist Hill as well as Cold Springs and Boswell Corners in the South part of the Town. Baptist Hill was once considered the center of the town and called Bristol.

The early government consisted of a Supervisor, Town Clerk, Assessors, Highway Commissioners, Constables, and Overseers of the Poor, Path Masters, Pound Master, School Commissioners, Collectors, Fence Viewers, and an Inspector of Lumber.



## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

Town meetings were held regularly at the old Methodist Episcopal Church in Bristol Center as well as in taverns and homes of the early leaders of the community. Early on Bristol was a religious center with seven active churches throughout the town. Today there is only one active Church in Bristol and it is the United Church of Christ located on Baptist Hill. The first meetings of the Grange #1080 were held in the Methodist Church, but as membership grew they relocated in 1938 when the Bristol Amusement Club offered their hall (the Empire Knights of Relief Hall) and skating rink on Baptist Hill. In 1956 the Grange relocated to the Bristol Center Improvement Company hall located on County Road 32 and is now the home of the Bristol Town Hall.

### *Early Agriculture*

Early farming included the raising of sheep as well as the slaughtering, processing and rendering of tallow for the making of candles. In 1797 records show 21 registered earmarks in the town and by 1850 there were 210 flocks of sheep. The Town kept this enterprise in check by mandating fences of 4<sup>1/2</sup>' in height, creating holding pounds that the Pound Masters were responsible for, who, in turn, appointed the fence viewers to watch over them. In 1825 a fine of \$5.00 for any rams running at large from late August to the middle of November was enforced.

With the passing of this industry came the advent of hop farming. This flourished from 1835 until blight and the Prohibition era caused the decline of this source of revenue for the town. Between 1880 and 1925 apples and berries took over as the next source of revenue for the farming community until modern practices of canning and drying of fruit became outdated and it was more efficient to truck the produce to the public market in Rochester, New York. Some of the other farming operations were lumber, saw mills and grain mills; remains of them may be found throughout the town.

### *Early Roads*

The number of Path Masters and road districts varied each year, from six in 1797 to fifty two in 1836. The number dropped to 33 in 1838 when South Bristol became a separate township. The Path Masters were elected for each road district and were provided with a list by the Highway Commissioners specifying who would be required to work on the roads. The work force consisted of every male over the age of



21 in the district (except for “ministers, priests, paupers, and idiots or lunatics”), every person owning land in the district, whether male or female resident or non-resident, and all corporations owning land in the district. They were responsible for removal of all noxious weeds, briars and brush on the highway, and for removing all loose stones on the beaten track of road once a month between April 1st and December 1<sup>st</sup>. They were expected to remove snow within 24 hours of being notified of their assignment and failing to do so resulted in a fine to be collected by the Path Masters.

### *Early Schools*

In the early history of Bristol there were as many as 12 school districts. The first one, established at Baptist Hill in 1813, was the last to close in 1953, when it was centralized with the Bloomfield school district. The other schools were centralized with Naples, Canandaigua, and Honeoye, respectively, prior to the closing of School #1. In the early 1930’s school districts 1 and 11 did not have electric light but did have natural gas wells nearby and that was a source for their heat and lights.

### *Recent History*

In 1966, the Monroe County Water Authority (MCWA) proposed using the lands of Bristol to create a public water supply reservoir similar in nature to their use of Hemlock and Canadice Lakes in Livingston County. The proposal made its way through State Senate and Assembly committees before the Town of Bristol or Ontario County had been notified of its existence. Letters were sent to Governor Rockefeller and Senator VanLare asking to have this stopped, and on June 2, 1966, the Bristol Town Board called a special meeting of the townspeople to make them aware of the proposal.

The Board advised the town that the only purpose of this “land grab” was that the MCWA Executive Director believed that it would “be less expensive than some additional facilities planned to pump water from Lake Ontario” for Rochester and that he felt “the creation of Bristol Lake is a boon for the entire area and it would not diminish the beauty of the valley.” The proposed lake would cover over 1,800 acres of the 3,500 acre Town and would run 5 ½ miles in length and one-mile in width at its widest point.

The residents of Bristol, as well as other County Supervisors, did not agree with this “brazen land grab” and in December of 1966 drafted an opposition resolution calling for a public hearing and approval by the Town Board for any proposal set forth “for the purpose of taking lands in the Town of Bristol.” Subsequently, this put an end to the formation of Bristol Lake.

## 2.2 Demographics

Effective planning requires a solid understanding of what makes up the community – a profile of both its people and its physical assets. Additionally, looking back to the past for trends provides clues to potential future conditions. This section of the plan gives an overview of the current state of the Town of Bristol, giving residents and elected officials a snapshot of “what we have to work with.”

### *Bristol Population*

From 1980, The Town’s population grew steadily until 2000, when it peaked at 2,421. Since then, it has dropped slightly. Population projections over the next four decades indicate a slow but steady increase, well surpassing the 2000 peak.

Bristol Population Trends  <b>1980-2050</b>	1980	1,802
	<b>1990</b>	<b>2,071</b>
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2,421</b>
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2,315</b>
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2,294</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2,437</b>
	<b>2030</b>	<b>2,541</b>
	<b>2040</b>	<b>2,631</b>
	<b>2050</b>	<b>2,710</b>

*Regional Comparison*

Within the region, the population change is highest in Ontario and Yates County, and projections indicate around two percent increase per year from 2020 to 2050 (most of all counties). The Towns of Victor and Canandaigua, along with East Bloomfield, Farmington and towns around Canandaigua Lake, are all experiencing a greater amount of population growth compared to Bristol.

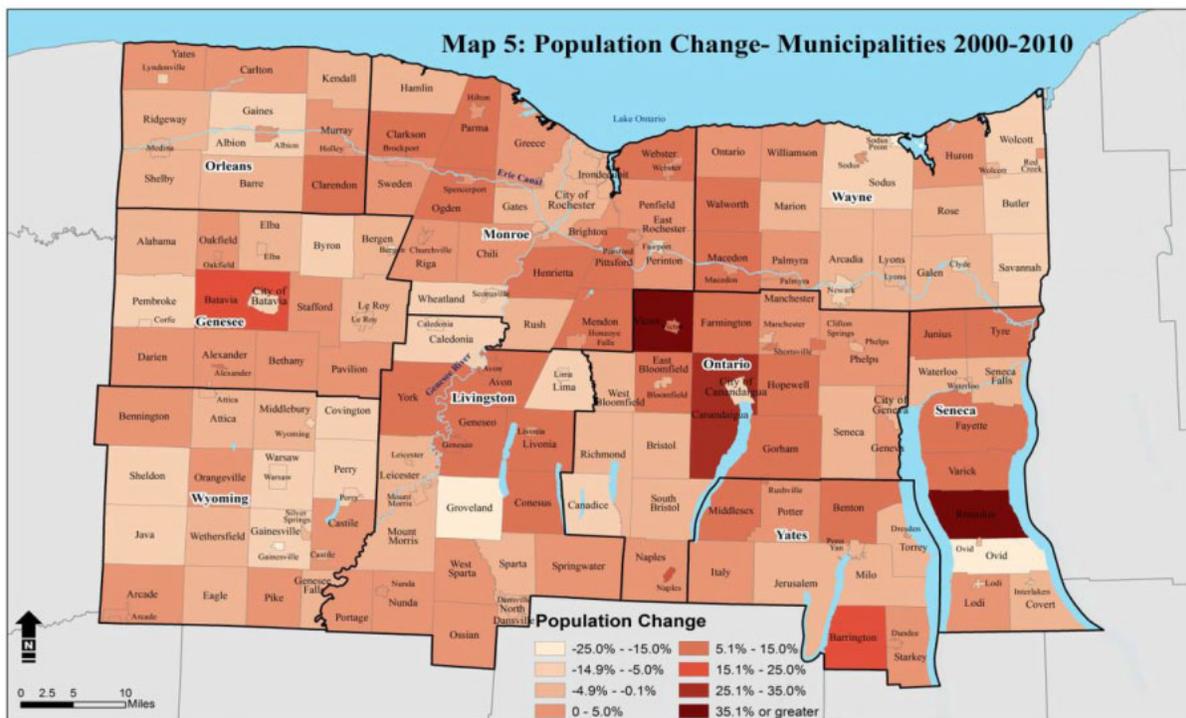


Figure: Regional population change (Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Atlas, 2014)

*Implications...*

The Town has the **potential for growth**, likely in residential housing in some fashion, for those who desire the “country living” character of the County, but not the density, traffic, and busyness of places like Victor and Farmington. How Bristol embraces this growth, encourages the proper density, and guides development to protect the rural character and assets is key. **Attracting future residents** is important to the longevity of the Town, in terms of both economic and social sustainability. It likely won’t be so much to change the rural character of Bristol or overburden local government; however, it should also be coupled with household variety (i.e. not all empty nesters or families).

**Age Breakdown**

So what does our community really look like? The majority of the Town residents are considered Working Adults or the 25-54 age group. The group is firmly settled in their careers and likely raising a family of pre-college children. This is supported by the next highest age group - School Age or 5-19 years old. Rounding up the top three groups is the Empty Nester or 55-64 age range, as shown at right.

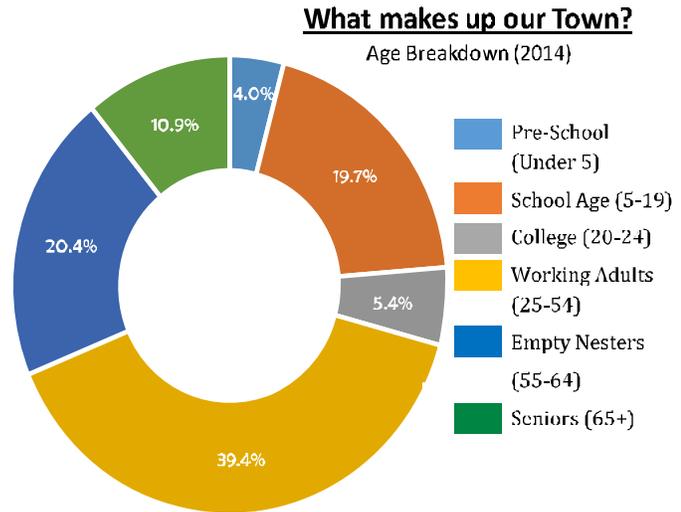


Figure: Age Breakdown, 2014 (US Census)

## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

Looking at the trends over time, the School Age group decreased between 2000 and 2010, but has leveled off in the recent decade. Two groups that have increased are College (20-24) and Empty Nesters (55-64). A common trend throughout the country is the increase in the latter group and seniors, and Bristol is no exception to this, with the greatest change associated with the 55-64 age range. Although it is a small increase, the slight uptick in the College group is a good sign that more youth are potentially attracted to the Town with, it is hoped, a desire to stay and settle here for longer term.

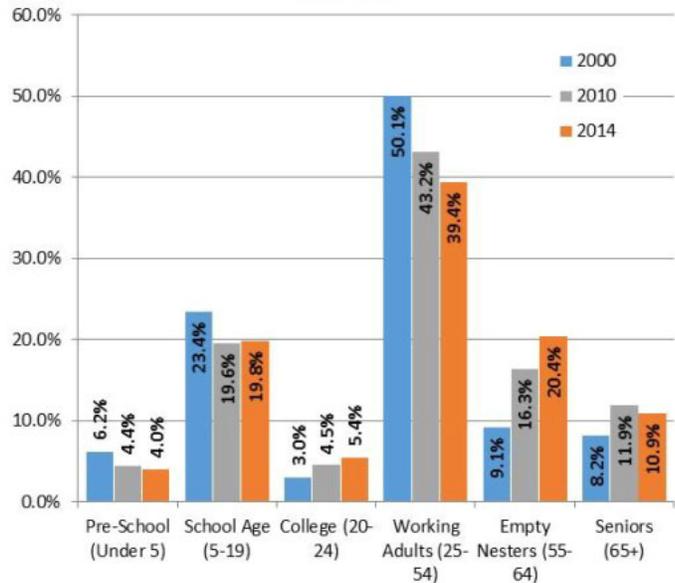


Figure: Age breakdown comparison, 2000-2014 (US Census)

### Education

A well-educated community provides a window into various social aspects including the quality of schools, income levels, and employment characteristics. Looking at individual groups, the highest percentage is that of High School Graduates. However, the bigger picture shows us that almost two-thirds have some level of post-secondary education in 2014. The greatest increase (by seven percentage points) is in those with an Associate's degree. Although there are fewer Town residents with a Bachelor's or Graduate degree when compared with the County, the overall trends appear to be going up. These numbers reflect the common characteristics of a rural community, but show that a more advanced workforce is available and growing.

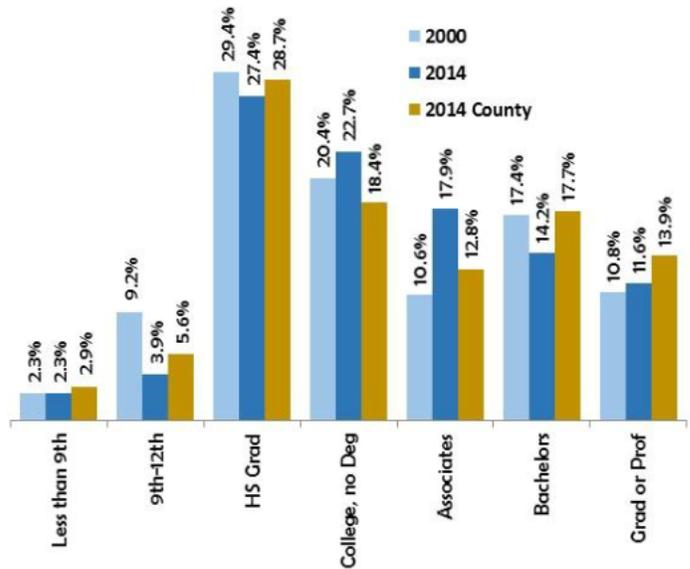


Figure: Level of Education, 2000-2014 (US Census)

*Implications...*

Typically a highly-educated population brings with it higher incomes and the ability to invest in properties and contribute positively to the community. In addition, when businesses look for areas to develop or grow, they look at the skill level of the labor force, both locally and in the vicinity. Access to this pool of resources can be a **competitive strength**.

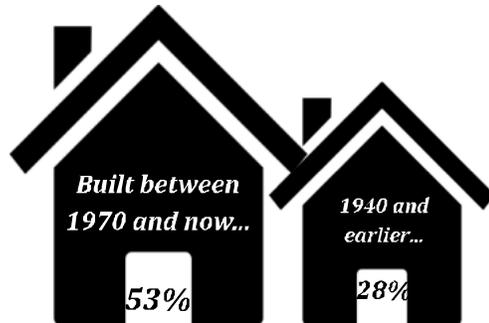
*Housing*

Reflecting the rural nature of the community, a majority of the housing is owner-occupied with the Town slightly higher than the County overall. In addition, most homes are owner-occupied with a renter population that is significantly lower in comparison to the County. The renter population is typically, but not always, attributed to young professionals moving into the area and seniors downsizing, both groups seeking affordable housing options.

OCCUPANCY	Town	County
Occupied	96.4%	95.3%
Vacant	3.6%	4.7%
TENURE	Town	County
Owner Occupied	93.3%	73.1%
Renter Occupied	6.7%	26.9%

Figure: Homeownership & renters (US Census)

In terms of the age of housing stock, Bristol and the County are very similar. Over half of the homes were built in the last 50 years (1970 and on), with the greatest number found in the 1980's. However, there is still a significant number of homes built prior to 1940 - approximately 28 percent of the total of the Town (Ontario County is slightly higher at 31 percent).



*Implications...*

Higher homeownership typically translates into greater **sense of stability and desire to “invest”** in a community due to the long-term commitment that homeownership requires. This stability translates into a consistent tax revenue stream for the Town as well. For the most part, opposite is true of renters; however, a **variety of housing** is still needed to provide the bridge between those looking to purchase and those looking to downsize yet not take on the burden that comes with owning a home.

In terms of housing age, with an older building stock, greater emphasis is placed on code enforcement, property maintenance, and general health and safety. While quaint, older rural homes are what can **draw new homeowners** to the Town, if they are not well-maintained or unsafe they can have the **opposite impact**. In addition, those seeking to upgrade into larger homes from within or outside of the community would be limited to either an older structure or building new.

Median housing values are slightly higher in Bristol compared to the County - \$143,000 versus \$140,100, respectively. The breakdown in value is similar with the County having slightly higher priced homes in the \$500,000 to \$999,999 range (likely due to lakefront homes).

Although there is no single standard definition of housing affordability, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines a household as “cost burdened” when 30% or more of their gross income is dedicated to housing costs. According to the most recent American Community Survey (2014), an estimated 26.4 percent of the residents in Bristol (with and without a mortgage) are considered housing cost burdened, compared to 22.1 percent for Ontario County. This would indicate that although the Town is slightly higher than the County, it still maintains a relatively high rate of housing affordability.

