

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
To support the goal of enhanced visual quality in the Town require undergrounding of utilities in all new developments and road extensions.	LUCD	3-7		Planning	✓	✓				✓	✓										✓	✓	✓													
Carefully study the allowable uses in each zoning district in light of current development and the goals of this comprehensive plan, in order to provide for appropriate uses by right.	LUCD	4-1		Planning	✓	✓					✓											✓	✓													
Require a report to Town Meeting by the Planning Board regarding the consistency of proposed uses with the Comprehensive Plan and the purpose of the zoning district prior to any rezoning action.	LUCD	4-2		Planning	✓				✓		✓	✓										✓	✓													
Carefully evaluate the potential to severely limit the expansion of non-conforming uses within the bylaw.	LUCD	4-3		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. 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.	LUCD	5-1	✓	Planning	✓					✓	✓			✓	✓						✓	✓														
Evaluate the potential to develop flexible development standards, particularly to help manage multi-family development more effectively through the special permit process.	LUCD	5-2		Planning	✓						✓										✓	✓	✓													
Consider both inclusionary zoning and affordable housing density bonus provisions as ways to increase the supply of affordable housing.	LUCD	5-3		Planning	✓	✓					✓										✓	✓	✓													
Work towards bylaws and provisions that provide for the mandatory allocation of open space, with preferential protection of agricultural lands and trees.	LUCD	5-4		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 may support public transportation nodes. LANGUAGE!!!! PLEASE EDIT!!!!	LUCD	5-5		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	5-6		Planning	✓	✓					✓											✓	✓													
In conjunction with the Open Space and Cultural & Historic Resources goals of this Plan, review the zoning bylaw and map to prevent high-intensity development of those environmentally or visually sensitive lands that are currently within the A1, A2 and Agricultural districts.	LUCD	5-7		Planning	✓	✓					✓										✓	✓		✓	✓											
Update demographic, housing, and income data, as well as the Planned Production projections, once the 2010 Census data is available.	H	1		Planning	✓						✓											✓														
Establish a local Housing Partnership, which can take the lead in establishing housing policy, and identifying and resolving housing issues.	H	2		Selectboard	✓																	✓														
Reconsider adoption of the Community Preservation Act - The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is an enabling statute that allows municipalities, at local option, to assess a surcharge on local property taxes not to exceed 3 percent, which can be used to support a variety of housing improvement and community housing development initiatives.	H	3		Planning	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓											
In bylaw revisions, consider whether South Hadley would benefit from adopting inclusionary zoning, a technique in which developers are asked to provide a certain number of affordable dwelling units when they are creating market rate units.	H	4		Planning	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓												

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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	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																		
Utilize coordinated private and public efforts in pursuit of open space, conservation projects, natural resource protection, and recreation development initiatives.	OSR-1	1-1-3		Selectboard	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																		
An open space committee or other integrated commission should be formed by the Town to support overall land management within South Hadley and to provide an effective liaison with a sustainability committee or task force.	OSR-1	1-1-4		Selectboard	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓																			
Promote active citizen participation and stewardship to contribute to the management of South Hadley's natural and open spaces and by support of plan objectives.	OSR-1	1-1-5		Selectboard	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓																			✓
Adopt regulations, potentially within the zoning bylaw, that will ensure preservation of significant specimen trees during and/or after development.	OSR-1	1-2-1		Planning	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																		
Establish a tree fund and/or landscaping contribution requirement for new development.	OSR-1	1-2-2		Planning	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓																			✓
Municipal oversight and coordination of planning, maintenance, volunteer work, and expansion efforts for all recreation facilities and activities currently managed by the DPW, Recreation Commission, and other entities.	OSR-2	2-1-1		Selectboard	✓				✓		✓	✓				✓	✓																		
Make the Beachgrounds Park improvement program integral to South Hadley Falls redevelopment efforts, and extend its landscaping and design attributes throughout the Falls and waterfront park.	OSR-2	2-1-2		Planning	✓				✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																		
Seek opportunities to create 'pocket park' facilities within the heavily developed neighborhoods in the southern section of Town. Explore the use of tax title to acquire these lands.	OSR-2	2-1-3		Recreation Comm	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																		

