

City of New Castle Comprehensive Plan Implementation Status: August 2013

| Comprehensive Plan Recommendations | Implementing Body | Status & Comments |
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| Governmental Services | | |
| 1: Appoint a Charter Review Commission | City Council & Charter Review Commission | Complete & new City Charter adopted in 2012 |
| 2: Prepare a Buyer Information Package | Building Department Staff | Complete: Tools Created |
| Land Use | | |
| 1: Continue to encourage mixed residential/retail/office uses | City Council & Planning Commission | Ongoing |
| 2: Develop New Castle's remaining undeveloped parcels, brownfields, and redevelopment areas harmoniously with nearby land uses. | Planning Commission | City adopted mixed-use Downtown Gateway zoning for former industrial land in the South and 7 th Streets area adjacent to downtown. Work with developments as they show interest. |
| 3: Develop and adopt long-term redevelopment vision plans for the Ferry Cut-off and the 7th & South Street areas. | Planning Commission | Complete: Adopted Ordinance #477 August 2103 for DG District |
| Annexation | | |
| 1: Establish Citywide annexation criteria, policy, and procedures. | City Council | Underway: The City has not prepared formal criteria and policies, but is using the guidance of the Comprehensive Plan recommendations in its annexation considerations. |
| 2: Identify possible areas for future annexation. | Planning Commission, City Council | Complete: List appears in the 2009 Comprehensive Plan update. |
| 3: Encourage the development of areas outside but adjacent to New Castle, or under consideration for annexation, in a harmonious manner with nearby uses. | Planning Commission, City Council | Ongoing |

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| Infrastructure | | |
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| 1: Encourage the relocation of aerial utilities below ground through development of a long-term utility relocation plan and through revisions to the City's subdivision and land development ordinance. | Planning Commission, City Council, Municipal Service Commission | Ongoing: Due to financial allocations to begin in Historic District. |
| Transportation | | |
| 1: Expand bike and pedestrian connections and facilities throughout the City. | City of New Castle, DelDOT, East Coast Greenway Alliance | Underway: Ongoing to be updated in new Comprehensive Plan. Complete: Extension of the Industrial Track Trail in 2014 from its current terminus to the Delaware River waterfront and Battery Park |
| 2: Clarify regional and local traffic patterns throughout the City. | DelDOT, WILMAPCO, Planning Commission, City Council | Ongoing: The City is working with DelDOT and WILMAPCO on traffic circulation on Route 9. |
| 3: Redesign streets and intersections to reduce speeding and cut-through traffic, while improving pedestrian safety in all City neighborhoods. | City of New Castle, DelDOT | Underway: Improvements such as Curb Ramps & Pedestrian crossings to be completed in 2015. Worked with DelDOT and WILMAPCO on traffic circulation on Route 9 that will help to avoid cut-through traffic and reduce speeds. |
| 4: Formalize and optimize the existing parking supply. | Public Works Department | Underway: The City worked with Heather from WILMAPCO to complete a parking study. The Parking Committee presented areas for additional parking on City property to the Planning Commission then project was forwarded to Council for consideration, implementation and potential funding. Additional tasks ongoing. |

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| Historic and Cultural Resources | | |
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| 1: Develop strategies to protect resources outside the historic district. | Historic Area Commission, City Council | The Historic Area Commission formed in 2014 and prepared a draft document. |
| 2: Develop updated and enhanced design standards/review procedures for development within the historic area. | Historic Area Commission, City Council | Not yet started |
| Community Design | | |
| 1: Incorporate detailed urban design standards into the City's development controls to assure that high quality new development. | Planning Commission | Completed: adopted the Downtown Gateway Zoning, which includes standards in August 2013 |
| 2: Reinforce community identity with attractive gateways at the City's edges. | Planning Commission, DelDOT, WILMAPCO | Ongoing: Gateways are addressed in the proposed Gateway District zoning and in the City's current work with DelDOT and WILMAPCO on Route 9. |
| 3: Establish requirements for landscape buffers to screen residential neighborhoods from more intense land uses. | Building Department Staff | Underway: Adopted screening standards for non-conforming outdoor uses. |
| Economic Development | | |
| 1: Encourage the growth and diversity of neighborhood scale businesses. | City Council, Economic Development Advisory Committee | Issue was addressed Downtown Gateway District zoning adopted August 2013. Work with each applicant as they come in. |
| 2: Redesign portions of Route 9 and the Ferry Cut-off as a pedestrian-oriented commercial district. | Planning Commission, City Council, DelDOT, WILMAPCO | Ongoing: Pedestrian-oriented design is a key element of the proposed Gateway District zoning and in the City's current work with DelDOT and WILMAPCO on Route 9. |
| Housing | | |
| 1: Increase affordable opportunities for home ownership. | City | Not yet started |

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| 2: Improve housing maintenance. | City Code Enforcement Staff | Underway: Amended housing and property maintenance ordinance. |
| 3: Improve the integrity of the housing stock through rehabilitation. | City Code Enforcement Staff | Ongoing: Increased Enforcement-awaiting funding. |
| 4: Facilitate investment in small run-down residential properties, and ensure that such redevelopment meets or exceeds the architectural character of surrounding homes. | City Code-Enforcement Staff | Completed/Ongoing: Adopted ordinance to encourage small-scale redevelopment in 2011. |
| Environmental Protection | | |
| 1: Preserve the capacity of the floodplain to carry floodwaters. | Building Department Staff | Underway: Adopted new FEMA maps and regulations October 2014 |
| 2: Improve drainage and stormwater management throughout the City. | City Engineer, Building Department Staff, New Castle Conservation District, Planning Commission, City Council | Underway: Redesign for SW improvements on 3rd Street/Battery Park and 14th Street. Repair pipes on 6th Street/Delaware. |
| 3: Conserve State Resource Areas (SRA) | Planning Commission, City Council | Underway |
| Open Space, Parks & Recreation | | |
| 1: Enhance the maintenance of neighborhood recreational facilities, particularly in Buttonwood, Van Dyke Village, Shawtown, and Dobbinsville. | City Council, Neighborhood Park Committee, Board of Trustees | Ongoing: removed unsafe park equipment in Dobbinsville. New proposed in 2015. |
| 2: Expand local recreational opportunities by creating new neighborhood parks in the Boothurst and Washington Park neighborhoods. | City Council, Neighborhood Parks Committee | Underway: Design for Washington is underway and Boothurst has not started yet. |
| 3: Explore the development and potential funding of new community-wide recreation facilities. | City Council, Board of Trustees | Underway/Ongoing: Waterfront recreation areas were considered in the waterfront master plan, and the city used state funding to purchase land from Emmanuel Church to be used for passive recreation. |

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| Intergovernmental Coordination | | |
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| 1: Establish and maintain cooperative relationships with state and local agencies. | City Council | Ongoing |