Housing Value (2014)				
	Town		County	
Less than \$50k		5.7%		9.2%
\$50k-\$99k		16.4%		19.3%
\$100k-\$149k		31.2%		26.2%
\$150k-\$199k		17.4%		17.1%
\$200k-\$299k		17.4%		16.7%
\$300k-\$499k		11.1%		8.6%
\$500k-\$999k		0.8%		2.4%
\$1,000k +		0.0%		0.6%

Figure: Value of housing, Town vs. County (US Census)

**Income**

Household income is an important component of the community profile as it provides an indication of community wealth. Between 2000 and 2014, the income distribution shifted higher with a 17-percentage point increase in those earning more than \$75,000 per year, which is higher than the median income in Bristol of \$66,750. In comparison, the \$75,000+ income range in the County only increased by 15 percentage points.

	Town			County	
	2014	2000		2014	2000
Under \$25,000	14.1%	14.6%	Under \$25,000	18.8%	24.5%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	21.0%	31.5%	\$25,000 to \$49,999	24.1%	31.6%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	21.6%	27.5%	\$50,000 to \$74,999	20.5%	22.1%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	19.0%	14.0%	\$75,000 to \$99,999	13.6%	11.5%
\$100,000 or more	24.3%	12.4%	\$100,000 or more	22.9%	10.3%

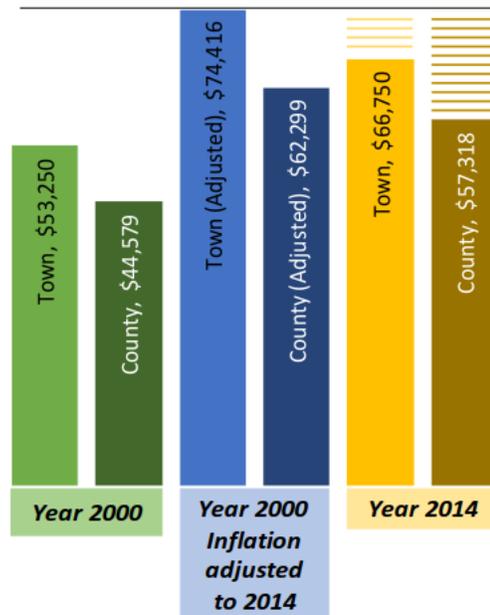
Figure: Household Income, Town vs. County (US Census)

However, when the median income in 2000 is adjusted for inflation (to 2014 dollars), it is clear the median household income has actually decreased. This is not specific to Bristol or Ontario County, but is an overall trend throughout the country. Nationally, median household income figures have been on the decline since their peak in 2000. Our paychecks may have increased, but it is not necessarily in-line with our buying power.

Regardless, increases in the middle to upper level income households seem to be the trend in the Town and County over the past decade and may continue in the future.

**How much do we make?**

Household Income



*Implications...*

Income levels give indications of economic prosperity within a community; the rising levels in Bristol, though small, show that the Town is a **desirable place to live**, especially when coupled with an increase in population. The fact that the income trends and breakdown are in line with the County overall gives a good indication of this as well. Improvements that the Town can make to increase attractiveness and maintain character, regardless of how minimal they may be, can help to ensure these trends continue in a **positive direction**.

**Occupations / Industry**

The breakdown by industry of working residents (16 years old+) shows some interesting shifts between 2009 and 2014. Education, health, and social services are typically the highest sectors, which was the case in 2009 in Bristol; this group decreased by almost 10-percentage points in 2014. Other sectors that saw significant changes in this time period include wholesale and retail trade and public administration, the latter of which went from 4.8 percent to 0. Manufacturing, although making up only 16 percent of the Town, saw an increase in employment numbers between 2009 and 2014.

**Occupation by Industry (16 years old+)**

	2014	2009
Ag, Forestry, Hunt/Fish, Mining	2.8%	1.8%
Construction	11.1%	15.0%
Manufacturing	16.5%	13.5%
Wholesale Trade	3.2%	1.5%
Retail Trade	13.1%	6.7%
Transp/Warehouse, Utilities	5.2%	4.5%
Information	1.4%	1.8%
Finance/Ins, Real Estate	5.7%	5.3%
Prof, Scientific, Mgmt, Admin,		
Waste	9.3%	9.1%
Education, Health, Social Service	15.5%	24.8%
Arts, Entertain, Rec,		
Accommodation/Food Serv	6.9%	7.6%
Other Services	9.3%	3.7%
Public Admin	0.0%	4.8%

Figure: Occupations in Bristol, changes from 2009 to 2014 (US Census)

*Implications...*

The strength of the Town appears to lie predominantly in manufacturing and trade, as evidenced by the increase in those sectors between 2009 and 2014. The manufacturing industry not only includes material goods, but also food processing, an especially niche industry that is growing throughout the State with an increase in “local foods.” Coupled with a small increase in agriculture, this could flag a potential area of growth and investment. While there is not a significant presence of retail establishments in Bristol, the rise in wholesale and retail trade may point towards home-based businesses, which are found throughout the Town.

### 2.3 Physical Assets

In addition to the people of the Town of Bristol, the component that has a significant impact on economic development and overall quality of life is comprised of the physical assets. Waterbodies, rolling hills, expansive forests, and scenic view sheds make up the natural features, while roadways, parks, and buildings constitute the man-made features; all contribute to the physical assets of the Town. The maps on the following pages provide a brief overview of Bristol’s assets and display any significant findings or changes that have occurred since the previous Comprehensive Plan; in many cases, there has been little change (*Map 1, Page 24*).

Code	Property Class	No. of Parcels	% Total	Acreage	% Total	Assessed Land Value	% Total	Assessed Total Value	% Total
100	Agricultural	51	3.6%	2,608.55	11.4%	\$2,319,300.00	4.7%	\$3,238,600.00	1.8%
200	Residential	976	68.8%	12,317.35	53.9%	\$33,647,400.00	68.8%	\$151,744,100.00	86.0%
300	Vacant	338	23.8%	6,808.66	29.8%	\$10,596,200.00	21.7%	\$11,234,100.00	6.4%
400	Commercial	17	1.2%	135.91	0.6%	\$936,300.00	1.9%	\$4,439,500.00	2.5%
500	Recreation & Entertainment	2	0.1%	115.47	0.5%	\$205,000.00	0.4%	\$360,000.00	0.2%
600	Community Service	20	1.4%	184.73	0.8%	\$559,500.00	1.1%	\$2,957,800.00	1.7%
700	Industrial	1	0.1%	41.16	0.2%	\$87,000.00	0.2%	\$87,000.00	0.0%
800	Public Services	8	0.6%	49.26	0.2%	\$161,800.00	0.3%	\$1,943,014.00	1.1%
900	Forest, Parks & Conservation	4	0.3%	565.27	2.5%	\$390,600.00	0.8%	\$390,600.00	0.2%
0	No Data available	1	0.1%	10.00	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%	\$0.00	0.0%
TOTAL		1,418	100.0%	22,836.37	100.0%	\$48,903,100.00	100.0%	\$176,394,714.00	100.0%

#### *Land Use (Map 2, Page 25)*

The Town consists of over 1,400 parcels, the majority of which are dedicated to residential uses by acreage and value. This indicates that Bristol is predominantly a bedroom community, with the majority of residents employed or shopping out of the area. Generally, residential uses are scattered throughout the Town, with no specific area of concentration of these uses, i.e., a Village or hamlet center. The second highest land use in the Town is categorized as vacant parcels, which do not contain living accommodations or are otherwise “improved.” These are larger lots that may contain natural constraints such as steep slopes or wetlands, but, if they do not have these resources, also represent development potential if done in the appropriate manner and consistent with the character of the community. Although not as significant as in other Ontario County towns (e.g., Gorham or East Bloomfield), agriculture comprises the third highest land use category, predominantly in the northern portion. A majority of these uses are dedicated to field crops, with nurseries, fruit farms, game preserves, horse farms, cattle/dairy farms, and productive lands constituting the remaining lands.

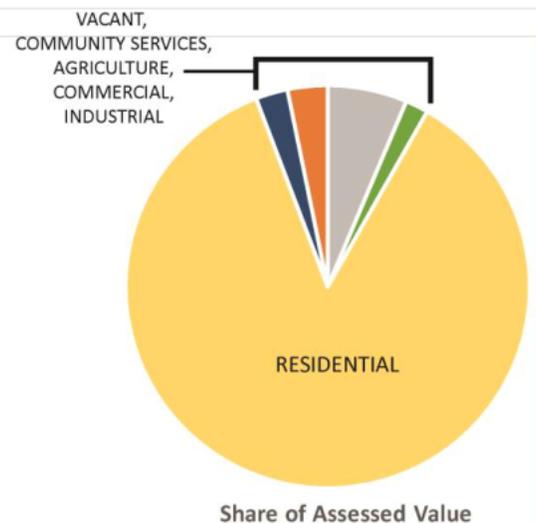
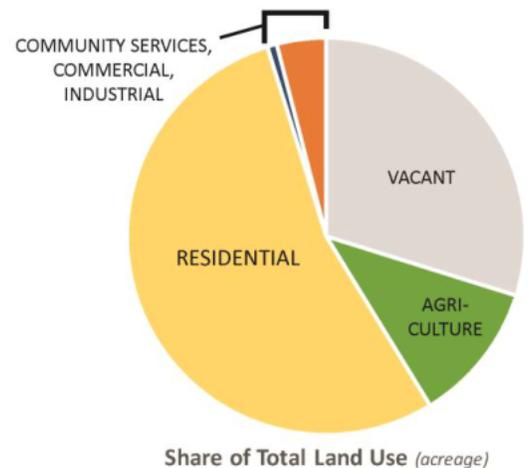
## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

Other land use observations include:

- Majority of the property owners are local, though 47 of 1,418 are out of state (3%), ranging from Tucson, AZ to Toronto, Canada.
- 48 properties are seasonal (3%); these do not correlate to out of state owners above. Seasonal owners are local.
- 45 properties are classified as manufactured housing.
- 26 additional parcels (1,395 acres) are residential WITH agricultural production lands (likely leased/rented).
- Single family housing is 21%.
- 232 parcels (16%) are rural residential (10 acres or more) with an average size of 28 acres.
- 34 parcels (894 acres) are “abandoned ag” classified as vacant (non-productive/part of operating farm).
- 89 parcels are rural vacant more than 10 acres (3,343 acres, average size of 37.5 acres).

All community services (Town Hall, Bristol Library, Bristol Volunteer Fire Department, and Highway Department) are located in the hamlet of Bristol Center at the intersection State Route 64 and County Road 32, the de-facto center of Town. Several community parks, including Levi Corser Memorial Park, Patriot Park, and Coddington Conservation Area, are also found in this area. Beyond these local resources, Bristol also has 4-H Camp Bristol Hills (founded 1925) on Kear Road and a significant portion of the 847-acre DEC Stid Hill Wildlife Management Area on Route 64. Located just outside of the Town in South Bristol as well is Bristol Mountain Ski Resort, a regional draw for skiing and other activities, including an aerial adventure ropes course and other seasonal events.

Commercial and light-industrial uses are scattered throughout the Town with a few located in or near Bristol Center and the others along State Routes.



## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

One of the core tenets in comprehensive planning is land use; understanding how the existing land is used and distributed in the Town helps to determine development patterns. In many instances, the actual uses vary from the existing zoning and plan recommendations, providing an opportunity to reconcile zoning districts or re-examine their intent to what the community would like to see happen in the future. In addition, the distribution of land uses not only has implications for overall community character, but also for tax burden and economic development.

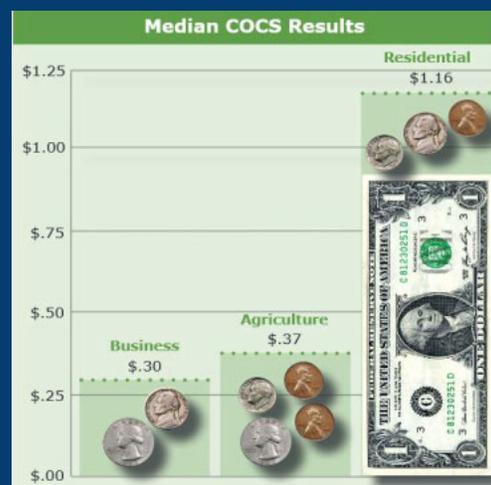
While most communities, like the Town of Bristol, rely on residential growth to boost tax revenue, it is not the preferred method. As shown on the pie charts on page 25, approximately 54 percent of the **land use** of the Town is classified as residential (shown in yellow in bottom chart), but it constitutes over 80 percent of the overall **value** of the Town (top). This translates into a greater reliance on property taxes to fund the Town and, therefore, a higher burden on residents.

As shown in the graphic below, cost of community services studies across the nation have shown that tax revenue generated by residential uses is **less** than the cost for the Town to supply/maintain public services (government, public water, library, police, fire, transportation, etc.). By comparison, commercial/industrial and working/open lands typically require fewer public services and therefore have a **greater** return with tax revenue to the Town. Creating a greater balance of residential and non-residential lands will provide a more sustainable environment for the Town and yield greater tax revenue.

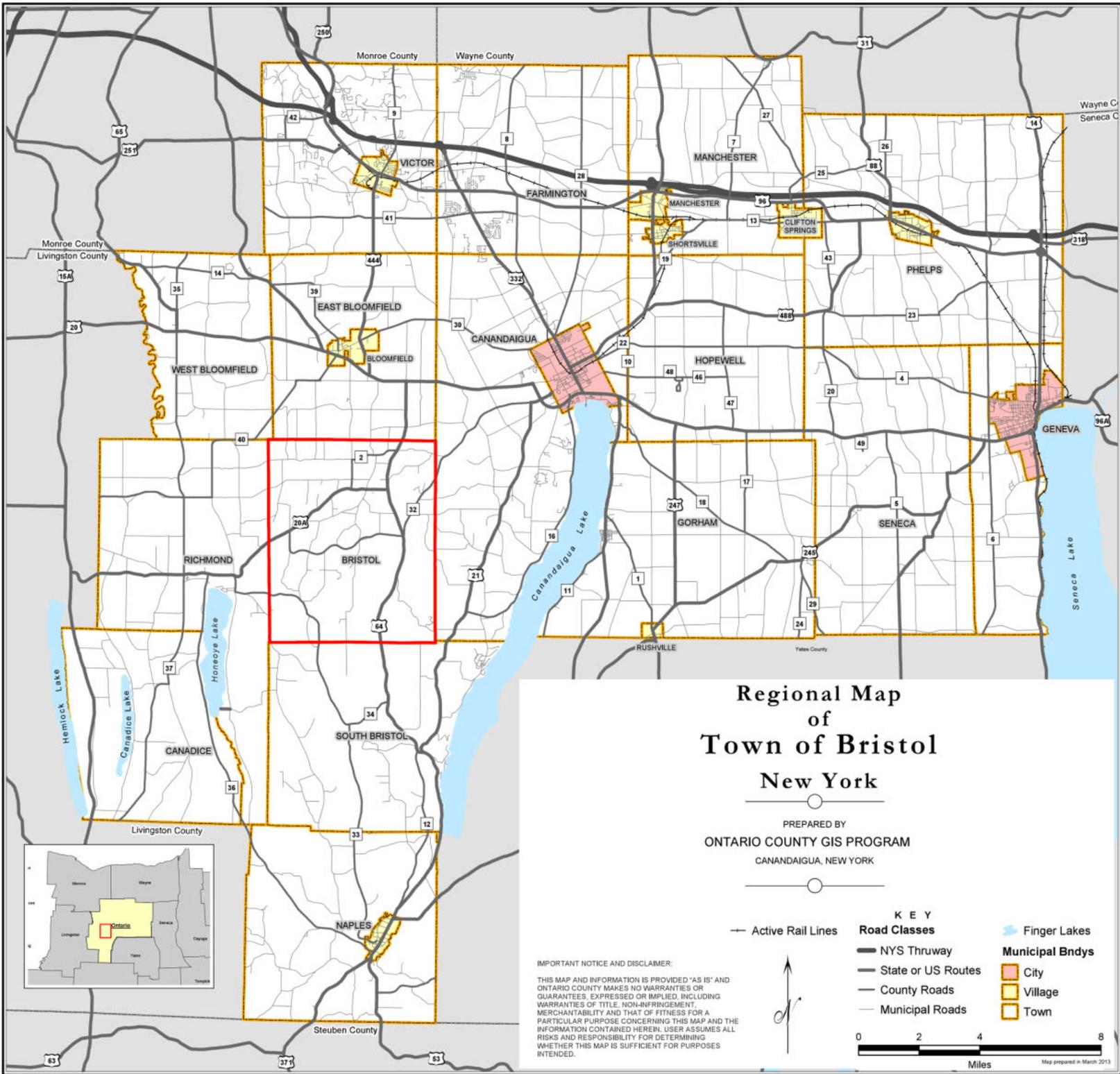
### Cost of Community Services

“Cost of Community Services (COCS) studies are a case study approach used to determine the fiscal contribution of existing local land uses. COCS studies are a snapshot in time of costs versus revenues for each type of land use. They do not predict future costs or revenues or the impact of future growth. They do provide a baseline of current information to help local officials and citizens make informed land use and policy decisions.”