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To further improve communication and information delivery, identify broadly knowledgeable "gatekeepers" who have a marketing and information mindset who can field inquiries, assess information needs, make connections across departments, and collect information for the Town's website and other information delivery vehicles. A communications committee of knowledgeable community members might be formed to provide expertise and guidance.	OSR-5	5-1-4		Selectboard	✓				✓	✓																												
Improve the website's information resources on parks, resources, and events, with integrated, cross-departmental, regularly updated information that includes locations, directions, trail maps, parking, etc.	OSR-5	5-1-5		Recreation Comm	✓																																	
Identify environmentally sensitive parcels of land that may be vulnerable (i.e. are not permanently protected) to development activity that lie within the Mount Holyoke Range.	OSR-6	6-1-1		Planning		✓																																
Continue efforts and partnerships to permanently protect lands in the Mount Holyoke Range, including lands owned by Mount Holyoke College.	OSR-6	6-1-2		Selectboard	✓				✓	✓	✓																											
Research and map the current status of easements, state ownership, and private ownership of parcels within the Ridge.	OSR-6	6-2-1		Planning		✓	✓																															
Avoiding overlap, identify significant areas for preservation and priority conservation funding and key areas where economic development should be considered an option.	OSR-6	6-2-2		Planning		✓																																
Provide public information on access and availability of boat launches and access points that are suitable for public use.	OSR-7	7-1-1		Recreation Comm	✓																																	
Increase safety of these facilities by properly maintaining water safety signage and lighting.	OSR-7	7-1-2		Selectboard	✓																																	
Ensure that all recreation areas have adequate trash receptacles and maintenance.	OSR-7	7-1-3		Dept. of Public Works	✓																																	
Share plans for natural resources, open space and recreation with neighboring communities, Mount Holyoke College, and appropriate regional entities.	OSR-8	8-1-1		Planning	✓																																	
Set up liaison activities with key neighboring communities.	OSR-8	8-1-2		Selectboard	✓																																	
Identify potential linkage opportunities with other communities and share this information with neighboring communities.	OSR-8	8-2-1		Selectboard	✓																																	
Institute a design review process and standards, work to identify and incorporate architectural materials, elements, and patterns that are complimentary to South Hadley's historic districts and character.	CHR-1	1-1-1		Planning		✓	✓																															
Create strong incentives for buildings to be adaptively re-used in a manner that retains the historic visual character of the structure and neighborhood.	CHR-1	1-1-2		Planning		✓	✓																															
In revising the zoning bylaw, develop strategies that incentivize and support the re-use of historic structures and the retention of retail stores in South Hadley Falls.	CHR-1	1-1-3		Planning		✓	✓																															
Document the buildings and historic features (such as the WPA murals in the post office) in the Hadley Street/Woodbridge Street corner, including the post office, and consider adopting a local historic district and protection standards to secure its visual and historic integrity.	CHR-1	1-1-4		Historic Comm.			✓																															
Research and map the current status of easements, state ownership, and private ownership of parcels within the Ridge with the intent of ensuring long term protection.	CHR-1	1-2-1		Planning																																		
Explore the potential to develop and implement a vista protection overlay district or comparable tool for the Pearl Street and Alvord Street corridors, the Mount Holyoke Range, and important vistas of the Connecticut River.	CHR-1	1-2-2		Planning			✓																															
Encourage the Conservation Commission to support and administer right to farm bylaw and implement the recommendations of the agriculture commission.	CHR-1	1-3-1		Conservation Comm																																		
Encourage the Agricultural Commission to advocate for and educate South Hadley's boards and commissions regarding Community Supported Agriculture.	CHR-1	1-3-2		Agricultural Comm			✓																															
Encourage the Agricultural Commission to communicate to the citizens about the identified farms in Town and their significant features.	CHR-1	1-3-3		Selectboard			✓	✓																														

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In conjunction with the economic development recommendations of this Plan, actively disseminate information and facilitate access to State and Federal tax credit and incentive programs for redevelopment of historic structures.	CHR-3	3-2-2		Planning	✓					✓	✓																										
Establish a tree restoration program throughout South Hadley, focusing on the importance of tree plantings to scenic landscapes and rural roadways.	CHR-3	3-3-1		DPW	✓					✓																											
Implement policies, including zoning language, to retain trees in locations where trees contribute to historic landscape character.	CHR-3	3-3-2		Planning	✓					✓	✓																										
Consider measures such as a Scenic Roads Bylaw that would require a public hearing before trees or stone walls in the right of way are removed by the Town.	CHR-3	3-3-3		Selectboard	✓					✓	✓																										
Establish a Cultural Commission to review what has served the community, and what is needed to achieve the goals of this Plan for the Town's cultural life.	CHR-4	4-1-1		Selectboard	✓					✓	✓																										
Build in an active cultural calendar framework on website and the local access cable channel that is kept current, and informs residents on current cultural opportunities and networks.	CHR-4	4-1-2		Selectboard	✓																															✓	
Facilitate the work of the cultural council with the Cultural Commission and other networks and interested individuals to establish a plan and framework for cultural revitalization.	CHR-4	4-1-3		Selectboard	✓																															✓	
Implement guidelines for traffic impact studies for new developments or redevelopments that seek reasonable and clear mitigation commitments from development projects on surrounding roadways.	Tr-1	1-1		Planning	✓							✓	✓																								
Along with typical project review require an analysis of potential mitigation measures (or traffic monitoring measures) to address identified existing or potential future impacts.	Tr-1	1-2		Planning	✓																															✓	
Require all studies with a transportation component to include a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan aimed at identifying TDM strategies that discourage the use of single-occupancy vehicles and promote principles of community livability.	Tr-1	1-3		Planning								✓	✓																							✓	
Develop long-range transportation network connectivity goals and encourage development and redevelopment to consider mitigation strategies that promote the development of these goals.	Tr-1	1-4		Planning	✓																															✓	
Continually assess existing and potential opportunities and deficiencies in the transportation network and prepare a town-wide improvement plan that considers safety and operational issues; Locations that are in fair condition and a subsequent plan to prevent them from deteriorating to poor conditions; Transportation network traffic growth; and Short-term, mid-term and long-term solutions.	Tr-1	1-5		Dept. of Public Works																																✓	
The Town should utilize the PVPC traffic counting program that provides free counting for up to two locations each fiscal year	Tr-1	1-6		Selectboard																																✓	
Improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities by repairing and constructing new sidewalks; maintaining or enhancing crosswalks; adding in streetscape elements; improving roadway lighting; retrofitting facilities to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements; and providing bicycle lanes, paths, and parking.	Tr-2	2-1		Dept. of Public Works	✓																															✓	
Work with MassHighway to identify potential improvements or funding sources to enhance pedestrian accommodations or create bike paths.	Tr-2	2-2		Dept. of Public Works	✓																															✓	
Establish a pedestrian and bicycle committee to advocate for and explore opportunities for improved facilities to enhance the current network. Committee should work with PVPC and neighboring communities to create a regional network of bicycle-safe routes.	Tr-2	2-3		Selectboard	✓																															✓	
Maintain an inventory of existing pedestrian infrastructure and condition. Maintain a prioritized pedestrian facilities maintenance and development program that identifies short-term, mid-term and long-term goals.	Tr-2	2-4		Dept. of Public Works	✓																															✓	

