

Town & Village of Delhi Visioning Workshop

November 17, 2010 7:00 PM

Presentation:

- Introduced Town Supervisor, Village Mayor, Town and Village Board Members, and Joint Comprehensive Plan Committee
- Provided overview of the planning process to date
- Asked the audience - Where do you live? Majority of participants either lived or worked (if not a Delhi resident) in the Village of Delhi.
- Why a Comprehensive Plan? Joint vision for the future and attracts funds into the community
- Simple 4 Step Process – Community Profile, Community Vision, Action/Implementation Plan, and Evaluation
- Tasks include – Inventory and Analyses, Community Outreach, Community Survey, Visioning Workshop, Vision Statement and Goals, Draft Plan, Action Plan Workshop, SEQR and Adoption
- Community Profile-describes land use, housing, community services, demographics, local economy, historic resources, transportation, infrastructure, Environmental Resources, NYC Watershed
 - Bullets from community Profile
- What is Visioning? Asked the audience - How long have you lived here? There were a lot of residents who have lived in Delhi a long time as well as a nice cross section of newer residents.
 - Visioning identifies the future you prefer... a possible future you hope to attain together

What do you love about Delhi?

- Sense of community
- View outside window – looks at Scotch Mountain and Knapp mountain on the other side
- Bringing my children here
- Not the suburbs, quality of life, like being able to walk in the village, river, the environment
- Safe, walk dog at midnight
- Library, beautiful building, love to go there, kept up well
- Fitches Bridge, - lived elsewhere, sick of traffic, enjoy the community here
- Love fishing in the backyard
- Village is quaint and its pretty, has a college that expands community activities
- Love the college
- Hospital is an asset, lucky to have that and the college, proximity to work, raise kids in a safe community, close to work, nice place with good employment

- Amazed at hospital facility – quality of care and ability of specialists to come here
- Love the natural surroundings, hills, valley, river, wildlife
- Love the creative reuse of historic buildings-cannon house, telephone company, buildings used for modern things, love the bluestone sidewalks
- Courthouse square and fair on the square
- Delaware Academy school district
- Great mix of recreational activities and cultural activities, historical aspect is amazing too
- Fantastic food supply locally – from produce to dairy products and cheeses and growth of meat industry – health benefit and economic engine; buy local and fresh
- Main street – know who owns the stores locally owned
- Special people here – happy to be here
- People, wonderful and magnetic about the people here
- American legion and their fields, membership numbers are dwindling
- I'd chain myself to the village hall
- Love high speed internet in the village
- Outdoor activities – community rises up when there is a tragedy/people in need
- Delhi's 4 little parks-Hoyt Park, Bridgeside, Memorial and Triangle and possibility of other parks being created
- Outdoor education park – Americorp through the college – an incredible place
- Golf course, like to ski on it during the winter
- Smith pond park
- 2 beautiful historic cemeteries
- Frisbee
- County Historical association
- Humane society-one of the best
- Best correctional facilities-its outstanding
- Assets for children –little league, soccer, pre-school and daycare centers, quality of life for children, religious organizations
- County seat – jobs
- Agricultural aspects-appreciation for where food comes from and the farmers
- SUNY Delhi – really good college, huge asset

What would you like to change?

- Weather
- More stores – pair of pants or t-shirt for example, big marketplace like the harvest festival or farmers market – year round
- Better access to the river, walking and recreational
- And reservoirs

- Utilize river through canoeing and kayaking, capitalize on recreational effort; community pool, not enough places for community to meet
- More businesses – locally owned, less franchise or diversified, services that are provided (utility poles)
- Change in reduction cost of government and regulatory burdens that government puts on local businesses
- Improved walking and bike trails, particularly down Route 10 toward hospital connecting to the village
- Better promotion of what Delhi has to offer (kiosk)
- Better utilization of college when there are no students there (programs for elderly) bringing in tourism
- Village tax burden reduced by non-profits sharing in it
- Bridging the gap between village and college-getting kids to come downtown
- Where are things in Delhi pamphlet
- Infrastructure improved –promoting tourism – little bit of a trail for bicycling but not much
- Kiosk of great places to see, wayfinding signage, more multi-generational activities, get community up to the college more, support local businesses
- Save money on being policed – have state police, county sheriff, NYSDEC, NYCDEP, university police, village police – split issue among residents about police coverage
- The village and town work together more as a team, elimination of village government-split issue as well
- As an employer, more affordable housing, a barrier to recruitment (\$150,000-250,000 price for professionals)
- Real issue in the area – SUNY Delhi (housing), losing faculty and staff
- Student housing
- Middle income housing-downsize not enough housing for people who want to downsize
- People become a fan of Delhi and Delaware county-better job of becoming fans of Delhi
- Concerned about gas drilling need environmental standards
- Not enough support for non-traditional agriculture
- Need for senior housing-not subsidized, income limited, very hard to find an apt, why doesn't private enterprise step up to develop?
- Community gardens particularly vegetable gardens
- More alternative energy sources
- Focus on bringing more tourists here – promote Delhi
- Well maintained playground – don't feel safe at the playground in Delhi-dark, not well maintained
- Businesses that bring money into the area, concentrate on businesses that bring money into Delhi
- In terms of tourism, scenic byways project-link with Andes

- Incentive for landlords to keep properties up, cemetery maintenance need to take care of the woodchuck population
- Work with NYC – turn into positive- environmentally safe businesses into the area (bring jobs and people into the area)
- Would be nice to convince the city to use lands for cross country skiing and hunting, not a lot of permission being granted for recreational uses (city is agreeing to a lot of additional changes)
- Problem with apathy in government – get people involved
- Don't allow smoking in the bars, better communication with things going on in Delhi
- Plans from 80's and 90's – demographic changes and wish lists from those plans – what's been accomplished
- Communication – problem; lets know what's going on with different organizations (both positive and negative), so people can still get involved
- Community calendar – centrally located

When these things have changed...

- Cow poop
- More families with young children playing
- More storefronts
- People shopping in stores in Delhi, more vibrant village
- More tourists
- No foul language
- Frogs
- Geese
- Sounds like snowmobiles – connect trails from Andes to Delhi, attract snowmobile tourists
- Residents being more like “tourists” visiting local businesses
- Year round jobs available
- Beautiful Entrances/gateways to the village
- Consistent speed zones into Delhi
- Department store
- Kids from 12-17, no place for kids to go and feel comfortable
- Feeling of healthy happy positive people

Next Steps:

- Stay Involved! Provide your email address on the sign-in sheet to receive notices of upcoming meetings.
- Community Survey will be mailed out soon!
- Action Planning Workshop will be held in the Spring.