

**SCOPING DOCUMENT
TOWN OF ENFIELD DRAFT GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

INTRODUCTION

The Town of Enfield, New York is preparing a new Comprehensive Plan. The new plan will serve as a guide to preferred growth and improvement objectives set forth by the residents of Enfield. In accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) will be prepared for the Comprehensive Plan. According to the State Regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617, Section 617.8), the lead agency must conduct a scoping process to focus on potentially significant adverse impacts and to eliminate consideration of those impacts that are irrelevant or not significant.

The lead agency for the Town of Enfield Comprehensive Plan is the Enfield Town Board. This document will serve as a scope for the GEIS. The scoping document sets forth the analyses and methodologies used in the preparation of the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS).

PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed Comprehensive Plan is the product of a multi-year effort undertaken by the residents and boards of the Town of Enfield. The first Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2001. This Comprehensive Plan will serve as the replacement of that document.

The Comprehensive Plan will guide the development of the Town of Enfield over the next 10 to 20 years. The Plan includes detail of the existing conditions and future goals and concerns of the residents of the town. It describes a vision for the physical, environmental, social, and economic characteristics of the Town, and outlines recommendations to make that vision a reality.

Goals and recommendations of the Plan address eight areas of interest:

- Heritage and Historic Preservation
- Municipal Services
- Agriculture
- Land Use
- Environmental and Natural Resources
- Built Environment: Public Utilities, Infrastructure, Transportation
- Housing
- Economy and Community

Once adopted, the Comprehensive Plan will serve as a guide for policies and regulations regarding development and conservation. The Comprehensive Plan will inform Town staff, boards, and elected officials on actions and decisions about municipal needs, land use, housing, transportation, infrastructure, the natural environment, and community and economic development. The Plan will also provide guidance to the community and outside interests as to the goals of the town and preferred actions that may be taken to meet them through social and financial support.

COMPONENTS OF THE TOWN OF ENFIELD DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

COVER SHEET

- Title of the proposed action
- Lead agency name (Town of Enfield Town Board) and action location
- Contact information
- Names of those that prepared any portion of the DGEIS
- Date of the completion acceptance of the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS) by the Town Board
- Date of the SEQRA public hearing
- Date by which written comments will be accepted by the lead agency

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The DGEIS will be written to follow the format and content sequence of this scoping document, which will follow the sections of the Draft Comprehensive Plan.

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

- a) A concise description of the proposed action, the Comprehensive Plan; its purpose, public need and benefits, including social and economic considerations;
- b) A description of the existing development pattern; physical, social and legal constraints that now shape development in the Town, and current land use policy and regulation.

2. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

This section will evaluate the proposed Comprehensive Plan for each of the subject areas therein, including:

- a) An analysis of existing conditions
- b) Potential adverse impacts if proposed actions are implemented
- c) Potential impacts without the proposed actions
- d) Alternative actions to mitigate potential adverse impacts- The range of alternatives must include the no - action alternative. The no action alternative discussion should evaluate the adverse or beneficial site changes that may occur, in the absence of the proposed action. Alternative actions may consider the following:
 - sites
 - technology
 - scale or magnitude
 - design
 - timing
 - use; and
 - types of action
- e) Cumulative impacts of the proposed actions
- f) Measures to avoid or reduce both an action's impacts on climate change and associated impacts due to the effects of climate change such as sea level rise and flooding

3. OTHER IMPACTS

- a. **Unavoidable adverse environmental impacts-** A description of potential adverse impacts that can't be avoided as a result of the adoption of the proposed Comprehensive Plan.
- b. **Irretrievable commitment of resources-** A description of how development enabled by the proposed Comprehensive Plan may cause a loss of environmental resources, immediately and in the long term.
- c. **Growth inducing aspects-** A description of potential growth in development potential, population, or demand for support facilities and services.
- d. **Energy use and conservation-** A description of how the proposed Comprehensive Plan may impact energy use and conservation in the town.

4. POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER

- **History Section-**
Goal 4: *Increase tourism through use of historic points of interest within the town.* -Potential adverse impact due to transportation and additional people, waste, and use of land and water resources.
- **Municipal Services Section-**
Goal 6: *Encourage and responsibly manage renewable energy and environmental development in the Town of Enfield in a way that is compatible with our rural way of life.* - Potential adverse impact due to development of these projects as well as limiting them.

Goal 9- *Encourage community organizations for increased resident participation in Town events and programming.* Potential adverse impact through disturbance of land and use of resources.
- **Agriculture Section-** While there are not specific actions recommended that would create adverse impacts to the environment, the overarching goal of all actions is to continue to embrace agriculture as a leading driver to maintaining our rural character, which is of utmost importance to the Enfield Community.
- **Land Use Section-** While there are not specific actions recommended that would create adverse impacts to the environment, the overarching goal of all actions is to continue to embrace agriculture as a leading driver to maintaining our rural character, which is of utmost importance to the Enfield Community.
- **Environment and Natural Resources Section-** The purpose of this section is to improve and maintain the natural environmental resources through implementation of the goals listed. There are no recognized potential adverse impacts.

- **Built Environment: Public Utilities, Infrastructure, and Transportation Section- Goal 3- *Improve communication services in the Town of Enfield.*** Potential adverse impact through land disturbance and aesthetics.
 - **Housing Section- Goal 2- *Strengthen our tax base by encouraging new residents of diverse personal and professional backgrounds to move into the Town of Enfield.***- Potential adverse impact associated with any new development and impacts on water and land and increase of population to the town.
 - **Economy and Community Section- Goal 3- *Work to improve infrastructure which would enable greater economic opportunity for Enfield residents.*** Potential adverse impact associated with development.
- Goal 7- *Preserve recreational and natural areas***
Goal 8- *Increase the use of recreational areas within the Town*
Goal 9- *Engage the community*
- There may be adverse impacts associated with increasing tourism and travel within the Enfield community and use of recreational and natural areas.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

Potential mitigation measures for adverse impacts that may result from the proposed Comprehensive Plan or from proposed alternatives to the actions therein may be identified during DGEIS preparation.

Areas where adverse effects might occur and mitigation could be required include agricultural land, aesthetic resources, drainage, transportation, built environment, natural resources, cultural and historical resources, community character, open space, and land use.

6. ISSUES THAT ARE NOT RELEVANT OR SIGNIFICANT

A description of prominent issues that were raised during scoping that are determined to not be relevant or environmentally significant or that have been address in a previous environmental review.

7. APPENDICES

The appendix will include SEQRA documentation (SEAF, positive or negative declaration, this DGEIS scope, and applicable resolutions), references, and/or other supporting material.

8. FINAL GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CONTENT

The Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement will include:

- Introduction of process and actions taken
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Public comments and responses
- Modifications to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement as a result of comments and responses
- Index of comments
- Additional documentation
- Findings Statement