Vision

Focusing on the planning horizon - setting direction

Vision *(overall perspective, aspiration)*

The Town of Waxhaw is a friendly, vibrant and prosperous city where history and creativity form an enduring, safe and healthy community for people of all ages to live, learn, work, play or grow a business. Our government is recognized for the efficiency with which it provides high quality services to its residents and business in a cost-effective manner. We collaborate with regional partners to meet the current and future demands of a growing population with complex needs for transportation, infrastructure, recreation and community services. Our town has built a sound and sustainable economic base by welcoming opportunities for growth that build upon and enhance the community's unique sense of place. We are highly regarded for our regulatory environment, which is focused on clear procedures and predictable standards that have fostered growth that contributes to the sustainment of the Town's character, active lifestyle and overall quality of life. Waxhaw is both rustic and refined, a place whose character is defined through its honest connection to its heritage, its people, its traditions, and its aspirations for a prosperous future.

WAXHAW North Carolina
Comprehensive Plan

Land Use

Waxhaw manages its growth though a logical policy framework within which development occurs. This helps the community realize a more beneficial and sustainable land use balance, with a variety of uses, intensities and character to suit the community's varied needs. A key consideration is the ways in which uses and development patterns make it easy to live in Waxhaw and conduct business here, providing for convenient, attractive and safe pedestrian, bike and auto access throughout town.

Transportation

Waxhaw's transportation system is designed to complement and enhance the community's character and its potential for economic development and prosperity. This means that it accommodates auto and freight traffic, but that it also maintains as intimate a scale as possible, encouraging pedestrian and bike travel, providing for overall system safety, and minimizing maintenance costs. And the system is interconnected, allowing for multiple routes of travel between destinations. Moving through and within Waxhaw is intuitive and easy, with short-cuts for those who walk and bike.

Economic Development

Waxhaw's business sector is diverse and robust, providing a solid base of manufacturing and light industrial employment that is consistent in character with the town and a varied services sector that meets the full range of local needs. The economy builds on both Waxhaw's proximity to Charlotte's white-collar workforce and its association with the industrious work ethic of Union County. It is a place that encourages entrepreneurship and creativity, understanding that economic risk does not always result in immediate success. Waxhaw is in the game for the long haul, investing strategically to maintain its infrastructure and nurture a spirit of adventure and grass-roots action.

Municipal Services & Infrastructure

Waxhaw realizes that the community's quality of life is its prime attraction for residents and businesses, and the Town invests as it can to maintain that quality of life through its public realm and provision of municipal services. This often involves partnerships with utility agencies, schools, the State of North Carolina and homeowner associations, and the Town engages in those partnerships with vigor. For those services the Town provides, it leads by example.

Parks & Recreation

A major component of Waxhaw's quality of life – and a defining element in its overall character – is the community's parks and recreation system. It offers a wide range of facilities to meet the community's diverse demands, including woodlands, sports fields, neighborhood parks and an expansive trails network. Waxhaw recognizes that the community's wellness depends to some degree on how it spends leisure time. The parks and recreation system is up to it.

Natural & Environmental Resources

The community's trails raise local awareness of the rich natural environment in which Waxhaw is set, and the Town further recognizes the importance of the natural features and functions that define Waxhaw's setting. Surrounding woodlands, streams, wetlands and terrain enable the town's very existence, and the community's development patterns are designed to conserve them to the greatest practical extent.

FINAL DRAFT
ADOPTION DATE

Historic Preservation

Waxhaw experienced rapid growth in the years after 2000, but it's roots date back to the middle 19th Century. Elements of that history remain, establishing the community's core identity and differentiating it from other communities that have been more recently settled. Waxhaw is a unique place, rich in character as a result of its heritage. And it works to retain that character, preserving the town's historic downtown fabric and finding creative ways for it to adapt to meet current demand.

Cultural Resources

Many of the Town's important characteristics are found in its range of cultural resources. The Town's treasured heritage is celebrated through festivals and events, museums, historic architecture, a growing arts community and a proud citizenry. The Town's cultural resources are widely appreciated, and many opportunities exist to enhance its existing resources throughout the community, region and the Carolinas.