- Excerpt from the American Farmland Trust “Cost of Community Services Fact Sheet”



Median cost to provide public services for each dollar of revenue raise





### *Local Zoning (Map 3, Page 28)*

The Town of Bristol, like many other communities in the State, follows a traditional Euclidean style (single use) of zoning which divides the Town into districts that outline specific uses allowed within them. Bristol is divided into the following districts:

#### Residential

*Low Density Residential (L-R), Medium Density Residential (M-R), Manufactured/Mobile Home (M-H)*

These districts are found along a corridor stretching from the hamlet of Bristol in the north, down Route 64 to County Road 32, to the hamlet of Bristol Center in the south. The Medium Density districts are near Baptist Hill Road – County Road 2 intersection and straddling the hamlet of Bristol Center. As their district names imply, the L-R and M-R districts are predominantly geared towards single and two-family residential with other community/public service uses as well. Minimum parcel sizes are two acres with the main difference being smaller lot width and setbacks for the Medium Density district. The Manufactured/Mobile Home district is a floating district, subject to specific criteria to be met prior to rezoning lands for such use. This district provides for a “diversity of housing choices” and opportunity for more affordable housing options.

#### Business/Industrial

*Community Business (C-B), Light Industrial (L-I)*

Several Community Business districts are found throughout the Town, with the most obvious one at the hamlet of Bristol Center. The area around Bristol Valley Hardwoods and the Baptist Hill Road intersection are the two other areas, with the former the only one containing viable commercial uses. Permitted uses in the C-B district include personal services, professional offices, retail sales, and medical buildings with more automobile-centered uses specially permitted (e.g. motels/hotels, drive-in restaurants, vehicle sales). The Light Industrial districts are located near the business areas with another on the western edge of Town at the intersection of County Road 32 and Route 20A. This district also allows many of the same uses as the C-B district though limited to other typical uses such as production/assembly operations and warehousing.

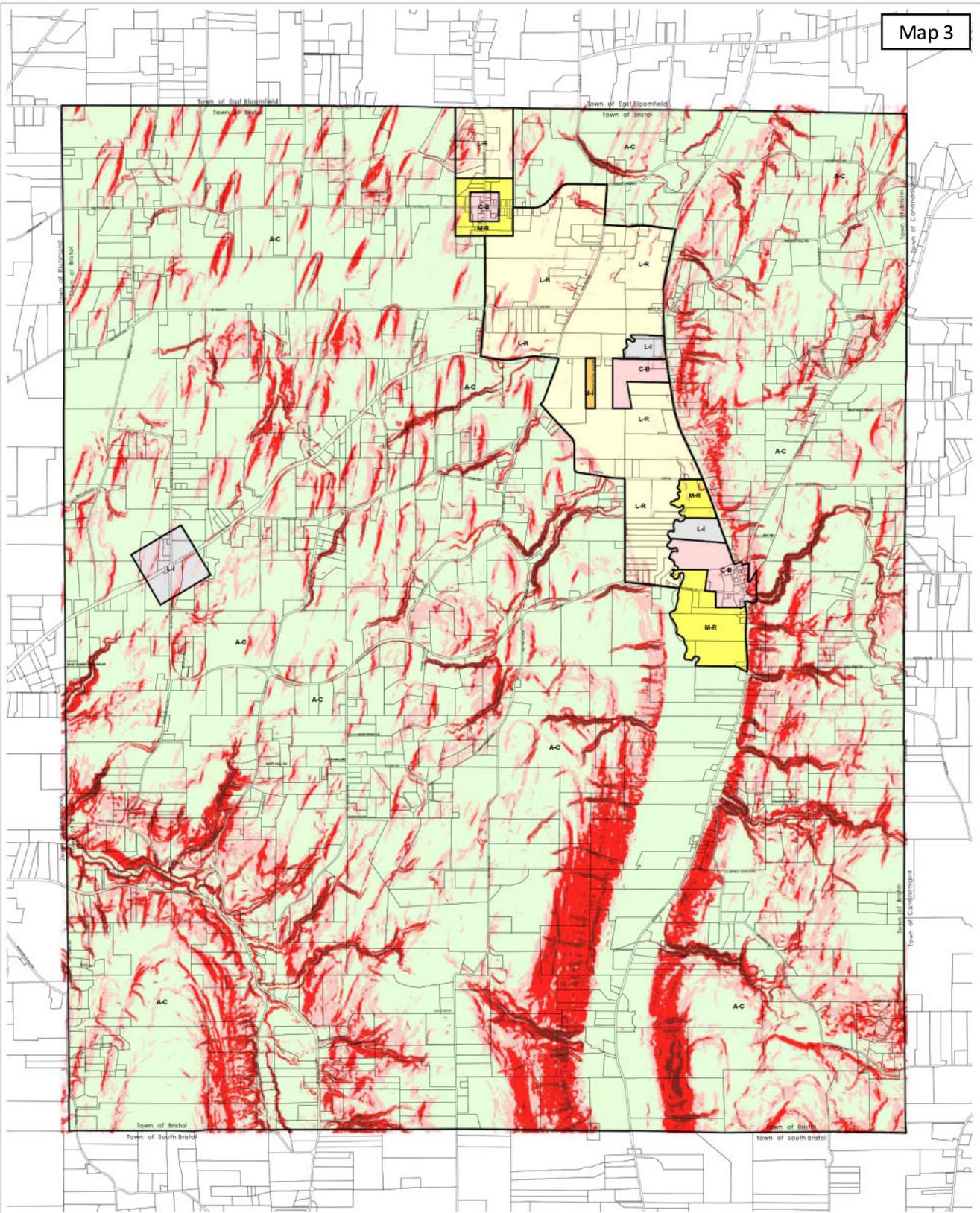
#### Agriculture and Special Districts

*Agricultural Conservation (A-C), Steep Slopes overlay*

## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

Taking up the majority of the Town is the Agricultural Conservation district, which is geared towards uses in a similar nature as the other residential districts with a two-acre minimum in addition to general farming and limited special uses. Larger uses such as campgrounds and horse boarding/stables are also included in this district. In 2004, the Town enacted a steep slopes overlay to protect the areas of Bristol with grades greater than 15 percent in an effort to prevent significant erosion and preserve scenic view sheds from clearcutting as a result of development. As an overlay, it is another level of regulation in addition to the base zoning regulations that apply when specific physical conditions are found.

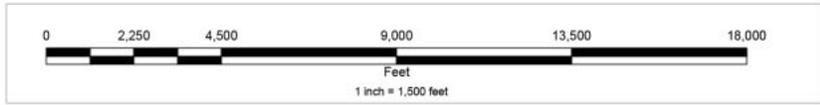
Similar to land use implications, zoning affects community character and future economic development opportunities, more so due to the regulatory nature of zoning. Changes to district boundaries as well as their intent, dimensional requirements, site standards, and uses can “set the stage” for growth or protection in areas that the community envisions in the future.



# Town of Bristol - Official Zoning

Ontario County, NY

Produced by the Ontario County Planning Department  
Adopted: August 12, 2002 Last Amended: 06/13/2016



### Key

<b>Steep Slopes Overlay District</b>	<span style="color: red;">■</span> 25% - 50%	<b>Zoning Districts</b>	<span style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> M-R - Medium Density Residential
<span style="background-color: lightgreen; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> Less than 15%	<span style="color: darkred;">■</span> Greater than 50%	<span style="background-color: lightgreen; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> A-C - Agriculture Conservation	<span style="background-color: pink; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> M-H - Manufactured - Mobile Home
<span style="background-color: pink; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> 15% - 25%		<span style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> L-R - Low Density Residential	<span style="background-color: lightgrey; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> C-B - Community Business
			<span style="background-color: lightgrey; border: 1px solid black;">■</span> L-I - Light Industrial

date	general description of revision	local law	town clerk certification
10/11/72	Zoning Established with Five Separate Districts		
5/15/91	D-1 Changed to C-B (Community Business)		
4/12/93	Rte 64/Bristol Center C-B Expanded from 1000 to 1500'		
9/10/01	M-H District Added Changed from L-R (124-1-4) 12.9 Acres		
8/12/02	Rte 64 (124-1-43.2) Changed from C-B to L-I 30 Acres		
7/14/03	Formal Change - GIS Map Adopted No Boundary Changes		
5/12/04	Adopted Steep Slopes Overlay District	1-2004	
4/14/06	Created Agricultural Residential District 2 - AR-2	1-2006	
7/14/08	Steep Slopes Map Updated from LIDAR Data See Notes		
05/09/11	AR-2 Changed to A-C	3-2011	
06/13/16	Steep Slopes Overlay District added to official map	3-2016	

Notes: Steep Slopes Derived from LIDAR Data Having a Vertical Accuracy Standard of 95% at 1.2 Feet and Horizontal Accuracy Standard of 95% at 1.5 Feet

Sources: Ontario County Real Property Tax Maps  
Ontario County Planning - LIDAR Data  
Town of Bristol

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M:\Arcsw\Projects\County\_Wide\Zoning Maps\Town of Bristol Final Approved Zoning w\_ Steep Slopes June\_2016.mxd

### *Agriculture (Maps 4 and 5, Pages 31 and 32)*

Unlike an agricultural ZONING district, a State-certified agricultural district has nothing to do with land use regulation. Instead, it is a form of agricultural protection that provides active farming operations relief from excessive regulation and tax incentives for continued farming use. Bristol is part of the larger Agricultural District #1 which also encompasses the neighboring Towns of East and West Bloomfield, Richmond, and Canandaigua. Districts are re-certified every eight years and landowners can request their land be removed only during that time; property can be added to the district each year under certain conditions. The majority of the agricultural lands are found on the northern portion of the Town, in the same general vicinity as prime agricultural soils. The most productive (prime) farming soils are located in Bristol Valley along Mud Creek

### *Water Features (Map 6, Page 33)*

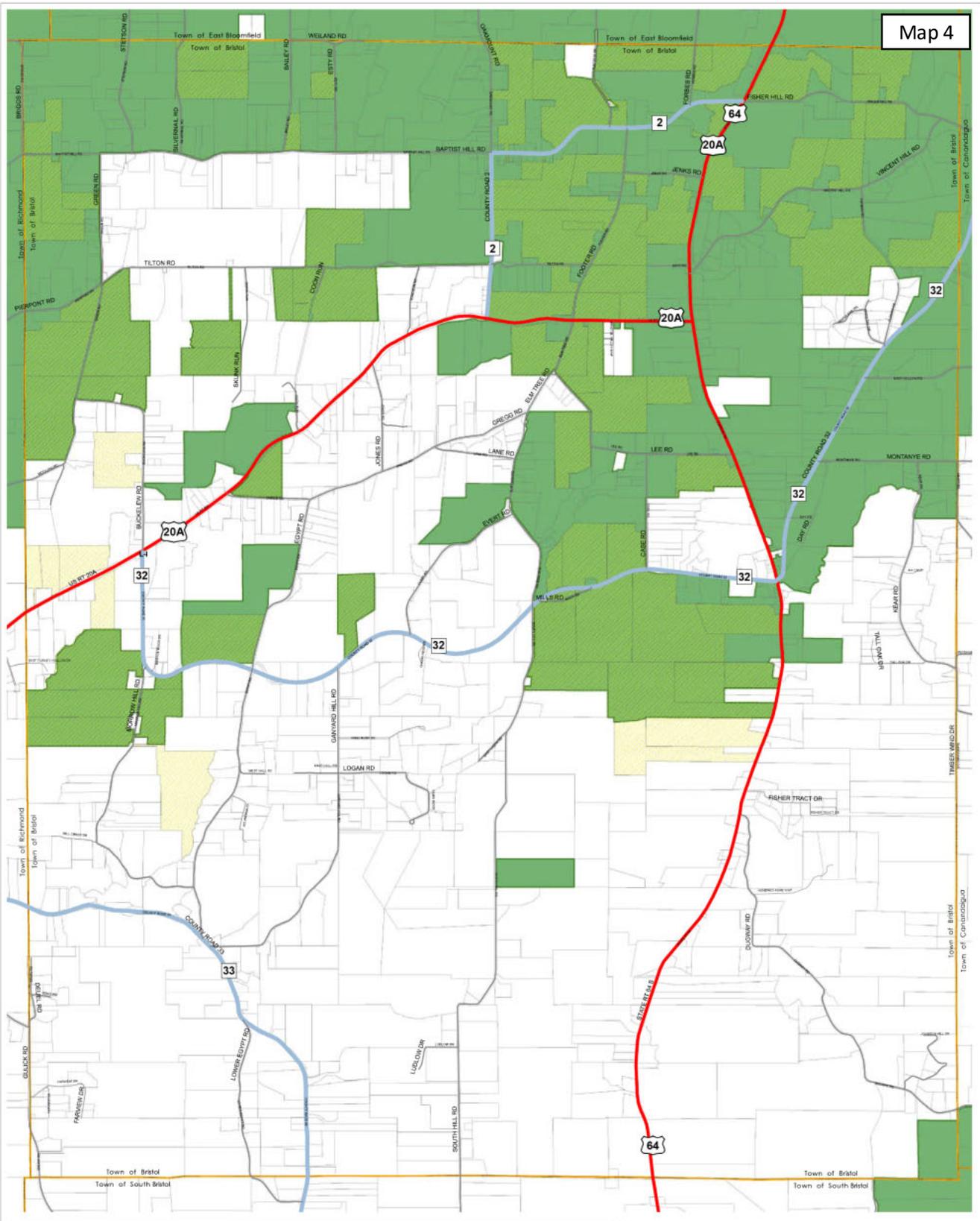
The most prominent water feature in Bristol is Mud Creek which flows north beginning in an area between Stid Hill and Worden Hill in South Bristol before ending in Ganargua Creek in Victor. Several other smaller streams and creeks are scattered throughout the Town including Mill Creek (southeast) and Bebee Creek (northeast). Protection and careful development adjacent to these resources is important not only for the sake of the character of the Town, but also to maintain the environmental health of the land. Features such as wetlands and floodplains, found adjacent to these creeks, hold soils together from erosion and act as a “natural sponge” to hold stormwater. State-regulated wetlands (managed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation) have an additional level of protection on them with a 100-foot buffer at their boundary further restricting development; State wetlands are delineated and are 12.4 acres or larger in size.



Groundwater is another important, though not visible, water feature in the Town of Bristol as a vast majority of residents and businesses rely on private water wells for their needs.

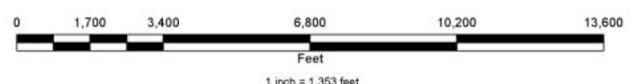
## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

Aquifers, underground layers of permeable rock, are the “storage areas” that contain and transmit groundwater and can be recharged from surface waters. Principal, primary, and sole source aquifers are more productive and are typically used as significant sources for municipal water systems; outside of these defined areas, groundwater can still be found, but yields are unverified. The only identified aquifer that exists in Bristol is in the immediate vicinity of Mud Creek – an undefined, confined (overlain by an impermeable layer) aquifer of unknown potential in terms of groundwater yield according to available USGS information. Water quality and yield vary throughout Bristol with sulfur and iron as the typical compounds detected, requiring treatment to sufficiently remove them in addition to the use of chlorine for standard bacteria elimination. Groundwater should continue to be protected through various means in order to ensure potable use.



