

Town of Walworth

Comprehensive Plan

Adopted December 21, 2023

Prepared by:



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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

A Comprehensive Plan is a guiding document which provides an overview of current conditions, establishes a vision for the future of the Town, and recommends how the Town can make that vision a reality. It acts as a guide for decision-making for the Town over the next 10 to 20 years.

Legal Basis

The Comprehensive Plan has been prepared pursuant to NYS Town Law §272-a, which specifies that the Town Board is responsible for preparing and adopting a Comprehensive Plan.

The Comprehensive Plan is a policy document that does not in itself have the force of law. However, the Plan will guide changes in Town laws and regulations, funding decisions, and other Town actions during the next 20 years. As specified in NYS Town Law Section 272-A.11, zoning and other land use regulations should be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. However, the purpose of a land use plan is as a general guide over a period of time; zoning is more specific and has the force of law.

Preparing the Plan

The development of this Comprehensive Plan was led by the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee which was appointed by the Town of Walworth Town Board. Members of the Steering Committee include:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| • Deb Amsler | • Norm Drushcel | • Aimée Phillips |
| • Gene Bavis | • Rick Johnson | • Dan Streff |
| • David Denticio | • Michael Kunzer | • Jackie VanLare |
| • Michael Donalty | • Peter Marini | |

Plan Organization

This Plan is divided into several sections, each focused on a different major subject area. Each subject area is assessed looking at both existing conditions and trends. Goals are outlined for each subject area which were developed based on both analysis of current conditions as well as input from the Comprehensive Plan Committee and community public survey. The Plan includes recommended action items related to each of the subject areas that can assist the Town in achieving the outlined goals.

Plan Implementation

The Town's elected officials are responsible for implementing the Comprehensive Plan. Annually, the Town Board, or its appointed delegates, will review the implementation strategy, document the status, and determine those actions that have been accomplished, those which are no longer required or relevant, and those which should be a priority during the upcoming year.

For each of the priority actions, the Town Board will assign a person or board to be responsible for timely completion.

LAND USE

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Regional Setting

Established in 1829, the Town of Walworth is comprised of 20,425 acres bordered by the towns of Ontario to the north, Marion to the east, Macedon to the south, and Penfield (Monroe County) to the west. (See Map 1: Regional Setting.)

Existing Land Use

Intersected by New York State Route 350 and New York State Route 441, the town has three hamlets – Walworth, West Walworth, and Lincoln. An additional community, Gananda, is located partially in the Town of Walworth and partially in the Town of Macedon. Gananda was established in 1971 as a planned development.

Each hamlet, Walworth, West Walworth, and Lincoln, includes a mixture of residential, commercial, and community uses. Major thoroughfares include NYS Route 441, NYS Route 350, and NYS Route 286.

Recreational opportunities include three (3) park facilities – Ginegaw Park, Sherburne Road Park, and Dolomite Park. The Town Hall, library, and recreation complex are located in the south, between the Gananda community and the Hamlet of Walworth.

Commercial establishments are located along NYS Route 441, within the hamlets and in scattered locations throughout the Town. These include a Tops supermarket, self-storage facility, automotive businesses and other small retail and service buildings. Approximately, 179 acres and 37 parcels are commercial in nature.

A dolomite quarry operates on two parcels with a total of 285 acres located in the geographic center of the municipality. The only other industrial use is a machining company on Walworth-Marion Road.

Land Cover

See Map 2: Land Cover

Land Cover Types	# Acres	#
Developed	2,608	12.0%
Agriculture	9,744	45.0%
Forest	5,098	23.5%
Shrubland	72	0.3%
Barren	173	0.8%
Herbaceous	44	0.2%
Wetland	3,840	17.7%
Water	77	0.4%
	21,656	100.0%

SOURCE: 2019 National Land Cover Database (NLCD)

Land Use by Tax Parcel

Map 2: Existing Land Use by Tax Parcel depicts the land use categories of the tax parcels in the Town. Parcels comprise approximately 20,936 acres in the Town. The remainder of the Town's land area is in roadways and waterways. The predominant land uses are agricultural, residential, and recreation. The table below summarizes the number of parcels and acreage by general land use classification, based on 2022 real property tax records.

Parcels by Land Use Classification, Town of Walworth, 2022

	# Parcels	# Acres	%
Agricultural	80	4,017	19.2%
Agriculture with Residence	238	6,864	32.8%
Residential	2,979	4,410	21.1%
Commercial	37	179	0.9%
Industrial/ Mining	3	285	1.4%
Recreation/ Public/ Community Service	38	822	3.9%
Utilities/ Transportation	9	144	0.7%
Vacant	351	4,216	20.1%
	3,735	20,936	100%

SOURCE: Tax Parcel Assessment data

Development Trends

Agricultural and residential uses are evenly distributed throughout the municipal boundary as depicted in Map 2: Existing Land Use by Tax Parcel. Over recent years, most development has been residential in nature. In 2021 there were 2,979 residential parcels in addition to 238 residential parcels that are part of farms.

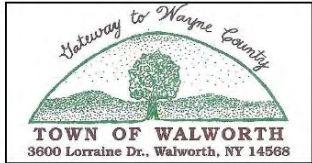
According to the Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Councils Regional Land Use Monitoring 2019 Report, there have been 61 new residential units, 2 industrial units, 2 commercial units, and 1 community service units permitted in the Town of Walworth in the five-year period from 2015 to 2019. Table 1 outlines the total number of permitted unit types in the Town of Walworth from 2015 to 2019. Table 2 outlines the total number of permitted building types in the Town from 2010 to 2019.

LAND USE

Five-Year Residential, Industrial, Commercial, Community Service Permit Data (2015 - 2019)					
	Residential Units	Industrial Units	Commercial Units	Community Service Units	Total
2015	19	0	1	0	20
2016	18	1	0	0	19
2017	8	1	0	0	9
2018	7	0	1	0	8
2019	9	0	0	0	9
Total	61	2	2	0	65
SOURCE: GFLRPC 2019 Land Use Monitoring Report					

Number of Permitted Building Types, 2010 to 2019				
Year	<i>Residential Units</i>	<i>Industrial Buildings</i>	<i>Commercial Buildings</i>	Total
2010	14	0	0	14
2011	13	0	0	13
2012	14	0	0	14
2013	16	0	0	16
2014	15	0	2	17
2015	19	0	1	20
2016	18	1	0	19
2017	8	0	0	8
2018	7	0	1	8
2019	9	0	0	9
Total	133	1	4	138
SOURCE: GFLRPC 2019 Land Use Monitoring Report				

TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



REGIONAL
SETTING

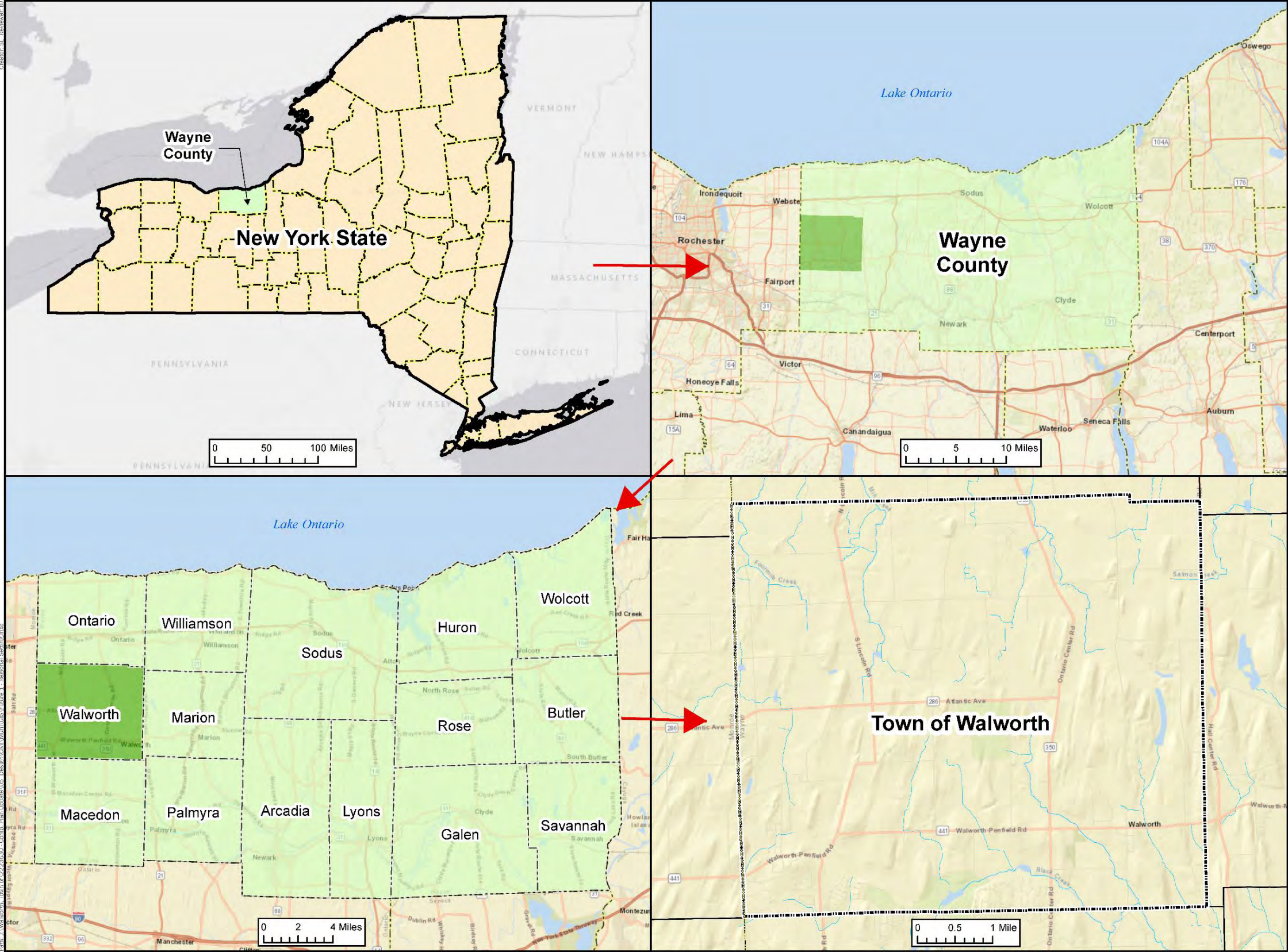
Legend

- Streams
- Railroad
- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- NYS Boundary

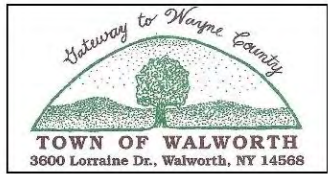


LaBella Project No: 2223630
NOVEMBER 2022

- Sources:
- 1. Municipality Boundaries: NYS GIS Program Office
 - 2. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 - 3. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 - 4. Basemap: ESRI



TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



AERIAL BASEMAP

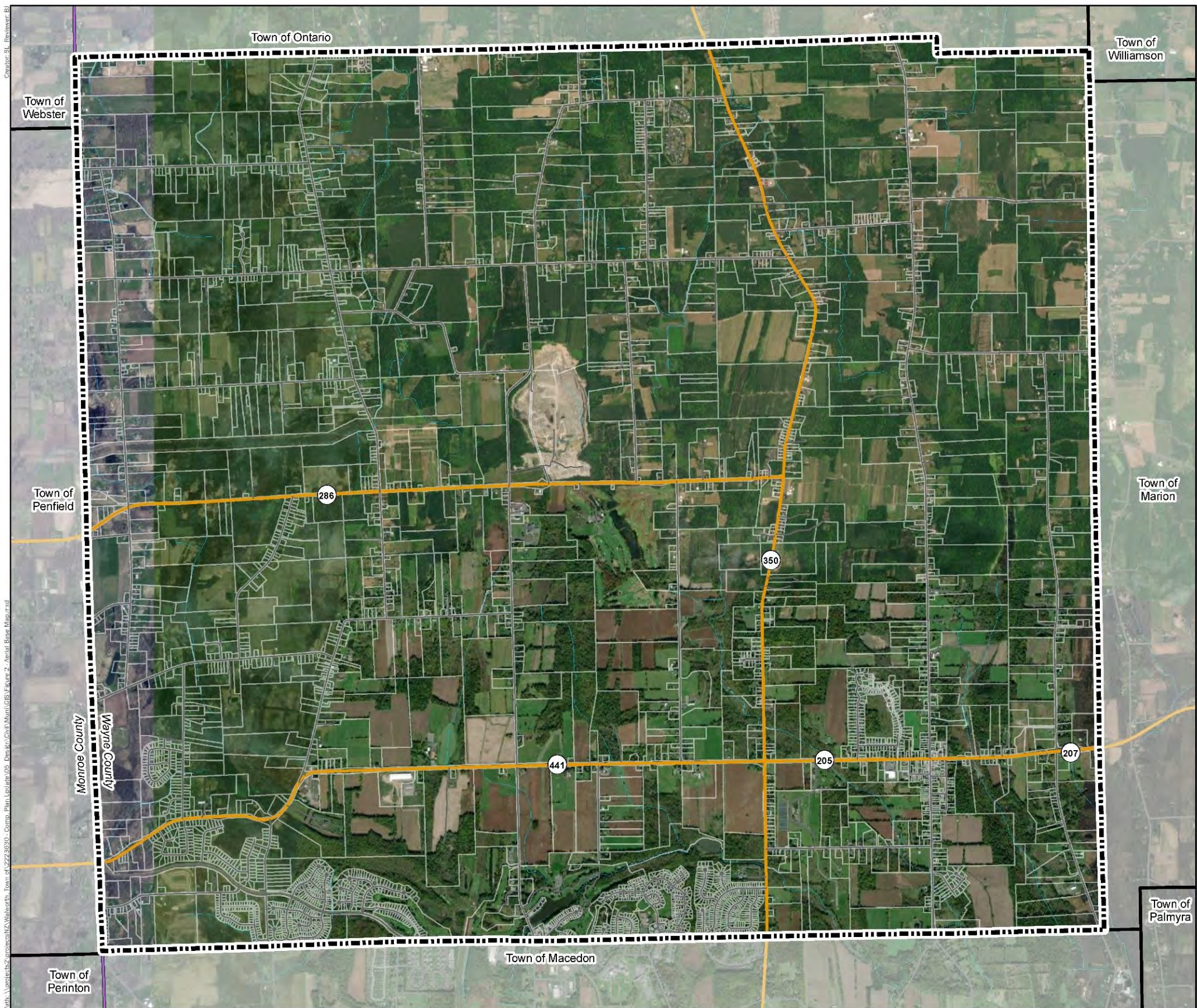
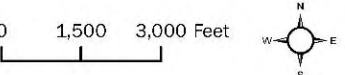
Legend

