

2.0 Vision Statement



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Prior to the establishment of specific goals and objectives, a community should have a picture of how it wants to look and function. This picture is referred to as the Town's "Vision" and is expressed in the Vision Statement. As a simple statement, the vision elucidates an overriding theme about what the community desires the Town to be in the future. The Plan of Conservation & Development (PoCD) is the vehicle with which the Town can implement this Vision.

To prepare the Vision Statement, the PoCD Committee first conducted a visioning workshop in April of 2002 to solicit public input in a number of key topic areas. A series of draft "mini-visions" based on these key topic areas were developed. The Committee then carefully reviewed Stakeholders and Study Circles input (via the Stakeholder Interviews and Study Circles Forum report) to refine the draft mini-visions and to ensure that they reflected prior public input. These "mini-visions" or potential vision statements were intently reviewed and discussed by the Committee in order to select the statement that it believes best portrays the Town's vision of the future. Following is the Vision Statement that the Committee crafted:

Our Vision

The Town of Willington is a community that seeks to preserve its rural character and open space and protect its natural, historic and agricultural resources. At the same time, the community recognizes the need to balance residential, commercial and industrial growth to accommodate the needs of its citizens and promote long-term fiscal stability.

To achieve this vision and enhance the quality of life in Willington, the community must:

- *balance conservation, preservation, growth, and development;*
- *encourage civic involvement and interaction among our residents as well as regional cooperation;*
- *create social, educational, recreational, agricultural, economic and housing opportunities; and,*
- *preserve and protect our environment.*

Many of the "mini-visions" or draft statements became goals or objectives for the PoCD Plan Elements. The goals and objectives, which are translated into action policies and programs, establish the framework for the implementation of the updated Plan of Conservation and Development.