### Town of Bristol - Active Agriculture

Ontario County, NY  
Produced by the Ontario County Planning Department  
1-2017

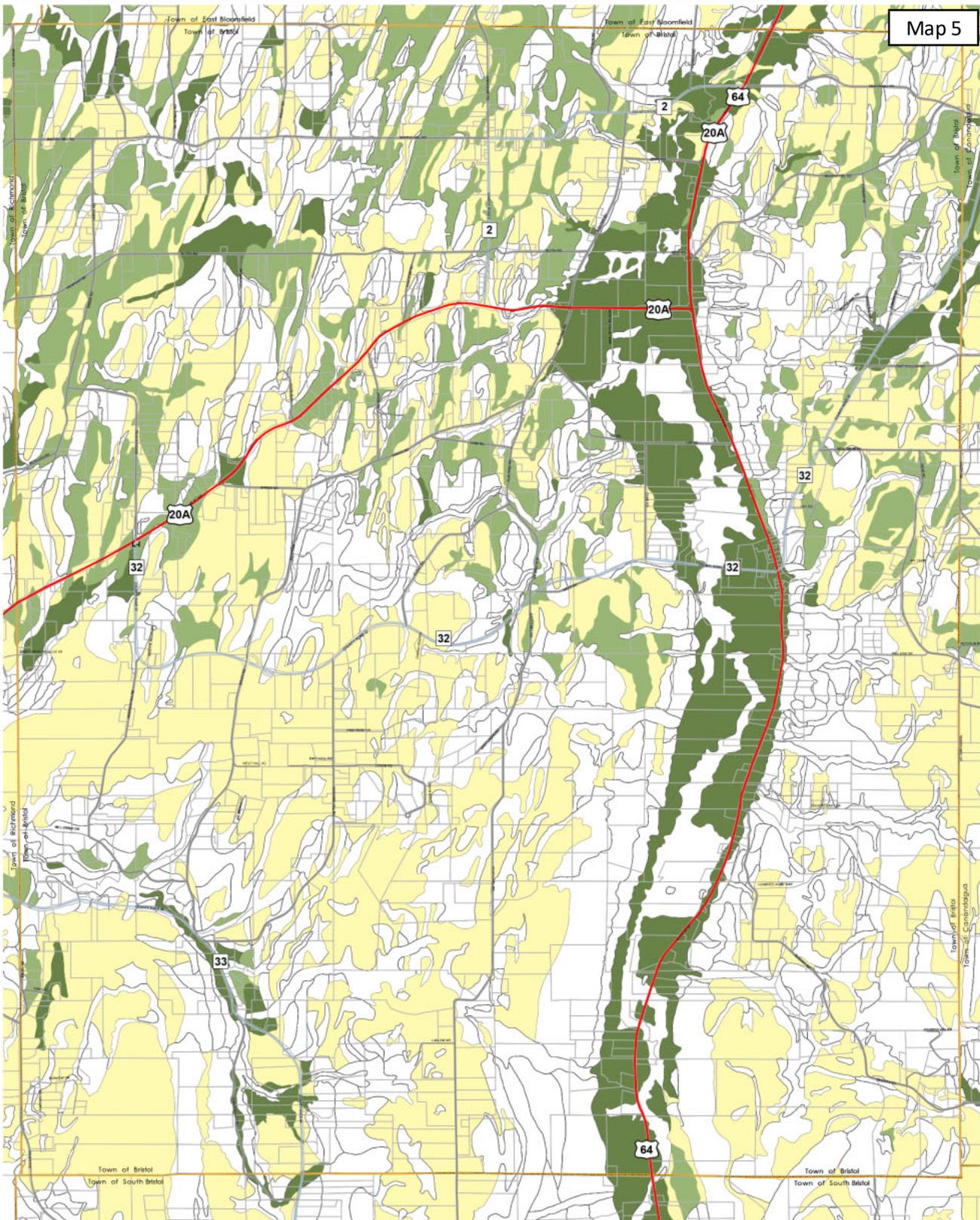


#### Key

- |                      |                          |                     |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Street Centerlines   | Municipal Boundaries     | Active_Ag_from_RPTS |
| Road Classes         | Municipal Bndys          | Tax Parcels         |
| — NYS Thruway        | — City                   |                     |
| — State or US Routes | — Village                |                     |
| — County Roads       | — Town                   |                     |
| — Municipal Roads    | — Agricultural Districts |                     |
| — Private Drives     |                          |                     |

date	general description of revision	local law	town clerk certification

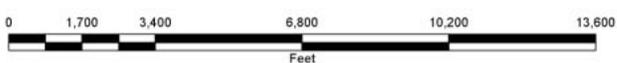
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**Sources:** Ontario County Agricultural Districts  
Ontario County Real Property Tax  
Town of Bristol  
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### Town of Bristol - Agriculture Soils

Ontario County, NY

Produced by the Ontario County Planning Department  
1-2017



1 inch = 1,353 feet

#### Key

Soils Ag Importance

- IMPORTANCE**
- N/A
  - Prime
  - Prime if Drained
  - Statewide

date	general description of revision	local law	town clerk certification

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**Sources:** Ontario County Soils Agricultural Importance  
Ontario County Real Property Tax  
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### *Steep Slopes (Maps 7 and 8, Pages 36 and 37)*

As noted in the zoning section, the Town has a significant number of steep slopes and gullies/gorges, a result of prehistoric glaciers that carved walls and valleys in the landscape. The unique topography and scenic viewsheds offered by these ridgelines are what historically drew settlers to the area. They continue to attract visitors and residents to this day. The steepest areas of the Town are at the southern end of the valley near Bristol Mountain as well as the valley surrounding Mill Creek to the southeast. Smaller drumlins (hills formed by glaciers) pocket the remainder of the Town.

### *Transportation/Infrastructure (Maps 9 and 10, Pages 38 and 39)*

State Routes 64 and 20A are the primary corridors through the Town, providing north-south and east-west connections, respectively, to other areas of the County and beyond. Of these two roadways, Route 64 is more heavily traveled with an AADT (average annual daily traffic) of 3,500 cars while Route 20A is slightly lower at approximately 2,000 cars on average. This is especially evident in the winter months with the popularity of the Bristol Mountain Ski Resort, and in other seasons with the many vineyards of Naples further south. Bristol has a total of 72 miles of roadway and of this the Town maintains 50 miles (69 percent) and the County and State maintain the remainder.



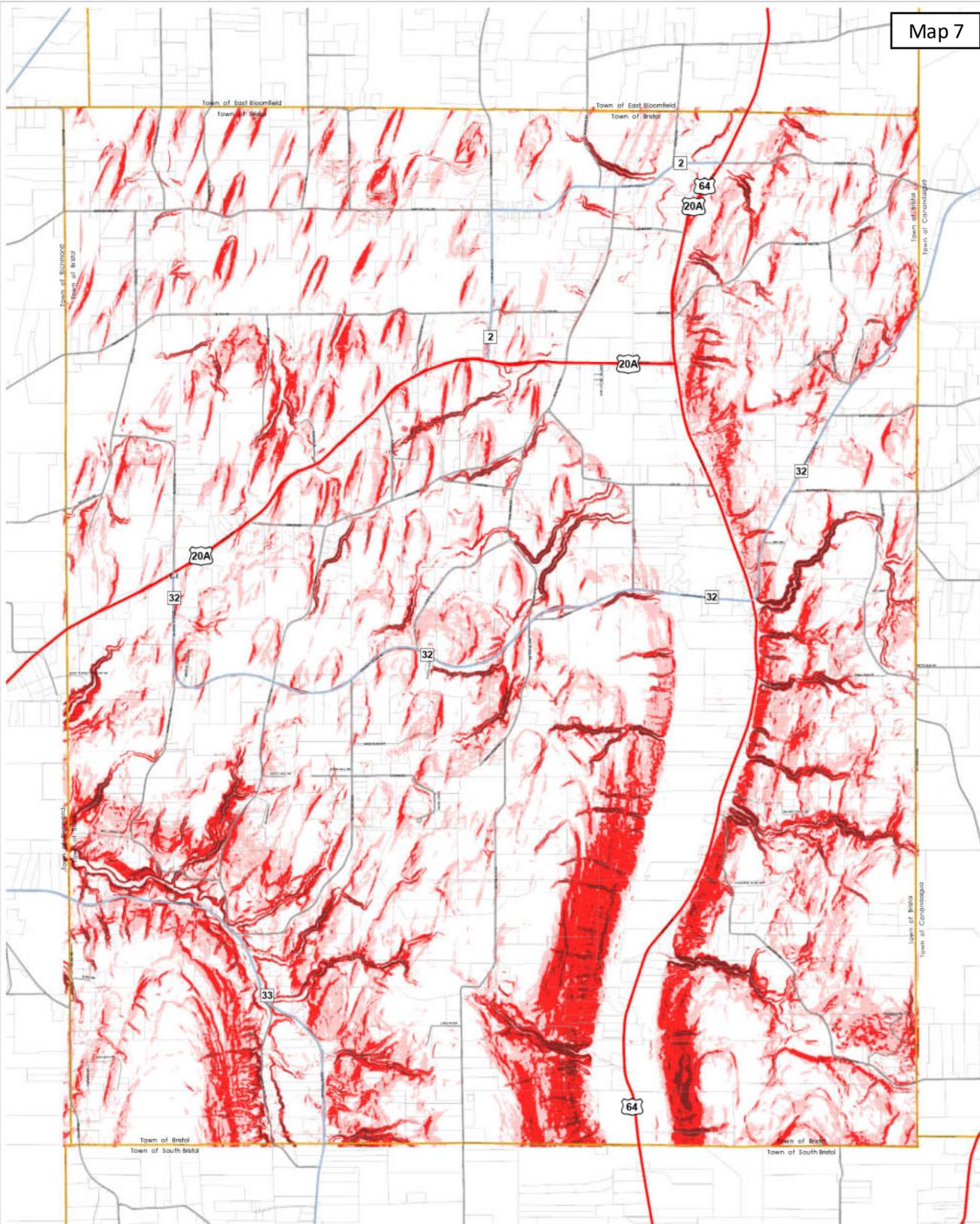
Besides roadways, there are several snowmobile trails that exist including a section of a trail (“S41”) that is part of a larger State-funded trail system on the western edge of Ontario County. There is also a private trail maintained by the Hill and Valley Riders (HVR) of Honeoye. It should be noted that though these are noted trails, they do traverse private property, typically farm fields and larger open spaces.

The only active public bus routes that exist in the Town are for the RTS Flex Route (on-demand service) from Canandaigua to Naples along County Road 32 and Route 64.

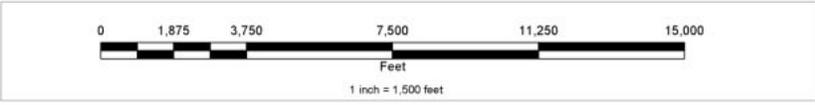
Public utilities in Bristol are limited to electric (RG&E), selective areas of natural gas, public water (area in/around Bristol Center), and selective areas of cable TV/broadband internet. The latter is a significant concern to residents due to the reliance on internet service for a multitude of goods and services in today’s society. While service is available within the Town, speeds and quality vary greatly due to the topography of the land. The only areas of

## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE & EXISTING CONDITIONS

the Town known to have very little to no service are in and around Ganyard Hill Road, Lower Egypt Road, and the south end of County Road 33.



**Town of Bristol - Steep Slopes**  
 Ontario County, NY  
 Produced by the Ontario County Planning Department  
 1-2017



**Key**

<b>Street Centerlines</b>	<b>Steep Slope Overlay District</b>
NYS Thruway	Less than 15%
State or US Routes	15% - 25%
County Roads	25% - 50%
Municipal Roads	Greater than 50%
Private Drives	

date	general description of revision	local law	town clerk certification

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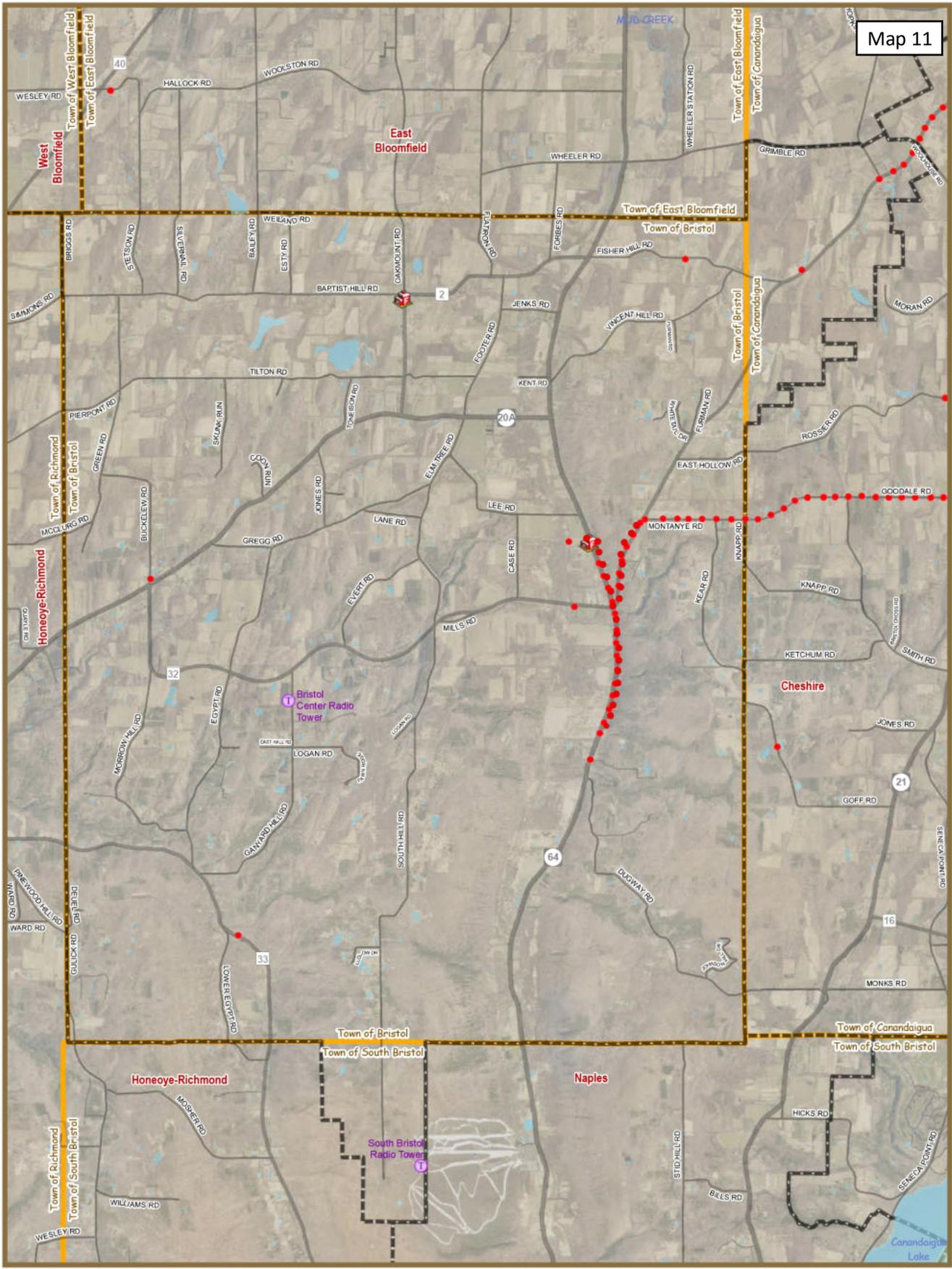




### *Other Community Services (Maps 11 and 12, Pages 41 and 42)*

Within the Town of Bristol, four separate school districts serve residents including Bloomfield, Honeoye, Canandaigua City, and Naples. Of these, Bloomfield and Honeoye are the most prominent with Bloomfield covering the northern portion and a corridor along Route 64 down past Bristol Center, and Honeoye covering the southeastern portion. No schools are located within the Town itself and all students are bussed to locations in their respective districts. Although the exact numbers of Bristol students associated with each District are not noted, Canandaigua generally has the largest enrollment with over 3,500 students in 2017-2018 followed by Bloomfield with almost 900.

Emergency services are provided by the Town through the Bristol Volunteer Fire Department, formed in 1947, and spanning the entire Town as well as small portions of South Bristol and the Town of Canandaigua. The fire protection district includes two fire houses at Bristol Center and on Oakmount Road near Baptist Hill Road and includes a variety of fire equipment including brush trucks, pumpers, ladder trucks, and water tenders. The use of pumpers and tenders (commonly referred to as “tankers”) are especially important in the rural Town of Bristol as hydrants are limited to Montanye Road and a portion of State Route 64 north and south of County Road #32 – fire ponds, portable ponds/tanks, and other mobile water methods are typically utilized in non-hydrant areas. Bristol Fire Department also provides first responder/basic life support to residents with Finger Lakes Ambulance responding to all EMS calls in the Town as of 2011. Police services include the Ontario County Sheriff Department and State Troopers.



# Bristol Fire Response Area

- Fire Hydrant
-  Fire Station
- T Radio Towers
-  Fire Districts
-  Municipal Boundary
-  County Boundaries

Prepared by the  
Ontario County  
GIS Program  
Canandaigua, New York  
2017

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**DATA SOURCES:**  
Ontario County  
NYS GIS Program







### 3.0 Vision, Policies and Objectives

#### 3.1 Vision Statement

A vision is intended to be a general and expansive statement that represents aspirations for the Bristol community. The vision statement will establish the long-term identity of the Town and serve as a guide for choosing current and future courses of action. This statement helps to provide context to and clarity for goals, an end towards which all actions are aimed. The previous vision statement for the Town provided good direction and continues to do so today; therefore, it was used as the basis for the new vision for the next 10 years with slight modifications to reflect new desires within the community.

*“The Town of Bristol boasts a naturally beautiful environment with rolling hills, woodlands, and scenic views. The community will continue to work to preserve our environment and natural features, support agriculture and businesses, and build upon our local and regional recreational resources and infrastructure. Bristol seeks to capitalize on its assets by encouraging responsibly planned economic development that enhances the rural character and heritage of the community, ensuring its sustainability for residents and visitors alike.”*

### 3.2 Policies & Objectives

How does the Town of Bristol work towards realizing this vision? While a vision statement provides a “guiding light” for the future, specific policy areas and objectives provide more specific direction, a foundation for future actions, and act as a benchmark for measuring results.

Based on community input, review of previous planning documents, and the community profile, seven key topic areas were identified as important elements within the Town:

- Agricultural Resources (AGR)
- Community Character, Facilities, and Services (CFS)
- Economic Development (ECD)
- Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)
- Housing (H)
- Infrastructure (INF)
- Recreational Resources (RRS)

Within these topics, there are *policy statements*, *objectives*, and *actions*, each having its own distinct and different purpose in the planning process.

***Policy Statements*** support the vision by addressing a specific area or issue facing the Community and will often encompass numerous objectives.

***Objectives*** are specific and measurable procedures designed to accomplish an associated policy over time. Objectives may require periodic reviews to ensure they still apply to the regulatory landscape of the Bristol Community and that they reflect the thoughts and ideas of all stakeholders.

***Actions*** or ***Recommendations*** are specific strategies that relate directly to accomplishing an objective. Action items can take the form of a plan, project, or program and address both short- and long-term objectives. These are outlined further in the plan.

### 3.2.1 Agricultural Resources (AGR)

**Policy Statement:** The promotion of agricultural viability and protection of agricultural land is a Town imperative. Bristol will continue to be a “Right to Farm” community that takes pride in its agricultural past and fosters continued opportunities for agricultural successes at varied scales.

