

## **Executive Summary**

### **Comprehensive Plan of 2005**

On July 7, 2004, Mayor John Sherman and the Trustees of the Village of Schuylerville established a Special Board, hereafter known as the Citizen's Advisory Board, for the purpose of developing a Comprehensive Plan. This Plan was a recommendation from the Community Development Strategic Plan (2003) funded by the NYS Governor's Office for Small Cities. The community's vision for the future is contained in this Plan along with goals, objectives and recommendations that will foster the community's values and hopes for the future and will result in growth of a village that typifies the ideals of its residents. The Village of Schuylerville has the authority under Village Law §7-722 to engage in the development of a comprehensive plan *as a means to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of the village and to give due consideration to the needs of the people of the region of which the village is a part.*

The membership of the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) was limited to village residents. Public meetings were held twice monthly and community participation was encouraged. Outreach efforts were made to ensure that all groups within the community had the opportunity to voice their ideas, concerns, and hopes for the direction of future development that would occur in the village. The CAB addressed the fifteen components of Village Law as comprehensively as possible based on the information provided. It is expected that all future land use and capital projects on land within the village will take into consideration the adopted Comprehensive Plan.

The Village of Schuylerville has engaged in the planning process several times over the past twenty years. In addition, the Town of Saratoga Comprehensive Land Use Plans of 1971 and 2002 target the Villages of Schuylerville and Victory. All previous planning efforts served as background for and framed the development of the Comprehensive Plan of 2005.

In an effort to determine what the residents of the Village of Schuylerville wanted in their community, a survey was developed and distributed to every homeowner in the village. In addition, a Public Information Meeting was held on October 20, 2004 where the vision and goals of the village were discussed and input was sought from residents. The response to the survey and the quality of data obtained from it are an indication of the high level of interest that village residents have in their community.

The Comprehensive Plan has four sections. The first section provides an overview and background of the comprehensive planning process. Section Two provides a discussion of each of the components of the Comprehensive Plan.

Section Three presents the findings of the Village Information Survey and Section Four presents the recommendations of the Citizen's Advisory Board.

Recommendations have been formulated that are directly related to the stated goals of the village. Information provided by village residents weighed heavily in the development of the recommendations which are crucial to the implementation of goals and objectives of the various topics within the Comprehensive Plan.

In the Community Development Strategic Plan of 2003, it was stated that in order to achieve the stated goal of ensuring successful community development efforts through careful planning and inter-municipal cooperation, the village needed to develop a formal Comprehensive Plan. With the acceptance of this Plan, that goal will have been accomplished. The second recommendation of the Strategic Plan of 2003 was to form a Planning Board. The Citizen's Advisory Board strongly recommends that a Planning Board be created under § 7-718 of New York State Law with municipal, resident, community service and business representation. In addition, it is recommended that the Village Board institute a forum for regular communication with residents to discuss major issues and to build public awareness and support. Additional recommendations made to achieve the goals of the Village of Schuylerville are located in Section Four of this Plan.

All recommendations in this Plan were made based on information obtained from the Public Information Meeting held on October 20, 2004 and the Village Information Survey, as well as the review of prior planning recommendations for the village. While the task of developing and assembling the Comprehensive Plan has been challenging, the greater challenge for the village will be to incorporate the use of this document as an integral part of all future planning efforts. It is the intent of the Citizen's Advisory Board that this Plan be a vital document providing direction that reflects the views of the residents of the Village of Schuylerville.

Respectfully Submitted,

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