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- Parcels
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams

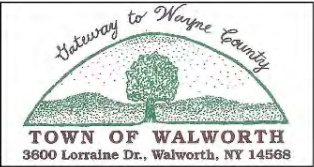


LaBella Project No: 2223630
NOVEMBER 2022

- Sources:
- 1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 - 2. Parcels (2021): Regrid
 - 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 - 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 - 5. Basemap: ESRI



TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



LAND COVER

Landcover

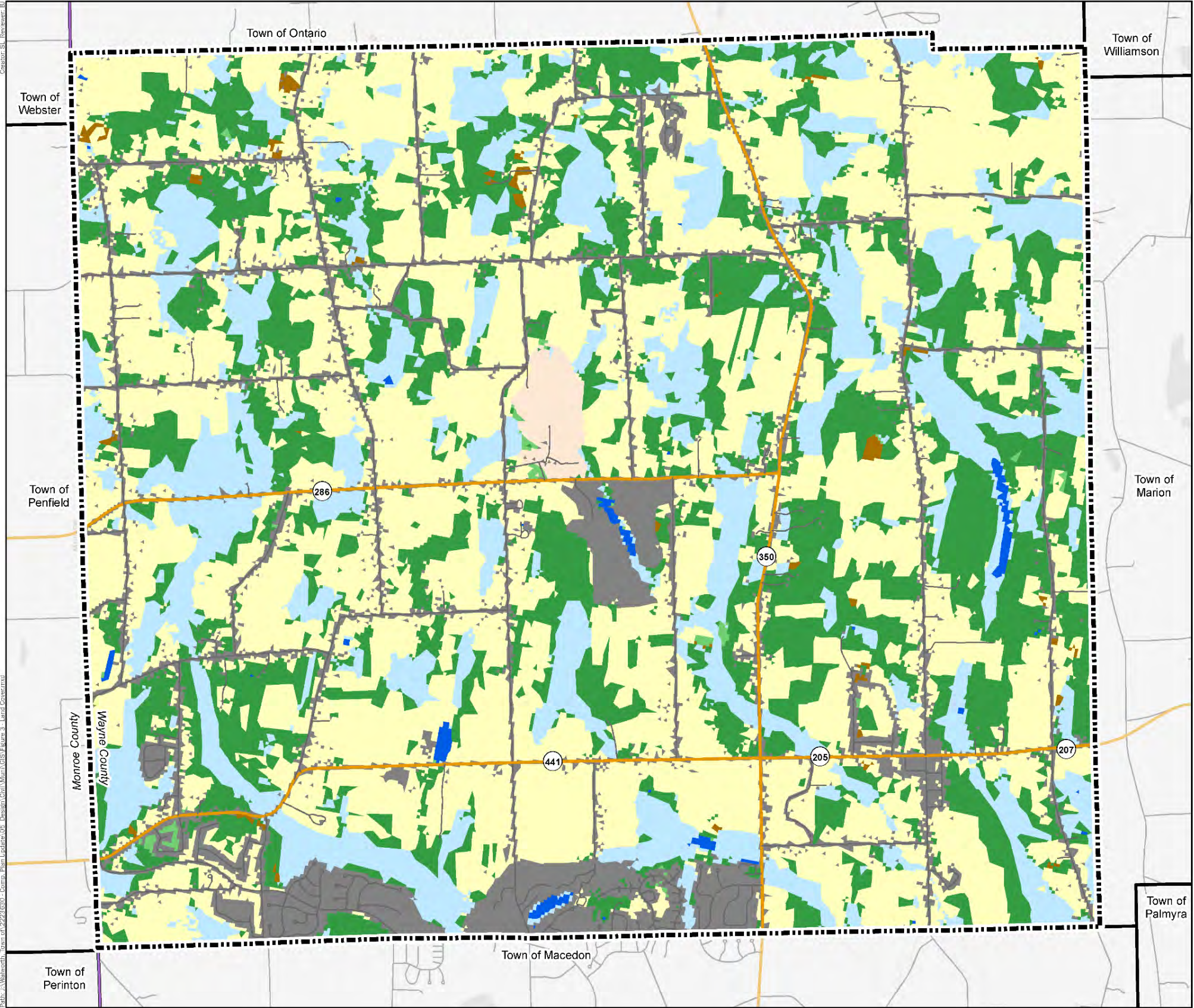
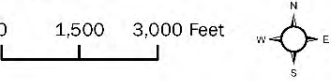
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- Forest (5,098 acres)
- Shrubland (72 acres)
- Barren (173 acres)
- Herbaceous (44 acres)
- Wetland (3,840 acres)
- Water (77 acres)

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad

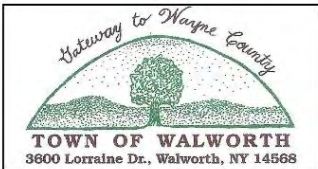


LaBella Project No: 2223630
OCTOBER 2023

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TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



EXISTING LAND USE
BY TAX PARCEL

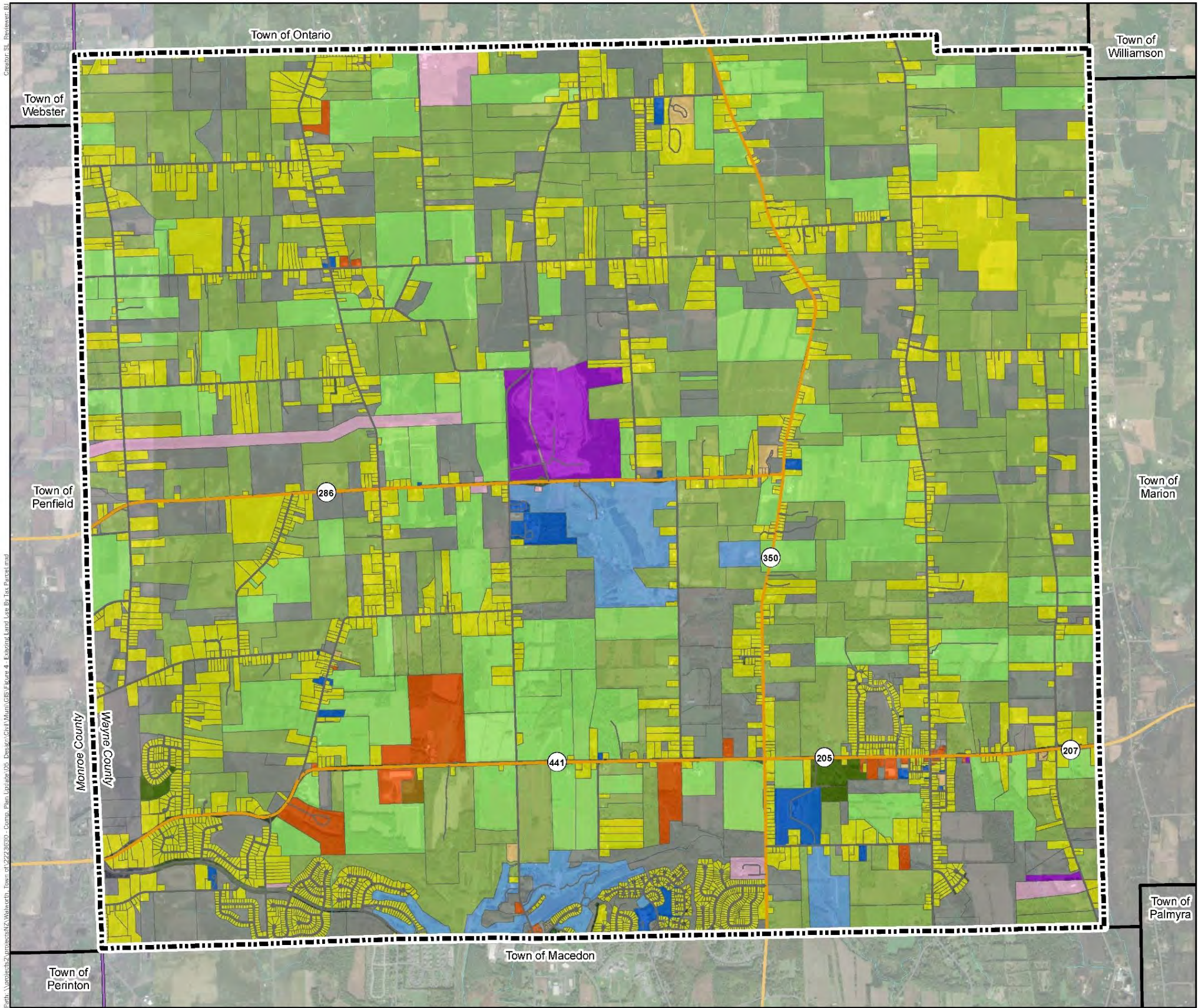
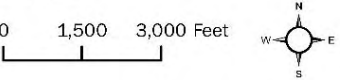
- Tax Parcel Classification**
- Agricultural
 - Residential w/ Ag
 - Residential
 - Vacant
 - Apartments; Mobile Home Park
 - Commercial
 - Storage/ Distribution
 - Recreation
 - Public / Community Service
 - Manufacturing / Mining
 - Utilities/ Transportation
 - Conservation

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams

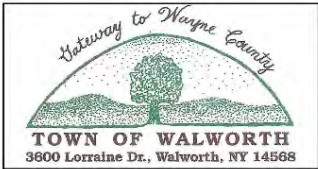


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NOVEMBER 2022

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 2. Tax Parcel Classification (2021): Regrid
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TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



YEAR BUILT

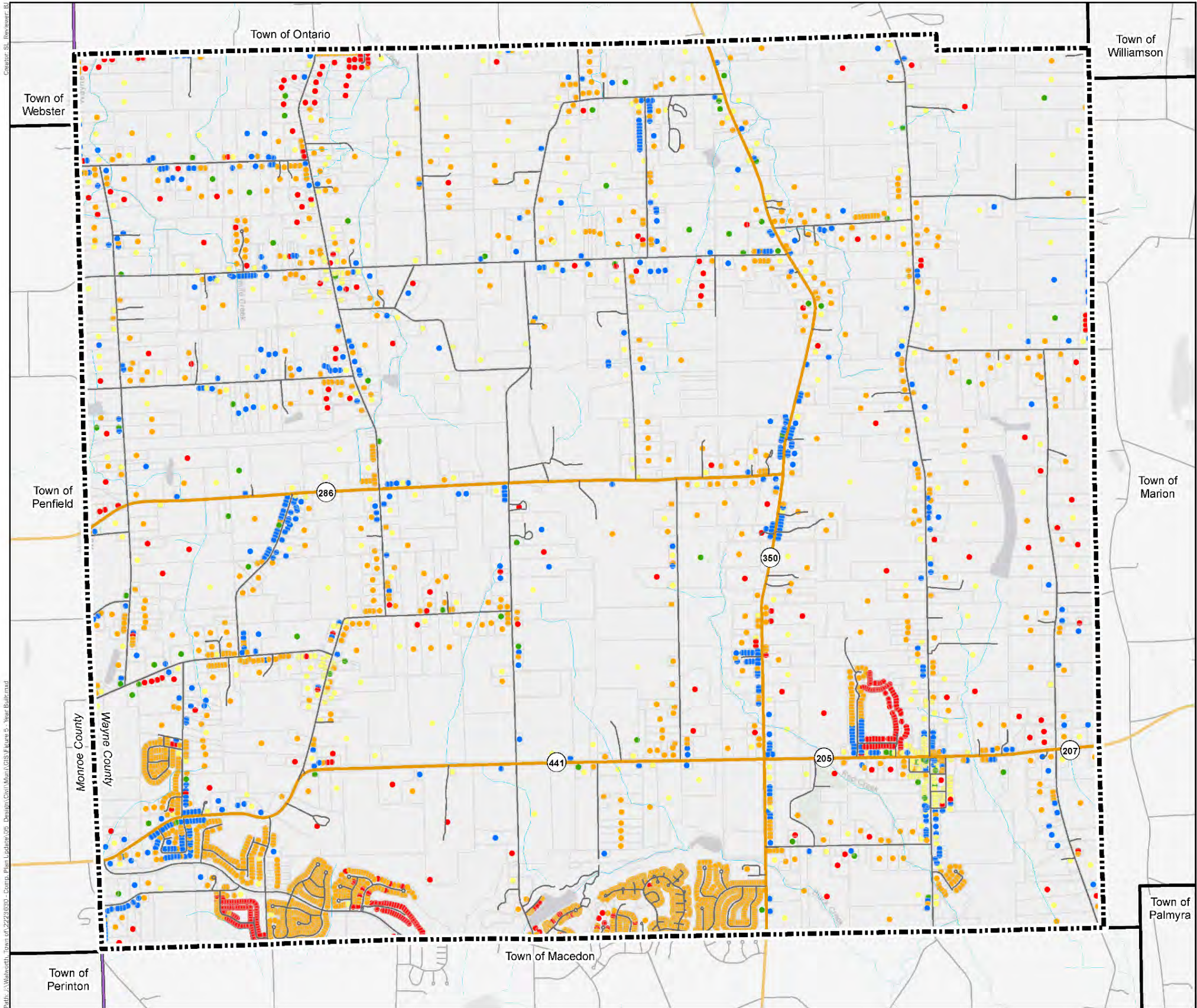
- Year Built**
- 1900 or earlier
 - 1901 - 1939
 - 1940 - 1969
 - 1970 - 1999
 - 2000 - 2022

