

PLANNING AHEAD

First Edition

A newsletter of the Vienna Comprehensive Plan Committee

Winter 2007



Planning for the Future:

We do it
for our families
Vienna does it
for our residents

Its called a
Comprehensive
Plan

A Comprehensive Plan is...

- ✓ A vision or blueprint for the future - for the next 10 to 20 years
- ✓ The townspeople taking charge of their future
- ✓ A way to control town costs and increases in property taxes associated with growth
- ✓ A way to access grant money, such as for recreational facilities, housing rehabilitation, or addressing threats to the water quality of our lakes
- ✓ A practical guide to managing growth and directing public policy
- ✓ A legal foundation for amendments to local regulations that may be voted upon by the town at a later date

A Comprehensive Plan is **COMPREHENSIVE** It addresses all aspects - population growth and changes, housing, recreation, economy, land use, open space, natural and cultural resources, fiscal capacity, transportation and community facilities and services.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why Are We Updating The Comprehensive Plan Now?

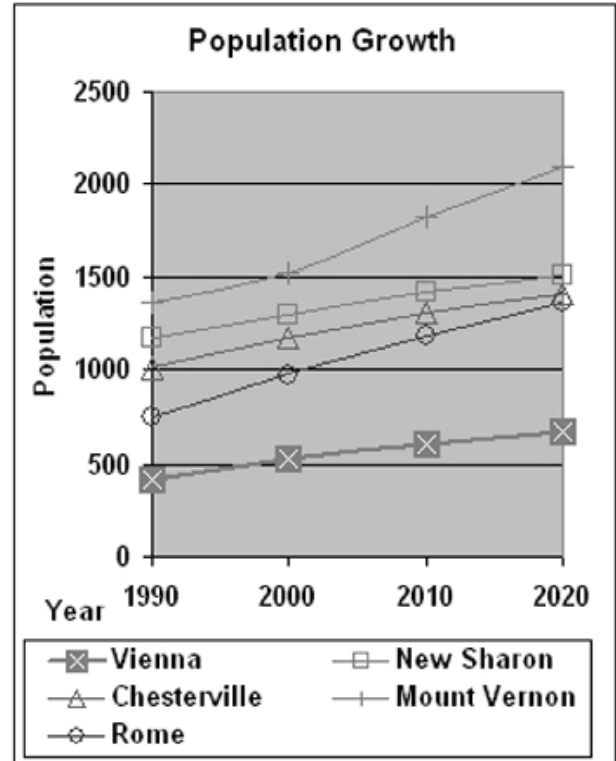
- The town's comprehensive plan is over 20 years old, things have changed
- Central Maine is growing again, especially rural towns like Vienna and its neighbors
- People from away are moving to town bringing new expectations; we need to be prepared
- We need to control the costs of growth and development so that property taxes do not get out of hand

How Is The Plan Being Updated?

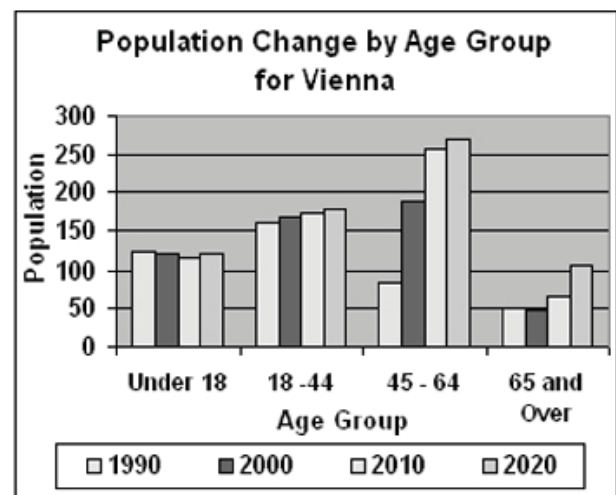
The town raised funds at the past several town meetings and obtained a grant from the Maine State Planning Office so that it could hire a consultant to assist in the planning effort. The Selectpersons appointed a Comprehensive Plan Committee and hired Gwen Hilton (Starks/Madison) to develop the Plan. These folks will be working on the Plan during the coming year, and expect to have the Plan voted on at the 2008 Town Meeting.

What Are We Learning?

