

Report to the town board from the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CoPIC)

by Joan Breslin (Chair) and Bernard Rivers (Deputy Chair)
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The Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CoPIC) has six working groups, one for each of the main recommendations in the town's 2020 Comprehensive Plan. The working groups, their convenors, and the work they have conducted during the past month, are as follows:

- **Improve communications** working group (Convenor: Karen Rothmyer Rivers). The group submitted to the town board a proposal for the town to send out an email blast every month and to send out a printed newsletter every six months. The town board will review these at its August 18 meeting. The group is also preparing a detailed list of proposed improvements and changes to the town website.
- **Increase community activities** working group (Convenor: Terry Ward). The group has started looking into options for swimming holes, options for swimming at Durham resorts, the availability (or not) of the former Durham Elementary School for community activities, possible locations for basketball games, options for hiking trails within Durham, and options for a welcome wagon to greet new residents.
- **Enhance economic development** working group (Convenor: Joanne Schindelheim). The group is working on documenting the steps needed to open a business in Durham, including code enforcement requirements. The group is also looking into whether it might be possible for Durham to have a location offering part-time access to blood draws, vaccinations, nursing advice, etc.
- **Advocate for improved broadband** working group (Convenor: Rosemary O'Brien). The group is working on a database and map showing which residences in Durham cannot access broadband, and which of these include school-age children. The group is talking with Mid-Hudson Cable, who have started to provide some information. (Note: MHC said that several other towns in Greene County are seeking similar information to support their applications for CARES Act funding.)
- **Encourage better property maintenance** working group (Convenor to be determined). An initiative to set up this working group will probably take place in September.
- **Improve historic preservation** working group (Convenor: Dan Clifton). The group is reviewing options for creating an enhanced history page at the town website. The group is also looking into other possible projects, and has contacted or will contact the Durham Historic Preservation Commission, the Town Historian and the Durham Center Museum regarding who might do what regarding these.

Each of the six Convenors will serve, with the two of us, as the members of CoPIC. We expect CoPIC to meet once every month or two, with its first meeting to be held in September.

Further details on CoPIC and the working groups, and a copy of this report, are provided at www.durhamtogether.com/comprehensive-plan.