



DESTINATION 2025
Setting A Bold New Course

Comprehensive Plan Action Initiatives to Date

March 15, 2008

Table 11-1. Comprehensive Plan Action Initiatives

3.0 EDUCATION		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding and enact organizational changes sufficient to demonstrate progress in improving city schools (Policy #1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competitive salaries to attract quality teachers - Funding for Long-Range CIP - Computers / technology - Improved appearance of buildings / grounds • Build partnerships with institutions of higher education (Policy #2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish Portsmouth location for a TCC campus with joint academic programs for Portsmouth high school students - Partner with the region's institutions of higher education to increase opportunities for residents to attend college • Implement programs and partnerships with local employers and institutions to expand workforce training opportunities in Portsmouth public schools (Policy #3) • Strengthen relations between schools and neighborhoods (Policy #4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neighborhood Quality Action Plan - Community use of schools - Before / after school programs - Neighborhood-sensitive criteria for school closings / school site re-use • Strengthen / build connections among the City's cultural / arts programs and destinations (Policy #5) 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish partnerships / forums for dialog with the Portsmouth City Public Schools and area institutions to establish a shared agenda to improve the quality, performance, and reputation of the City's schools (Policy #1) • Investigate, plan, and begin implementing actions to improve efficiency / lower operational costs of Portsmouth City Public Schools (Policy #1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selective school closings / consolidation - Plan for consolidation of public school administrative functions • Identify and plan school closings as opportunities to expand Portsmouth's cultural life and strengthen neighborhood quality of life (3.4, 3.5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan for redevelopment of Hunt-Mapp Middle School as "Park and Arts" center or other suitable use - Other 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue implementing plans to improve efficiency / lower operational costs of Portsmouth City Public Schools (Policy #1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selective school closings / consolidation - Implement consolidation of administrative functions • Seek funding and redevelop former school sites as opportunities to expand Portsmouth's cultural life and strengthen neighborhood quality of life (Policies #4 & 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement redevelopment of Hunt-Mapp Middle School property as "Park and Arts" center or other suitable use - Other

3.0 EDUCATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Technology...Implementation of the City/School MUNIS Financial system • Planning, Economic Development...Construction of the Fred W. Beazley Portsmouth Campus of Tidewater Community College as a part of Victory Village. Construction of the Tri-Cities Education Center at the MAST Center. • Museums...An after school visual and performing arts program at two elementary schools in Portsmouth has begun The visual arts program is called "Smart Art." The music program is called "Encore Music". • Museums...At the initiation of the Department of Museums, the Portsmouth Cultural and Historical Consortium was formed. They were instrumental in planning the 2007 Memorial Day weekend, producing a coloring book for 2nd graders and are working this year with the Portsmouth Public Schools on bringing back the 2nd grade local history program. 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information technology...Cost and Administration of the MUNIS financial system is shared with the City. • Museums... The Courthouse Galleries has developed a successful outdoor sculpture program that has future plans to expand. 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library... Maintained and improved the Portsmouth Public Library System as a pathway for ongoing education. • Library...The new Churchland Branch library has been designed with space that can accommodate emergent and computer literacy programs for the development and improvement of Portsmouth citizens. The new Churchland Branch library also has a large meeting room that can hold special cultural, literary and performing arts programs. • Library... Currently the libraries provide Babygarten, Two-Time, Kids Book Clubs and Teen programs. These have all been implemented within the last 3 years with several staff also taking Motherhead training, a literacy program for adults to help them read more comprehensively and help their children with homework.