- **Vienna's population is projected to increase to 676 individuals by the year 2020¹.** Vienna and its neighbors will experience faster rates of growth than countywide and statewide. As areas around Augusta and Farmington become more developed, Vienna will become increasingly attractive as a place to live.
- **In-migration will be the driving force in population growth.** The year-round population is about 570 individuals. Population growth between 1990 and 2004 was primarily the result of people moving here (134 people) as opposed to people being born here (16 people).



- **Vienna will have an overall older population in the future.** The number of people age 45 to 65 will continue to grow much larger than the other age categories. The proportion of people age 65 and over will double in size by 2020. There will be a modest increase in the young adult age group (18 to 44), and very little change in the



¹ U.S. Census and Maine State Planning Office

(See *Frequently Asked Questions*, on page 3)

(*Frequently Asked Questions*, from page 2)

under age 18 category.

- **Vienna's seasonal population is expected to increase considerably over the next ten years.** The population nearly triples in the summer due to the large number of seasonal and second homes and day trip recreational opportunities.
- **Housing growth rates for Vienna and surrounding towns outpaces growth rates countywide and state wide during the 1990s.** Vienna experienced an increase of 56 housing units during the 1990s. The largest increases in the number of units for area towns occurred in Rome (162 units) and Chesterville (149 units).
- **Vienna's neighbors² will experience greater rates of housing growth than Vienna over the next decade, but as areas develop there will be increasing pressure on Vienna as a location for rural housing.**
- **Housing is becoming less and less affordable in the region** as a result of the demands for high value shorefront properties, second homes, and homes for more affluent newcomers.
- **Seniors, young families and middle and low income households may have a harder time finding affordable housing in town in the future.**
- **Vienna has much economic strength to build upon:**
 - √ **The town will continue to be a bedroom community** to area service and employment center communities, where there is a wide

range of employment opportunities.

- √ **There is a very active local economy consisting of a variety of over 60 small businesses and home occupations.**
- √ **There is an outstanding natural resource base** with land suitable for small-scale farming and forestry, and an attractive rural landscape, which includes the Highlands Preserve and a number of lakes and scenic vistas suitable for recreation-based businesses.

*What is important to you?
Do you agree with the
following statement?*

"In general, most people agree that there are several key qualities of our town that we hold dear and should strive to protect. Included among these are: a quiet, peaceful, rural setting; neighbors helping each other, especially during crisis; low highway traffic; scenic beauty; clean lakes; ample wildlife; and a large measure of control over the use of one's own

Quote, 2004/05 Vienna Planning Board grant application

² Mount Vernon, Rome, Chesterville and New Sharon

MEET THE MEMBERS

Representation of all Viewpoints

*will help assure
a successful future*

LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THE COMMITTEE. The Comprehensive Plan Committee Meetings are held nearly every second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Vienna Town House. **Consider joining us at any and all meetings.** For more information, contact any of the following Comprehensive Plan Committee Members or look at other ways to participate on page 7.

Susan Burns, Co-Chair

In her words:
"Vienna's natural setting is outstanding - from numerous hilltops and mountains to sparkling lakes and ponds, with fields, forests and great views all scattered about town. Add the local folks, and this is a wonderful place to live."



Phone Number: 293-2790

Born in: Mishawaka, Indiana

Lived in Vienna since: 1979

Lives on: Jesse Ladd Road

Profile: Sue grew up on a lake in southern Michigan and came to Maine in 1972 after graduating from Michigan State. She moved to Vienna in 1979 and likes to swim and paddle on the local lakes and ponds and to hike, ride horseback and ski the miles of woods roads and trails, both private and public, in town. Sue works part-time as a planner for the State of Maine.

Libby Harville

In her words:
"When I moved to maine 30 yrs ago, I felt I came home. When I found Vienna, I felt so lucky and blessed to live in such a wonderful community. I want to do my small part to (try and) keep it special."



Phone Number: 293-2362

Born in: Pennsylvania

Lived in Vienna since: 1978

Lives on: Kimball Pond Road

Profile: Libby has been a past Selectperson and is Lecturer for Mill Stream Grange. She co-ran The Dam Shop and continues to bake every Saturday for La Grange Cafe. She has a variety of part-time jobs including a wreath business, Maine Dartmouth Family Practice Residency, catering, Maine Bone Carving and fabric quilts and wall hangings. She has sung with CODA chorus for 6 years and currently is learning french.