Objectives:

- A. Maintain and support existing Bristol agricultural operations.
- B. Encourage and seek opportunities for new agricultural ventures at varied scales that would include, but not be limited to, agricultural support businesses, specialty uses, agri-tourism and residentially driven hobby farms.

### 3.2.2 Community Character, Facilities, and Services (CFS)

**Policy Statement:** The Town will ensure that our much-valued community character is preserved and enhanced. Facilities and services will continue to promote the well-being of our community and the cultural, social, and historical preservation of the town and its heritage.

Objectives:

- A. Promote and support Bristol’s cultural, social, and historical organizations.
- B. Continue preservation of historically significant sites.
- C. Ensure that municipal and other public facilities continue to function safely and adequately.
- D. Promote easy access to local and County health and human services.
- E. Promote and support civic engagement and community building.
- F. Promote town government efficiency and inter-municipal & regional cooperation.

### 3.2.3 Economic Development (ECD)

**Policy Statement:** The Town will create and sustain a vibrant local economy that supports a variety of lifestyles. The Town will promote strategic and appropriate growth through the pursuit of both public and private investments that stabilize the tax base without compromising the Community’s pristine character. The Town will leverage unique sweeping view sheds and open space vistas into tourism opportunities.

The Town will actively promote economic development which:

- Minimizes environmental impact
- Makes best use of appropriate technological advances
- Promotes long term financial and tax based stability
- Complements current businesses and land uses
- Supports self-employment and home-based business
- Creates employment opportunities for residents
- Provides needed services for Bristol residents and visitors
- Leverages outside capital, as needed
- Contributes to this Plan's vision for community character

Objectives:

- A. Explore revenue-creating opportunities to generate funds for Town operations and to off-set taxes.
- B. Pursue and promote broadband connectivity to homes and businesses where feasible and affordable.
- C. Strengthen Bristol's ability to capture tourism dollars for local businesses by becoming a Finger Lakes' Go-To destination for outdoor family recreation.
- D. Support the development of an independent foundation to help leverage available outside funding for community projects.
- E. Encourage business development in the hamlet of Bristol Center.
- F. Support new home-based ventures and current expansions, where applicable and compatible.
- G. Support existing farm-based business and encourage future agricultural ventures where appropriate throughout the Town.
- H. Coordinate economic development efforts with the County Industrial Development Association (IDA) and other regional business cooperatives.

### 3.2.4 Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)

**Policy Statement:** The Town of Bristol is committed to protecting its greatest asset: a pristine and beautiful environment treasured by residents and visitors alike. To this end, the Town will actively work to preserve its natural resources; protect the quality of land and vistas, air, watersheds and aquifers, and flora and fauna; and promote environmental stewardship.

Objectives:

- A. Assess and preserve natural resources.
- B. Protect the quality of land and vistas, air, watersheds and aquifers, and flora and fauna.
- C. Promote environmental stewardship among residents, business owners, farmers, and landowners.

### 3.2.5 Housing (H)

**Policy Statement:** The Town will encourage and promote a variety of housing options that meet the needs of current and future residents—from first-time home owners/renters, to long-time, aging and/or disabled residents who may be in need of alternative housing or special accommodations.

Objectives:

- A. Encourage affordable-moderate housing development for both purchase and rental.
- B. Support initiatives and avenues for aging and/or disabled residents who want to remain independent in their homes.
- C. Provide information to help residents save on home ownership costs.

### 3.2.6 Infrastructure (INF)

**Policy Statement:** The Town will support a transportation system that is safe, efficient, equitable, convenient and environmentally responsible. Public water infrastructure will be maintained to ensure access to safe drinking water. Potential areas for expansion of the existing water district will be evaluated when demand arises. The Town recognizes that access to mass communication infrastructure is a priority for its residents. Residents and businesses, to the maximum extent feasible, should have access to available communications networks including high speed internet, cellular phone coverage and fiber optics. The Town will seek to encourage the use of renewable energy technologies at a scale compatible with its character.

### Objectives:

- A. Develop and maintain a transportation network for both motorized and non-motorized uses.
- B. Maintain access to existing public water infrastructure while working to expand water district access where appropriate.
- C. Foster access to, and expansion of, communications networks.
- D. Encourage renewable energy at an appropriate scale.

### 3.2.7 Recreational Resources (RRS)

**Policy Statement:** Parks and recreational opportunities enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors. Use of recreational facilities will continue to increase the demand for recreational resources. The Town will evaluate on an on-going basis and use that information to support expanded recreational facilities and programs.

### Objectives:

- A. Enhance Town parks and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.
- B. Collaborate with adjacent communities or other stakeholders to develop additional opportunities for expanding parks and recreation resources.
- C. Establish active transportation opportunities (sidewalks, transit and bicycle facilities).
- D. Encourage a variety of programs and recreational resources to promote active and healthy lifestyles.
- E. Market the Town's diverse recreational opportunities.



### 4.0 Moving Forward

Previous sections of the Comprehensive Plan outline what the community has to work with, its assets and constraints, issues and opportunities, and the desired vision for what Bristol can be in the future. Using all of this information, creating a “roadmap” for how the Plan is carried out is a critical component. This section outlines the various tasks, tools, and strategies that are needed, including policies and physical action, to guide the Town to a successful implementation of the Plan.

This section includes:

- Future Land Use and Design - where and how we encourage growth or conservation in the community.
- Plan for Action - recommendations for policies, regulations, programs, etc.
- Implementation - tools and strategies for how the plan gets used.
- Funding Opportunities - avenues for grants and outside funding and an overview of the general process.

#### 4.1 Future Land Use

A Comprehensive Plan not only addresses community issues and opportunities, but also growth and preservation. A future land use plan provides a graphic illustration of the future land use patterns in the community, giving residents, business owners, and developers direction on the proposed form and framework for land uses. Basically, it answers a simple question:

### **What do we want Bristol to look like in the future?**

Existing land use patterns, extent of utilities, environmental features, zoning patterns, and areas for targeted development serve as the foundation for the future land use map, providing a more realistic view of potential trends and opportunities. The map not only deals with growth, though, as there are a number of valuable natural and cultural resources within the Town that contribute to community character and can serve as economic development catalysts. Prime agricultural lands, recreational areas, and sensitive environmental features are all taken into account on the map as well, for the purpose of preservation and limited growth.

The overall intent of the future land use map is to support opportunities for growth and development in two key areas – the hamlet of Bristol Center and along key areas of Route 64. Besides being designated as a hamlet (an unincorporated “place” unlike a Village or Town), Bristol Center has several other key elements that factor into encouraging additional development here, including:

- Dandy’s gas station/convenience store
- Town Hall and Highway Department
- Levi Corser Park, and other parks
- Bristol Library
- A higher concentration of commercial uses
- Location at intersection of State Route 64 and County Road 32
- Availability of public water and other utilities

Focusing on expanding development opportunities in this area takes advantage of these assets and seeks to create a more identifiable “town center” for residents and visitors alike. Additionally, this approach better utilizes available infrastructure, provides efficient means for expansion if sufficient demand comes to fruition, and protects the rural character of the remainder of the Town, an important aspect that is supported by the greater Bristol community.

State Route 64 is a key corridor connecting Bristol to Bloomfield, Naples, and beyond. With various recreational and tourism-related uses located along the corridor, it is an “untapped” resource for the Town to identify further economic development opportunities. Additionally, several locally and regionally important businesses exist on Route 64 as well as other small businesses, drawing visitors from outside of Bristol to the community. Encouraging development outside of the hamlet and along a limited stretch of Route 64 takes advantage of a key element for a sustainable business – exposure in the form of traffic volumes.

Beyond the hamlet and the stretch of Route 64 immediately around it, another area that should be considered for expanding development opportunities would be along the border with South Bristol. Bristol Mountain is a significant regional draw during the winter months, but its owners have been actively pursuing other avenues for expanding operations year-round. The Town of Bristol would be well-positioned to provide ancillary opportunities that take advantage of investments at the Mountain as well as other recreational assets nearby (e.g. Stid Hill).

The remainder of the Town would continue to follow the existing rural development trend with a mix of agricultural, lower density (i.e. larger lot) residences, and open space. This style of development is primarily centered on the need for sufficient land area for private septic and water systems/wells. Areas of the Town that are prime farmland would continue to remain as such, with added emphasis on agricultural operations and supporting enterprises and protection against non-agricultural conversions.

While a future land use map illustrates areas for general land uses, one item to keep in mind is that this is NOT a zoning map. It provides guidance on long-term decision-making about land uses, including zoning changes, which implement the goals, policies, and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan. Changes proposed to Town zoning, whether strategic edits to regulations, district intent/purpose statements, actual boundary revisions, or the creation of new districts, will need to be consistent with the Plan. This is a critical connection that is supported and upheld by the courts.

### 4.1.1 Land Use Categories

The land uses shown on the future land use map are broken down into the following categories with the colors noted for each (*Map 13, Page 54*):

#### ***Rural Residential (Light Green)***

These areas of the Town are and will continue to be more rural in nature, providing the “country character” that is attractive in Bristol. Agricultural operations are encouraged as well as other uses consistent with a rural setting, including wineries, breweries, and home-based businesses. The right to farm will be respected and agritourism and related agriculturally-supportive ventures will be encouraged to keep farming viable in the Town. Residential development should be located on lands with limited agricultural potential where possible, sited in a manner that preserves and protects environmental features such as but not limited to ridgelines, extensive woodlots, wetlands, and floodplains. As such, larger parcels (2 acres +/-) are still needed to provide adequate space for private septic systems and wells.

### *Medium Density Residential (Orange)*

The medium density residential areas reflected on the map are intended to support existing portions of the Town that have a density of one-acre or less, such as manufactured home parks (mobile homes) or possibly other residential developments including patio homes, apartments, and other similar uses. While manufactured homes are important to providing affordable housing for existing or future residents, the use of more modern, code-compliant manufactured homes is encouraged over 1970's era mobile homes. Adequate private sewer and water systems are required for any new development, redevelopment, or expansion to ensure the health and safety of not only residents, but also adjacent landowners with private water wells. The same holds true for any other new multi-family or higher-density development that could be proposed in these areas.

### *Hamlet Center (Red)*

The Hamlet Center category is intended to be a mix of uses including, but not limited to, commercial, residential, and community service, primarily serving the local neighborhood needs of the Bristol community. Traditional hamlet development consists of smaller lots (with consideration for private septic and wells as necessary) with more of a "Village" feeling or character and design elements that are not found in the more rural areas of the Town. Higher density residential development could also be considered in this area, provided adequate infrastructure is in place to support it. Connectivity among uses and within the hamlet is supported whether in the form of dedicated sidewalks, wider shoulders, signage, or any other feasible means; a lower speed limit already exists in the area to help facilitate this to an extent. Any new development or redevelopment that is proposed for this area is encouraged to focus on high-quality building design, with aesthetics that reflect a small town, rural character; for example, the 1795 Acorn Inn Bed and Breakfast or Café Sol. Design standards could be considered in the future to provide a clearer understanding of the Town's expectations to improve the hamlet over time.

### *Rural Business (Dark Blue)*

The rural business category includes existing commercial and light industrial uses on larger tracts of land that provide services and jobs to Bristol and beyond. Uses in this category have larger footprint buildings and are likely more intensive in terms of operations as compared to those that would be located in the hamlet center. Operations and storage of materials would take place within enclosed facilities with limited outdoor activities, provided adequate buffering and setbacks are in place. The design and character of buildings should reflect the rural character of Bristol and provide a positive visual contribution to the community.

### *Recreational Mixed-Use (Purple)*

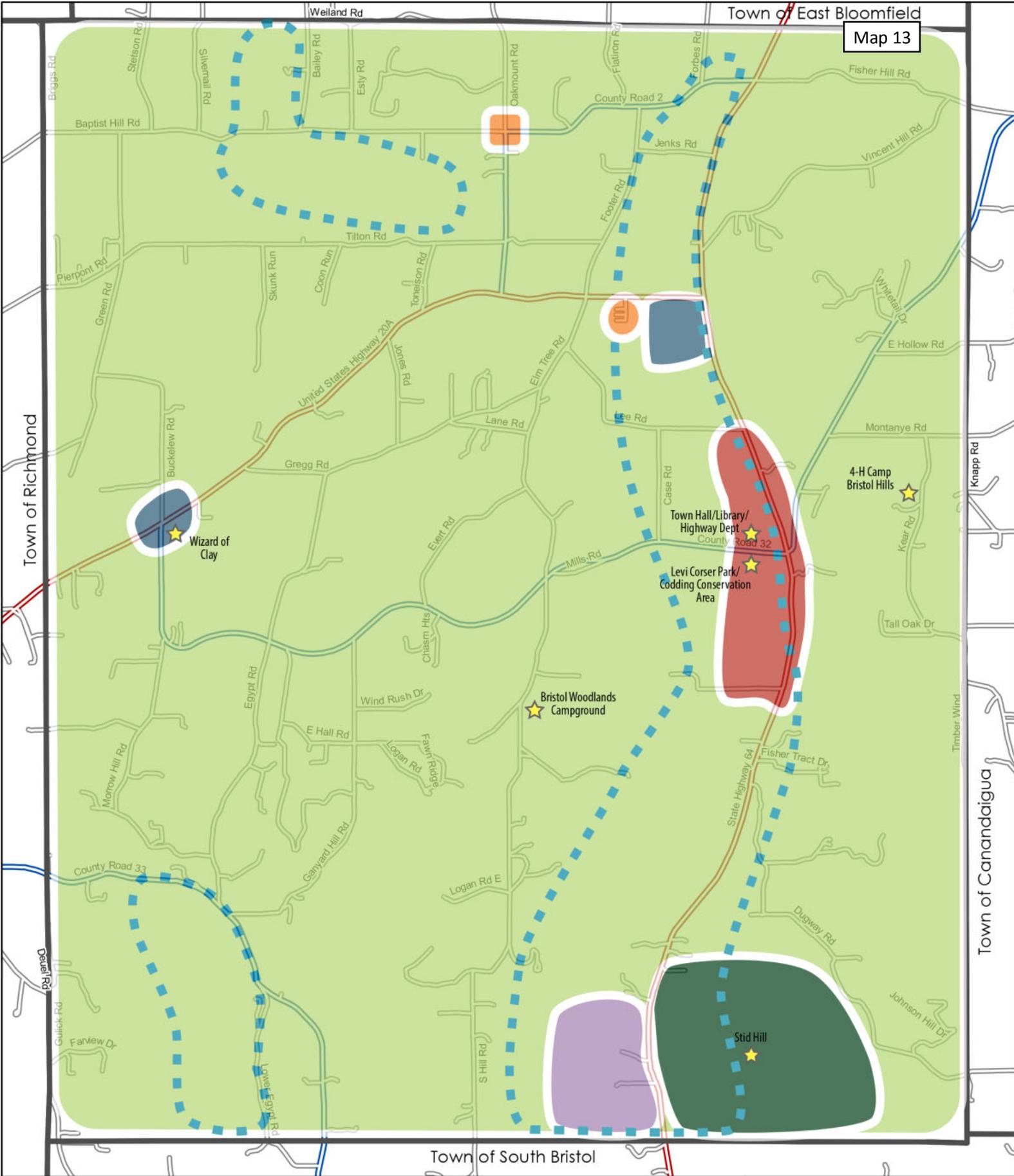
The Recreational Mixed-Use category is centered around recreational and supportive uses that take advantage of and capitalize on nearby Bristol Mountain as well as Stid Hill and other similar assets both within Bristol and along the Route 64 corridor. Bed and breakfast establishments, lodging, restaurants, outdoor recreation, and other similar uses are encouraged as well as continued residential use. It is anticipated that appropriate setbacks, buffering, and landscaping would be included as part of any site development to provide sufficient screening and separation between conflicting uses (i.e., residential and non-residential).

### *Conservation (Dark Green)*

This category includes existing conservation areas as well as key recreational assets that need to be preserved for local and regional enjoyment. For these areas, development is limited to passive recreational and supportive pursuits such as trails, parking areas, overlooks, pavilions, picnicking facilities, etc. Accessibility and proper identification/wayfinding of these resources can be utilized for marketing and economic development pursuits.

### *Sensitive Environmental Features (Blue dash)*

The areas highlighted within the sensitive environmental features category include various resources within the Town that both contribute to its character, but also hinder future development, including, but not limited to, floodplains, wetlands, and steep slopes. Within this category, balance is the key intent with the underlying land use still encouraged, but additional controls in place in order to protect these environmental features while maximizing development potential. Controls may include vegetated buffering, additional site engineering, limits on clearing, wider setbacks, soil stabilization, and/or other mitigation efforts on a case by case basis.



Town of Richmond

Town of Canandaigua

Town of South Bristol

### Future Land Use

## Town of Bristol 2018 Comprehensive Plan

Ontario County - New York  
June 5, 2018

#### Legend

- Points of Interest
- Rural Residential
- Recreational Mixed-Use
- Rural Business
- Medium Density Residential
- Conservation
- Hamlet Center
- Sensitive Environ. Features
- Local Roads
- State Roads
- County Roads



### 4.2 A Plan for Action

While the earlier sections of the plan provided background on the community, including demographic trends, and policy statements and objectives for the future, this portion outlines specific recommendations for the Town to take action. Without specific action items, results would be difficult to realize.

