

SOUTH HADLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

Recommended Action	Chapter-Goal	Goal or Land Use Objective	Priority Action	Principal Coordinating Responsibility	Timeframe				Local Primary Support																												
					Immediate	Near Term (1-3 years)	Mid Term (3-6 years)	Long Term (6-10 yrs)	Ongoing	School Department	Select Board	Town Meeting	Planning Board	Building Inspector	Board of Health	Board of Assessors	Dept. of Public Works	Conservation Comm.	Treasurer/Clerk	Historical Comm.	Recreation Comm.	Housing Authority	SHELD	Developers	Property Owners	Individuals	Council on Aging	Historical Society	Chamber of Commerce	Public Library	Mount Holyoke College	Cultural Council/Comm	Golf Commission	Appropriations Comm	Fire Districts/Water	IT Director/Cable Studio	
Develop Special Permit standards that will afford the Planning Board greater certainty in its authority to administer the bylaw.	LUCD	1-1		Planning	✓						✓	✓																									
Develop new zoning standards that facilitate and incentivize mixed-use residential projects, particularly in South Hadley Falls and the Business zoning districts.	LUCD	1-2		Planning		✓	✓				✓	✓							✓			✓	✓														
Work to develop special permit standards that include general standards referencing Mass general law, and then contain specific, well-articulated standards for the issuance of a special permit in each zoning district, with the standards related to a purpose statement for each zoning district.	LUCD	1-3		Planning	✓							✓													✓	✓											
Develop purpose statements for each zoning district that relate to the Comprehensive Plan goals.	LUCD	1-4		Planning		✓	✓				✓	✓					✓		✓	✓		✓	✓														
Develop and adopt a landscaping standard that requires a portion of the total construction cost for a project to be allocated towards landscaping, with incentives for landscaping located in or in view of the public right-of-way.	LUCD	1-5		Planning	✓						✓	✓					✓	✓						✓	✓												
In any establishment of new bulk and site plan standards, work to establish standards that reduce the location and visibility of parking areas in view of the public right-of-way, and maximize both landscaping and pedestrian facilities along public roads.	LUCD	1-6		Planning		✓	✓					✓													✓	✓											
In a revised bylaw, in order to support the goal of enhanced visual quality in the Town, require undergrounding of utilities in all new developments and road extensions.	LUCD	1-7		Planning		✓	✓				✓	✓					✓							✓	✓	✓											
As a priority recommendation of this Plan, the Town should commission the study and development of a set of design standards that will lead to improvements in the Town's visual quality, supporting its economic development and cultural resources goals as well. <i>Given the importance of this goal to shaping the entire Land Use element, this recommendation is fundamental to shaping all of the other recommended actions as well.</i>	LUCD	2-1	✓	Planning	✓						✓	✓				✓	✓							✓	✓												
Develop flexible development standards (or a similar strategy) particularly to help manage multi-family development more effectively through the special permit process.	LUCD	2-2		Planning	✓							✓												✓	✓	✓											
Consider both inclusionary zoning and affordable housing density bonus provisions as ways to increase the supply of affordable housing.	LUCD	2-3		Planning		✓	✓					✓												✓	✓	✓											
Work towards bylaws and provisions that provide for the mandatory allocation of open space, with preferential protection of agricultural lands and trees.	LUCD	2-4		Planning	✓							✓														✓	✓										
Carefully consider where multi-family housing should be located and the variety of forms it can take. Efforts should be made to diversify multi-family housing: conversion of large Victorian housing into multiple units, smaller-scale apartment buildings that have architectural appeal and historic charm. In cases of larger, denser development, the general guiding criteria should be directed at promoting open/usable space, creating common areas, preserving of architectural integrity, keeping existing trees/greenery, providing adequate buffers to adjacent residential uses, and creating development concentration in areas that are consistent with respect to housing types and densities in the surrounding area, and supporting public transportation nodes.	LUCD	2-5		Planning	✓							✓												✓	✓	✓											
Carefully study the A1, A2 and Agricultural zoning district provisions and the zoning map, to ensure that the bylaws and zoning map work together to foster desirable land use patterns that are consistent with the goals of this Plan.	LUCD	2-6		Planning		✓	✓					✓														✓	✓										