4.0 LAND USE

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the stability of viable land use patterns (Policy #1, Neighborhood Policy #1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevent encroachments by incompatible uses - Infill development standards in Zoning Ordinance / Development Regulations - Neighborhood conservation (code enforcement, housing rehabilitation, etc.) • Pursue revitalization / redevelopment initiatives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reverse obsolescence (Policy #2) - Reduce land use conflicts (Policy #3) • Continue planning for ongoing Special FOCUS area initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Howard Homes / Jeffry Wilson Homes Redevelopment - New Port - Victory Crossing Business Park • Promote mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly land use patterns (activity centers and walkable neighborhoods) (Policy #4) • “Raise the bar” on development quality (Policy #5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design standards for private development in Zoning Ordinance / Development Regulations - Design of public buildings and civic spaces • Seek opportunities to convert tax exempt lands to productive uses that strengthen the City’s tax base (Policy #6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise the Zoning Ordinance / Development Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standards for compatibility with character / urban context (Policy #1) - Standards to reduce impacts of high intensity uses (Policy #3) - Guidelines to promote mixed-use patterns in activity center and walkable neighborhoods (Policy #4) - Standards / incentives for higher quality design (Policy #5) - Remove impediments / improve flexibility, user friendliness (Policy #9) - Parking standards (Transportation Policy #6) - Traffic impact assessment procedures to ensure that proposed uses that will generate large amounts of traffic have sufficient access / capacity to limit impacts and maintain acceptable levels of service (Transportation Policy #7) - Gateway / corridor design standards (Community Appearance Policy #2) • Initiate planning for the revitalization of First Phase Centers, Corridors, and Special FOCUS Areas (Policies #2 & 4; Economic Development Policy #4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Airline Boulevard - Cradock / Afton Square - Downtown - Hunt-Mapp Middle School / Portsmouth “Park and Arts” - Midtown - Victory Boulevard • Seek opportunities to convert tax exempt lands to productive use (Policy #6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct inventory of PRHA and other public land holdings and plan for disposition of excess property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reevaluate historic district regulations (boundaries, standards, procedures, potential additional designations) (Policy #9) • Implement plans for First Phase Centers, Corridors, and Special FOCUS Areas (Policies #2 & 4; Economic Development Policy #4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Airline Boulevard - Cradock / Afton Square - Downtown - Hunt-Mapp Middle School / Portsmouth “Park and Arts” - Midtown - Victory Boulevard • Initiate plans for Second Phase Centers, Corridors, and Special FOCUS Areas (Policies #2 & 4; Economic Development Policy #4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - George Washington Highway - I-264/Frederick Boulevard Commerce Park / Public Works Compound (City Operations) site - Sugar Hill - Turnpike Road - Other

4.0 LAND USE ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... <i>The Planning department, with assistance from all other City Departments and agencies, reviews requests for rezonings and use permits to determine compatibility with the Comprehensive Plan and the surrounding community.</i> • Planning... <i>Code Amendment approved in 2007 by City Council allows development of lots smaller than required but not less than 80% of the lot width or area. Requires development to be of a like style to the existing community.</i> • Planning... <i>The department has recently completed a two-year review and rewrite of the historic districts boundaries, regulations, guidelines and procedures. This project is discussed in detail in the accomplishments of Chapter 6.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... <i>Currently the comprehensive re-write of the zoning Ordinance is moving forward. Extensive public and professional interaction is planned during this important activity</i> • Planning... <i>Creation of the Traditional Neighborhood Overlay District (TND) for New Port, the Mixed Use Employment Center (MX-EMP) Zoning District at Victory Village and the modification of the W-1 District regulations are also examples of this Comprehensive Plan initiative. Each of these examples is designed to promote walkable communities, improve flexibility, promote user friendliness, and facilitate flexible parking standards. Each area is located in a designated regional activity center.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... <i>The review of all historic district boundaries, regulations, guidelines and policies has been completed. In January 2008, a new Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) that replaced the two Commissions of Architecture Review began meeting with new guidelines, policies and regulations. This two-year project led by a City Council liaison, included numerous public meetings and required extensive public input and involvement.</i> • Library... <i>Staff has taken part in the discussions for the revitalization of Cradock Library. Cradock is the smallest branch and pays rent. In the library’s strategic plan there is the suggestion to combine Manor and Cradock libraries in a more central location such as New Port.</i>

4.0 LAND USE ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Ongoing Initiatives

- **Planning...** Elimination of Howard Homes, rebuilding of Belle Harbor, Hope VI Grant and rebuilding of the Jeffry Wilson Complex (demolition scheduled for June 2008) approval of the final section of Westbury, development of the Autoport Drive-In Theater site (Kingsport). Finally, in cooperation with the Cradock community and Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority (PRHA) individual house plans have been developed to replace obsolete housing in this community. A similar effort has commenced for the Truxtun neighborhood.

Planning... The rewrite of the zoning ordinance that is currently underway will review and propose a use table that involves the reduction of land use conflicts. Currently, all site plan reviews include the establishment of buffers between commercial/industrial/institutional uses and residential uses.

