



**Village of New Glarus Comprehensive Plan  
Plan Commission Prioritization Exercise  
October 22, 2015**

**WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF NEW GLARUS?**

What should New Glarus in the year 2035 look and feel like?

How should it function?

What are its best future features?

How does it inspire residents, property owners, and businesses and improve their lives?

**COMMISSION MEMBER RESPONSES:**

- Small town feel remains; quiet, engaging, sense of belonging through community groups, volunteering, etc.
- Close to Madison, and linked to region and world via high-speed internet for personal and business use
- Downtown retains charm and increasing serves as community gathering place
- Backtown connected to downtown and rest of community, such as through Riverwalk
- Place for existing businesses to expand with room for growth of new businesses; majority of businesses remain local
- Higher-end and alternative housing choices for early retirees and empty nesters
- Continued location for family living, which relies on maintenance of good schools

This is the Vision Statement from the Village's 2005 Plan, which was shared with the Commission after the above discussion:

The Village of New Glarus will maintain a high quality living environment, with a full compliment of community services, while retaining a relaxed small town character. It will support excellence in education, encourage and support commercial business development, promote light industrial development and maintain and promote its Swiss heritage through its architecture and annual festivals. Property values and the surrounding environment will be protected through partnering and planning with Village residents and the surrounding Towns to assure efficient, coordinated development.

COMMISSION MEMBER REACTION:

- "Swiss heritage" ought to remain part of the updated Village statement.
- Generic components, like last sentence, ought to be removed.
- Vision statement should be unique to New Glarus and short.

## WHAT INITIATIVES SHOULD THE VILLAGE PRIORITIZE OVER THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS?

### For Land Use/Zoning:

- Identify additional properties for protection under local historic preservation ordinance

### For Economic Development and Redevelopment:

- Mixed use redevelopment and alternative housing in Backtown area
- Downtown parking needs should be addressed; # and location of spaces
- Updates for downtown facades and street/streetscape infrastructure, especially sidewalks
- Light industrial/business park expansion important to facilitate expansion of existing businesses especially

### For Tourism:

- Support Chamber's and event sponsor's activities
- Expand and promote trails

### For Housing and Neighborhood Development:

- Provide new housing opportunities, such as in Backtown, that are not currently available or are in short supply.
- Address shortage of rental property.

### For Transportation:

- Regular maintenance/upgrade of Village infrastructure as a priority
- Roads and sidewalks in need of reconstruction, perhaps working from downtown out

For Recreation:

- Dog park needs a site
- Upgrade Hoesly Pond maybe for dog park, or another park purpose
- Establish a permanent festival ground. Could be a street that's specifically designed/reconstructed for that purpose. Need accessible space for partial enclosure, restrooms.

For Resource Protection:

- Streambank improvement--on public and private lands, working with DNR and Green County Land and Water Conservation

For Public Facilities/Utilities/Services:

- Municipal building upgrades/relocation: Library, Police, Administration, Public Works
- May be need to address Fire in planning period
- Address stormwater on 11<sup>th</sup> Street near bowling alley

The following key initiatives from the 2005 Comprehensive Plan and Extraterritorial Area Plan were shared with the Commission after the above discussion. The highlighted items were suggested to be carried forward to the updated plan.

Maintain a capital improvements program and review it annually, making adjustments to meet the needs of the community.

Identify recharge areas for local wells and inventory potential contaminant sources so development in those areas can be limited.

Develop a stormwater management strategy to protect ground and drinking water supplies.

**Consider establishing standards to decrease and prevent light pollution.**

Encourage the provision of an adequate supply of single- family homes, condominiums and townhouses, apartments, duplexes, and manufactured homes.

**Maintain an official map to reserve adequate right-of-way for future street linkages.** (may be advanced within updated comprehensive plan itself)

Consider implementing a “Big Box” ordinance to regulate the location, size and design of large commercial developments.

Encourage the redevelopment and reuse of the community’s downtown area and aging or blighted business locations.

Maintain a list of vacant and under-used properties for prospective developers.

Adopt Intergovernmental Agreement with Town of New Glarus.

Amend existing Village zoning and subdivision ordinances to incorporate the recommendations of this Plan (e.g. design review provisions).

**Develop Detailed Neighborhood Plan for West Side.** (may be advanced within updated comprehensive plan itself)

Develop a Farm Marketing Plan to promote the local agricultural economy and preserve agricultural uses in the Extraterritorial Planning Area.

Conduct Detailed Utility Plans.