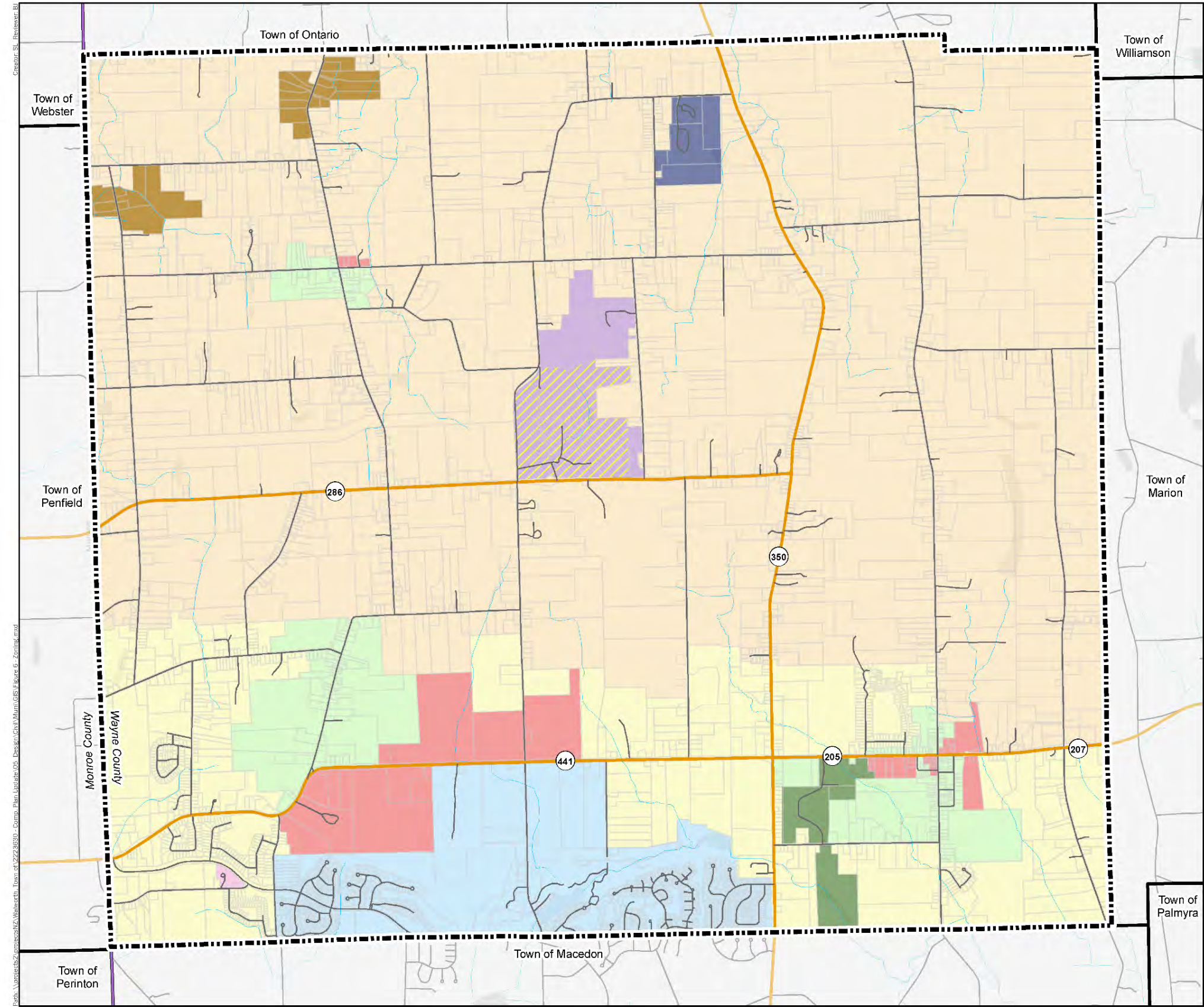
- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams
- Parcels



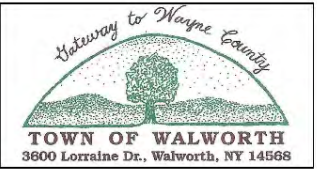
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OCTOBER 2023

- Sources:
1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Parcels (2021) and Year Built: Regrid (2021)
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
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 5. Basemap: ESRI





TOWN OF WALWORTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



ZONING

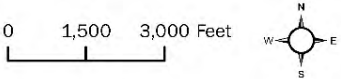
- RESIDENTIAL (R) - .5 ACRE
- RURAL RESIDENTIAL (RR - 1) - 1 ACRE
- RURAL RESIDENTIAL (RR - 1A) - 2 ACRES
- HAMLET
- MANUFACTURED HOUSING OVERLAY
- BUSINESS
- INDUSTRIAL
- PD - PLANNED DEVELOPMENT
- DAYCARE OVERLAY
- T.O.P. - TOWN OFFICE AND PARKS
- ADULT OVERLAY

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams
- Parcels



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NOVEMBER 2022

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3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
5. Basemap: ESRI
6. Zoning: provided by Town of Walworth; digitized by LaBella

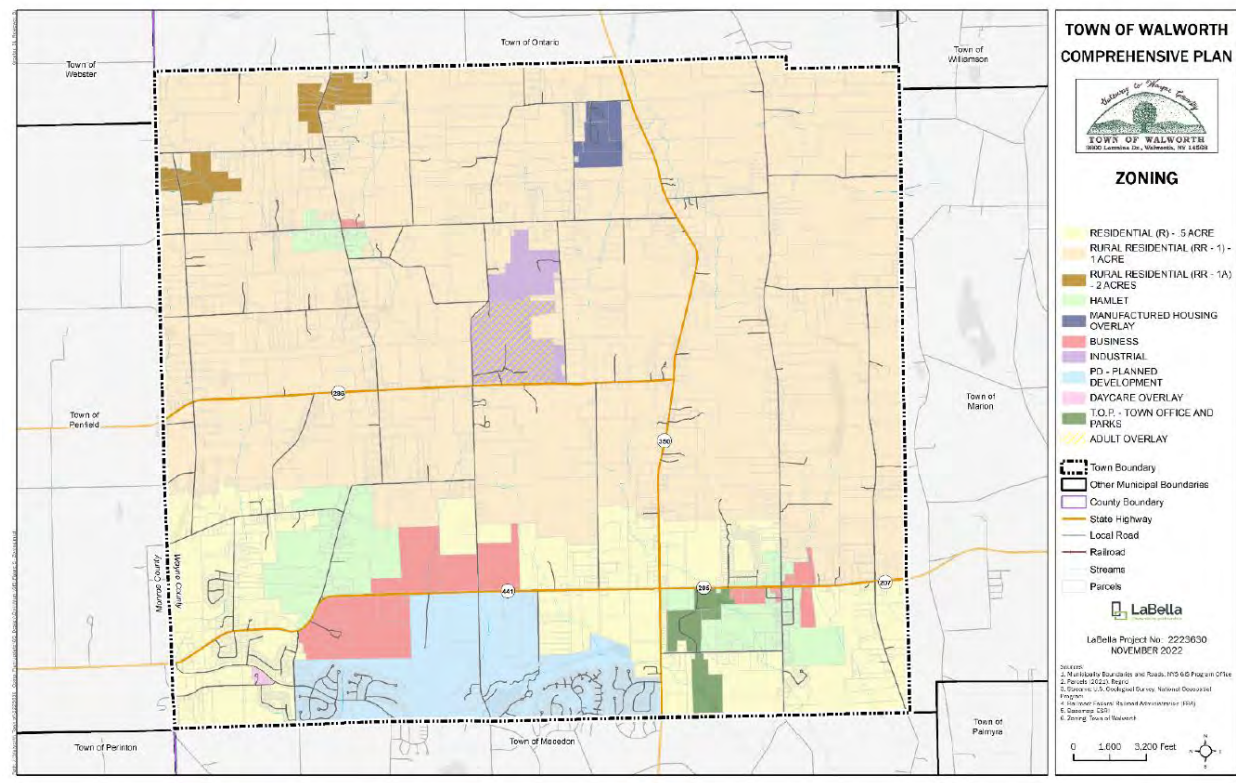


RELEVANT PLANS, PROGRAMS, & REGULATIONS

Land Use Regulations

Town Zoning

The Town's Zoning Ordinance establishes 8 standard zoning districts and 3 overlay districts. Overlay Districts include Mobile Home Park Overlay District, Daycare Center Overlay District, and Adult Use Business Overlay District. The map below depicts the Town zoning districts and the Table 3 provides a brief description of, and context regarding, each zoning district.



Summary of Zoning Districts		
District	Description	Context
RR-1A	Rural Residential	Limited areas north of the drainage divide
RR-1	Rural Residential	Includes the majority of the land area in Town
R	Single-Family Residential	Areas accessible to major roadways, Hamlets, and Town Hall.
Hamlet	Multifamily/Neighborhood Business	Three existing Hamlets (Walworth, West Walworth, and Lincoln)
B	General Business/Professional Office/Office Research Park/High Density Residential	Located along NYS route 441
I	General Industrial	Dolomite quarry located at the geographic center of Town
PD	Planned Development	Unified development area approved by Town Board; existing PD district is Gananda
MFD	Municipal Facilities District	Town's major facilities located south of NYS Route 441

The Town zoning code outlines the requirements of each district including permitted principal and accessory uses, specially permitted uses, and lot, yard, and bulk requirements. Specially permitted uses possess such unique and special characteristics that each specific use is considered as an individual case and requires approval by the Town Planning Board. The table below summarizes the principal, accessory, and special permit uses allowed in each of the Town's zoning districts.

Zoning District & Uses	
District	Permitted Principal, Accessory, and Special Permit Uses
RR-1 Single-Family Residential	Permitted Uses: single-family dwelling; customary agricultural operations on a farm; & uses in accordance with campground and recreational vehicle parks
	Accessory Uses: Home occupations; private swimming pools; private garages, ponds; & keeping of chickens
	Special Permit Uses: Golf courses and country clubs; cemeteries; places of worship; veterinary office for farm animals; satellite receiver antennas and windmills; private elementary and high schools; institutions of higher learning; public libraries; municipal buildings; horse boarding; & noncommercial broadcast radio antennas
RR-1A Single-Family Residential	Permitted Uses: single-family dwelling & customary agricultural operations on a farm
	Accessory Uses: Home occupations; private swimming pools; private garages, ponds; & keeping of chickens
	Special Permit Uses: Golf courses and country clubs; cemeteries; places of worship; veterinary office for farm animals; satellite receiver antennas and windmills; & noncommercial broadcast radio antennas
R Single-Family Residential	Permitted Uses: single-family dwelling; customary agricultural operations on a farm; public elementary and high schools; & public parks and playgrounds
	Accessory Uses: Home occupations; private swimming pools; satellite receiver antennas and windmills; private garages, ponds; & keeping of chickens
	Special Permit Uses: Golf courses and country clubs; private elementary and high schools; institutions of higher learning; public libraries; municipal buildings; cemeteries; places of worship; horse boarding; & noncommercial broadcast radio antennas

Zoning District & Uses	
District	Permitted Principal, Accessory, and Special Permit Uses
Hamlet Multifamily/ Neighborhood Business	Permitted Uses: all uses permitted in any residential district; two-family dwelling; insurance offices; medical and dental offices; attorney's offices; offices for licensed professionals; barber shops and beauty shops; florist shops; & dog groomer stores.
	Accessory Uses: all permitted accessory uses in RR-1 and R Districts
	Special Permit Uses: Branch banks; commercial schools; supermarkets and convenience food stores; laundromat or dry-cleaning establishments; bakeries; drugstores or pharmacies; hardware stores, garden supply stores and paint and wallpaper stores; liquor stores; craft shops; sit-down and take-out restaurants; day-care centers; multifamily dwellings; hospital, sanitariums, rest homes, nursing homes, old-age or senior citizen housing and similar uses; & uses deemed compatible with the district by the Planning Board
B General Business	Permitted Uses: all uses permitted in the Hamlet District; retail outlets, department stores, strip shopping malls, banks, drive-in bank facilities, mortuaries or funeral homes, theaters, bowling alleys, miniature golf courses, driving ranges, batting cages or other associated uses deemed appropriate by the Planning Board; high-density residential uses; & offices
	Accessory Uses: uses accessory to the above permitted uses and deemed appropriate by the Planning Board
	Special Permit Uses: Bars, taverns, restaurants or other eating establishments; auto sales, new and used, and recreational vehicle sales; auto repair shops, auto accessories and parts; gasoline service stations, vehicle washes, rental of trucks, trailers or other associated uses deemed appropriate by the Planning Board; motels, hotels, bus stations, rental car agencies or other associated uses deemed appropriate by the Planning Board; mini storage facilities, machine shops, light manufacturing, assembling, fabrication or packaging of products from previously prepared materials, such as cloth, plastic, paper, leather or precious or semiprecious metals or stones, excluding maintenance, repair or outdoor storage facilities; scientific research or experimental development of materials, methods or products, including engineering and laboratory research; manufacture of electric, electronic or optical instruments or devices; administrative, educational, regional or district offices of various types of companies and other office-related activities in conjunction with a permitted use; public buildings and grounds, public utility substations and uses, excluding power plants, maintenance, repair or outdoor storage facilities; banks and drive-in banking facilities; mortuaries or funeral homes; & uses accessory to the above special permit uses and deemed appropriate by the Planning Board.
I General Industrial	Permitted Uses: All industrial uses, including sawmill operations, cutting, splitting and sale of firewood, not otherwise prohibited & quarries, sand pits and gravel pits.
PD Planned Development	Permitted Uses: All uses within an area designated as a PD District shall be determined in part by the approval of the proposed project and can include residential uses; commercial, service, and other nonresidential; public and private institutional and recreational facilities; office, research and manufacturing uses; open space, any permitted uses which are subject to a special use permit in any other zoning district; & uses which may be permitted pertaining to home occupation, minor.
MFD Municipal Facilities District	Specially Permitted Uses: Government-owned parks and recreational facilities open to use by the general public; government-owned municipal facilities and buildings, such as town halls, town highway facilities and town offices, public libraries; & minor uses by public utilities, such as pumping stations, but not including waste treatment plants. Accessory Uses: Customary accessory uses to the above uses

Town Subdivision Regulations

NYS Town Law allows Towns to authorize the Planning Board to review and approve the division of lots into one or more smaller lots. In addition to Board approval, subdivisions require a public hearing. In 2019, there was one subdivision application in the Town of Walworth for a total of 98 lots (see Table 3 below).