- **Planning...** Howard Homes... The department reviewed and processed the housing use permit for this redevelopment project. During this review process the department-facilitated discussions between the developer and the adjoining community residents. Approximately 126 pre-WW II housing units were demolished and replacement with modern units. The redevelopment, Crescent Place Apartments, includes storm water features, clubhouse and pool. Project is nearing completion and is expected to open Spring 2008.

Planning... Jeffry Wilson... This low-income housing project, originally constructed in 1951 is slated for demolition spring/summer of 2008. After demolition, 182 houses, townhouses/dwellings with recreation and necessary storm-water facilities will be built. Efforts are currently underway to prepare the necessary subdivisions, plans and construction drawings. All previous tenants have vacated the site. A housing use permit will be required for the development.

Planning... New Port, a 1,600-unit housing project is well underway. The first section (75 units) has been a success with over 75% of the homes sold. This approach to the development of this neighborhood created many notable firsts for the City. It is the first modern TND (traditional neighborhood development), the first community where the developer and the city preselected the individual model types for each site. This preselection process included many design features to include colors, outside fixture elements, etc. The second phase of the development, Phase 1B1, consisting of mixed residential development is now underway. It will include the integration of townhouse units into the single-family development. Model units for the townhouses are under construction and expected to be completed in very early spring 2008. In addition, this phase will contain the clubhouse and pool facilities. These amenities are under construction and expected to open for residents use in early summer 2008.

Planning... Victory Crossing Business Park is nearing completion. There are currently two developable parcels left in the complex. The Department of Economic Development is currently marketing these sites. In addition the Lowe's site is under review to determine if an additional site can be created along Mclean Avenue.

Planning... Examples of these neighborhoods being developed are New Port, Victory Village and the Holiday Inn site in downtown.

Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)

Planning... Project to develop a Corridor and Gateway Manual has proceeded and the Urban Design Committee (UDC) has approved a final draft.

- **Planning...** A vision for Cradock/Afton Square was completed by UDA May 2006. Staff used the document prepared by Urban Design Associates (UDA) to draft a series of action items to promote and revitalize this community. A complete listing of activities is included in Accomplishments for Chapter 6.

Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Finance... Downtown... The desire to promote an intense mixed-use development has involved many city departments and outside agencies and groups. Examples of these efforts include the development of the Downtown Master Utility Plan, the development of the W-1 Zoning classification, the RFP and design work for the Holiday Inn site, the activities to obtain the GSA site, the marketing of the North Pier site, the development of the Round-about, the development of the Path of History, and the installation of the Fresnel Lens.

Midtown... a number of projects are underway or completed. Many projects are discussed in detail in this document. The following is a listing of the major projects, their status and the departments involved in the planning and implementation of these projects:

Planning, Engineering, Parks and Recreation Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority ...

- Frederick Boulevard Demonstration Project ... Final conceptual design is before the Urban Design Committee for their review and recommendation to the City Council.
- Sembler Project 1 Firestone site Plans are being prepared for the development of this site by the chosen developer.
- Bart Street Extension Completed.
- IHOP Completed
- Howard Homes demolition and redevelopment (Crescent Place condominiums 156 units) nearing completion (spring 2008)
- Sembler Project 2 Norcom Site is undergoing final site plan preparation after obtaining Board of Zoning Appeals approval, creation of a Sign Overlay District and Parking Overlay District.
- Linear Park. The development of a linear Park along the western side of Frederick between Turnpike Road and Wal-Mart to serve as a buffer for the residential neighborhood has been approved as a way to protect the existing community. As properties become available Economic Development has been purchasing these properties. Three properties have been purchased to date.
- Jeffry Wilson... All tenants were vacated before January 1, 2008 and work is under way to develop the necessary site plans and construction drawings for this redevelopment.

Engineering, Parks and Recreation, Planning... Three events have occurred along the Victory Boulevard corridor that support the ideals of the Comprehensive Plan. These are: realignment/ improvements to Victory Boulevard, the start of construction of the TCC campus and the proposed of Victory Village mixed-use development.

Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)

Planning... During the past two years, the Department of Planning working with Portsmouth Redevelopment and housing Authority (PRHA), created the Cradock Housing Advisory Group (CHAG). This group of Citizens and staff developed six model "Cradock Houses", developed a "World Changers" event for summer of 2008 to repair buildings of low income owners, and identified structures that through use or conditions were causing blight on the Cradock community.