These recommendations do not make an attempt to address and identify EVERY action that is required nor the exact method for carrying it out. As much as this plan is itself a guidance document for local leaders, Boards, and the community at-large, the recommendations only provide direction for action. How the Town ultimately fulfills them is within its own discretion.

The Comprehensive Plan is intended to be an active, working document, addressing the various policy statements and objectives outlined in earlier sections. To assist in that effort, the action plan was developed and laid out in the following manner, tying together earlier sections and including several important elements.

1. **Policies and Objectives** - The original policy statements and objectives from Section 3.
2. **Item No.** – A general reference for tracking.
3. **Recommendation** - The specific action to carry out the objectives within that goal. These recommendations can include policies, programs, regulations, projects, and/or planning tasks.
4. **Potential Partners** - Identifies those who have a stake in or the potential to influence an action through funding, review, permitting, technical assistance, etc., including both internal and external entities. This may not include all of those who could be involved, but at least provides a preliminary idea of those needed to coordinate efforts. The Town Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Boards (limited to zoning specific issues), while not specifically called out in the table, are noted to have some level of involvement within each action item dependent upon their individual areas of responsibility.

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

5. **Priority** - Some actions can and should be started right away, while others may take some effort to get off the ground due to funding, coordination, communication, etc. To make progress toward the Town’s vision, it is necessary to prioritize and focus, channeling resources that can support and influence other actions. The intent of this column is to provide the community with an indication of those actions that should be generally attended to first – the timeframe for remaining actions, while still important, can be determined by the implementation committee and/or Town/Planning Boards as outlined on previous pages. It should be noted that the initiation and/or completion of higher priority actions is fluid and subject to change depending on manpower, available funding, coordination, etc.

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
AGR-A: Maintain and support existing Bristol agricultural operations.				
AGR-A	1	Provide guidance to current and interested land owners on agricultural assessment program requirements and benefits.	Town Assessor, Ontario County Real Property Tax Dept.	
AGR-A	2	Provide guidance to current and interested land owners on Federal and State Programs including the Conservation Reserve Program (USDA) and Agricultural Environmental Management program.	USDA, OCSWCD	
AGR-A	3	Promote and enforce the “Right to Farm” Law.		
AGR-A	4	Encourage agricultural planning, including opportunities for Purchase of Development Rights to ensure continued agricultural production and continued protection of prime agricultural soils where appropriate.	Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Board, Finger Lakes Land Trust	
AGR-A	5	Re-establish a local Agricultural Committee with representatives from other groups/agencies to identify issues and opportunities on the future of agriculture in Bristol.	Local farmers, NOFA, USDA, Ontario County, NY Farm Bureau, OCSWCD	
AGR-A	6	Ensure that Bristol farms and farmers are adequately marketed to local, County, State, and regional resources.	Finger Lakes Connection, Cornell Cooperative of Ontario County, Headwater Food Hub	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
AGR-A	7	Identify lands within the Town that have the potential for agricultural use (e.g. prime soils, vacant, open, etc.) and work with local organizations and farmers to market opportunities for expansion of new farms.	USDA, NOFA, Cornell Cooperative, NY Farm Bureau, Ontario County Real Property	
AGR-A	8	Encourage farmers within Bristol and neighboring communities to establish business partnerships to develop marketing strategies, share equipment, provide customer referrals, and other collaborative efforts.	Neighboring Towns, Ontario County, NY Farm Bureau	
AGR-A	9	Consider the development of a joint Farmland Protection Plan with neighboring Towns to identify more specific measures for preserving, expanding, and supporting local agriculture.	Neighboring Towns, Ontario County, NYS Ag & Markets	
AGR-B: Encourage and seek opportunities for new agricultural ventures at varied scales that would include, but not be limited to, agricultural support businesses, specialty uses, agri-tourism and residentially driven hobby farms.				
AGR-B	10	Encourage new agricultural markets and environmentally sound agricultural practices.	USDA, CCE	
AGR-B	11	Encourage opportunities for the introduction of innovative crops (i.e. hops, industrial hemp).	USDA, CCE	
AGR-B	12	Review local trends and regional needs for agriculturally-supportive businesses such as small-scale processing facilities or community supported agriculture (CSAs)	USDA, CCE	
AGR-B	13	Work with and educate local farmers on other potential agri-tourism opportunities, such as lodging, recreation, and private and community events	Cornell Cooperative, NY Farm Bureau	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
AGR-B	14	Explore opportunities for the establishment of a seasonal farmers market within the Town as a sole or joint venture with neighboring Towns (rotating or central location) to market local goods.	Neighboring Towns, CCE, Farmers Market Federation of NY, NYS DAM	
AGR-B	15	Encourage and allow residential-scale and "hobby farms" as accessory uses within the Town with stipulations on number of animals, lot size, buffering, and other potential nuisance issues.		
AGR-B	16	Ensure the list of permitted uses in the Town Zoning Code allows for a wide variety of agricultural uses in line with NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets as well as local trends for agriculturally related ventures.	NYS DAM, NY Farm Bureau, Ontario County, CCE	

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
CFS-A: Promote and support Bristol's cultural, social, and historical organizations.				
CFS-A	1	Continue to post information about Bristol's organizations and local events on the Town website. Ensure easy one-place access to information on Town website.	Town website coordinator, various organizations, e.g., Bristol Hills Historical Societies, Bristol Library, Harmony Circle, Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., United Church of Bristol	
CFS-A	2	Identify appropriate space where members of the community can gather and where civic organizations can host meetings and special events.	Resident volunteer (s), various organizations (see CFS-A-1)	
CFS-A	3	Promote and coordinate efforts to acquire space for use by civic organizations for safe storage of historical documents and artifacts. Promote the sharing of resources among these organizations.	Resident volunteer (s), various organizations (see CFS-A-1)	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
CFS-A	4	Increase the volunteer base for various civic organizations by posting requests and updates on the Town website.	Town website coordinator, and/or Resident volunteer (s), various organizations (see CFS-A-1)	
CFS-A	5	Preserve local oral histories by coordinating a public informational meeting, posting public updates on Town website, and lending support as needed throughout the planning and implementation of an oral history project.	Town Historian, Town website coordinator, Resident volunteer (s), various organizations (see CFS-A-1)	
CFS-B: Continue preservation of historically significant sites.				
CFS-B	6	Support and assist in verification of registration status of historically significant sites on the NY State or National Register of Historic Places. Create, and update, a listing on the Town website of individual sites and their status.	Town website coordinator, Town Historian, Bristol Hills Historical Societies, Bristol Library	
CFS-B	7	Support and assist in preserving at-risk historic sites.	Town Historian, Code Enforcement Officer, Bristol Hills Historical Societies	
CFS-C: Ensure that municipal and other public facilities continue to function safely and adequately.				
CFS-C	8	To ensure that municipal and other public facilities continue to function safely and adequately, encourage each municipal and community organization to perform a conditions survey to identify deficiencies and areas for potential improvements.	Code Enforcement Officer, Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., Bristol Library, Bristol Historian, Bristol Hills Historical Societies	
CFS-C	9	Identify and pursue grants and other funding sources, where feasible, for any critical improvements to municipal and other public facilities.	Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., Bristol Library, Bristol Historian, Bristol Hills Historical Societies	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

<b>Policy/ Objective</b>	<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Potential Partners</b>	<b>Priority</b>
<b>CFS-C</b>	10	Continue to provide adequate funding for the Bristol Library, the Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., and the Bristol Hills Historical Societies. Support and promote the functions of these organizations. Coordinate funding with South Bristol as needed.	Town website coordinator, Bristol Library, Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., Bristol Historian, Bristol Hills Historical Societies	
<b>CFS-D: Promote easy access to local and County health and human services.</b>				
<b>CFS-D</b>	11	Continue to provide links to local and County health and human services on the Town website.	Town website coordinator, County Office for the Aging, Lifespan	
<b>CFS-D</b>	12	Expand information available on Town website by including a listing of handyman services. <i>(See also H-B-3)</i>	Town website coordinator, Resident volunteer (s), various local businesses	
<b>CFS-D</b>	13	Support and promote outreach programs as needed, including local health fairs and informational presentations on specific health topics.	Bristol Library, Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., Bristol Fun Day organizers, United Church of Bristol, County Office for the Aging, Lifespan	
<b>CFS-E: Promote and support civic engagement and community building.</b>				
<b>CFS-E</b>	14	Coordinate the creation of a welcome-packet for new residents/business owners/landowners.*	Town website coordinator, Resident volunteer (s), Bristol Library, Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., Harmony Circle, Bristol Hills Historical Societies, United Church of Bristol, Ontario County Resource Guide, CCE	
<b>CFS-E</b>	15	Encourage businesses and other contacts to update information provided on the Town website on a regular basis.	Town website coordinator, various businesses and organizations	

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
CFS-E	16	Continue to communicate meetings, events, and other Town information through regular e-news briefs; include volunteer opportunities; invite residents to sign up; and share information with available social media platforms.	Town website coordinator, Resident volunteer (s), Bristol Library, Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., Harmony Circle, Bristol Hills Historical Societies, United Church of Bristol	
CFS-E	17	Provide multiple ways for the public to make suggestions and comments, including the use of suggestion boxes at the Town Hall, in the Bristol Library, and at Levi Corser Memorial Park.	Town website coordinator, Bristol Library	
CFS-E	18	Organize an annual Open House where residents can interact with neighbors and meet with members of the three municipal boards and with representatives of local civic organizations in an informal setting.	Town website coordinator, Resident volunteer (s), Bristol Library, Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept., Harmony Circle, Bristol Hills Historical Societies, United Church of Bristol	
CFS-F: Promote town government efficiency and inter-municipal & regional cooperation.				
CFS-F	19	Post draft agendas for Board meetings on the Town website prior to meeting dates, along with supporting materials, when available. Draft minutes should continue to be posted in accordance with Town law.	Town website coordinator	
CFS-F	20	If feasible, video-record Board meetings and make videos available on YouTube, providing links on the Town website.	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator	
CFS-F	21	Create a list of rules and regulations the Town has established with regard to Board meetings, workshops, and public hearings. Post listing on the Town website.	Town website coordinator	
CFS-F	22	Continue to identify avenues for sharing of services, equipment and materials among Bristol, neighboring towns, and Ontario County	Highway Department, neighboring towns, County Planning	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
<b>ECD-A: Explore revenue-creating opportunities to generate funds for Town operations and to off-set taxes.</b>				
<b>ECD-A</b>	1	Commission a professional feasibility study for the development of a town-wide micro-grid project.	Resident volunteer (s), NYSERDA, various Ontario County Economic Development organizations	
<b>ECD-A</b>	2	Explore best practices among rural communities of a similar character to identify other potential revenue-creating projects.	Resident volunteer (s), various Ontario County Economic Development organizations	
<b>ECD-A</b>	3	Develop a “Recreational Mixed-use Zoning” district along the South Bristol border near Bristol Mountain and Stid Hill.	Resident volunteer (s), South Bristol	
<b>ECD-B: Pursue and promote broadband connectivity to homes and businesses where feasible and affordable.</b>				
<b>ECD-B</b>	4	Determine feasibility, options, costs, and potential funding sources for connection to the existing fiber optic ring.	Resident volunteer (s), various Ontario County Economic Development organizations	
<b>ECD-C: Strengthen Bristol’s ability to capture tourism dollars for local businesses by becoming a Finger Lakes’ Go-To destination for outdoor family recreation.</b>				
<b>ECD-C</b>	5	Identify opportunities for a trail system that connects current trails, outdoor recreational attractions, and tourism-based businesses throughout the community.	Resident volunteer (s), Finger Lakes Visitor Connection, various Ontario County Economic Development organizations	
<b>ECD-C</b>	6	Actively encourage appropriately scaled home-based and other new and existing tourism-based businesses throughout the community.	Resident volunteer (s), Finger Lakes Visitor Connection, various Ontario County Economic Development organizations	
<b>ECD-C</b>	7	Commission a community-based professional plan, along with South Bristol and East Bloomfield, to address tourism and improved quality of life along the Route 64 corridor from State Routes 20 & 5, south through Bristol Valley to Bristol Springs.	Resident volunteer (s), Neighboring Towns, Finger Lakes Visitor Connection, various Ontario County Economic Development organizations, GTC	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
ECD-D: Encourage the development of an independent foundation to help leverage available outside funding for community projects.				
<b>ECD-D</b>	8	Examine and research the feasibility and potential for establishing a not-for-profit corporation or foundation to promote economic development in Bristol.*	Resident volunteer (s), appropriate county, state and federal funding agencies.	
<b>ECD-D</b>	9	Examine and research the potential for establishing a rural business incubator to support the development of rural commercial ventures.	Resident volunteer (s), various Ontario County Economic Development organizations, USDA	
ECD-E: Encourage business development in the hamlet of Bristol Center.				
<b>ECD-E</b>	10	Examine the extent of other commercial/ industrial zoning districts in the Town to determine if their boundaries and intent are consistent with business trends and the character of the community.	Resident volunteer (s), various Ontario County Economic Development organizations	
ECD-F: Support new home-based ventures and current expansions, where applicable and compatible.				
<b>ECD-F</b>	11	Consult with home-based businesses to develop a local registry within the Town.	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator	
<b>ECD-F</b>	12	Review home-based business regulations to ensure they contain adequate standards for parking, lighting, signage and overall size.	Resident volunteer (s)	
ECD-G: Support existing farm-based business and encourage future agricultural ventures where appropriate throughout the Town.				
<b>ECD-G</b>	13	See Action Items for Agricultural Resources objective AGR-B.		
ECD-H: Coordinate economic development efforts with the County IDA and other regional business cooperatives.				
<b>ECD-H</b>	14	Actively market the Town of Bristol's assets to encourage new business.	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, Finger Lakes Visitor Connection, various Ontario County Economic Development organizations	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
ENR-A: Assess and preserve natural resources.				
ENR-A	1	Develop an Inventory of Natural Resources, including scenic vistas, environmentally unique areas, critical habitats, existing parklands and trails, potential network of trails, and prominent features.	Resident volunteer (s), FLCC, OCSWCD	
ENR-A	2	Update, monitor and promote inventoried natural resources on an ongoing basis.	Resident volunteer (s), OCSWCD	
ENR-A	3	Review and update existing regulations pertaining to natural resources to ensure adequate preservation/protection measures are in place	FLCC, OCSWCD	
ENR-A	4	Develop an Open Space Plan to preserve existing open space (agricultural land, parks and other recreational sites, scenic vistas, forested land, etc.) and identify new opportunities for preservation where feasible. *	Open Space Planning Committee, Resident volunteer (s), with Finger Lakes Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, OCSWCD, and NYS DEC as resources	
ENR-A	5	Develop zoning controls to support the Open Space Plan as necessary.	Ontario County Planning, OCSWCD	
ENR-B: Protect the quality of land and vistas, air, watersheds and aquifers, and flora and fauna.				
ENR-B	6	Continue monitoring and enforcing steep slope regulations, erosion and sedimentation controls, and timber harvesting regulations. *	Code Enforcement Officer, OCSWCD	
ENR-B	7	Continue to assess current groundwater and stormwater management practices and ensure that expert recommendations are followed. *	Highway Superintendent, Highway Planning Committee, Town Engineer, OCSWCD	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
ENR-B	8	Continue to assess current maintenance practices of parks and other open spaces and ensure that expert recommendations are followed. *	Park Commissioner, OCSWCD, CCE	
ENR-B	9	Develop zoning code regulations that limit any activities related to natural gas exploration and extraction to those that use conventional drilling methods for non-commercial, personal use only, and classify such activities as an accessory use. *	OCSWCD, Ontario County Planning	
ENR-B	10	Develop zoning code regulations that prohibit wastes associated with natural gas exploration, extraction or production to be stored, disposed of, or used, e.g., as a de-icing agent on town roads (similar to County restrictions with regard to County roads). *	OCSWCD, Bristol Highway Superintendent, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council, NYS DOT, Ontario County DOT	
ENR-B	11	Promote and pursue alternative energy use, including but not limited to: a feasibility study for a town-wide microgrid, a community charging station in an easily accessible location, and appropriate zoning code controls. *	Resident volunteer (s), Town Engineer, consultants, OCSWCD, NYSERDA	
ENR-B	12	Promote awareness of air pollution and adherence to DEC Open Burning regulations. If needed, increase enforcement of the regulations. *	Code Enforcement Officer, Town website coordinator, OCSWCD	
ENR-B	13	Consider a local noise ordinance that limits potential nuisance activities that negatively affect homeowners as well as property values.	Code Enforcement Officer, OCSWCD	

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
ENR-B	14	Continue to enforce any existing zoning code restrictions with regard to light pollution. If needed, develop Dark Sky Guidelines.*	Code Enforcement Officer, Resident volunteer (s), OCSWCD	
ENR-B	15	Continue to protect and enhance Bristol's four watersheds by restricting activities that might contaminate aquifer recharge areas and/or groundwater resources. Identify recharge areas and establish municipal and/or private well-head protection and onsite waste water treatment inspection guidelines.	Resident volunteer (s), Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council, NYS DEC, OCSWCD, GVC, Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force, FLCC	
ENR-B	16	Promote flood resiliency in affected areas by evaluating roadside ditch maintenance and cleaning practices (incl. timing and frequency) and ensuring use of hydro-seeding and rock armoring as appropriate.*	Highway Superintendent, Highway Planning Committee, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council, Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force, FLCC, OCSWCD	
ENR-B	17	Continue to protect and enhance natural features such as vernal pools, backwater flood ponds, stable stream banks and natural stream buffers, and create/manage wetlands and streams.	NYS DEC, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Resident volunteer (s), OCSWCD	
ENR-B	18	Promote improved surface water quality by ensuring best management practices for livestock grazing and agricultural tillage are followed.*	Code Enforcement Officer, NYS DEC, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association, Resident volunteer (s), OCSWCD, NYS DAM	
ENR-B	19	Develop guidelines within the Open Space Plan for conservation and protection of critical habitats and locally rare plant communities.	Open Space Planning Committee, Resident volunteer (s), with NYS DEC and FLCC as resources, OCSWCD	

