Chapter Four Community Vision

A key element of the Town's Comprehensive Plan is the Community Vision. The Vision sets out a picture of what we want Boothbay to be in the future. The Vision is intended to set an overall direction for the future of the community. The objectives and actions of the Plan provide the specific guidance for what the Town and larger community should be doing to move in the direction of the Vision.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee went through a systematic process to develop the following Vision for Boothbay in 2025. The committee brainstormed the ideas that they though should be part of the vision. Based on those ideas, the committee developed a draft of a community vision that was reworked and refined. In July of 2013, the committee held a community forum that was attended by about 45 residents. At the forum, the participants reviewed and critiqued the draft of the vision and provided the committee with substantial feedback. Based on that input, the committee substantially revised the vision for the future of our community. Here is our vision for Boothbay in 2025.

Our Vision for Boothbay in 2025

Boothbay is an integral part of the Boothbay Region, a group of separate communities that work together to develop and advance a shared vision for the region. While each of the various communities retains its own character, the four municipalities on the peninsula, together with the adjacent Route One towns collaborate with a goal of coordinated growth and development and shared-services.

Boothbay continues to be a true coastal Maine community that maintains its character by encouraging activities traditional to the Boothbay region as well as well-managed new development. Route 27 remains an attractive, safe, rural gateway to the community. We welcome growth and development and require that it be in keeping with the traditional character of Boothbay. Growth is balanced with the capacity of the natural resources to support additional development. Our local infrastructure supports development in designated areas of the community while our development regulations balance protection of the character and environment of our community with the desire for sustainable growth. These regulations are clear and understandable and foster development that is a long-term asset to the community.

Boothbay is a diverse community both socially and economically. The Town welcomes people from all walks of life. We are both a year-round and seasonal community in which people work in a variety of occupations and industries. To encourage this diversity, the community offers a range of housing both in terms of price and type. Our spectacular natural resources are an integral part of the community's economy and attract both residents and visitors to our community. Growing economic opportunities make it possible for more people to live and work in Boothbay. The Town works in partnership with businesses and non-profit organizations to support sustainable economic growth in the community and the Boothbay Region.

The Boothbay school system is a vibrant, innovative environment that allows all students to learn at the peak of their abilities. The schools inspire their students to excel and work to foster a relevant and meaningful education including vocational and experiential opportunities for all students.

Boothbay offers opportunities for a rewarding, engaging lifestyle. Boothbay offers a wide range of cultural, recreational, and volunteer opportunities for residents and visitors. Cultural activities and the arts flourish making Boothbay and the Boothbay Region a "cultural destination". The existing neighborhoods within the Town, as well as other areas, have evolved as "villages" that may be accessed by a variety of modes of transportation. Paths for walking and biking and expanded public transit link these villages and destinations throughout the entire peninsula.

This is our vision for the future of Boothbay. The vision is not static and it is subject to updating and revision as circumstances warrant. The key is that the vision is developed by and reflects the Boothbay community to guide cooperative and inclusive interaction between the public, and our elected officials and appointed boards and commissions.