Planning... Assisted the Elizabeth River Foundation in the first stages of the environmental Park to be located on the south side of Victory Boulevard.

- **Planning, Engineering, Parks and Recreation, Economic Development...** Conceptual plans have been completed for the Frederick Boulevard demonstration project. This project includes landscaping of the medians and streetscapes, the development of pedestrian cross walks, and the improvements of street signs. During this process the potential of underground utility wires, and landscaping of the I-264 interchange was discussed and is being investigated.

Planning, Engineering... Funds have been identified from VDOT that will accelerate the Turnpike Road improvements from Frederick Boulevard east to County Street. Finalization of plans is underway.

4.0 LAND USE ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE (Continued)

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... Creation of the TND overlay for New Port, the Mixed Use Employment Center (MX-EMP) Zoning District Victory Village and the modification of the W-1 District regulations are examples of this Comprehensive Plan initiative. Each of these districts has very specific requirements for the development of design standards and the use of form-based type codes. Planning... On a similar note, a proffer of the Conditional rezoning action for the First Watch at River Pointe required very specific design standards for several models being built. Planning... The New Port development has detailed design standards. This development has taken the design approval process to the next level. By actually allowing City staff to approve the development of the streetscape through the approval of the individual lots and colors of the individual units contractors and buyers can see how the street will be developed prior to purchasing a home. • Economic Development... Continuous process through Economic Development Authority (EDA) and Portsmouth Port and Industrial Commission (PPIC); examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 361 Effingham Street (Starbucks), • Crawford Connector site (Holiday Inn Hotel), • 700 and 800 Port Centre Commerce Parkway (Dow Buildings), • 802 5th Street (U. S. Flag & Signal), • 500 Lincoln Street (Multi Textile) Economic Development, Planning... General Services Administration (GSA) site... Control of this site is currently being obtained through the efforts of Economic Development. Working in tandem with the Planning Department, a review of potential tenants and acceptable building and site design is occurring. The guiding force in the review is the Comprehensive Plan. Planning... Completion of a study of the Allied site to determine the potential of proposed mixed-use development of the site. Review included proposed use of the site in context of the use of the surrounding properties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development... This department conducted a review of City, Economic Development and School owned properties to determine the number size and location of vacant parcels that were developable. After identifying all parcels, a review of each site was conducted. This review when completed provided a list of 12 properties that have development potential. 	

5.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to implement and update the City's Economic Development Strategic Plan as it applies to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key Economic Development Activities: Business Development, Market Development, Product Development, and Workforce Development (Policy #2) - Key Business Sectors: Retail, Residential, and Office & Industrial (Policy #3) - Key Geographic Areas: Downtown Waterfront, Downtown Portsmouth, Midtown Portsmouth, Central Portsmouth (Victory Blvd / Airline Blvd), George Washington Corridor, Western Portsmouth (Western Freeway Corridor & Churchland), Waterfront (Policy #4) - I-264 / Frederick Boulevard Commerce Park • Implement Downtown Development Council Committee (DDCC) Process (Governance Policy #4) 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish framework for decision-making on city programs and activities to promote economic vitality (Policies #1 & 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish highest and best uses for available land parcels - Establish criteria for economic development decision-making / priorities, taking into consideration the broader goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the City's marketing program (Policy #6)

5.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development...<i>The development of the department's New Strategic Plan for Economic Development is underway.</i> • Economic Development...<i>The Portsmouth Downtown Council Committee (PDCC) has been formed. This group reviews all major development in the downtown area. The Committee's membership includes City Council liaison, Planning Commission liaison, Business liaison and City staff.</i> 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development...<i>Economic Development Authority and Portsmouth Ports and Industrial Commission have adopted policies that prior to entering any development agreement the applicant must first submit documentation that demonstrates financial ability, design ability and experience in developing the desired project. After this demonstration and a consensus by the Directors or Commissioners the development agreement is formulated and agreed to by all parties. Only after this process is the development agreement submitted for formal approval. During the initial stages plans are submitted and reviewed by various City Agencies for completeness.</i> 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p>