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In planning for a new elementary school, consider early in the process the option of constructing the building to LEED or other equivalent sustainability standards. Provide the same consideration to incorporating sustainability principles into the site (e.g. parking, landscaping, low-impact design features, etc.)	MSF-4	4-1-1		School Dept.	✓					✓	✓	✓																										
the school facility planning process, ensure that South Hadley has an advocate or responsible party to ensure sufficient follow up, and that the application is closely tracked in the State process.	MSF-4	4-1-2		School Dept.	✓					✓	✓	✓																										
Following up on the Statement of Interest to be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority, establish a local committee for the Plains School replacement to pursue next steps such as additional grant or donation funding, school siting, and sustainability models.	MSF-4	4-1-3		School Dept.	✓					✓	✓	✓																										
In conjunction with economic development efforts, develop a reuse plan for the Plains School site that incorporates sustainability and economic development principles of this Plan.	MSF-4	4-1-4		Planning	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓																									
As a priority recommendation of this Plan, continue to evaluate, monitor, and consider the appropriateness of a merger of the two Fire Districts.	MSF-5	5-1-1	✓	Selectboard	✓																															✓		
Investigate the merits of reinstating the underground tank regulation in the Town's General Bylaw.	MSF-5	5-1-2		Planning	✓																															✓		
Continue to evaluate the public safety public communications systems to provide consistent, reliable two-way communications and emergency notification systems.	MSF-5	5-2-1		Selectboard										✓																						✓		
As a priority recommendation of this Plan, develop and implement a comprehensive outreach and education program encouraging residents and businesses to increase recycling; MassDEP materials may be used to help accomplish this goal. Include examples and explanation of the financial costs of solid waste disposal, and benefits of recycling.	MSF-5	5-3-1	✓	Dept. of Public Works	✓									✓																								
As discussions proceed around expansion of the Town Landfill, examine strategies being used by the Town of Granby and other communities to maximize South Hadley's economic and environmental return on the landfill as closure occurs.	MSF-5	5-3-2		Dept. of Public Works	✓																																	
Evaluate the feasibility and options for establishing a separate stormwater services enterprise fund or program, as has been done in Chicopee, to address the stormwater issues affecting South Hadley.	MSF-5	5-3-3		Dept. of Public Works	✓																																	
Continually seek ways to work with neighboring communities to address regional infrastructure and waste management needs.	MSF-5	5-3-4		Dept. of Public Works	✓					✓																											✓	
Work with SHELD to explore ways to maximize the benefits of its fiber optic network, initially to the Town and School facilities, and long-term through the examination of SHELD's charter and ability to serve and support non-public uses.	MSF-5	5-4-1		Selectboard	✓																																	
Improve communication between SHELD and Town government regarding fiber optic network progress made by SHELD and Mount Holyoke College so that the Town is fully informed of the status of this project.	MSF-5	5-4-2		Selectboard	✓																																✓	
Establish a collaborative line of communication or process between SHELD and the Town regarding SHELD's relocation and strategies for re-use of the existing building, to support the Town's economic development and revitalization goals for South Hadley Falls.	MSF-5	5-4-3		Selectboard	✓																																	
As appropriate, use Town information resources such as the website to raise local awareness of community recreation, civic, and service resources.	MSF-5	5-5-1		Selectboard	✓																																	
The Town should work to increase information sharing and partnerships with Mount Holyoke College, the Five College network, and other regional universities and organizations to improve service delivery and information exchange in all areas of community services.	MSF-5	5-5-2		Selectboard	✓									✓																							✓	