Subdivision Applications, Approvals, and Number of Lots (2019)	
Subdivision (containing 4 or more lots) Applications	1
Subdivision Approvals	0
Number of Lots (total)	98
SOURCE: GFLRPC 2019 Land Use Monitoring Report	

Comprehensive Plan (2016)

The Town of Walworth prepared a Comprehensive Plan update in 2016. The plan included an inventory of existing conditions, development vision and goals, and a conceptual land use plan. Below is a summary of the goals and recommendations outlined in the previous comprehensive plan.

The 2016 Comprehensive Plan outlined two major goals in terms of overall land use and zoning, as summarized below:

1. Concentrated residential development to remain in Hamlets and where sewer services are available.
2. Development to be contiguous, prioritizing orderly growth and preservation.

LAND USE PLAN

The Town's Land Use Plan aims to retain the predominantly rural and agricultural character of much of the Town, while retaining the accommodating additional residential development business development in appropriate areas and enhancing Rush Hamlet as a focal point of the community. The land use categories defined for the Land Use Plan are not identical to existing or proposed zoning district names; the Land Use Plan is intended as a general guide while the zoning map and zoning regulations will have the force of law. The Land Use Plan describes general areas with distinct characteristics and is intended to guide updates to the Town's Zoning map and regulations.

The Land Use Plan Map delineates the following land use categories:

- Hamlet Mixed Use
- Hamlet Residential
- Agricultural/ Rural Residential
- Commercial/ Limited Industrial
- Government, Recreation & Community Service.

Agricultural/ Rural Residential

Much of the land area in the Town is designated for continued Agriculture and Rural Residential uses. These areas are intended to accommodate farming as well as residential development. Areas designated Rural Residential encompass the existing RR-1 and RR 1-A zoning districts.

Residential

Areas designated Residential are intended to accommodate additional residential subdivisions and other types of Sewer service allows for more intensive residential development than in the rural, unsewered areas of the Town.

Manufactured Housing Overlay

The Manufactured Housing Overlay designation encompasses an existing manufactured home park and surrounding areas currently zoned MH Manufactured Housing Overlay.

Hamlet Mixed Use

The vision for the Hamlet Mixed Use designation is to accommodate a mix of residential and business uses on small lots consistent with the traditional historic development pattern within the hamlets of Walworth, Lincoln, and West Walworth, with accommodations for additional development in surrounding areas. A variety of business and residential uses are encouraged. Lot size and setback requirements should be consistent with existing development patterns. Design guidelines will help to maintain the character of the hamlet. The Hamlet Mixed Use areas align with the town's existing Hamlet zoning district.

Business

The Business designation is intended to support business development along the Route 441 corridor. A variety of business uses would be suitable in these locations, such as professional and personal services,

dealerships, retail, manufacturing within enclosed buildings, and storage facilities. Zoning for these areas should allow a wide variety of business and limited industrial uses as well as a variety of residential uses, including compact development such as townhouses and patio homes.

Town Office and Parks

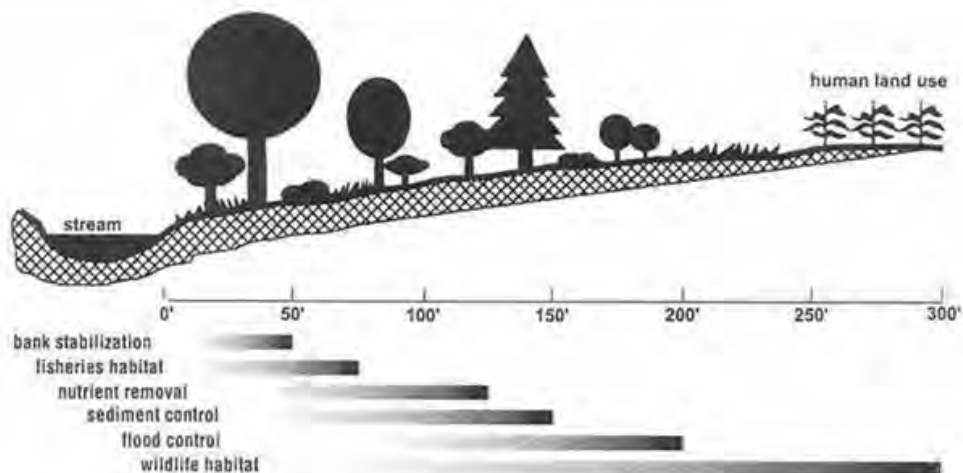
The Land Use Plan map designates the land currently occupied by the Town Hall and parks for continued public and recreational uses.

Conservation Overlays

The Conservation Overlays map designates areas where development is limited, and land is most suitable for conservation or agricultural use. These areas include:

- farmland protected through permanent conservation easements;
- wetlands protected by State and Federal agencies;
- flood hazard areas;
- stream corridors; and
- Wetlands, flood zones and stream corridors are generally not developable and have value for maintaining wildlife habitat and preventing flood damage.

Retaining or restoring vegetation adjoining streams can help to prevent erosion of soil and runoff of nutrients into streams. Recommended buffers from streams range from 50 to 150 feet based on the characteristics of the land adjoining the stream.



Sample buffers for various environmental quality goals

Figure 1: Sample stream buffer widths

As depicted in the figure above, a 50-foot buffer from the water's edge is typically minimal to maintain the stability of the stream bank; a 75-foot buffer maintains fisheries habitat; 125-foot buffer filters nutrients; and a 150-foot buffer is best to manage sedimentation. As each stream is different, field investigation would be needed to delineate the areas of sensitivity. The Conservation Overlay depicts all three buffers (measured from the centerline of the stream) as a guide to encourage retention of the natural vegetation along streams to protect of water quality and the ecological benefits of riparian buffers.

GOALS & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

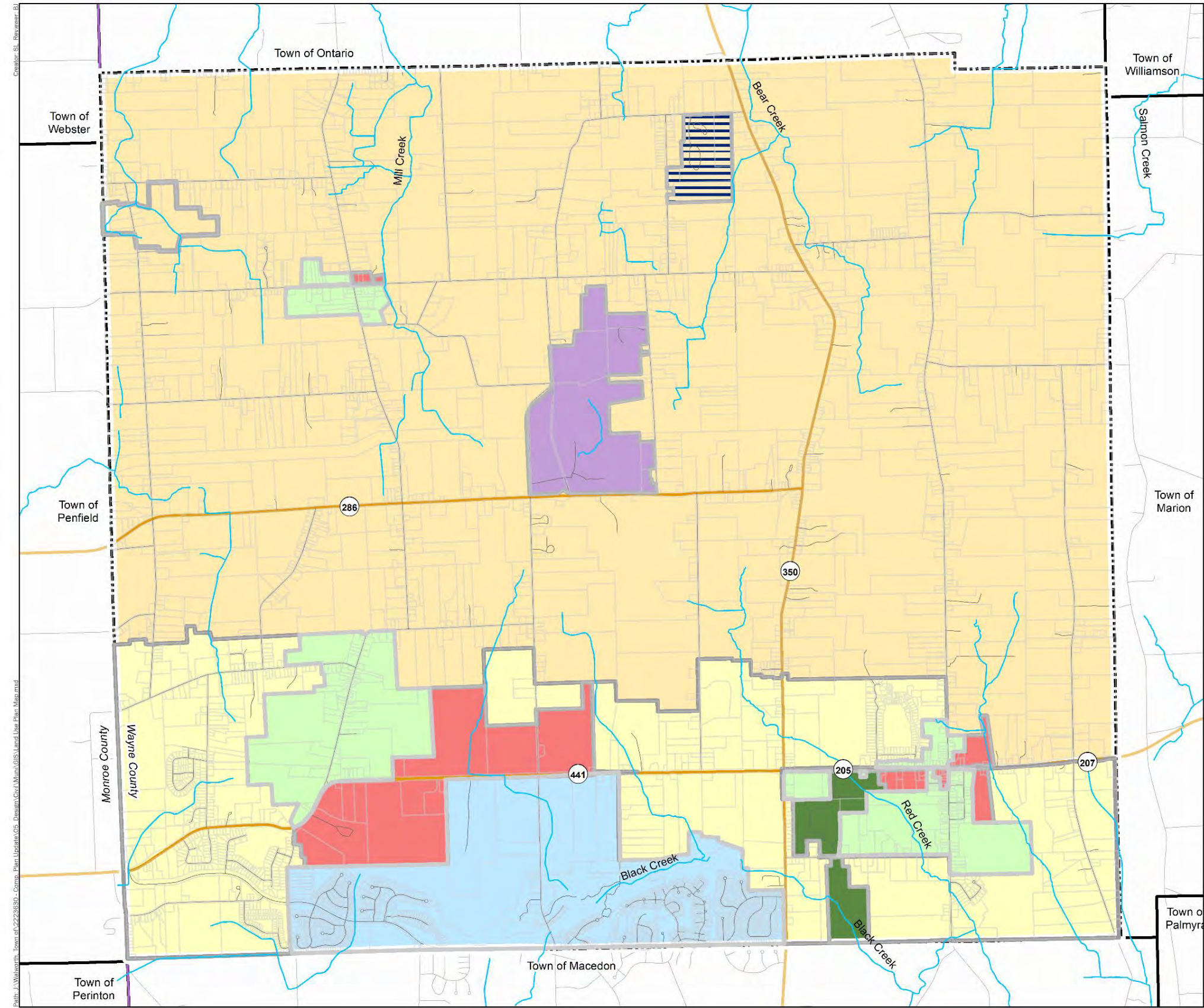
Goal: Preserve existing rural character, especially outside sewerred areas and hamlets.

Goal: Revitalize the Hamlet District to allow for a mix of uses, encourage local business development, and to create a greater sense of community.

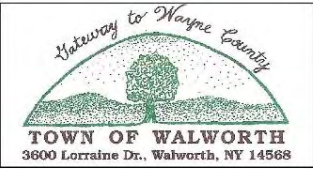
Goal: Encourage business development along the Route 441 corridor.

Recommended Actions

1. Maintain zoning for rural areas.
2. Revise zoning in the hamlets to accommodate a mix of residential and business uses.
3. Maintain business zoning along the Route 441 corridor.
4. Revise zoning – clear, streamlined, customize list for each district.
5. Extend sewer to additional locations along Route 441.



**TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**



**LAND USE
PLAN MAP**

Land Use Categories

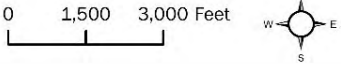
- Agricultural / Rural Residential
- Residential
- Manufactured Housing Overlay
- Hamlet Mixed Use
- Business
- Industrial / Mining
- Planned Development (Gananda)
- Town Office & Parks

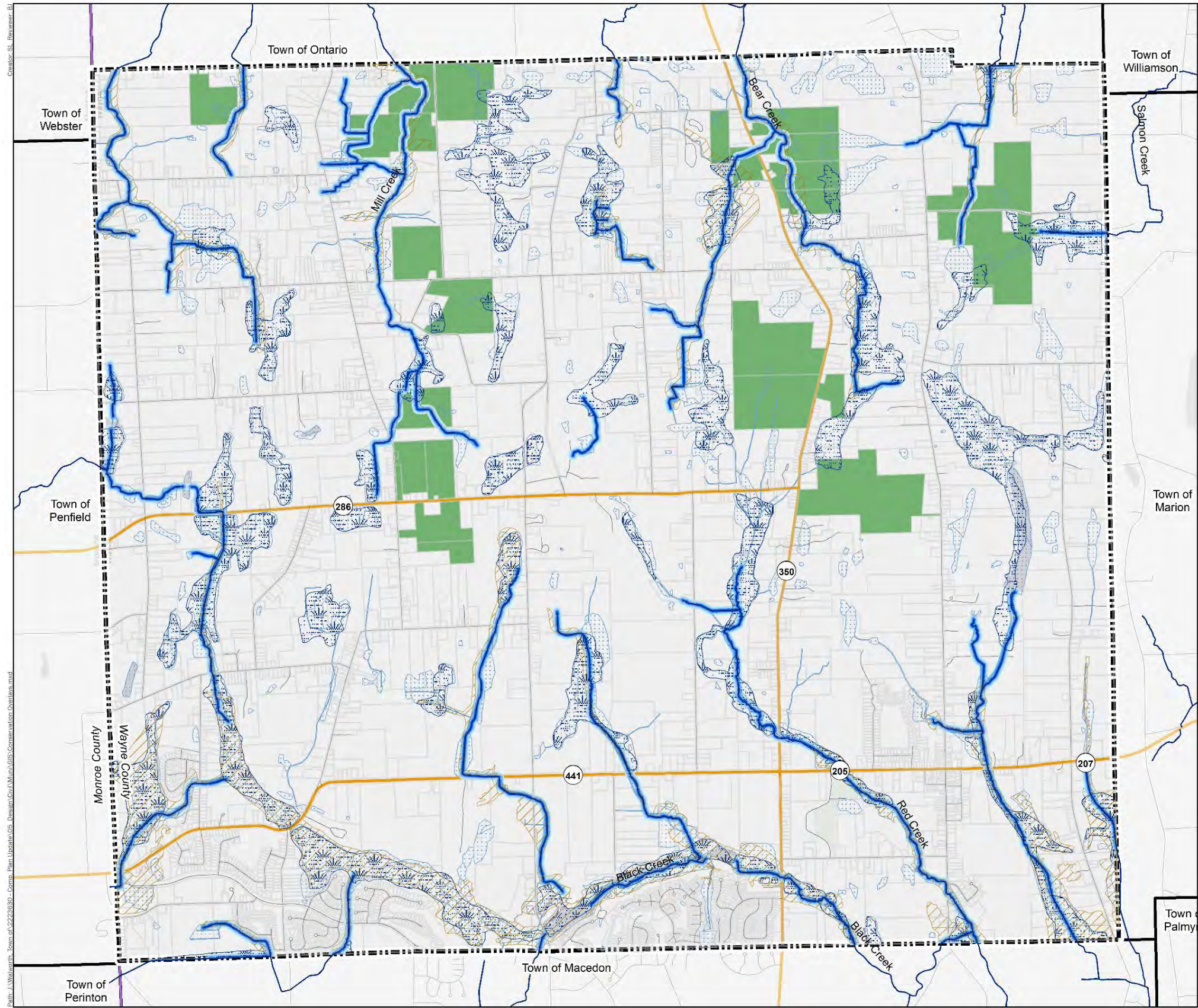
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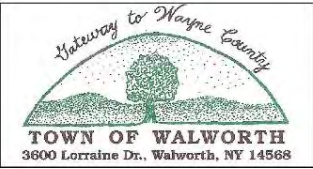
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1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Parcels (2021): Regrid
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 5. Basemap: ESRI
 6. Wetlands: DEC & NWI
 7. Floodzone: FEMA NFHL