6.0 HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities to develop additional middle upper and middle income housing through planning and economic development activities (Housing Policy #1, Economic Development Policy #3), e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Downtown - Waterfront - Historic Districts - “In-Town” Mixed Use Centers - New Port • Utilize the full resources of the City to increase the diversity of the City’s housing stock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Middle and upper income residents (Housing Policy #1) - Affordable ownership housing (Housing Policy #2) - Low-income households (Housing Policy #3) - Persons with special needs (Housing Policy #4) • Continue to implement ongoing city housing and neighborhood initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidated Plan (Housing Policies #2-4) - Neighborhood Quality Action Plan (Neighborhood Policies #1-4) - Howard Homes / Jeffrey Wilson Homes redevelopment • Strengthen Stable Neighborhoods (Neighborhoods Policy #1), e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Code enforcement / neighborhood conservation - Infrastructure investments - Neighborhood capacity building • Provide public and private facilities and services to support neighborhood quality and livability (Neighborhoods Policy #4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Plans for the revitalization of First Phase Neighborhoods (Neighborhoods Policy #2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Park View - Cradock - Truxtun 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Plans for First Phase Neighborhoods (Neighborhoods Policy #2) • Initiate planning for Second Phase Neighborhoods (Land Use Policies #2 & 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set priorities for staged development of plans for Transitional and Redevelopment Neighborhoods (Figure 6-1)

6.0 HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... <i>The major action that promotes the establishment of housing in the Downtown area is the establishment of the Downtown National Historic District along the High Street commercial area from the waterfront to Chestnut Street and the surrounding area south of High Street. This action gives developers the opportunity to use historic tax credits, which makes development more attractive. To date, over 400 upper story housing units have been created in the downtown area.</i> • Management Services... <i>City Council adopted a Neighborhood Matching Fund Program that provides a range of grant funds from \$1,500.00 to \$15,000.00 for neighborhood enhancement projects. City Council has earmarked \$250,000.00 for this program</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... <i>The plans for these communities have been completed”</i> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Park View</td> <td>Fall of 2005</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cradock</td> <td>May 2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Truxtun</td> <td>January 2008</td> </tr> </table> 	Park View	Fall of 2005	Cradock	May 2006	Truxtun	January 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority... <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Park View</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Utility Improvements Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landscaping Improvements Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12 structures rehabilitated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Approximately 30 structures built</td> </tr> </table> 	Park View	Utility Improvements Completed	Landscaping Improvements Completed	12 structures rehabilitated	Approximately 30 structures built
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6.0 HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE (continued)

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<p>Planning... The establishment of the W-1 zoning amendment provides an opportunity to promote middle and upper income housing along the waterfront. W-1, as amended, allows a range of housing including multi-family housing without first obtaining use permits as long as density and design are approved as part of a master plan.</p> <p>Planning... Staff developed a housing strategy in the Park View area that looked at the specific needs and opportunities available. In Park View, this action led to the renovation of 12 historically structures and the construction of approximately 30 appropriately, historically compatible, designed in-fill dwellings. This action has since been expanded to the Cradock and Truxtun neighborhoods.</p> <p>Planning... To provide for true mixed-use development, the MX-EMP district requires up to 25% of the Victory Village development to be of up-scale housing.</p> <p>Planning... Staff has worked closely with the developer to insure the New Port development has the highest quality housing to attract a diverse mix of middle and upper scale owners. For additional Information on New Port development see Chapter 4.</p> <p>Planning... Staff worked closely with the developer of the "Myrtles" to insure a quality development that adds to the city's housing choices was created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Planning... With all four-action items in mind the Authority commissioned the development of a Housing Strategy by the VA Tech Housing Office in Spring and summer of 2007. This in-depth review of existing conditions and factors that contributed to the current conditions and future actions is an outstanding document that will in concert with the Comprehensive Plan provide direction during the next decade. <p>Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority... The final phase of the Westbury development provides a range of housing to meet the needs of standard families, special needs population, and the elderly.</p> <p>Planning, Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority... In the Cradock and Truxtun neighborhoods, Planning commissioned the design of historically compatible house plans. These designs were specifically developed to meet affordable construction costs.</p> <p>Planning, Management Services... One group that has recently been addressed through a Code Amendment is the homeless. With the creation of the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) use and operation requirements Portsmouth can continue with its regional commitment to reducing the numbers of persons living on the streets and provide for safe secure housing and job opportunities.</p> <p>Planning, Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Permits and Inspection... Utilizing vacant lots created by the demolition of derelict structures the "Housing Blitz" created 10 new homes in 7 days in the Brighton community.</p>		<p>Cradock</p> <p>Paradise Park ...Planning and initial phase underway Cradock Housing Advisory Group (CHAG) formed PRHA purchase of blighted structures underway A Redevelopment District was created and a redevelopment Plan has been adopted A series of construction plans for the "Cradock Style" single-family dwellings has been created and approved by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPG). These plans are available to developers and the general population for use at. No charge for the use of these plans will be made.</p> <p>Truxtun</p> <p>Plan completed Creation of new "Truxtun Style" house plans. Creation of first floor addition plans to help long term residents "age-in-place" Creation of citizens advisory group underway</p>