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
ENR-B	20	Develop guidelines within the Open Space Plan to maintain and enhance connectivity corridors for large mammals to the Appalachian woodlands. *	Open Space Planning Committee, Resident volunteer (s), with NYS DEC and FLCC as resources, OCSWCD	
ENR-C: Promote environmental stewardship among residents, business owners, farmers, and landowners.				
ENR-C	21	Convene a standing voluntary Stewardship Committee.*	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, Bristol Library, CCE, OCSWCD, NYS DEC, NYSERDA, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council	
ENR-C	22	Promote community gardening and community composting.*	Resident volunteer (s), OCSWCD, Ontario County, CCE	
ENR-C	23	Promote residential and business practices that manage stormwater runoff and increase rainwater infiltration.*	Resident volunteer (s), OCSWD, FLCC	

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
H-A: Encourage affordable-moderate housing development for both purchase and rental.				
H-A	1	Arrange for a professional independent housing needs assessment to identify opportunities to expand housing options in Bristol. Organize public presentation by consultant on findings *	Resident volunteer (s), Professional Consultant, Ontario County	
H-A	2	Develop a Housing Committee to assist with assessment of housing needs and with the implementation of solutions (e.g., with regard to basic services and zoning regulations) in order to expand housing options.*	Ontario County	

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
H-B: Support initiatives and avenues for aging and/or disabled residents who want to remain independent in their homes.				
H-B	3	To help accommodate residents' decreased mobility as they age or become disabled, create and maintain a list of local home maintenance and repair businesses/ services, as well as a link to County resources. *	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, Code Enforcement Officer, Local Businesses/ Services/Organizations, Bishop Sheen, Ontario County Office for the Aging, Canandaigua VA Medical Center, Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA	
H-B	4	Identify and list grants and loans available to residents for home maintenance and repairs, as well as for home modification to accommodate decreased mobility. *	(See H-B-3)	
H-B	5	Develop and/or expand publication of resources for home healthcare and other home-based human services. *	(See H-B-3)	
H-B	6	Develop and/or expand publication of resources regarding food security for aging and disabled residents. *	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, Ontario County Office for the Aging, CCE, Foodlink, local churches and food pantries, community dining venues	
H-B	7	Coordinate informational meetings as needed to make the community aware of various resources and programs to help support aging and/or disabled residents who want to remain independent in their homes.	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, Bristol Library Trustees, Bristol Fun Day organizers	

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
H-C: Provide information to help residents save on home ownership costs.				
H-C	8	Create and maintain a list of State, County and local resources on home weatherization programs and available funding. *	Town Library, Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, Ontario County Office for the Aging, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYSERDA	
H-C	9	Create and maintain a list of State, County and local resources on alternative and clean energy options and available funding. *	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, NYSERDA	
H-C	10	Coordinate informational meetings as needed to make the community aware of various resources and programs available to help residents save on home-ownership costs.	Resident volunteer (s), Town website coordinator, Bristol Library Trustees, Bristol Fun Day organizers	

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
INF-A: Develop and maintain a transportation network for both motorized and non-motorized uses.				
INF-A	1	Inventory current status of all town roads with a focus on more heavily travelled Town roads with documented safety concerns.	Highway Superintendent	
INF-A	2	Create and utilize a 5-year highway construction and maintenance plan to include necessary highway related projects and funding needs.	Highway Superintendent	
INF-A	3	Maintain communication with professional organizations and partner agencies regarding highway and infrastructure funding and programs.	Highway Superintendent, Ontario County Highway Association, Ontario County Public Works, NYS DOT	

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
INF-A	4	Continue utilization of shared service agreements for road construction and maintenance and to facilitate efficient and cost-effective upkeep.	Highway Superintendent, Ontario County Dept. of Public Works, New York State Dept. of Transportation, Town Highway Committee	
INF-B: Maintain access to existing public water infrastructure while working to expand water district access where appropriate.				
INF-B	5	Review zoning districts to reflect the extent of existing public water availability and consider expanding zoning districts to adjacent areas for additional development opportunities through a feasibility study.	Ontario County Planning, GFLRPC, Ontario County GIS, NYS DEC	
INF-B	6	Maintain communication with appropriate state and federal representatives to advocate and apply for available grant funds for water quality and availability improvements.	Appropriate county, state and federal funding agencies	
INF-C: Foster access to, and expansion of, communications networks.				
INF-C	7	Create an inventory of all current mass communication service/coverage areas	Ontario County GIS	
INF-C	8	Continue to maintain communication with appropriate state and federal representatives to advocate and apply for available grant funds for cellular and broadband communication networks.	New York State Empire State Development Corporation	
INF-C	9	Maintain communication with service providers to facilitate expansion of services within the Town	Local cellular and broadband providers	
INF-D: Encourage renewable energy at an appropriate scale.				
INF-D	10	Revise the Town's Zoning Code to provide details relative to the desired scale of renewable energy systems	Ontario County Planning, GFLRPC, PACE Law, NYSERDA	

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
INF-D	11	Maintain communication with appropriate state and federal representatives to advocate and apply for available grant funds for renewable energy.	Appropriate county, state and federal funding agencies	

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority Level
RRS-A: Enhance Town parks and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.				
RRS-A	1	Develop a Parks & Recreation Master Plan*	Park Commissioner, community organizations, Ontario County, local committee	
RRS-A	2	Develop a recreation committee to assist with long range planning for parks and recreation and other related projects.	Park Commissioner	
RRS-B: Collaborate with adjacent communities or other stakeholders to develop additional opportunities for expanding parks and recreation resources.				
RRS-B	3	Engage with the NYS DEC on the use of their resources for other recreation opportunities, such as formal mountain biking trails	GVCC, NYS DEC, local biking groups, Town of Victor, Ontario County Planning	
RRS-B	4	Seek to actively collaborate with South Bristol regarding Bristol Mountain and explore opportunities for recreational collaboration.	South Bristol, Bristol Mountain	
RRS-B	5	Discuss with the Towns of East/West Bloomfield and Victor with regard to allowing Bristol residents the use of Boughton Park through a permitting process.	East/West Bloomfield, Victor, Ontario County	
RRS-B	6	Collaborate with adjacent communities or schools on recreation programming to utilize current assets to their fullest potential.	Adjacent towns, schools, community organizations	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
RRS-C: Establish active transportation opportunities (sidewalks, transit and bicycle facilities).				
RRS-C	7	Continue to pursue expansion opportunities adjacent to the existing parks to incorporate walking paths, interpretative nature trails, shade, and parking.	Ontario County Real Property, GTC	
RRS-C	8	Examine alternative avenues for walking/hiking trails and paths in the Town including utility corridors, right-of-ways, and abandoned roads.	Ontario County Real Property, Public Works, Park Commissioner, GTC	
RRS-C	9	Establish bicycle lanes via striping, when feasible, on highly used biking roads as these roads are reconstructed or rehabilitated.	Ontario Co Public Works, GVCC, GTC, NYS DOT	
RRS-C	10	Formally identify bike routes within the Town for motorists and bikers.	Ontario Co Public Works, GVCC, GTC	
RRS-C	11	Examine the potential for sidewalks and walking paths within Bristol Center between Route 64 and the Library.	Ontario Co Public Works, Town Highway Dept., GTC	
RRS-D: Encourage a variety of programs and recreational resources to promote active and healthy lifestyles.				
RRS-D	12	Work with neighboring Towns to evaluate and financially support intra and inter municipal programs.	Neighboring Towns, School Districts	
RRS-D	13	Engage with neighboring Towns and School Districts on expanding summer and sports programs for children in Districts that serve Bristol at a reduced cost rather than having to pay an "out of town" cost to participate.	Neighboring towns and school districts	
RRS-E: Market the Town's diverse recreational opportunities.				
RRS-E	14	Ensure recreational opportunities are adequately promoted and advertised outside of the Town.	Finger Lakes Visitors Connection, local businesses, community organizations	
RRS-E	15	Continue to maintain an active listing of recreational assets through the website and any other potential marketing opportunities.	Finger Lakes Visitors Connection, local businesses, local schools/colleges	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

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## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

Policy/ Objective	Item No.	Action Item	Potential Partners	Priority
RRS-E	16	Ensure that local public parks and recreational resources are well maintained and signed to aid in promotion and marketing. Develop a consistent branding and signage palette.	Local businesses, community organizations, Scouting troops	
RRS-E	17	Develop a community network for recreational activities, programs, and other local events.	Local business, community organizations	

Action Items that have additional details available are indicated above with \*; please see Appendix A.

High priority actions are indicated above in the priority column with .

### 4.3 Implementation

This comprehensive plan update for the Town of Bristol serves as the policy and guidance document for growth and investment in the community over the next 10 years, including local decision-making, zoning, budgeting, grants, and coordination with other entities. Making the vision for the community a reality will take time, but it cannot be done without a plan for how to implement it. This section outlines various strategies, tools, and implementation actions that need to be considered moving forward for not only local government and elected officials, but also other boards, groups, organizations, and the community-at-large.

#### 4.3.1 Strategies

**Daily use** - The plan should be used on a regular basis by the Town government as well as local boards (Planning, Zoning Board), committees, and other municipal departments to evaluate plans, prioritize initiatives and projects, encourage investment, seek grants, and other related actions. Continued use and dialogue help to ensure that service and delivery of actions are in line with the goals of the plan.

**Alignment** - This plan will not be the only one that guides the community on land use, community policies, investments, projects, and other initiatives/efforts. As a result, there will likely be some overlapping elements or additional details that build on other plans. The Town should continue to reference and coordinate long-term efforts and actions locally and at the County-level to ensure consistency between planning them, working towards realizing the community vision and identifying the most appropriate actions to achieve goals.

**Community Engagement** - All local government boards and committees act as “cheerleaders” for the plan, emphasizing its importance, building capacity and community support, and, more importantly, keeping the community engaged in the process. Although residents and other stakeholders were involved in the update of the plan, involvement should not stop there. Maintaining an open dialogue and interacting with the community are key for successful implementation.

**Plan review/evaluation** - Annual reviews of the plan should be undertaken with respect to progress, completion of actions, current conditions, and setting priorities for the coming year. This review can be done by a number of entities, including the Planning Board, Town Board, or a special implementation committee (see **4.3.2 Tools** section). A progress report should be prepared for the community that includes at a minimum:

- A list of implemented projects/programs/initiatives that have been completed during the year;
- The status of any actions that are currently underway and have not yet been completed and an evaluation as to whether the action is working or not;
- An evaluation of potential changes that need to be made to any actions that are not working and ways that have been identified to make them better;
- Recommendations for priority action items to be considered for implementation for the next year.

**Amendments** - A comprehensive plan is a “living document;” it is intended to guide the community, but also respond to changing needs and conditions over time. As changes occur and new issues arise, the plan should be reviewed and revised as necessary, taking into account a thorough analysis of immediate needs and long-term effects of any revisions. In some cases, a slight modification to an action item could be all that is required while the overall goal still applies.

### 4.3.2 Tools

**Plan Adoption** - One of the first actions that the Town must undertake is the official adoption of the Comprehensive Plan. This will ensure that the community fully supports the goals, objectives, and actions contained within it and can begin to implement it using a variety of approaches as outlined on these pages.

**Implementation Committee(s)** - This committee can help with necessary background work, research, and other activities to assist the Town Board and drive the implementation of the Plan. As a local example, the Town of Canandaigua has successfully used this model to carry out a number of actions in their Comprehensive Plan. The progress report noted in the previous subsection could be a function carried out by this committee.

In addition to an annual review of the overall status of the plan, smaller, individual committees could be formed to tackle certain topics, providing a more fine-tuned approach and spreading responsibility out to the broader community. Ultimately, the Town Board will be responsible for determining the best course of action for implementation; this is just one example among many.

**Annual review/evaluation** - Various entities can be responsible for “leading the charge” on plan implementation, review, and evaluation. One such method is through the use of an implementation committee, which can be made up of past/present board members, residents, stakeholders, and/or other community volunteers who can assist in the process.

**Local Regulations** - One of the most effective means of implementing the objectives of any plan is through zoning and other local regulations. Following adoption of the plan, the Town should perform a thorough review of the existing zoning code, subdivision regulations, site plan, and other development standards for consistency, paying attention to specific actions within the plan that pertain to regulations, and consider amendments to carry out the goals of the plan as appropriate.

**Town Budget** - From the perspective of the Town Board, reference to the plan when developing the budget and capital expenditures is one of the more critical connections to carrying out the goals and strategies. Communities have a variety of sources of revenue for community improvement projects, primarily from local property taxes, but also tax funds, grants, receipts, fines, and other fees. When developing the budget, the Town Board should coordinate its efforts with the Comprehensive Plan as it provides a framework for decision-making and identifies specific actions that could be incorporated into the budget each year.

**Capital Program** - As with many efforts, this Comprehensive Plan identifies a number of actions that may relate to public improvements that can only be carried out by the Town. Financial resources are limited and public dollars must be spent wisely; therefore, the use of a capital improvement program allows the Town to prioritize its long-term spending for public improvements, typically over a 3-5 year timeframe, for the most desirable or effective projects/actions while remaining within budget constraints. The objectives and action items contained herein should be referenced when developing the capital improvement program to ensure higher priority projects are incorporated where appropriate.

### 4.3.3 Funding Opportunities

In addition to local funding, various other sources exist for the Town to carry out the projects, programs, and other actions contained within the plan. The current nature of grant funding in New York State, administered through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) changes yearly, though the grants listed below are generally available each cycle, beginning in late spring. As these funding sources become available, Bristol should review the list of action items and identify the potential grants that could be utilized.

#### **Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)**

- Empire State Development – Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies, Grant Funds,
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program
- Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation – Environmental Protection Funds, Recreational Trails Program
- Department of State – Local Government Efficiency

- Department of Environmental Conservation/Environmental Facilities Corp. – Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering/Planning Grant
- Environmental Facilities Corp. – Green Innovation Grant Program
- Climate Smart Communities Program
- State Council of the Arts – Arts and Culture Initiatives
- Department of Agriculture and Markets - Farm to School, Waste Storage and Transfer System Program, Amendments to Local Laws

### *NYS Department of Transportation*

- Consolidated Local Street & Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS)
- Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP)
- Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP)
- BRIDGE NY

### *Genesee Transportation Council (GTC)*

- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Submitting grant applications requires significant effort from the Town and any outside resources utilized in preparation and delivery. The plan update provides the important first step in laying out the goals, objectives, and desired actions that can easily be used to support any application. In fact, many applications provide additional scoring points to those communities that have updated plans as they clearly show direction for actions. In addition, highlighting partnerships for each action identifies potential joint efforts and application, which can also increase scoring for grants.

Prior to any grant application, the Town should would need to

- Discuss joint opportunities with other communities and/or organizations.
- Ensure adequate funding can be dedicated to the project - some grants require the Town to front the entire project cost and then submit the final project to be reimbursed a percentage. Local matches range from none to 75%, with a 50/50 match most common, and a certain amount in the form of cash.
- Discuss any projects with stakeholders and encourage their involvement, especially if projects relate to non-Town-owned lands.
- Reach out to local representatives, community organizations, regional groups, and other influential entities for letters of support for the project.

- Solicit a grant writing consultant if applicable (service fee may apply).
- Assemble background information including finances and government organizational structure.
- Prepare a resolution of support noting dedication of local funds.
- Begin outreach of the project to the County, Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council (FLREDC) and other influential organizations to increase visibility. The FLREDC is the primary decision-making body for awarding State grants, a public-private partnership of local experts and stakeholders from business, academia, local government, and non-governmental organizations.

While this information is not required for all grants, understanding the level of effort and documentation puts Bristol on solid footing and better prepared to write a successful grant.

### 4.4 Acknowledgements

As a community-supported document, the Comprehensive Plan update was directed and managed by a volunteer Steering Committee made up of a cross section that included elected officials, County representatives, Town staff, Board representatives, residents, and local business owners. As noted previously, the Steering Committee's role is to develop the plan update. This subsequently evolved into providing direction and feedback to the Town's planning consultant, who was tasked with assembling the plan into its final form. The Committee met monthly from April 2016 through August 2018.

#### *Members of the Steering Committee include:*

- Justin Steinbach – Resident/Committee chair
- Donna Beretta – Zoning Board member
- Cat Cohen – Resident
- Carla Jordan – Ontario County Planning
- Kris Monzel – Resident/Local business owner (former committee member)
- Dave Parson – Deputy Supervisor/Town Board member
- Sandra Riker – Committee secretary/Town staff
- Joann Rogers – Planning Board member
- Elizabeth Smith – Resident
- Ronald Smith – Resident/Local business owner

*Ex-officio member:* Bob Green – Town of Bristol Supervisor

## 4.0 MOVING FORWARD

In addition to these members, the Town would also like to thank the community at large, especially those who attended meetings and other events, and who contributed to developing our community's vision for the future.