TOWN OF WALWORTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



LAND USE PLAN MAP CONSERVATION OVERLAYS

Conservation Overlays

- Protected Farmland
- Wetlands (DEC)
- Wetlands (NWI)

Flood Zone

- Flood zones (A and AE)

Stream Buffers

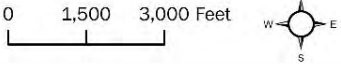
- 50'
- 75'
- 125'
- 150'

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams
- Parcels



LaBella Project No: 2223630
OCTOBER 2023

- Sources:
1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Parcels (2021): Regrid
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 5. Basemap: ESRI
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 7. Floodzone: FEMA NFHL



HAMLET REVITALIZATION

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Along Route 441, on the east side of the Town, the Hamlet of Walworth is located less than a mile from Town Hall. This main town hub includes a mixture of residential, commercial, and community uses.



Land Use & Zoning

The Town of Walworth code includes a hamlet-specific zoning district entitled *Hamlet District: Multifamily/Neighborhood Business*.

Per §180-13 of the town code, the purpose of establishing this district is to “provide suitable areas or centers for multifamily residential dwellings and suitable areas and centers for convenience shopping and service-oriented used that are accessible to neighborhoods and in certain instances, can be used as a transition area between residential uses and commercial uses.”

A variety of residential uses are permitted, specifically *all uses permitted in any residential districts, subject to all provisions specified for such residential districts* (§180-13B). Permitted commercial uses are limited to the following:

- Insurance offices of independent or general agents.
- Medical and dental offices.
- Attorneys' offices.
- Offices for licensed professionals, such as architects, designers, engineers, etc.
- Barber shops and beauty shops.
- Florist shops.
- Dog groomer stores.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Per the community input survey, 73% of respondents indicated that they would like to see more food & beverage establishments, like restaurants and breweries, in the Town of Walworth. Restaurants are not permitted in the Hamlet District without a special permit (§180-13D) and the inclusion of at least 20 parking spaces (§180-39A). With these barriers, it is unlikely a restaurant could be established within the current hamlet.

40% indicated they would like to see more small retail businesses (clothing, specialty goods, etc.) and nearly 30% indicated they would like to see more entertainment and recreational businesses in the town. During the walking tour, individuals indicated they would like to see a bank and a bakery in the hamlet. Similar to restaurants, these uses are not permitted in the hamlet district without a special permit.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee held a public walking tour to solicit comment and feedback on the hamlet with a focus on local businesses. Attendants noted a lack of population volume and density along with disconnection from the larger market. Some of the hamlet businesses are hidden and lack visibility, especially for those that are not seen from Route 441. Most Town residents tend to pass through and pass by without stopping to explore the hamlet. Residents tend to travel west for amenities, instead of east towards the hamlet. Additionally, many visitors come to Ginegaw Park but don't continue less than a mile east into the hamlet. The hamlet competes with larger suburban towns with more amenities. Walworth businesses want to retain residents and keep them local for their shopping.

There was a desire for Town support specifically in terms of assisting with grant opportunities and event promotion. The walking tour group noted the following:

- Celebrate long-term businesses. To sustain a business long-term is a feat.
- Parking is an issue. Square footage is the basis for the required number of parking, and it can be difficult for businesses to meet these requirements.
- Town recreation programs speak to families who can provide patronage to local businesses.
- The Town should celebrate and spotlight businesses, and the hamlet should have a presence and be a point pride in our hamlet.
- Annually highlight local businesses before the holidays.
- Allow business ads to be placed in Town Topics. Include interviews with local business owners and use town programs & events as a vessel to engage local residents.
- Create a development team or corporation to bring things together, get funding, and coordinate events. The Town could employ an individual to head this or the community could form a volunteer group.

Placemaking Measures

During the hamlet walking tour, the following placemaking measures were suggested and discussed.

Walking towards the hamlet center from the Fire Station, the group past a vacant commercial space located at 2194 Walworth Penfield Road (Route 441). When asking what people would like to see at this location, the group agreed the space between the business and the sidewalk would be ideal for outdoor seating for a coffee shop or bakery. Though the group agreed outdoor seating would be preferable, elimination of the front parking area may bring the business out of compliance with the required parking minimum.



2194 Co Rd 205 (Route 441). Image from Google Maps.

The group approached the intersection at Route 441 and Walworth-Ontario Road, the de facto center of the hamlet and town. Individuals noted that individuals passing through are often not even aware they are currently in the hamlet when approaching the intersection. Individuals on the walking tour noted that the pedestrian space lacks lighting and is pitch black by 5:00 pm in the winter. In terms of circulation, individuals noted that the two curb cuts on the corner allows for traffic to cut through the pizzeria parking.

Placing a sculpture or other focal point in this location can act as a cornerstone of the hamlet and create additional visual interest. Additional lighting and landscaping can also help make the intersection safer and more aesthetically pleasing.

The inclusion of a welcome sign was also discussed to help appeal to passersby. In addition to signage in the hamlet, it may be beneficial to place signage at the intersection of Route 441 and Route 350, at the opening of the Gananda community, directing people to the hamlet and amenities further east.



Southwest corner of Route 441 and Walworth-Ontario Road (3719 Walworth Palmyra Road). Image from Google Maps.

The group talked about how people need a “third place,” a place where people spend time between home and work. More “third places” can strengthen Walworth’s sense of community and could result in greater resident retention. Further public features and cohesiveness can help improve the hamlet. One suggestion was the inclusion of cow benches in town to match the mural present on the post office in the hamlet.



Left: 2263 Walworth-Marion Road (Route 441). Image from Google Maps.

Right: 647 Park Avenue, Rochester, NY. Image from www.funkycow.com.

GOALS & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Goal: Allow for a mix of uses in the hamlet areas

Allowing for a mix of housing and commercial uses within the hamlet can set the stage for an active town hub. Being less prescriptive in the uses permitted in the zoning code removes additional special processes for businesses and other development, easing the process and reducing the time and effort needed to gain approvals. A mix of uses can attract a wide range of residents and visitors while maintaining the traditional hamlet character.

Being less restrictive in the uses allowed in the hamlet can help facilitate adaptive reuse which promotes active occupation of structures while maintaining the existing physical character of the area. Adaptive reuse can encourage investment in the hamlet while preserving the historical value of older buildings.

Recommendations

1. Revise zoning regulations to accommodate a mix of uses and the traditional character of the hamlets.

Goal: Foster a business-friendly environment

The hamlet is a hub for local business activity with public support. Over 56% of public survey respondents indicated that they would like to see additional business development along Route 441, the major east-west thoroughfare on the southern side of the Town that runs through the hamlet. 47.33% of respondents indicated they would like to see additional business development specifically in the Hamlet of Walworth.

Recommendations

2. Eliminate parking minimums in the Hamlet District allows for more efficient land use, further walkability, and the removal of a substantial barrier to the establishment of new businesses.
3. Create a shop local campaign with a local business passport available at town hall for both residents and visitors.
4. Host workshops or open office hours at town hall which provide information regarding approvals required to run a business in town.
5. Reach out to local businesses to be a part of existing Town events including the Farmers Market and annual festivals.

Goal: Improve mobility, connectivity, and safety in the Hamlet

Making the streetscape safer and more accessible makes it easier for individuals to visit the hamlet, promoting additional activity and connection. The following measures can help improve mobility, connectivity, and safety in the Hamlet.

Recommendations

6. Installation of clear signage, maps, and wayfinding markers to guide pedestrians and visitors to key destinations. Features should be consistent and visually appealing.
7. Installation of pedestrian-scaled lights which may include adding lamps low on existing poles to eliminate the sidewalk.
8. As needed, replace public lighting to LEDs.
9. Install bike racks and repair stations to promote alternative forms of transit within the hamlet.
10. Delineate parking lot access points and reduce curb cut widths to discourage frontage pavement.
11. Enhance sidewalks, crosswalks, and street lighting where possible to make the town more pedestrian-friendly and safe.
12. Evaluate current sidewalk conditions and incorporate expected costs into capital improvement program.
13. Expand sidewalk network along Sherburne Road.
14. Advocate for pedestrian-activated signals or countdown timers at crosswalks, and for additional mid-block crossings, to improve safety for pedestrians along state roadways.

Goal: Enhance the sense of community in the Hamlet

Creating a sense of community can help revitalize the hamlet and promote connection amongst residents, businesses, and visitors. Safe, beautiful, public features and amenities create places where people want to be. Potential placemaking measures are outlined below.

Recommendations

15. Encourage local businesses and organizations to create public art installations which can include large-scale murals, sculptures, and painted intersections.
16. Install outdoor seating areas like benches, picnic tables, or seating areas in public spaces to encourage relaxation and socializing.
17. Maintain existing green spaces and incorporate trees, shrubs, and plantings to create a visually appealing environment and provide shade.

AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND

VISION

Agriculture will continue to be a predominant land use and major industry in the Town of Walworth. Farmland with high quality agricultural soils will continue to be available for farming.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

The Town is a traditional agricultural community with many large and small working farms. Approximately 10,880 acres (more than one-half of the Town's land area) and 318 parcels are classified as agricultural, including farm residences. Most of the Town is within a State-Certified Agricultural District Law as shown in Map 1: Agricultural Districts.

Agricultural Land Cover

Based on land cover data from satellites, 45% of the Town's land area (9,744 acres) is in pasture, hay, or cultivated crops. (See Map 2: Aerial Basemap and Map 3: Land Cover.)

Agricultural Parcels

Approximately 10,880 acres (more than one-half of the Town's total) in 318 parcels are parcels classified as agricultural, including farm residences.

Types of Farms

Types of farms in Walworth include field crops, dairy, other livestock, fruit and berry farms. Several farms sell directly to consumers with on-farm sales or community supported agriculture (CSAs).

Agricultural Soil Suitability

Approximately 80% of the Town's land area consist of high-quality agricultural soils (those classified as "Prime," "Farmland of Statewide Importance" or "Prime if Drained" in the USDA Soil Survey).

Approximately 11,700 acres, representing 54% of the Town's land area, consists of Prime soils. These soils are highly suited to agricultural production and represent an important resource for the region's agricultural industry.

Agricultural Soil Suitability	Acres	% of total
Prime Farmland	11,695	54%
Prime if drained	3,307	15.3%
Soils of Statewide Importance	2,063	9.5%
Not prime farmland	4,591	21.2%
SOURCE: USDA Soil Survey		

Protected Farmland

Several farms in the Town have been placed under permanent conservation easements. Funding for the easements was obtained through New York State's Farmland Implementation Grant Program, and in one case, through the federal Agricultural Conservation Program. Both programs purchase the development rights to farmland to prevent it from being developed for non-agricultural purposes. The conservation easements are held and managed by the Genesee Land Trust and the Town of Walworth.

The following farms are protected through conservation easements:

- G & S Orchards (fruit and berries, U-Pick, CSA); 200 acres in 2023
- Amsler Farm (commodity grains, woodlot); 231 acres in 2022
- Weber Farm (beef cattle); 396 acres in 2021 and 123 acres in 2007.
- DeMink Farm (corn, soybeans); 241 acres in 2015
- Keyes Farm (corn, other crops, woodlot); 129 acres in 2007

The protected farmland is best suited for continued agricultural use. As these lands no longer have value for development purposes, they may be affordable to young or beginning farmers to continue the tradition of farming and utilize high quality lands for agricultural production.

RELEVANT PLANS, PROGRAMS, & REGULATIONS

Agricultural Districts

Most of the Town's land area, comprising approximately 16,900 acres, are within Wayne County's consolidated Agricultural District #1. The Agricultural District must be renewed every eight years, at which time parcels may be added or removed. The 8-year review for Wayne County's Agricultural District No. 1 will be scheduled to take place in the fall of 2023.