6.0 HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE (continued)

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Services...<i>The development of the Consolidated Plan is continuing.</i> General Services... <i>The Neighborhood Quality Action Team (NQAT) was temporarily suspended while the Urban Design Committee created the Corridor and Gateway Manual that will guide the improvement of these areas.</i> • Permits and Inspections...<i>Staffing level was increased to provide for the creation of "Sweep Teams" and to provide response to "weekend warrior" complaints.</i> Utilities... <i>\$11.1 Million was spent in the coordinated improvements of infrastructure in the Park View community. This is in addition to the systematic approach to drainage improvements in the Truxtun and Brighton/ Prentis Park communities.</i> Engineering...<i>Planning and design of improvements for the four priority neighborhoods, Highland Biltmore, Brighton/South Portsmouth, Simonsdale and Ebony Heights, continues and a Drainage Assessment Study was completed to determine the needs of the remaining neighborhoods.</i> • Library...<i>The new Churchland Branch is located on a high-visibility corner at High and Cedar, next door to the expanded YMCA. There are multiple opportunities to draw families from nearby neighborhoods to partake in the many activities that will be available at both locations.</i> Parks and Recreation, Schools...<i>Childcare alternative sponsored by the Portsmouth Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services and the Portsmouth Public Schools is staffed by educational paraprofessionals and professional recreators. Services provided to students will include: Help with homework and educational projects, Participation in active games and contests, Instruction of crafts and recreational activities, Breakfast and after school snacks.</i> Parks and Recreation and Leisure Services... <i>Operation of the Senior Station to provide recreational opportunities for senior citizens.</i> Cooperative Extensive Service... <i>A joint program sponsored by Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and state and local governments. Extension provides educational programs conducted in the workplace, schools, and communities in VA. Extension agents teach people innovative ways to solve problems and use researched-based information from Virginia Tech and Virginia State Universities.</i> "Learning Through Leisure"... <i>A program is designed to offer adults in the community the opportunity to develop and strengthen social, educational, & life skills. Target Population: Adults with developmental disabilities between the ages of 21-40</i> "Visually Impaired Group—VIP's"... <i>This adult support group meets weekly and participates in a variety of activities such as bowling, arts & crafts, informative speakers, nursing home visits, and road trips. You must be legally blind to join. Pre-registration is required.</i> 		

7.0 COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better integrate community facilities into the City's land use pattern (mixed-use centers, linkages, civic space amenities) (Policy #2) • Investigate opportunities to relocate community facilities to less valuable location to support high value private development (e.g., City Public Works Compound at I-264 interchange) (Policy #2) • Continue / strengthen programs to promote advancement of the City's poor and disadvantaged (Policy #3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public schools - Social services - Workforce training - Public safety - Monitor program effectiveness • Replace aging / deteriorated infrastructure systems (Policy #4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Target infrastructure investments where needed to support economic development priorities and support revitalization initiatives - Continue / accelerate programs to replace prioritized sections of water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater systems 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Community Facilities Planning System to prioritize needs and set priorities (Policy #1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish level of service / performance standards for each type of community facility / service - Prepare Community Facilities Master Plan - Develop a Comprehensive Facilities Management / Maintenance Program in conjunction with Master Plan 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Community Facilities Planning System / Maintenance Program by linking it to city capital and operating budgeting processes (Policy #1)

