

# **Public Input Sought Planning Charrette**

## Please join the Planning Charrette Steering Committee for an open discussion

Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Town Office Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Oak Park Pavilion Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Town Office

### What is a Planning Charrette?

#### **COMMUNITY DESIGN CHARRETTE PROGRAM**

Each charrette has certain intended outcomes:

- 1. Through open discussion, learn about the town and its needs and the role of the target area
- 2. For residents and leaders to discover what is happening in their community from various viewpoints
- 3. Based on what is learned about the community, in conjunction with the expertise and experience of the Plan NH volunteers, to develop recommendations for the community's resources and opportunities, especially as they relate to the Vision outlined in the Master Plan.
- 4. To raise awareness, through the recommendations, of the link between the built environment and the level of health and vibrancy of the community
- 5. To recommend specific actions and resources to implement the plan.

A team of Plan NH planning professionals will work in collaboration with your leaders and residents to develop recommendations to help move your town's vision forward.

#### So who is Plan NH?

Plan NH is a non-profit organization, founded in 1989. Membership is comprised of professionals related to the building industries (and others). Plan NH promotes ideas and trends and strategies that lead to vibrant, healthy communities.

At its core, Plan NH believes that what we build, where we build and how we build have an impact on the fabric of a community.

By championing certain principles and guidelines, Plan NH raises awareness of the link between the built environment and the overall "livability" and appealing nature of where we live, work, and/or play.

In the Community Design Charrette Program, we work directly with towns here in the Granite State to assist them in creating that link in their own community.

As of November 2012, Plan NH has conducted 52 charrettes in 49 New Hampshire towns of all sizes.

#### What happens in a Plan NH Charrette?

A Community Design Charrette brings together a team of volunteer members of Plan NH with community leaders, citizens, business owners and others related to a particular project.

("Charrette", a French word, describes a brief, concentrated time of work. We use this word because it best describes what Plan NH volunteers do over the two days with the communities in which we work.)

Always by invitation, Plan NH is there to address some variation of "What opportunities are there to make this place [this town center, this neighborhood] vibrant and healthy for all who live, work, and/or play here?"

The team arrives on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and spends the afternoon and early evening gathering information:

- Technical information (ie about infrastructure, zoning, etc.)
- History of the "target area"
- Why this place is important to the community, the region
- What opportunities do citizens and others see?
- What is the overall vision the community has for this area?
- How does this support the Vision the town has already developed in its Master Plan?

On <u>Saturday</u>, <u>September 27<sup>th</sup></u>, <u>2014</u> the Plan NH team brainstorms, identifying possibilities and developing recommendations – mostly in a visual form – to be used as guidelines for the community to realize its vision.

A presentation is made on Saturday afternoon.



# Public Input Sought Planning Charrette

Please join the Planning Charrette Steering Committee for an open discussion

Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Town Office Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Oak Park Pavilion Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Town Office