

2016-2017 Mansfield Town Council Goals and Objectives - DRAFT

*Economic Development*

Goal: Mansfield has a growing and diversified economy that helps to maintain the high-quality services desired by residents. Goal 6.3 (Page 6.39). ♦

Objectives:

- Create a “brand” for Mansfield and market the Town.
- Create a business friendly climate; complete the online permitting software and *Permitting Guide* projects.
- Explore the feasibility of allocating resources for a dedicated economic development staff member.
- Leverage UCONN Tech Park for economic development in Mansfield.
- Begin construction on Four Corners Sewer project; focus redevelopment efforts to Four Corners area and other areas identified in the Plan of Conservation and Development.

*Education*

Goal: Mansfield is a lifelong learning community and continues to provides high quality public education for children and youth. ♦

Objectives:

- Complete the school facilities study project.
- Revise the Town’s capital plan following completion of the facility studies to ensure educational infrastructure is adequate to meet both short and long term community needs.
- Support high quality, affordable early childhood education.

*Financial Management*

Goal: Responsibly manage available financial resources to maintain quality services that are responsive to community needs. ♦

Objectives:

- Increase tax base (new growth) including completion of Storrs Center, in a responsible manner.
- Increase Fund Balance to a minimum of 10% of the operating budget over a five year period, or sooner if feasible.
- Balance service needs with revenue constraints.
- Continue to explore opportunities for sharing of regional services.

*Housing*

Goal: Mansfield maintains high-quality living conditions throughout the town. Goal 7.3 (Page 7.26). ♦

Objectives:

- Research the feasibility of a housing trust to support affordable owner-occupied low and moderate income housing in Mansfield.
- Create a sense of place that attracts young families to Mansfield.
- Continue the work of the ad hoc Committee on Rental Regulations and Enforcement; improve the Town’s ability to respond to issues related to blighted and nuisance properties. Also review strategies adopted in other jurisdictions to achieve an appropriate balance between owner-occupied and rental housing, particularly in residential neighborhoods.
- Continue to collaborate with UCONN to address quality of life issues in off-campus neighborhoods, including student behavior.

### *Human Services*

Goal: Provide access to high quality human services programs and services for persons of all ages.

Objective:

- Participate in regional collaborations with area human service agencies.

### *Infrastructure*

Goal: Mansfield maintains high-quality public facilities that support town goals. Goal 5.5 (Page 5.46). ♦

Objectives:

- Complete the Town facilities study project.
- Revise the Town's capital plan following completion of the facility studies to ensure all non-educational infrastructure is adequate to meet both short and long term community needs.
- Engage in practices and projects that promote energy efficiency, including but not limited to solar projects.
- Reduce the Town's municipal government carbon footprint in an effort to respond to climate change.
- Improve accessibility and modifications to older Town facilities and parks for persons with disabilities.
- Encourage access to Town government and full transparency through electronic resources.
- Provide capital funding to conduct a recreation master plan.

### *Open Space and Agriculture*

Goal: Preserve and maintain open space and viable working farms. ♦

Objectives:

- Preserve agricultural land through the purchase of development rights.
- Acquire, preserve, and maintain open space.
- Adopt land management plans for Town owned open space.
- Support local food production through programming and available resources.

### *Public Safety*

Goal: Mansfield public safety services—police, fire and EMS—protect life and property through a robust program of education, enforcement and preparedness. Goal 5.3 (Page 5.37). ♦

Objectives:

- Evaluate police service delivery options; initiate and complete study evaluating service delivery options.
- Evaluate Fire Department staffing levels and impact on service delivery and costs.

### *Town University Relations*

Goal: Mansfield collaborates with UCONN to achieve common goals, maximize the local economic benefits of the university's presence and address quality of life issues in off-campus neighborhoods.

Objective:

- Re-establish practice of using Town-University Relations Committee as a working committee, in addition to its information-sharing and reporting role.
- Through the Town-University Relations Committee, review feasibility of establishing annual student enrollment protocol under which the Town would have the opportunity to critically review UCONN's enrollment projections and to provide meaningful

feedback on the impact that significant enrollment changes may have on the Town, from a resource and quality of life perspective

- Through the Town-University Relations Committee, review UCONN student code of conduct to determine if it is adequate to address off-campus conduct, including conduct associated with Greek-affiliated organizations.

### *Transportation*

**Goal:** Mansfield has a balanced, integrated transportation system that provides residents with viable options in getting from one place to another. Goal 9.1 (Page 9.30). ♦

#### **Objectives:**

- Develop an integrated network of sidewalks, bikeways and trails that connect residents with key community facilities and services.
- Improve Town roads to accommodate various modes of transportation.
- Research, and implement when possible, the feasibility of dedicate bicycle lanes on local roads.
- Actively participate in the Windham Region Transit District (WRTD) to improve services being provided in the regional transportation network.
- Coordinate with UCONN on transportation initiatives that take increased demand into consideration.

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♦ Denotes link to Mansfield Tomorrow.

Approved by the Mansfield Town Council on XXX, 2016  
Added to the Mansfield Town Council Policy Index

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