7.0 COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library...Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Churchland branch next to YMCA, is an example of combining a recreation center w/ a library • Reviewing ability to add a library branch on to a new or existing school <p><i>New Churchland Branch has a large meeting room and access to an open patio.</i></p> • Library...Portsmouth libraries offer use of free computers to the public to search for and apply for jobs and programs such as Babygarten, Two-Time and Kids Book Club that assist the poor and disadvantaged children as well as the general population. • Utilities...The work required for Portsmouth to comply with the SSO Consent Order will dominate PU's capital program for possibly the next two decades. The goal will be to program this required work to mesh with redevelopment and neighborhood needs. As the required work program unfolds in the next 14 months we will have to closely coordinate to insure we meet competing priorities. 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p>	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p>

8.0 TRANSPORTATION		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement roadway network improvements to expand capacity and improve system efficiency (Policy #1) • Work with Hampton Roads Transit to enhance transit service and usage in Portsmouth, including exploring the possibility of a future light rail linkage to the City (Policy #5) • Coordinate transportation and land use strategies (Policy #7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic impact assessment procedures - Minimize impacts of industrial truck / rail traffic on neighborhoods and other land uses - Pedestrian & bike-friendly land use environments / multi-modal access • Enhance communication with the public regarding the transportation system (signage, transportation information in convenient places) (Policy #8) 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify / prioritize roadway network improvements to expand capacity, improve system efficiency, and accelerate maintenance of substandard infrastructure (Policy #1) • Initiate development of a sidewalk and bicycle facilities plan (Policy #4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare city-wide inventory - Prioritize corridors and segments for implementation • Undertake downtown parking and traffic circulation study as part of Downtown Plan (Policy #6) 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding sources for needed transportation system improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roadway network improvements (Policy #1) - Sidewalk / Bicycle Facilities (Policy #4) • Initiate a traffic calming program (Policy #3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define measurement procedures, thresholds for needs and applications - Establish priorities (neighborhoods near schools, cut-through traffic hot spots) • Support additional regional transportation facilities needed to alleviate present and future congestion in Portsmouth (second tube of Midtown Tunnel, Third Crossing, MLK Extension) (Policy #2) • Work to ensure that a rail corridor is in place within the median of the Western Freeway by 2017 to serve the future Craney Island Port terminal (Policy #7)

8.0 TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... <i>The City has received grants for the modernization of the signal system at Alexander's corner. Selection of the consultant is occurring at this time.</i> • Planning... <i>The City has received grants for the modernization of signal system from Alexander's Corner to the City's western limits.</i> • Planning... <i>Staff is currently engaged in a regional effort to develop a Master Light Rail Plan for the southwest side of the Hampton Roads region.</i> • Planning... <i>The "Loop", a downtown shuttle has been developed and will go into operation Spring of 2008.</i> • Planning... <i>Staff is currently working with Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) to develop the Victory Crossings local transfer facility for the west side of the city and regional transfer station to be known as the "MAX".</i> • Planning... <i>Staff is currently developing a specific bus shelter design for the City of Portsmouth.</i> • Planning... <i>Transportation system communication is being addressed through the "Urban Design Committee" development of the Way Finding Signage system. The final draft of the conceptual program is before the City Council at this time.</i> 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, Engineering... <i>Improvements to the section of Turnpike Road from Frederick Boulevard east to County Street are being accelerated.</i> • Engineering... <i>A Downtown Parking Study has been completed and the first phase of study recommendations is in progress. The Parking Authority has hired four Enforcement Technicians for the Downtown area to cause a change in parking habits and encourage use of parking facilities, increasing the availability of parking on High Street for customers.</i> 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... <i>Staff is working to eliminate the Pinner's Point funding obligation.</i> • Planning... <i>Staff is in constant contact with VDOT staff to implement the improvements developed for all major corridors.</i> • Planning, Engineering, Utilities... <i>The initial segment of the Centerline rail is under construction with a projected completion date of December 2009. The extension of this rail system to Craney Island is currently being reviewed by staff for approval of the conceptual design.</i>

