

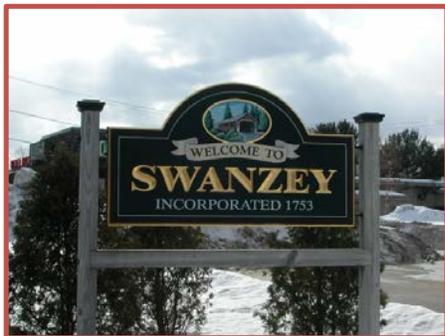
Vision and Goals

The vision for Swanzeý's future serves as the foundation for its goals and recommended actions.

Swanzeý's Vision

Swanzeý will accommodate change and growth while preserving the "rural character" of the Town.

Swanzeý will guide development in a manner that preserves and protects its natural and historical resources, and in a manner that affirms the stated values of Townspeople.



Swanzeý's Master Plan Goals

The following goals were developed as a result of incorporating the input of Swanzeý residents, business owners and other stakeholders, and with guidance from the Master Plan Sub-Committee.

The goals are generally organized by Master Plan elements. Each Master Plan Chapter will include more specific goals and actions to achieve them.

Environment

It is our goal to protect the ecological integrity and the purity of air,

earth, and water of the 46 square miles for which we Swanzeý residents are momentary stewards.

Land Use

It is the goal of the Town of Swanzeý to develop and preserve a pleasant, attractive, healthy, safe, affordable and convenient environment for living, working, shopping, and recreation, by encouraging economic development in zoned areas served by infrastructure, and preserving the elements of rural character wherever feasible.

Housing

It is Swanzeý's goal to provide for a full range of safe and adequate housing to meet the needs of all Swanzeý residents of all ages and income levels, and to contribute our "fair share" to regional needs.

Recreation

We encourage support of activities which "re-create" mind, body and spirit of residents – whether physical exercise, cultural enrichment, historical and environmental awareness, solitude and meaningful "retreat."



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Public Administration & Facilities

It is ~~our~~ our goal to maximize the safety, security, utility and social services that residents seek from civil society, and to upgrade the resources by which government fulfills these responsibilities.

ment, supporting ~~both the creation and maintaining of~~ both the creation and maintenance of healthy businesses. Healthy businesses are those that provide well-paying jobs, contribute to the civic life of the ~~t~~ Town, provide services and goods desired by the community and contribute to the built environment.

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Transportation

It is ~~our~~ our goal to provide a safe, efficient and diversified transportation network and transportation options that ~~is~~ are sensitive to the ~~T~~ Town's rural character. Also, to coordinate and integrate the transportation systems of the town with those of the region (including public transportation options, and the upgrade of the rail-trail network), while preserving the covered bridges and scenic roadside vistas that exemplify Swanzey's rural character.

Preservation of Historic and Cultural Resources

It is ~~Swanzey's~~ our goal to encourage heightened awareness and appreciation of the town's history and to preserve the agricultural and early-industrial features that help define the ~~t~~ Town's rural character.

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Education

~~It is our goal to collaborate with the Monadnock Regional School District to provide quality education and facilities for the town's children, and to support the efforts of the town and school district to provide live-long learning experiences for the community. It is our goal that the full potential of every student is realized, that the full utilization of every facility is reached, and that the efforts of Swanzey School Board members are supported in order to accomplish these goals within the means at their disposal.~~

Swanzey's Place within the Region

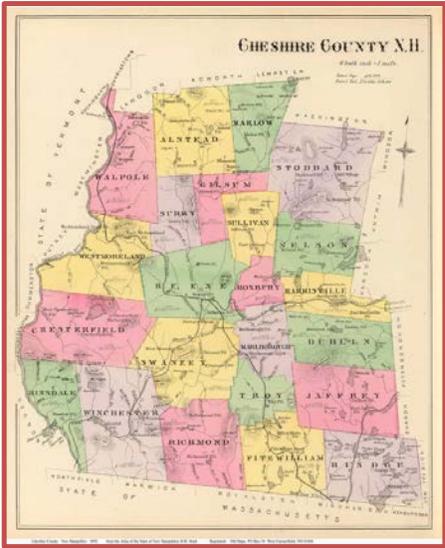
Realizing that the "whole is greater than the sum of its parts," it is Swanzey's goal to support regional and state efforts that enhance the well-being (economic, environ-mental, and social sustainability) of its community and neighboring towns.

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Economic Development

It is our goal that Swanzey will provide opportunities for economic develop-

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Land Use

Overall Goal

It is the goal of the **T**own of Swanzey to develop and preserve a pleasant, attractive, healthy, safe, affordable and convenient environment for living, working, shopping, and recreation, by encouraging economic development in zoned areas served by infrastructure, and preserving the elements of rural character wherever feasible.

Objectives

~Maintain the present character of Swanzey as a typical, well-balanced New England community.