MEET THE MEMBERS

Gwen Hilton, Consultant

In her words:
"The comprehensive planning process is a tremendous opportunity for the townspeople to identify opportunities to maintain the high quality of life found in Vienna."



Office Phone Number: 696-3820

Born in: Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Lived in Starks since: 1982

Lives on: Hilton Family Farm, Route 43, Starks

Profile: Gwen has been working with towns for almost 30 years, including many small rural towns. She has a degree in Biology and graduate degree in Geo-environmental Studies. She has been on the Starks Planning Board seemingly, forever. Gwen has a passion for the outdoors, and enjoys working with youth, haying and working on the farm, horseback riding, and playing in the north Maine woods.

Edward Hinckley, Secretary

In his words:
"All our land searches were to the northwest of Readfield, and none were made after we discovered Vienna. Nothing was left but to build a house and settle down. We've never regretted it."



Phone Number: 293-2051

Born in: Massachusetts

Lived in Vienna since: 1978

Lives on: Vienna Mountain Road

Profile: Ed was born in Massachusetts but has roots in Maine. His father completed grades K-4 in Farmington before the family moved to Kennebunk. After six years working with Native Americans in Arizona and Nevada, Ed along with his wife Priscilla and son Kee moved to Maine and enjoyed living in Readfield for 11 years. However, they weren't cut out for big city life and kept looking for something more rural. He met Ivy Berry in 1978 who was willing to part with some of John Brown Mountain where he built his home.

Peg Lang

In her words:
"Vienna is unspoiled, beautiful, quiet and friendly. This plan needs the citizens' suggestions and view points to succeed. Please support the committee and the plan."



Phone Number: 293-4899

Born in: Woodbury, New Jersey

Lived in Vienna since: 2004

Lives on: Cumner Road

Profile: Peg retired to Vienna after several years of research and visits to various areas of the East Coast. She had camped at Mt. Blue as a teenager and always enjoyed the area. For the last 40+ years she has visited her family's camp in the Belgrade Lakes area. After finding property in Vienna, and living here three months, Peg was convinced Vienna is the nicest place for permanent residence. Peg is a member of the Mill Stream Grange, Town House Committee, Mt. Vernon-Vienna Extension, and the Vienna Historical Society.

MEET THE MEMBERS

Kevin Umlauf, Co-chair

In his words:
"Vienna has much to offer for a family wanting to raise their children or to the retiree. With its quaintness and nature such as the lakes and ponds that surrounds the town drew us here."



Phone Number: 293-4590

Born in: Pt. Pleasant, New Jersey

Lived in Vienna since: 1996

Lives on: Egypt Pond Road

Profile: Kevin grew up in Manchester, New Jersey, just 15 minutes shy of the Jersey shore and about a mile from Lakehurst Naval & Air Engineering Station where the Hindenburg Dirigible was. He moved to Vienna in 1996 with his family while attending University of Maine at Farmington. He has two beautiful daughters in Cape Cod Hill school. He was teaching in area schools and coaching for a while but is now spending his time taking care of his daughters and enjoying the outdoors. Kevin is Vienna's representative on the S.A.D. #9 School Board.

Helen Wilkey

In her words:
"Vienna is HOME! A quiet comfortable way of life. Great neighbors and friends who genuinely care about one another. A wonderful place to raise children."



Phone Number: 293-2351

Born in: Augusta, Maine

Lived in Vienna since: All her life

Lives on: Town House Road

Profile: Helen grew up in Vienna, went to the Village School (Mill Stream Grange), and attended Farmington High School. After graduating from the University of Maine, Orono, She taught for forty years at the elementary level. Helen is a member of the Mt. Vernon-Vienna Extension, the Vienna Historical Society, and the Vienna Town House Committee. She also has a passion for daylilies!

Norma Wing

In her words:
"Vienna is an undiscovered gem. It maintains a rural feel with its undeveloped areas and friendly people, while being located in the middle of everything. It's only a matter of time before it is unearthed."