While parcels can only be removed during the 8-year review process, landowners may request to have their parcels added to an Agricultural District during the County's Annual Ag District Enrollment period between January 1st and January 31st of each year. To be included in the Agricultural District, parcels must be predominantly viable for agriculture. The Wayne County Department of Economic Development and Planning manages the Agricultural District Program.

The Agricultural District program and NYS Agricultural District Law support the long-term economic viability of farming through the following benefits:

- Local governments may not enforce laws, ordinances, rules or regulations which would unreasonably restrict or regulate farm operations within an agricultural district unless it can be shown that public health or safety is threatened.
- To discourage private nuisance lawsuits, the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets will issue opinions and interpretations regarding what is considered a "sound agricultural practice".
- To limit the impact of projects that receive public funding or require an eminent domain, State agencies, local governments, and public benefit corporations which intend to acquire more than one acre of land from any active farm within an agricultural district or more than 10 acres in total from a district must file a notice of intent with the Commissioner of Agriculture and the County agricultural and farmland protection board.
- Assessments for special improvement districts are limited to dwellings and farm structures directly benefiting from the services.

Agricultural use assessment, established as part of the NYS Agricultural Districts Law, allows eligible farmland to be taxed based on its value for agricultural production, rather than at its fair market value. Landowners must apply annually to receive agricultural use assessments. The land must be used in a farm operation that generates the required minimum gross income to be eligible. Farmland owners must apply annually to the Town Assessor to request agricultural use assessments.

Wayne County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan (2023 Update)

The Wayne County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan (2023 Update) identifies actively farmed land with soils highly suitable for agricultural use as priorities for long-term protection. The Plan identifies active farmland with soils classified as prime farmland, soils of statewide importance, and prime soils if drained (that have been improved with drainage infrastructure) as well as soils classified as Mineral Soil Groups 1 – 5 as the highest quality. The Plan recommends that land preservation activities target these high-priority agricultural lands.

The County Ag Plan recommended strategies and actions to:

- enhance agricultural economic development;
- protect farmland;
- Improve public awareness and understanding of agriculture; and
- Support farm operations.

The strategy most relevant to the Town of Walworth is, “Strategy R. Avoid or minimize impacts on agriculture and farmland from non-agricultural development.” The Plan recommends that municipalities:

- Utilize the Agricultural Data Statement during review of proposed development projects to identify potential impacts to agriculture and alternatives that would avoid or mitigate those impacts; and
- Educate planning and zoning boards about ways to avoid or minimize impacts on farms and farmlands by revising zoning and subdivision regulations and applying standards for development reviews.

The Plan references [toolkit](#) published by the American Farmland Trust to guide local governments in ways to retain farmland and minimize impacts of development.

GOALS & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Goal: Retain high quality farmland for agricultural production

Recommendations

1. Encourage farmers to partner with land trust organizations to place permanent easements on their land.
2. Maintain local laws to limit the development of large-scale solar facilities on high quality farmland.

Goal: Maintain the economic viability of farms

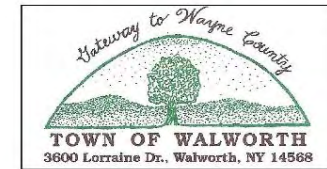
Recommendations

3. Revise zoning as needed to accommodate value-added production and agri-tourism activities on farms.



Fall harvest stand (Source: Walworth Historical Society)

TOWN OF WALWORTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



AGRICULTURAL SOIL SUITABILITY

Agricultural Soil Suitability

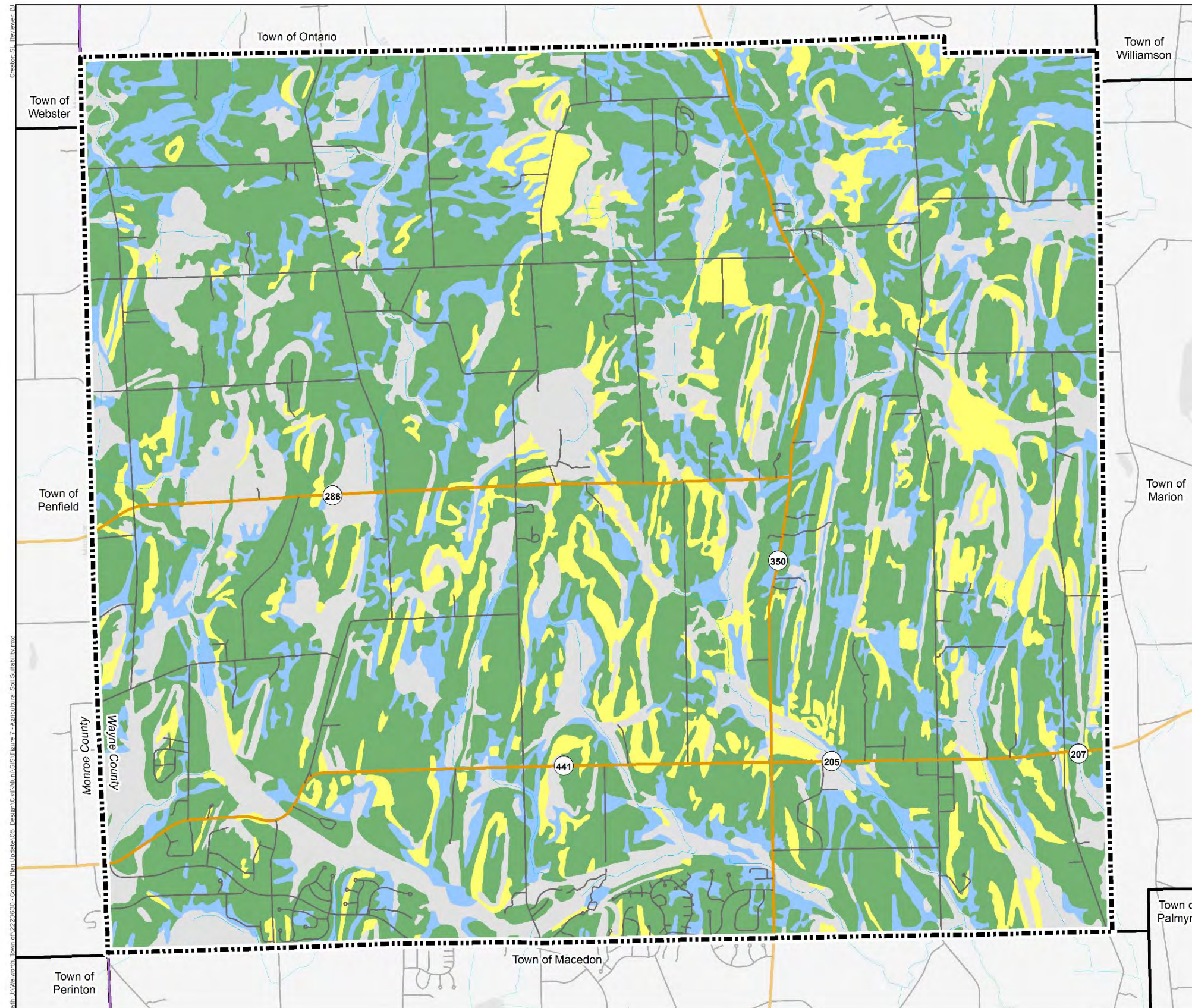
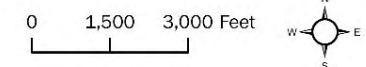
- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Prime farmland if drained
- Not prime farmland

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams

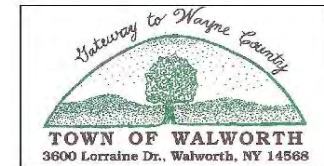


LaBella Project No: 2223630
NOVEMBER 2022

- Sources:
1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Parcels (2021): Regrid
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 5. Basemap: ESRI
 6. Agricultural Soil Classification: USDA NRCS Soil Survey via SSURGO online database



TOWN OF WALWORTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS

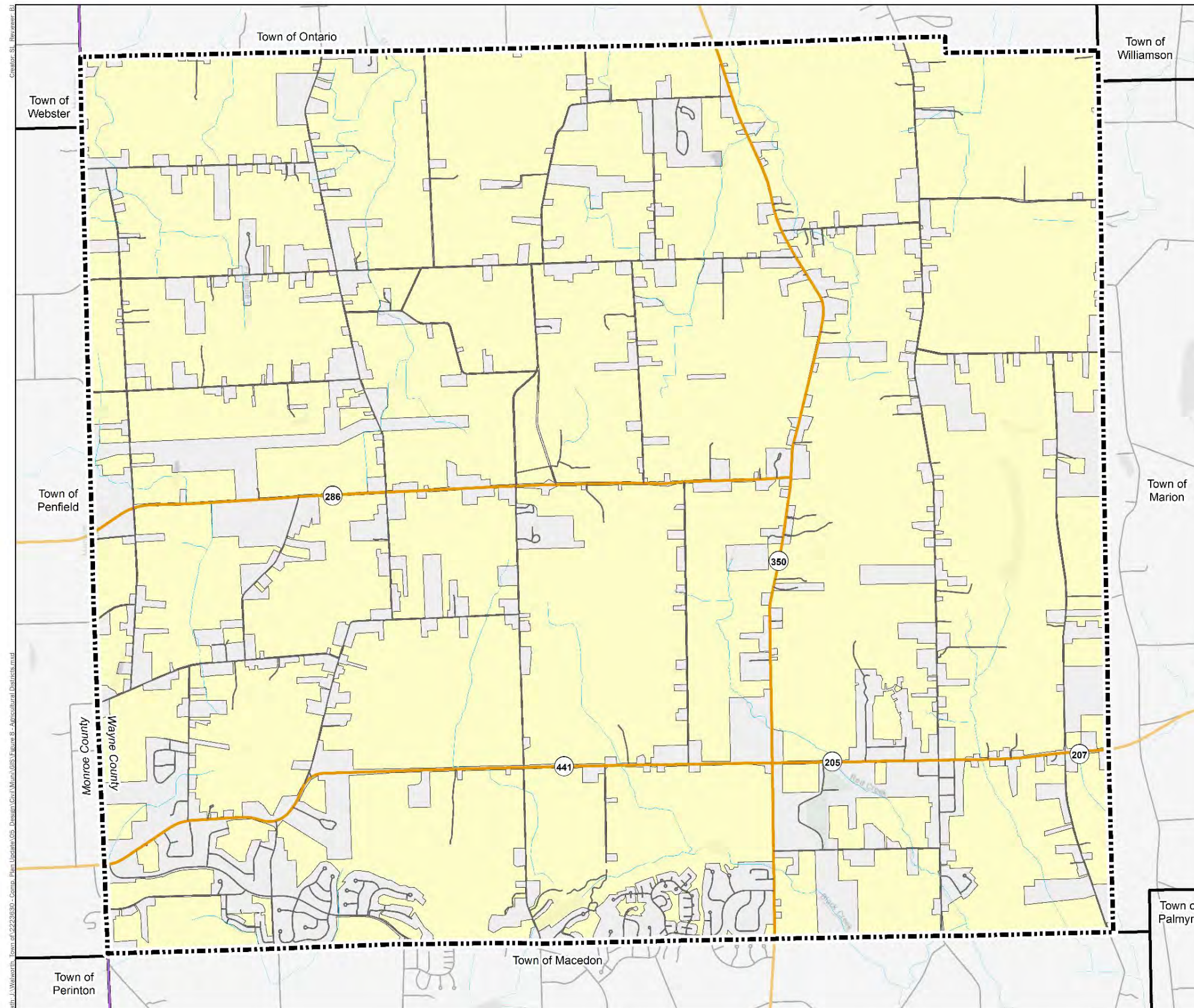
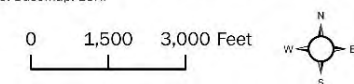
Agricultural District #1

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams

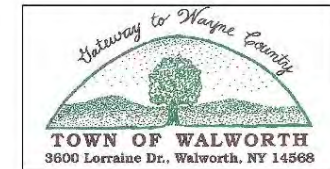


LaBella Project No: 2223630
NOVEMBER 2022

- Sources:
1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Agricultural Districts: Cornell Institute for Resource Information Sciences (Cornell IRIS) / NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 5. Basemap: ESRI