9.0 PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND ENVIRONMENT

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with the Elizabeth River Project and U.S. Navy on the Paradise Creek Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreational opportunities (Policies #1 & 2) - Environmental restoration (Policies #3 & 6) • Continue to participate in the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Program and other state and federal initiatives to improve environmental quality, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water quality (Policy #3) - Air quality (Policy #4) - Natural resources (Policy #6) • Promote programs to reduce the solid waste stream, expand recycling, and improve safe treatment of hazardous materials (Policy #5) • Plan for the future disposition and replacement of the City's landfill on Craney Island, required by state legislation to close by 2018 (Policy #5) • Continue to enforce and improve the City's floodplain management program in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program (Policy #6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a comprehensive parks and recreation plan (Policies #1 & 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish level of service standards / define needs - Investigate feasibility and prepare plan for a regional multi-use recreation complex - Include strategies to develop a citywide open space and greenway / walking & biking trail network • Update the City's Floodplain Management Plan per FEMA's Community Rating System (Policy #6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding sources and initiate a phased program to implement the comprehensive parks and recreation plan (Policies #1 & 2)

9.0 PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND ENVIRONMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Ongoing Initiatives	Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)	Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning... Staff continues to serve as a member of the Restoration Advisory Board for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. • Planning... Assisting in the development of Paradise Creek Nature Park. • Planning, Engineering, Utilities... Participating on the regional team effort to revise the Watershed Action Plan for the Elizabeth River. • Planning... The department continues to enforce the regulations that were adopted. Because of the systematic and professional actions by staff, Chesapeake Bay Local Assistant Division (CBLAD) approved the City of Portsmouth's enforcement and administrative programs during the recent audit and is using the program as a model in its education of other localities through out the Commonwealth. • Planning... Portsmouth adopted a matrix for homeowners and the Planning Commission to utilize in the review and approval of minor accessory structures in the Resource Protection Area. • Planning, Information Technology, Permits and Inspections... Staff developed the "interactive maps" on the City's Web page to assist in educating the public. Construction Inspectors continue to enforce the National Floodplain Regulations for all construction. Staff continues to coordinate participation in the Community Rating System Program, which provides a 5% reduction for all Flood Insurance policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Recreation and Leisure Services... An RPF has been developed and distributed. Staff with assistance from other city departments is currently reviewing the responses and conducting interviews to select the consultant that will develop this plan. • Planning... Draft digital flood maps have been received and staff is reviewing these documents for accuracy. Numerous public outreach and education events are being planned to inform and educate the public. 	

10.0 COMMUNITY APPEARANCE		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue and expand citywide beautification efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neighborhood Quality Action Plan - "Clean Community" clean-ups - Code enforcement - Maintenance of civic open spaces - Citywide community appearance action plan 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate a "Greening Portsmouth" city-wide tree-planting / beautification effort (Policy #1) • Develop a phased program of visual improvements to gateway entrances and roadway corridors (Policy #2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citywide visual assessment - Action plan to address detrimental elements 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement "Greening Portsmouth" city-wide tree-planting / beautification effort (Policy #1) • Implement visual improvements to gateway entrances and roadway corridors (Policy #2)

10.0 COMMUNITY APPEARANCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE		
<p>Ongoing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Recreation and Leisure Services... <i>Portsmouth Community Cleanups.</i> <i>In 2007, over 30 community cleanups have helped remove 199.67 tons of litter and debris from our City's streets.</i> 	<p>Short-Term Initiatives (0-2 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Recreation and Leisure Services, Planning... <i>The City continues to enforce the tree canopy regulations for all new developments within the City. Reviews during the permitting process and at final inspection are conducted to make certain the proper trees, correct size trees are installed</i> • Parks Recreation and Leisure Services... <i>The City partners with the Portsmouth Area Council of Garden Clubs (PACGC) to raise money for the planting of trees on public property. PACGC has historically donated 10 to 12 thousand dollars for this activity.</i> • Planning, Engineering, Parks Recreation and Leisure Services... <i>In 2007 the Urban Design Committee (UDC) was created by City Council to oversee a range of Citywide public improvement projects intended to upgrade the physical appearance of the City. UDC comprised of citizens and City Council liaison assisted by outside consultants as needed. The UDC are currently developing different citywide enhancement projects/plans including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Corridor and Gateway Manual,</i> ➤ <i>The Frederick Boulevard Demonstration Project,</i> ➤ <i>Citywide Wayfinding Signage Plan</i> ➤ <i>Crawford Streetscape Plan</i> 	<p>Mid-Term/Long-Term Initiatives (2-5+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Evaluation of the current requirements is planned in the Zoning Ordinance re-write.</i>