Phone Number: 293-3725

Born in: Hartland, Maine

Lived in Vienna since: 1997

Lives on: Kimball Pond Road

Profile: Norma grew up in central Maine, graduating from Winthrop HS and the University of Maine at Farmington. She is Development Officer for HealthReach Community Health Centers. Norma edits the Vienna Record and helped develop the Vienna Website. In addition to being a member of the Vienna Historical Society and Mill Stream Grange, she is chair of the Vienna Town House Committee. Norma is a voice for Vienna on the boards of Healthy Futures and Healthy Community Coalition.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Vienna has a *Bright Future* but, we need
Your Input to assure that it is the future we all want!

There are many opportunities to participate...

Read about the Plan as drafts become available and tell us what you think and want

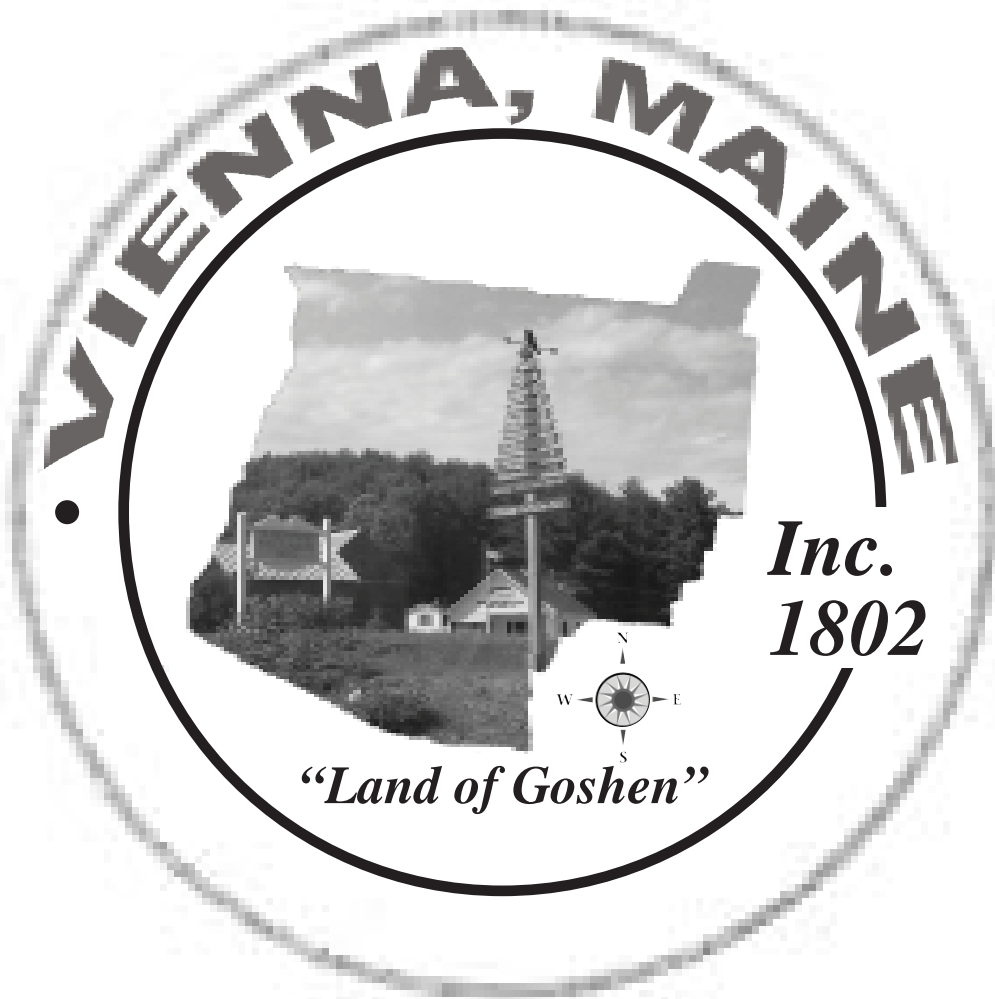
Complete the Public Opinion Survey in March of 2007

Participate in the Workshops to create a "Future Vision for Vienna" in Spring 2007

Attend Comprehensive Plan Committee Meetings; better yet become a member of the committee!

For more information contact :

Susan Burns	293-2790
Libby Harville	293-2362
Edward Hinkley	293-2051
Peg Lang	293-4899
Kevin Umlauf	293-4590
Bob Weingarten	293-3798
Helen Wilkey	293-2351
Norma Wing	293-3725



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We do it
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Vienna does it
for our residents

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