

Town Of Copake Comprehensive Plan Survey

May 29, 2009

Dear Neighbors,

Last year the Copake Town Board appointed the Comprehensive Planning Committee, and charged us with the task of creating a new Comprehensive Plan for Copake. Our objective is to envision what Copake will look like ten to fifteen years from now—and to propose a roadmap for how we can get there.

As defined in state legislation, a comprehensive plan is a document that presents goals, objectives, guidelines and policies for the immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth and development of the community. Also known as a master plan or land use plan, a comprehensive plan provides guidance to local, county and state leaders to ensure that the needs of the community will be met. It will serve as the reference for all laws the Town adopts related to planning and land use, including the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

Our first step in hearing your views is the enclosed survey which we are distributing to all residents of Copake age 18 and older. The survey seeks your thoughts regarding the future of Copake, rather than its past, or what it is like today. Your responses are confidential. If at all possible, we strongly encourage you to complete the survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/copakenysurvey. Completing the survey online will greatly simplify the data entry and analysis steps and reduce our costs. If you choose to complete a paper copy of the survey, please mail it back to us (return postage is free) or drop it off at the Town Hall. Extra copies are available at the Town Hall.

Our goal is to write a plan which will truly reflect the opinions and aspirations of the people of Copake. We want to hear from everyone - old timers and new comers, renters and owners, weekenders and full timers - young, old and everybody in between. On the reverse of this letter is some basic background information that may be helpful to you in completing the survey.

Please return this survey by September 7, 2009. Our first town wide meeting will be held in late September. Please look for upcoming information about that meeting. We look forward to seeing you then!

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak with anyone one of us, or e-mail Jeanne Mettler, our Chairperson, at copakecompplan@aol.com. We thank you for your time.

Return your survey to:

Comprehensive Planning Committee, Town Hall, 230 Mountain View Rd. Copake, NY 12516

Jeanne E. Mettler, Chair
Marcia Becker
George Beneke
Russ Davis
Charles Dodson
Dan Haas

Fiona Hutchinson
William F. Kiernan, Jr
Frank Peteroy
"Skip" Pilch
Roberta Roll
Harvey Weber

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Some Interesting Facts about Copake

- **Population:** According to the 1990 and 2000 Census Copake's population grew 5% (3278). Estimates by a professional forecasting population firm indicate that the population will remain stable through 2015.
- **Households:** The number of Copake households increased from 1139 in 1990 to 1329 in 2009, a 16% increase.
- **Median Age:** The current median age (one half above and one-half below) is 44.5 years compared with 41.0 in 1990. Children and young adults (0-20 yrs) decreased by 8.5% while those over 45 grew by 18%.
- **Education:** The percentage of residents with a high school diploma is about 82% while 20.5% have a bachelor's degree or above.
- **House value:** Median house value increased from \$111,100 in 2000 to \$172, 624 in 2009.
- **Occupations:** In 2000, almost 60% of residents over age 16 were employed. The most common occupations were management, professional and related occupations (28%), sales and office occupations at 25%, and service occupations at 24%. Slightly more than half of all residents worked within Columbia County and their average travel time to work was 28.6 minutes.