

TOWN OF BRUNSWICK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE STEERING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
June 26, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Emilie Schmidt Howell (Chair), Fred Koerber (Co-Chair), Alison Harris, Catherine Ferdinand, Marcy McGuire, Meghan Kissling, Larissa Darcy, Sande Updegraph (Town Council, District 4), Steve Weems (Town Council, District 7), Steve Walker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa Trombley

STAFF PRESENT: Jimmy Dealaman, Principal Planner

Chair Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and called the roll. Chair Schmidt adjusted the agenda to place Pending CPUSC Actions/Strategies first under New Business. There was no correspondence or public comment provided.

Pending CPUSC Actions/Strategies:

The committee votes on action items that were not previously addressed.

Motion to strike action A.9. Safeguard lands identified as prime farmland or capable of supporting commercial forestry.

Alison Harris
Second Sande Updegraph
Unanimous

Motion to approve action B.1 as: Utilize density bonuses, credit enhancement agreements, and construction subsidies to incentivize the inclusion of affordable housing into market-rate housing developments.

Larissa Darcy
Second Fred Koerber
Unanimous

Motion to approve action D.9 as: Develop and implement a plan to promote cultural, historic, and social resources.

Chair Schmidt
Second Steve Walker
Unanimous

Motion to strike action E.17.

Steve Walker
Second Sande Updegraph
Unanimous

Motion to approve an action item: Encourage development of a Tree Protection Ordinance.

Chair Schmidt
Second Steve Weems
The motion did not carry, with three in favor.

Motion to approve an action item: Explore opportunities to protect tree resources throughout the town.

Steve Weems

Second Steve Walker

The motion carried with six in favor, four opposed.

Vision Statement Discussion:

The committee discussed the various drafts of the vision statement.

Motion to approve the amended vision statement as edited by the planning department to take the place of the original vision statement for the draft review.

Chair Schmidt

Second Sande Updegraph

Unanimous

Growth Area Boundary Discussion:

Steve Weems provided a summary of the new state law, L.D. 1829, which will impact this discussion. Among other things, the law specifies densities in growth areas, minimum lot sizes in growth areas, and diminishes the role of planning boards with regards to growth area ordinance. It results in local governments being less in control of growth areas, but substantially in control of rural areas.

Jimmy Dealaman presented a new potential draft of the growth zone which is more limited, and which places more land into the limited growth residential zoning. The committee discussed.

Motion to keep the existing map of a potential growth district in the draft plan for public comment.

Chair Schmidt

Second Sande Updegraph

Motion that the limited airport zone should be the airport property only.

Larissa Darcy

Second Catherine Ferdinand

Unanimous

The committee discussed using the Plan Brunswick website to inform the public about this bill.

Motion to Adjourn:

Larissa Darcy

Second Fred Koerber

Unanimous

NEXT MEETING: Tentatively August 14, 2025