Historical information provided by Beth Thomas, Town Historian, and several members of the steering committee.

## Appendix A

### Action Items Additional Information

This section contains additional information, details, and background for a number of action items listed in **Section 4.2** of the plan that will be useful for future implementation. The Policy/Objective identifier and Action Item number can be cross referenced to **Section 4.2**.

### **Community Character, Facilities, and Services (CFS)**

*Policy/Objective: CFS-E*

*Action Item No.: 14*

Welcome packet should include important contacts and reference to the Town website, as well as an invite to attend Town Board meetings. Useful local and county resources should be listed as well, specifically with regard to safe maintenance of water wells, septic systems and other important aspects of rural living.

### **Economic Development (ECD)**

*Policy/Objective: ECD-D*

*Action Item No.: 8*

See this Website: <http://www.useful-community-development.org/start-a-community-development-corporation.html> as an example of how a not-for-profit corporation or foundation could help economic development. This site has other topics that might be useful and worth exploring in more detail.

### **Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)**

*Policy/Objective: ENR-A*

*Action Item No.: 4*

Opportunities for expansion of open space may be possible through land acquisitions, conservation easements, and other innovative land use strategies.

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 6*

As part of monitoring and enforcing regulations, promote establishment of local equivalency with relevant components of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans listed in the Sample Local Law for Stormwater Management and Erosion and Sediment Control (see: [http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water\\_pdf/localaw06.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/localaw06.pdf)).

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 7*

Expert recommendations are contained, among others, in the Honeoye Lake Watershed

Management Plan (specifically, Assessment of Local Laws and Practices, Town of Bristol, Ontario County, pp.37-40), and the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Management Plan created by the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council (updated 2014).

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 8*

Expert recommendations are contained, among others, in the Honeoye Lake Watershed Management Plan (ibid.) and are outlined by Cornell Cooperative Extension.

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 9*

Definitions are adopted from Town of Richmond's Local Law 7-2017:

<https://ecode360.com/32559696>

**CONVENTIONAL DRILLING** - A borehole drilled or being drilled for the purpose of or to be used subject to permit requirements of § 23-0501 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law that is not an unconventional well, irrespective of technology or design. The term includes, but is not limited to, wells drilled to produce natural gas from shale formations, without the use of vertical or nonvertical well bores stimulated by hydraulic fracture treatments or multilateral well bores or other techniques to expose more of the formation to the well bore.

**UNCONVENTIONAL DRILLING** - A method of drilling vertical or horizontal well bores stimulated by hydraulic fracture treatments or by using multilateral well bores or other techniques to expose more of the formation to the well bore in areas where natural gas generally cannot be produced with conventional drilling at economic flow rates or in economic volumes.

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 10*

See, for example, recommendations on p. 114 of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Management Plan created by the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council (updated 2014).

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 11*

Zoning code controls should minimize restrictions on residential, business, and farm use of alternative energy generation for on-site consumption (including but not limited to solar, geothermal, and small wind systems). Zoning code controls should also encourage community solar, in compliance with the protection of prioritized scenic vistas and the Open Space Plan.

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 12*

Provide relevant information on the Town website as well as through leaflets available at the Town Hall and the Bristol Library.

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 14*

Relevant information is provided, among others, by the International Dark-Sky Association (<http://www.darksky.org/>).

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 16*

As recommended by Dr. Gilman of FLCC as well as in the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Management Plan and the Honeoye Lake Watershed Management Plan.

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 18*

See recommendations outlined in the Honeoye Lake Watershed Management Plan (specifically, Assessment of Local Laws and Practices, Town of Bristol, Ontario County, pp. 37-40).

*Policy/Objective: ENR-B*

*Action Item No.: 20*

Connectivity corridors include riparian zones along floodplain forests and hilltop forests. These and related recommendations are based on personal communications from Dr. Bruce Gilman (November 2017).

*Policy/Objective: ENR-C*

*Action Item No.: 21*

The voluntary Stewardship Committee will be tasked with providing opportunities for residents to educate themselves and the community on environmental and quality of life topics relevant to the community. These could include:

- Recycling and organics, reducing waste; conservation
- Use of renewable energy and electric vehicles
- Safe maintenance of wells, septic systems, ponds, lawns, and gardens
- Identifying and treating invasive species
- Protecting properties from erosion, flooding, and contamination
- Adhering to NYSDEC open burning regulations
- Safe disposal of toxic substances and electronic waste.

*Policy/Objective: ENR-C*

*Action Item No.: 22*

Information about community gardening provided, among others, by:

<https://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/community-gardening>.

Information about community composting provided, among others, in: *Growing Local Fertility: A Guide to Community Composting* (<http://ilsr.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/growing-local-fertility.pdf>).

*Policy/Objective: ENR-C*

*Action Item No.: 23*

Strengthen flood damage prevention law. See recommendations in the Honeoye Lake Watershed Report (2014), p. 38: “Since Bristol already has flood damage prevention regulations, the town is likely an eligible community for the Community Rating System (CRS) program from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Review the list of optional flood regulation additions created by DEC in Appendix F to see some options for qualifying for CRS; also see Section 4.3.5.2 for more details.”

## **Housing (H)**

*Policy/Objective: H-A*

*Action Item No.: 1*

Housing options may include more innovative approaches such as co-housing, so-called “tiny homes,” and green construction in addition to rehabilitation or expansion of existing dwellings. Market-rate and affordable options (rental, lease, or purchase) should also be factored in with any future opportunities.

*Cohousing* is described by the New York State Office for the Aging as a small intentional community in which “...single family homes, townhouses, or rental units are clustered around various community facilities (...). Residents manage the community, sharing tasks, activities, and decision-making.” Such a close-knit community can be of great benefit especially for older adults who desire to stay in the area, but who may need help and support from their neighbors to be able to do so.

*Small or tiny houses:* According to the New York State Office for the Aging, “...the small house and micro/tiny house movement is expanding in tandem with the increasing focus on energy efficiency, environmental sustainability, and green building. Small houses are typically smaller than 1,000 square feet, and micro houses are often smaller than 200 square feet...” The article mentions a number of major benefits, especially: “...minimal utility bills and maintenance costs; financial freedom from a large mortgage.” This would

make it an ideal option as a starter home, or for aging adults who desire (or need) to downsize. Small/tiny houses can be made ADA compliant. They can easily be moved from and to their location, and could either be sited individually or grouped as part of a complex.

*Policy/Objective: H-A*

*Action Item No.: 2*

Ad Hoc Housing Committee to include: resident volunteer; at least one member each of Town, Planning, and Zoning Board of Appeals; a representative of a non-profit housing developer (e.g., Pathstone, Geneva Housing Authority) and/or a for-profit developer of affordable housing; a representative of an appropriate elected official (state senator or assemblyman); and a representative of a financial institution that funds affordable housing, or potential investor.

*Policy/Objective: H-B*

*Action Items No.: 3 and 5*

Make information available on the Town website and in print. Include a disclaimer of liability and endorsement with regard to private businesses.

*Policy/Objective: H-B/C*

*Action Item No.: 4, 6, 8, 9*

Make information and links available on the Town website and in print.

## **Recreational Resources (RRS)**

*Policy/Objective: RRS-A*

*Action Item No.: 1*

A Parks and Recreation Master Plan should include:

- Improvements to existing recreational facilities such as signage to the pavilions and other shelters for identification and conveying rules/regulations
- Expansion of equipment and amenities for all age groups such as a physical fitness circuit or stations throughout Levi Corser Park
- Addition of simple seating to existing shelter to expand programming and other opportunities such as dark sky compliant lighting
- Identification of local natural features in the existing parks to expand the potential for an outdoor learning area for local schools and community organizations
- Monitoring user and resident needs, wants, and ideas for parks and recreation in the Town to identify future opportunities (e.g. suggestion box at Levi Corser, Bristol Library or Town Hall)

# Appendix B

## Results of Public Outreach

Bristol Comprehensive Plan		
Community Event Oct. 26, 2016		
What do you value most in the Town?		
Group	Topic	Response
Group 1		Small Town - Rural Nature
Group 1		Beauty - prctty in the Fall
Group 1		Lib + F.D. Close by - Park
Group 1		Cluster of good businesses
Group 1		Retreat From City
Group 1		Library
Group 2		Rural Character - nature - freedom to do what want
Group 2		Feeling Safe
Group 2		Small Town atmosphere - know everybody, less people, privacy
Group 2		Close to Cndga
Group 2		Convenient to services
Group 2		Quiet
Group 2		Dark at night - can see stars
Group 2		wildlife - diversity
Group 3		Rural Feel (country living)
Group 3		Open space
Group 3		Space & quiet
Group 3		Privacy / Library / Park
Group 3		People know each other (Small-town community)
Group 3		Pristine landscape / no interference from neighbors
Group 3		Clean air/wildlife & all of the above <b>No</b> large polluting industries
Group 4		Sense of Community
Group 4		Potential of anything
Group 4		Geographics
Group 4		Beauty
Group 4		Peace & Quiet
Group 4		Low traffic
Group 4		Nature privacy
Group 4		Recreational Activities
Group 4		Ag Factor
Group 5		Scenic
Group 5		Local small business
Group 5		Park
Group 5		Sense of Community
Group 5		Library
Group 5		Fire Dept.
Group 5		Agriculture
Group 5		No waiting
Group 5		Limited Traffic
Group 5		Spacious lots
Group 5		Good school districts

Bristol Comprehensive Plan		
Community Event Oct. 26, 2016		
What are the biggest issues facing Bristol today?		
Group	Topic	Response
Group 1		Lack of water (Public)
Group 1		Ambulance Service - Volunteer
Group 1		Lack of Revenue
Group 1		Internet - Availability - Reliability
Group 1		Possibility of Fracking, Wind Turbines in Bristol
Group 1		Traffic on Rt. 64 - Paving - S.
Group 1		General Store
Group 1		Playground
Group 2		Fear of over development, or any development - keeping it small
Group 2		need large acreage for new houses
Group 2		how to keep taxes down and have \$ for town
Group 2		if no dev., our taxes go up _> so need balance
Group 2		Don't want sprawl
Group 2		Aging population
Group 2		Younger people want smaller acreage
Group 2		No real center of town - need to dev.
Group 2		water, wells, sewer
Group 2		Internet
Group 2		gas/electric - cell coverage - TV & radio coverage
Group 2		Rte 64 is more a detriment
Group 3		Tax base
Group 3		Financial support of Library & Fire Dept.
Group 3		Keeping what we have in the face of progress
Group 3		maintaining a balance rural / tax base
Group 3		Infrastructure
Group 3		Ensuring protective zoning laws
Group 4		Suburban Scrawl (Sprawl)
Group 4		Control of town cost for services
Group 4		maintain a small school district
Group 4		Keep heavy industry out
Group 5		Lack of tax base
Group 5		How to invite scale of business - compatible w/character
Group 5		Lack of infrastructure
Group 5		Connectivity - network
Group 5		Maintenance of existing infrastructure
Group 5		Scenic vistas maintained

Bristol Comprehensive Plan

Community Event Oct. 26, 2016

What would make our Town even better than it is today?

Group	Response	No. of Stickers	Business	Character	Tourism	Environment	Infrastructure	Renewable Energy	Parks & Recreation	Eagle Mountain	Internet Access	Vistas	Zoning	Agriculture	Grants & Funding
3, page 2	Protect rural character	16		16											
3, page 2	Protect environment	10				10									
3, page 1	Encourage small business w/ low impact	10	10												
4	Town efficiency / shared services	9					9								
3, page 1	Maintain/lower taxes -> low impact economic development	9	9												
3, page 1	How can we draw upon traffic of Rte 64 - Artisans - farm markets i.e Ithaca Brewery-micro /winery	8	8		8										
1	Better Internet/Broadband service	7									7				
5	Solar / wind farms - renewable energy	7						7							
1	Maintain our vistas	6										6			
1	Increase public lands, parks, recreational - fat tire trails	6							6						
4	Eagle Mountain re-use	6	6							6					
1	Improve Infrastructure - water, sewer, etc. Nat gas	5					5								
1	Encourage Business - "Chamber of Commerce"	5	5												
1	Renewable energy promotion	5						5							
3, page 2	Not allow fracking	5				5									
1	Eagle Mt - Bus. Co-op? Artists, etc.	4	4							4					
4	Improve relationship with town and residents	4		4											
1	Increase tourism appeal to bring small businesses & visitors	3	3		3										
2	Need year - round Biz - higher population (local)	3	3												
5	Reflect historical value of town	3													
5	High speed Internet	3									3				
3, page 2	Grants - research/apply	3													3
4	Foster growth to assets (Ag - Recreation)	3	3		3				3					3	
3, page 1	Review zoning laws - protection of the town	3											3		
2	Generate income w/ small biz - No big box , Dollar General - high industry ? community solar ?	2	2												
3, page 2	Town Board - to encourage Businesses - Green Energy	2	2					2							
5	Historical tourism	1			1										

Group	Response	No. of Stickers	Business	Character	Tourism	Environment	Infrastructure	Renewable Energy	Parks & Recreation	Eagle Mountain	Internet Access	Vistas	Zoning	Agriculture	Grants & Funding
5	Town zoning to accommodate small business	1	1										1		
5	Eliminate zoning	1											1		
4	Hiking Trails	1							1						
4	Mennonite farmers encouragement	1	1											1	
3, page 1	How to attract small business	1	1												
1	Attract Millennials	0													
2	Pathway to other places - S. Bristol, Naples,	0													
2	Synergy of biz - complement each other - shows, cafe, etc.	0	0												
2	Resolve issues of Rte 64	0													
2	Accommodate. encourage hiking, biking	0							0						
2	More senior Services, Housing	0													
5	Town park needs more shade	0							0						
5	Expansion of the park	0							0						
5	Tourism associated w/ small business	0	0												
3, page 2	State Funding / Support	0													
3, page 2	Tourism	0			0										
3, page 2	Be proactive (not reactive) - select & encourage business WE want	0	0												
3, page 2	Want community survey /community outreach	0													
<b>Total</b>		153	58	20	15	15	14	14	10	10	10	6	5	4	3

# Bristol Comprehensive Plan

June 13, 2018 Community Meeting Cards

Transcribed by Ron Smith  
June 24, 2018

## ENR: Environment and Natural Resources

Card 1 -

A. #3 is already in place w/zoning

B. #4 & #5 Innovative land use strategies – eminent domain? I don't like that. (Ron's interpretation of the card is references to #4 & 5 are together as 'innovative land use strategies' is at the end of #4.)

C. #9 I don't like that. Don't limit people using their own resources.

Card 2 - Publish drafts of policy statements, objectives and actions on line so people can read details of plan. (This has little to do with ENR and applies to the plan in general.)

## AG: Agricultural Resources

Card 1 – Educate new “hobby farms” about tax exempt status?

Card 2 - #17 Take out stipulations on # of animals. No one's business how many animals someone has.

Card 3 – Re-establish Agricultural Advisory Committee

## RRS: Recreational Resources

Card 1 – I love the agricultural education concerning healthy new options like ‘lake friendly farms’

Card 2 – Encourage snow – shoeing at Levi Corser / Patriot park. Trail Maps.

Card 3 – Policy Area #11 approach Bob Stewart (?) & Pat Moran (?) for a project w/ CORAL to make something for Park – bird house?

## INF: Infrastructure

Card 1 - Train someone at town level to do grant writing and help w/ Action items # 5, 6 & 8.

Card 2 - Pave South Hill – It’s a safety issue. Please prioritize before a serious accident occurs.

Card 3 - Roads paved – esp. South Hill due to ^ (increased) traffic, housing & business traffic. Safety with school buses for ski mtn. When will funds be raised & allotted (allotted) for this to happen? Plan in 1992 was South Hill to be paved in 5 years & it’s now 2018 (?)

Card 4 - South Hill Rd is a health & safety issue. It lengthens the response time of EMS call by 3 to 4 times.

Card 5 - Desire to keep unpaved roads (such as South Hill Rd) unpaved d/t (due to) considerations that paving would lead to negatives such as – speeding traffic & increased development. Uniqueness of unpaved road has a charm to it.

Card 6 - Don’t pave Lane Rd (Please)

## ECD: Economic Development

Card 1 - #3 is a good idea. Can’t # 1 and # 7 be combined.

Card 2 –

A. I like minimizing environmental impact. We all (almost) have well water and need to keep a healthy environment.

B. I’m interested in the micro-grid project. It would be a win-win.

C. I'm glad we have a farming community but it would be great to encourage organic / healthy practices.

## **CFS: Community Character, Facilities and Services**

Card 1 -

A. #3 & #5 is important

B. #12 is promoting a commercial business – make them pay to be featured.

C. #14 – Harmony Circle used to do this.

Card 2 -

A. #16 – Isn't this already done in the town newsletter?

B. #26 isn't this already done through Roberts Rules of Order?

C. Make Handbook available at town hall

## **H: Housing**

Card 1 – Affordable Senior Housing

Card 2 - #4 “Aging in place” - allow for easy conversion of Family to ‘In Law’