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Update the information from the 1987 Connecticut River Action Program urban riverfront study to reflect changing conditions in South Hadley, such as renovation of the Beachgrounds Park and the status of the Texon building.	NR-3	3-4-4		Planning	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																					
Consider adopting shoreline stabilization measures into a Town policy or bylaw as one way to protect the Connecticut River shoreline.	NR-3	3-4-5		Conservation Comm	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																					
Ensure that any new access points to the River protect river water quality and shoreline vegetation.	NR-3	3-4-6		Conservation Comm	✓							✓			✓	✓						✓															
Develop a stream setback and buffer provision based on the results of a watershed study to improve protection of brooks and protect property from flooding and erosion hazards caused by development within the riparian zone.	NR-3	3-5-1		Conservation Comm	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																					
Conduct a follow-up on implementation of the wetland bylaw to evaluate how this bylaw is working, what issues need to be addressed, and how the bylaw's requirements are playing out in new development approvals.	NR-3	3-5-2		Conservation Comm	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓	✓	✓													
Propose amendments to improve the effectiveness of the wetland bylaw through measures such as recommendations for native buffer plantings or fencing, or flexible standards for increased or decreased buffers based on site-specific studies.	NR-3	3-5-3		Conservation Comm		✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓	✓	✓													
Identify, evaluate and map potential wildlife corridors, including regional and local connections to core habitat areas, vernal pools, and water resources.	NR-3	3-6-1		Conservation Comm		✓						✓		✓	✓																					✓	
Evaluate opportunities and locations that could be used to facilitate wildlife crossings and connect habitat areas within the Town.	NR-3	3-6-2		Conservation Comm			✓					✓			✓							✓	✓														
Direct the Conservation Commission to lead an effort to identify critical resource areas encompassing streams, ponds, vernal pools, floodplain, wetlands and other water bodies for conservation and preservation.	NR-3	3-6-3		Selectboard		✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓												✓	
Seek funding through NHESP, DFW, and other partners to fully evaluate and document the wildlife habitat values and natural communities in South Hadley, possibly using the Shortnose Sturgeon, Bald Eagle and Barn Owl as "indicator" species for planning purposes.	NR-3	3-6-4		Conservation Comm	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓															
Work with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and Massachusetts DCR and DEP to develop the desired natural resource inventory.	NR-4	4-1-1		Conservation Comm	✓						✓	✓			✓																						
Use the findings of a watershed study to promote community education and engagement through actions such as new stream and watershed signage, stream team clean-up efforts, and other events.	NR-4	4-2-1		Conservation Comm	✓						✓				✓	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓											
Work with partners such as the Western Massachusetts Food Processing Center to promote community-supported agriculture (CSA) and other "farm-to-table" initiatives throughout South Hadley as a way to conserve farmland and protect natural resources.	NR-4	4-2-2		Conservation Comm	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓							✓	✓	✓		✓											
With local schools and partners, develop an educational program about habitat and presence of the Barn Owl, Shortnose Sturgeon, and Bald Eagle within South Hadley, and how these animals relate to the Town's natural resources and conservation efforts.	NR-4	4-3-1		Conservation Comm	✓						✓	✓			✓										✓												
Consider bringing in a program such as "Keeping Track" to engage residents in understanding how wildlife moves in and through South Hadley's natural landscapes.	NR-4	4-3-2		Conservation Comm		✓					✓				✓										✓												
Develop an on-line or other interactive program for residents to map wildlife and bird sightings throughout South Hadley, both to promote awareness of wildlife habitat issues and to generate planning-level information about wildlife in the Town.	NR-4	4-3-3		Conservation Comm		✓					✓	✓	✓		✓									✓												✓	
Encourage the Conservation Commission and Recreation Department to develop a joint vision for the management of South Hadley's open space and recreation lands that is consistent with the plan principles of sustainability, communications, and leading by example.	OSR-1	1-1-1		Selectboard	✓						✓	✓			✓							✓															
In coordination with other Town Departments, emphasize future economic development of the Falls area in Conservation Commission planning.	OSR-1	1-1-2		Selectboard	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓															