~Provide for the optimal utilization of the town's assets in order to create the opportunity for future growth without sacrificing the economic well-being or the general character of Swanzey.

~Provide for a variety of land uses, through careful management and guidance of new development, which should not detract from the rural, residential, scenic and agricultural character of the Town.

~Provide for the conservation and management of the **T**own's natural resources and the protection of sensitive areas in order to ensure their continued availability for the enjoyment and well-being of all Swanzey residents and future generations.

~Promote and encourage the development of commercial and retail growth along the existing corridors of Routes 10 and 12, the northerly section of Route 32 in the vicinity of the industrial park and the airport, and in the Industrial Park. Such development will be undertaken in accordance with strict site plan review standards adopted by the Planning Board to minimize potential negative aspects of commercial and retail development.

~Protect natural resources, preserve the **T**own's rural areas, and minimize sprawl by directing higher density development to occur within the existing villages and to parcels accessible to public water and sewer systems.

~Ensure minimal pollution – light, noise, smell, and contamination.



Strategies

1. Regularly Annually review and update a Master Plan through which the local government can maintain a unified set of long-range policies for the physical development of Swanzev. Maintain a standing Master Plan Subcommittee to continuously address the Master Plan, section by section.
2. Maintain a referral policy between the Planning Board, the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Adjustment, the Conservation Commission, and other Town boards and departments to continually relate all development proposals to the Town Capital Improvements Program and to keep Town officials and department heads aware of the cumulative effects of development.
3. Continually monitor and amend all land use controls (zoning, subdivision, etc.) designed to direct the development of Swanzev as visualized by the Master Plan.
4. Support the work of the Open Space Committee and any other any public and/or private efforts to preserve and protect open land in Swanzev – insofar as these efforts do not economically penalize the landowner or leave very little land for future development.
5. ~~The standing Master Plan Subcommittee should work with the Conservation Commission to develop a comprehensive plan to identify, establish and maintain greenways to protect wildlife corridors and to provide undeveloped areas for recreation and for aesthetics.~~

Recommendations for Future Land Use

- ❖ Direct higher density development towards the portions of the villages of North Swanzev and West Swanzev currently or potentially served by sewer and/or water.
- ❖ Direct the Planning Board to investigate the establishment of site plan review regulations that provide for the amenities desired for multi-family housing (such as sidewalks, outdoor spaces, etc.).
- ❖ Direct the Planning Board to investigate impervious coverage regulations for multi-family and commercial uses.
- ❖ Continue to direct low density residential development to occur along the Town's Class V roads, and discourage new residential one and two-family development in the existing Commercial/Industrial and Business Zoning Districts.
- ❖ Existing zoning requirements in the Rural/Agricultural District call for a minimum lot size of 3 acres. This minimum should not be reduced when topographical considerations would permit a higher density of development, unless developed

in accordance with the ~~T~~own's "Conservation Residential Subdivision" regulations.

- ❖ The Planning Board, in conjunction with the Selectmen and the Public Works Director, should develop a road policy to help anticipate and address problems with development on existing private roads and Class VI roads. Road policies should be developed and administered in cooperation with adjoining towns and the state of New Hampshire.

Strategies

1. Small, incremental changes in land use can cumulate culminate in undesired changes in the ~~T~~own as a whole. Planning tools and policies become outdated, or inconsistent with other policies. The Planning Board should review all planning tools and policies on an on-going basis, working to ensure that Swanzey's ordinances and regulations accomplish the goals of the ~~T~~own. The Board should solicit input and recommendations from the Selectmen, ~~T~~own committees and employees, and the public. Topics should include:
 - Re-evaluate ~~T~~own policies regarding development on Class VI roads.
 - ~~Determine the best way to maintain the proper balance between the residential area surrounding Wilson Pond and nearby industrial uses and the airport.~~
 - Future development in areas above the ~~T~~own's ss' underlying high yield aquifers may be detrimental to the aquifers. Consideration should be given to establishing an aquifer protection district or some other

means of protecting the valuable resource.

2. Develop a long-range plan for lands owned by the ~~T~~own. The plan should include:
 - A procedure for assessing the value to the ~~T~~own of each parcel. The parcel's importance in historic preservation, aquifer protection, potential for well heads, wildlife habitat, scenic qualities, and flood water storage should be considered.
 - A procedure for disposing of unwanted parcels.
- ~~3.~~ Develop long-term management plans for parcels retained by the ~~Town.~~ ~~Fortown, for~~ those parcels deemed to be of conservation or historical significance. ~~establish formal and permanent protective measures, including the recording of restrictions on use at the Cheshire County Registry of Deeds.~~
- 4.3. _____ When opportunities arise, the ~~T~~own should review properties to determine those it may wish to purchase or acquire easements for conservation purposes, such as protecting wildlife corridors, providing riparian buffers and access, parks, hiking trails, preserving open space and protecting

watershed and aquifer recharge zones. Once acquired, parcels should be incorporated into a management plan.