TOWN OF WALWORTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



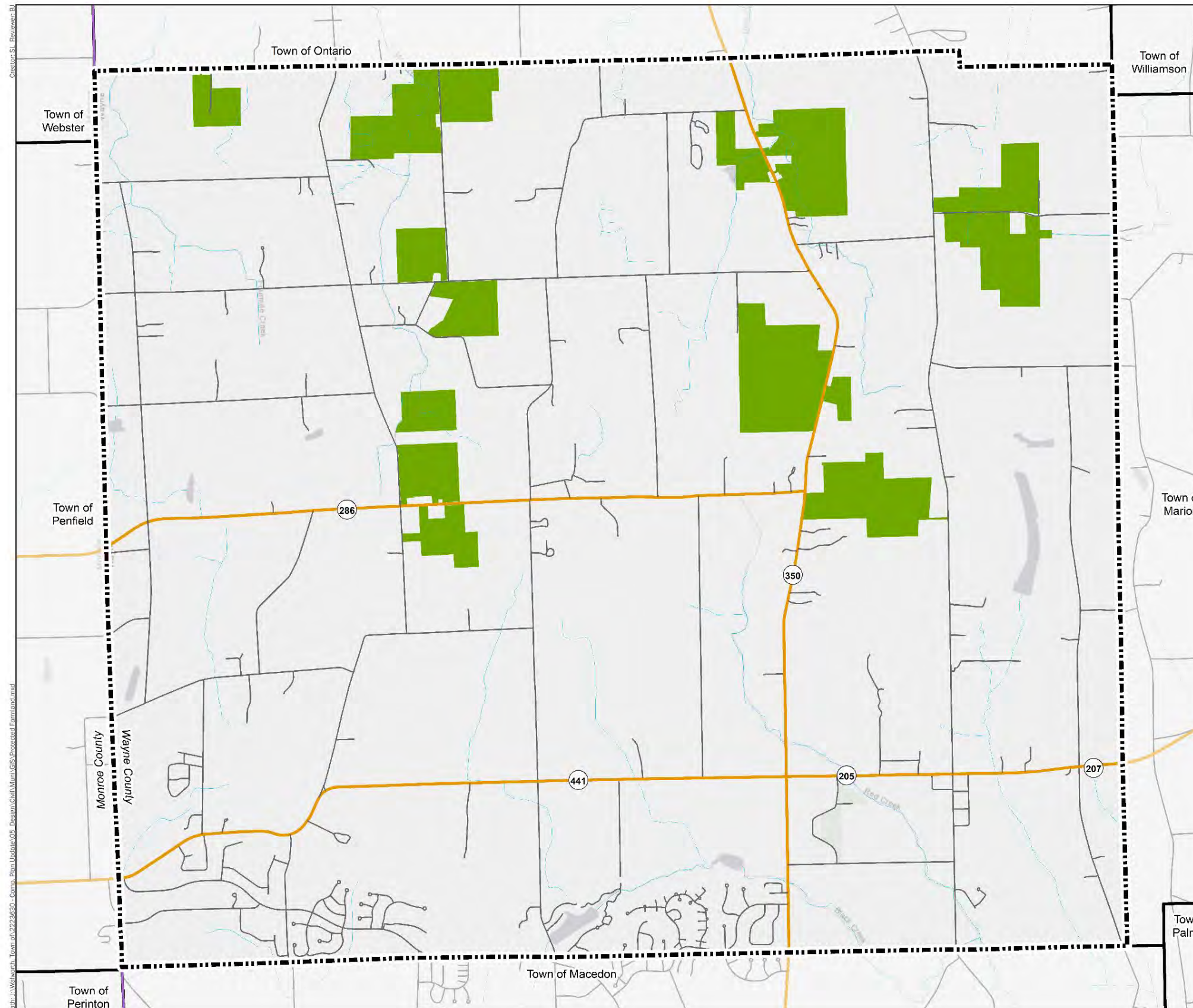
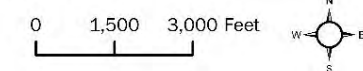
PROTECTED FARMLAND

- Protected Farms
- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams



LaBella Project No: 2223630
NOVEMBER 2022

- Sources:
1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Agricultural Districts: Cornell Institute for Resource Information Sciences (Cornell IRIS) / NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 5. Basemap: ESRI



NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

VISION

The Town will protect and preserve sensitive natural resources to maintain water quality and ecosystem benefits.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Geology & Soils

Topography & Bedrock Geology

The topography of the Town of Walworth contains numerous drumlins and small steep hills scattered across the town. Drumlins are elongated oval-shaped hills formed by retreating prehistoric glaciers. The drumlins in Walworth extend north to south and range from one mile to one-half miles in length. Surface elevations throughout the town vary from a low of approximately 400 ft (122 m) to an elevation high of 656 ft (200 m) above sea level. The town's lower elevations are primarily associated with the land along the creek valleys of Bear Creek, Mill Creek, and Red Creek. The town's highest elevations are associated with the myriad of hills throughout the lower half of the town such as Boyton Hill, Kuttruff Hill, and Morse Hill.

The bedrock geology underneath the Town of Walworth is comprised of sedimentary rock types dolostone, limestone, and shale which trend across the town east to west. Bedrock characteristics can strongly influence above and below ground water movement and the movement of contaminants in water supplies. The types of bedrock found underneath Walworth are typically more permeable and are therefore more susceptible to groundwater contamination from surface water runoff.

Surficial Geology & Soils

Surficial geology is the layer of unconsolidated sediment that sits above the bedrock. The two primary groups of surficial geology throughout the town are outwash sand and gravel (og) and till (t); additionally, there is a large stretch of bedrock (r) that stretches east to west across the top half of the town.

Soil is the foundation for ecosystems and many of the ecosystem services that humans benefit from. Ecosystem services that soil provides includes nutrient and water cycling, filtering nutrients and contaminants, biological control of pests and diseases, and providing raw materials such as clay and topsoil. When considering land use, it is important to account for soil characteristics such as pH, texture, acidity, permeability, drainage, organic content, depth to bedrock, and slope. These types of characteristics can impact projects such as the design of drainage systems, septic system evaluation, building basement and foundation construction, and agricultural yield. In Walworth, the predominant soil association is Madrid-Bombay. This soils association is characterized as deep, well to moderately well-drained, and moderately coarse textured soils.

Most of the soils in Walworth are considered ideal for agriculture. 11,803 acres of land or 57% of all land within the town has soils that are considered prime farmland while an additional 9 acres are considered

farmland of statewide significance. Farmers in Walworth utilize these prime farmland soils to grow general crops, corn, and a variety of grains.

Water Resources

Watersheds

A watershed is an area of land from which all water drains into a particular stream, river, lake, or other waterbody. Surface topographic features (such as ridges, mountains, and hills) help to define the boundaries of these watersheds. In Walworth, all the water that falls on the land or is expelled drains into four different HUC-12 sub-watersheds (Appendix watershed map). Water within these sub-watersheds carry water into two HUC-8 watersheds, the Irondequoit-Ninemile Creek and Seneca River. Divided by the elevations across the middle of the town, sub-watersheds in the northern half drain directly into Lake Ontario while sub-watersheds in the southern half drain into the Seneca and Oswego Rivers drainage basin via the Erie Canal which itself then drains into Lake Ontario.

The Irondequoit-Nine Mile Creek Watershed encompasses 454,207 acres of land across Monroe, Wayne, Cayuga, and Oswego County. This watershed covers 11,526 acres of land in the town. The sub-watersheds Fourmile Creek, Bear & Mill Creek, and Salmon Creek all drain into this watershed. According to the National Land Cover Database (NLCD), 48% of landcover within this watershed is considered agricultural land, 23% is considered forested, and 8% is considered developed.

The Seneca River Watershed covers 2,211,908. acres of land across Ontario. Steuben, Wayne, Yates, Cayuga, Tompkins, and Seneca County. This watershed covers 10,177 acres of land in the town. Only the sub-watershed Red Creek West drains into this watershed. According to the NLCD, 42% of landcover within the watershed is considered agricultural, 24% is forested, and 16% is considered developed. As seen in Table X, a primary source of impairment for nearly all the sub-watersheds found in Walworth is agriculture.

Subwatershed	Acreage within the Town	Water Quality Class	Best Uses	Source of Pollutants	Pollutants
Fourmile Creek	1,545	C	Fishing	Unknown	Dissolved Oxygen and pH
Bear & Mill Creek	7,317	C	Fishing	Agriculture and Atmospheric Sources	Dissolved Oxygen, pH, E. Coli, and Pesticides
Salmon Creek	358	C	Fishing	Stormwater Runoff, Agriculture, and Atmospheric Sources	Phosphorus, Nitrogen, and pH
Red Creek West	12,447	C	Fishing	Agriculture	Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Phosphorous, and Suspended Sediments

Waterbodies

The primary waterbodies throughout the Town of Walworth are Bear Creek, Black/Red Creek, Fourmile Creek, and Mill Creek. Bear, Fourmile, and Mill Creek all begin in the northern half of Walworth and traverse northward before emptying into Lake Ontario. The headwaters of Black/Red Creek originate in Walworth through various tributaries. These various streams eventually coalesce into one waterbody before reaching its outfall into the Lower Ganargua Creek. Not all waterbodies in the Town of Walworth have had their water quality assessed by the NYSDEC, however, those that have been assessed have a water quality grade of C which means their best use is for fishing only.

Wetlands & Floodplains

Other significant waterbodies within the town include wetlands and floodplains. In Walworth, there are 56 New York State regulated wetlands that cover 3,882 acres of land. Additionally, there are 870 federally mapped wetlands in the town. Wetlands provide a plethora of ecosystem services that benefit agricultural practices, the natural environment, and the residents of Walworth. such ecosystem services include filtering and sequestering stormwater/urban runoff, supporting pollinator populations, recharging well water sources, and protecting lands from flood damage.

Floodplains are areas of low-lying land that are typically found adjacent to bodies of water that become inundated during times of high-water flow. Floodplains in Walworth are found along the banks of Bear Creek, Black/Red Creek, Mill Creek, and Fourmile Creek. These Floodplains offer several ecosystem services that benefit the natural environment and residents of Wales. These ecosystem services include regulating flood risk/damage, recharging groundwater capacity, regulating sediment and nutrient levels, and maintaining wildlife habitats. There are 444 parcels in the Town of Walworth that are in a floodplain, which is 12% of the total number of parcels in the town. Of these 444 parcels, 57% contain single family residences, however, as of 2020 there are only 6 properties that have flood insurance with FEMA.

Parcel Type	# of Parcels in the Floodplain
Single Family Res.	255
Two-Family Res.	1
Rural Res.	77
Agriculture	11
Vacant Land	82
Commercial & Industrial	10
Public Infrastructure	5
Conservation & Parkland	2

Groundwater & Aquifers

Groundwater is a primary source of water that feeds rivers and streams while aquifers are defined as areas with significant amounts of groundwater saturation. Aquifers can be used as a primary source of water to supply private wells and irrigation systems. However, groundwater supply can be impacted by the amount of impervious surface area or the type of bedrock in a watershed by altering the rate which water infiltrates the ground. Additionally, groundwater and subsequently aquifers can become contaminated by polluted run-off from sources such as salting roads and applying pesticides to residential lawns and agricultural fields. Municipal drinking water provided by the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority is available for Walworth residents on 95% of the town's roads. This water comes from a variety of sources including Lake Ontario, Canandaigua Lake, and several drilled wells. The town's remaining population

receives their water from individual household wells. There are 15 registered wells in Walworth with the NYSDEC. Most of these wells are located throughout the southern half of the town around the only aquifer within the town boundary. This aquifer is unconfined and has yield varying between 10-100 gal/min. This aquifer is not a primary aquifer; therefore, NYS does not regulate what is built on the ground above it.

Climate

Climate in Wayne County and the Town of Walworth is temperate and variable, from warm summers bringing the occasional drought to cold and snowy winters. However, there is widespread scientific consensus that the Earth's climate is warming, and this is at least partially a result of human activity. Generated by the burning of fossil fuels and other industrial processes, greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane accumulate within the planet's atmosphere, trapping heat that normally would escape into space and thus warming the planet over time. In 2014, The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) updated their ClimAID, Responding to Climate Change in New York State, Technical Report with new projections on the impact of climate change in New York State, including Wayne County.

Air Temperature

Average yearly temperature in the Town of Walworth is 48.5 °F with a summer average high of 79.6 °F and a winter average low of 19.6 °F. According to the 2014 ClimAID Report, the average annual air temperature in Walworth and Wayne County is predicted to increase by 4.3-6.3 °F by the year 2050 and by as much as 11.7 °F by 2100. NYSERDA's report anticipates that each season will experience similar amounts of warming. For the Town of Walworth this means that the growing season could lengthen by over a month and new crops will be able to be grown, however, summer will become more intense, and winters will be milder. Furthermore, rising air temperatures can be a concern to human health as warmer temperatures can exacerbate asthma, allergies, and other respiratory issues.

Precipitation

On average, the Town of Walworth receives 2.05" of rainfall per month with an average of 24.7" of rainfall per year. According to the 2014 ClimAID Report, the average rate of precipitation in Walworth and Wayne County is predicted to increase by 4-10% by 2050 and by as much as 19% in 2100. Flooding and streambank erosion will become a persistent hazard with more continual heavy rainfall events.

Severe Weather Events

As climate characteristics such as air temperature and precipitation are anticipated to increase, the rate of extreme weather events is also anticipated to increase. According to the 2022 Wayne County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, Walworth has experienced several hazard events over recent years. These events include high wind thunderstorms, hailstorms, and lake-effect snowstorms. The increase in severe weather events and daily temperatures will have the potential to negatively impact resident health and the local economy of Walworth.

Decade	# of Days over 90F	# of Days under 32F
2020s	14-17	103-111
2050s	22-34	84-96
2080s	27-57	68-88

RELEVANT PLANS, STUDIES, & PROGRAMS

Wayne County Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Strategic Plan (2021)

In 2021, the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District released their 2021-2025 AEM Strategic Plan. The mission of the plan is to bridge knowledge gaps in the county's agricultural community by providing information on new conservation technologies and encouraging farmers to improve and mitigate impacts on the environmental and economic sustainability of their land. For this plan, each watershed within the county was assessed based on the amount of cropland, number of farms, type of farms, agricultural water quality impacts, soil sampling, farmer input, and previous studies. Results from this assessment identified which watersheds should be targeted each year throughout the plans duration into 2025. The plan recommends that the County's watersheds be prioritized as follows:

2021: Fourmile Creek, Bear/Mill Creek, Salmon Creek East & West

2022: Red Creek West & East and Upper Ganargua Creek

2023: Sodus Bay/Sodus Creek, East Bay/Mudge Creek, Port Bay/Wolcott Creek, Blind Sodus Bay/Blind Sodus-Red-Little & Black Creek

2024: Lower Ganargua Creek, Erie Canal West, Canandaigua Outlet, and Black Brook

2025: Erie Canal East, Clyde River, Crusoe/Butler/Black Creeks, and Seneca River

During each year of the program, specific tasks will be conducted for the listed watersheds including contacting landowners/farmers in the watershed, scheduling outreach and education events, initiating various plans with farmers including comprehensive nutrient management plans and whole farm plans, and finally applying for grants and other funding to implement best management practices on farms. The four watersheds that cover land in the Town of Walworth were all assessed in 2021 and 2022.

Red Creek West Watershed Assessment (2014)

Published in 2015 by the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District, this report sought to assess the water quality of the Red Creek West watershed, identify sources of pollution, and provide recommendations for remediation. The headwaters of Red Creek originate along the Wayne-Monroe County line in the Towns of Walworth and Macedon. The creek flows throughout Wayne County before reaching its outfall into the Lower Ganargua Creek. In total the Red Creek West watershed covers 30,750 acres of land, 12,477 of which covers land in Walworth.

This report analyzed the water quality of the Red Creek West watershed by sampling the concentrations for four pollutants: total phosphorus (TP), Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN), Nitrate/Nitrite (NOx), and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). Of these four pollutants, TP and TKN exceeded standards set by NYS and EPA. For TP, NYS sets a standard for concentrations in flowing water to be 0.065 mg/L, the average concentration of TP in the watershed across 16 testing sites was 0.0765 mg/L. For TKN, the EPA sets a standard for waterbodies to have no more than 0.2 mg/L of TKN, however, the average concentration of TKN in this watershed was 0.889 mg/L which is over 4x the recommended level.

Following the analysis of water quality within the watershed, this report identified several sources of pollution. These sources include non-point sources such as livestock, cropland, stormwater runoff, septic system discharges, and hydrologic modification. In addition, one point source was identified which is a wastewater treatment plant in the Town of Walworth. The report concluded by offering recommendations to reduce pollution from each source. For the Town of Walworth, recommendations included upgrading

the Town's wastewater treatment plant and to implement green infrastructure projects along Red Creek West to mitigate stormwater runoff.

Town of Walworth MS4 Program

An MS4, otherwise known as a “municipal separate storm sewer system” is a collection of structures, including retention basins, ditches, and underground pipes that is separate from a sewer system and designated to gather stormwater from built-up areas and discharge it into bodies of water without treatment. MS4s that are located within an urbanized boundary as designated by the U.S. Census are required by the EPA to develop a stormwater management program (SWMP) which is regulated by the NYSDEC. The program is intended to protect waterways by helping reduce the quantity of pollutants that stormwater picks up and carries through the Town's MS4.

To comply with these requirements, the Town of Walworth first passed their stormwater management local law in 2007. As part of this local law, the Town has an appointed stormwater management officer who is responsible for conducting inspections on all stormwater management practices throughout the Town. When properties or construction projects are in violation of the Town's local law, the officer may place stop-work orders, levy fines, or require the restoration of lands in violation. Furthermore, the Town's local law provides the Town authority to control the illicit discharge of pollutants into the Town's MS4 and may suspend service to properties if illicit discharges are detected. Other activities that the Town does to minimize pollutants in stormwater runoff within the Town includes (1) maintaining a website detailing Town MS4 activities, (2) notifying the public of upcoming stormwater related activities, (3) keeping an updated map on file of all storm drain outfalls, (4) having the Town Planning Board and Engineer review stormwater pollution prevention plans for compliance, and (5) conducting post-construction inspections on all stormwater features maintained by the Town's Highway Department.

To help support smaller communities in Wayne and Ontario County with their SWMP, government entities within the area including the Towns of Farmington, Macedon, Ontario, Walworth, the Wayne and Ontario County Highway Departments, and the Town and Village of Victor formed the Ontario-Wayne Stormwater Coalition (OWSC). As part of being a MS4 community, municipalities are required to provide an annual report to the DEC highlighting how they are implementing the six minimum control measures (MCMs) of their SWMP: (1) Public education and outreach, (2) public involvement and participation, (3) illicit discharge detection and elimination, (4) construct site stormwater runoff control, (5) post construction stormwater management, and (6) pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations. Coalition members work together to fulfill these MCMs and to improve water quality in a cost-effective manner. The coalition itself submits the annual report on behalf of these municipalities and assists with the implementation of MCMs 1 and 2. Each municipality and agency implement MCM 4 and 5 for their entire area of authority and MCMs 1, 3, and 6 in MS4 designated areas only. To help with MCMs 1 and 2, the OWSC hosts workshops, conducts annual trainings, installs signage at storm drains for public awareness, and publishes educational literature to be distributed to the public.

Despite the best efforts by the Town and the OWSC to mitigate pollutant sources in stormwater runoff, the water quality for all major waterbodies in the Town of Walworth is classified by the DEC as class C. Below is summary of all known potential stormwater pollution sources in and around the Town of Walworth.

Town of Walworth Dams

Name	Hazard Level	Located in a MS4 Area
D M Dalton Pond Dam	Not Assigned	Y
William Daly Marsh Dam	Low Hazard	N
New Carey Pond Dam	Low Hazard	N
Stonewall Golf Course Dam A	Low Hazard	N
Stonewall Golf Course Dam B	Low Hazard	N
Stonewall Golf Course Dam C	Low Hazard	N
Gananda Gold Course Dam	Low Hazard	N
Leeward Lake Dam	Intermediate Hazard	N
Windward Lake Dam	Low Hazard	N
Baker-kemp Pond Dam	Not Assigned	N

- 1 Town of Walworth Sewer District #1 WWTP
- 2 15 registered PBS Facilities, six of which are still active.
- 3 One active CBS Facility
- 4 One permitted and one reclaimed mine
- 5 One concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO)

In addition to these potential sources of stormwater runoff pollution, there is one known environmental clean-up and monitoring site within the Town. From 1965-1966 The Hoff Brothers Refuse Site was used for the disposal and storage of waste oil and solvents from Xerox. Upon closure of the site in 1967, residents complained of foul smells and tastes in their drinking water. Private wells were sampled, and analyses revealed the presence of several contaminants. Post-closure assessments of the site concluded in 1997.

GOALS & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Goal: Protect water quality

Nearly 86% of respondents rated “Protection of water quality of streams and ponds” as very important for the future of the Town. The following recommendations can help assist the Town in protecting its water quality. Define buffer zones around water bodies and wetlands and limit development in these areas to prevent pollution, erosion, and habitat disruption.

Recommendations

1. Revise zoning to incorporate minimum buffers around streams.
2. Continue active participation in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program which prioritizes stormwater management.
3. Continue comprehensive SEQRA reviews as part of the development review process.

Goal: Maintain natural features and environmental resources

Walworth's natural features and open spaces sets it apart from many of the surrounding, more suburbanized municipalities. This open space provides various benefits including mitigating pollution, reducing stormwater discharge, and maintaining wildlife habitat.

Recommendations

4. Review Town's zoning code to incorporate additional protections of environmental resources.
5. Revise zoning code to ensure open space retained via cluster development is meaningful and has ecological and/or recreational benefits.

Goal: Prioritize stewardship of Town parks and their natural features

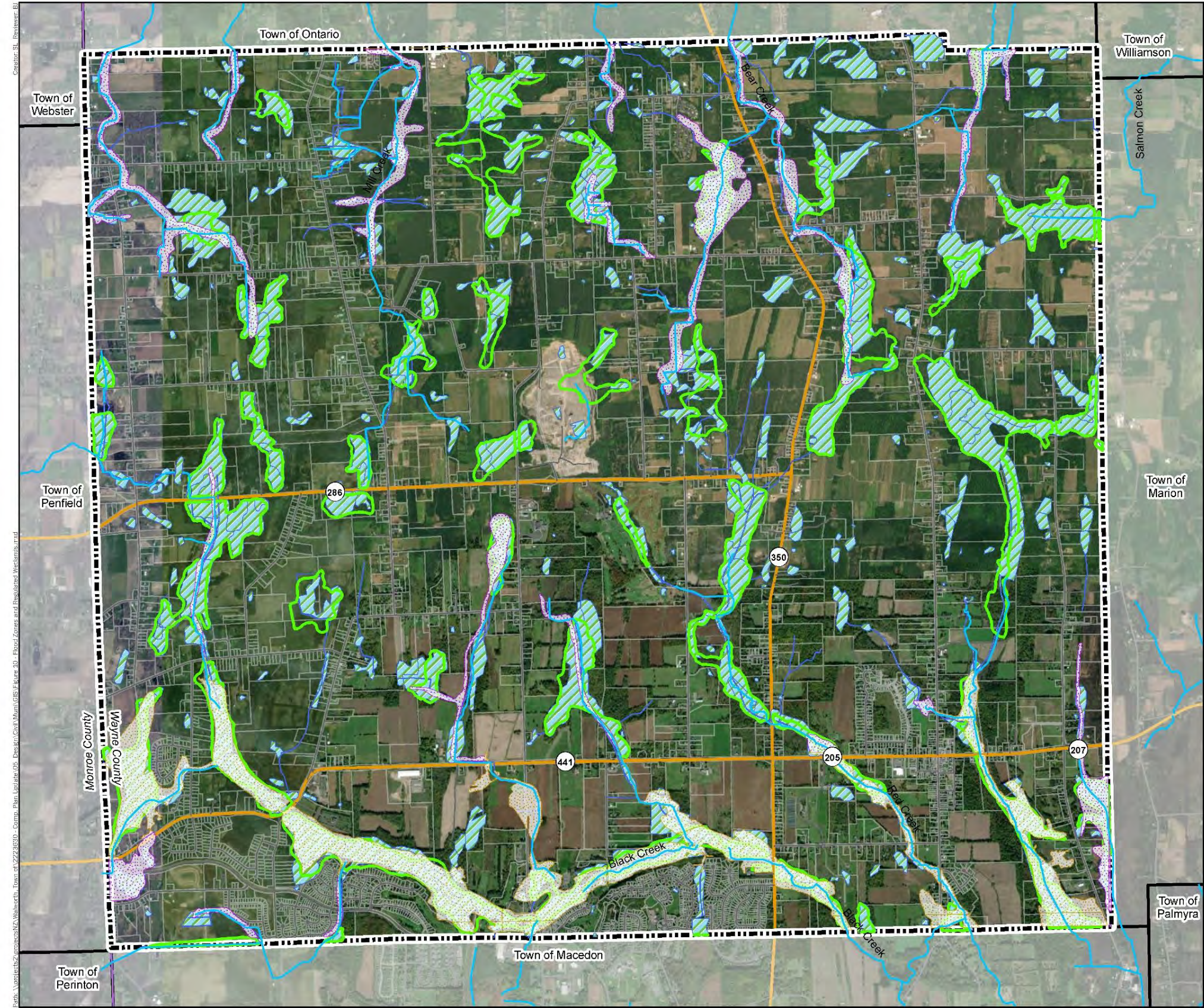
Beyond its recreational benefits, Town parks also provide environmental benefits to its residents, including preservation of natural landscapes and habitats as well as heat and stormwater mitigation. To ensure these benefits remain into the future, the Town must continue to prioritize the maintenance and expansion of park land and resources.

Recommendation

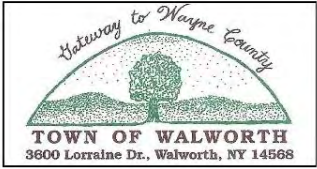
6. Carry out tree planting and maintain vegetation within stream buffers at Town parks and other Town-owned land.



Photo Source: Walworth Historical Society



**TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**



**FLOOD ZONES &
REGULATED WETLANDS**

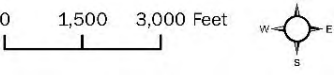
- Wetlands (DEC)
- Wetlands (NWI)
- Flood Zone**
- A
- AE

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Local Road
- Railroad
- Streams
- Parcels



LaBella Project No: 2223630
NOVEMBER 2022

- Sources:
1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Parcels (2021): Regrid
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 5. Basemap: ESRI
 6. Wetlands: DEC & NWI
 7. Floodzone: FEMA NFHL



POPULATION & HOUSING

This chapter presents an overview of current conditions and trends in Town's population and types of housing, describes the issues and opportunities raised in the Community Survey, and recommends actions to maintain a high quality of life for Town residents.

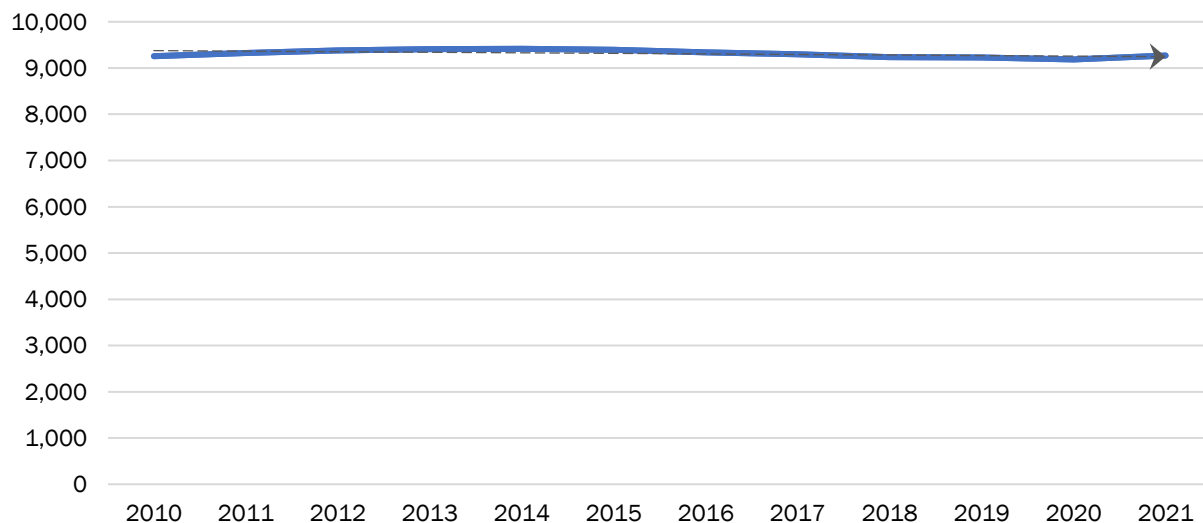
Population

The Town of Walworth's population has remained fairly stable over the last decade, with slightly over 9,000 residents. Changes in population have been nearly negligible, with less than a 1% change each year, as seen in the following table.

The population skews older, with 46% of the population over 45 years of age. This is consistent with the New York State and the country overall, which is seeing a general aging of the population as the Baby Boomer generation reaches retirement age.

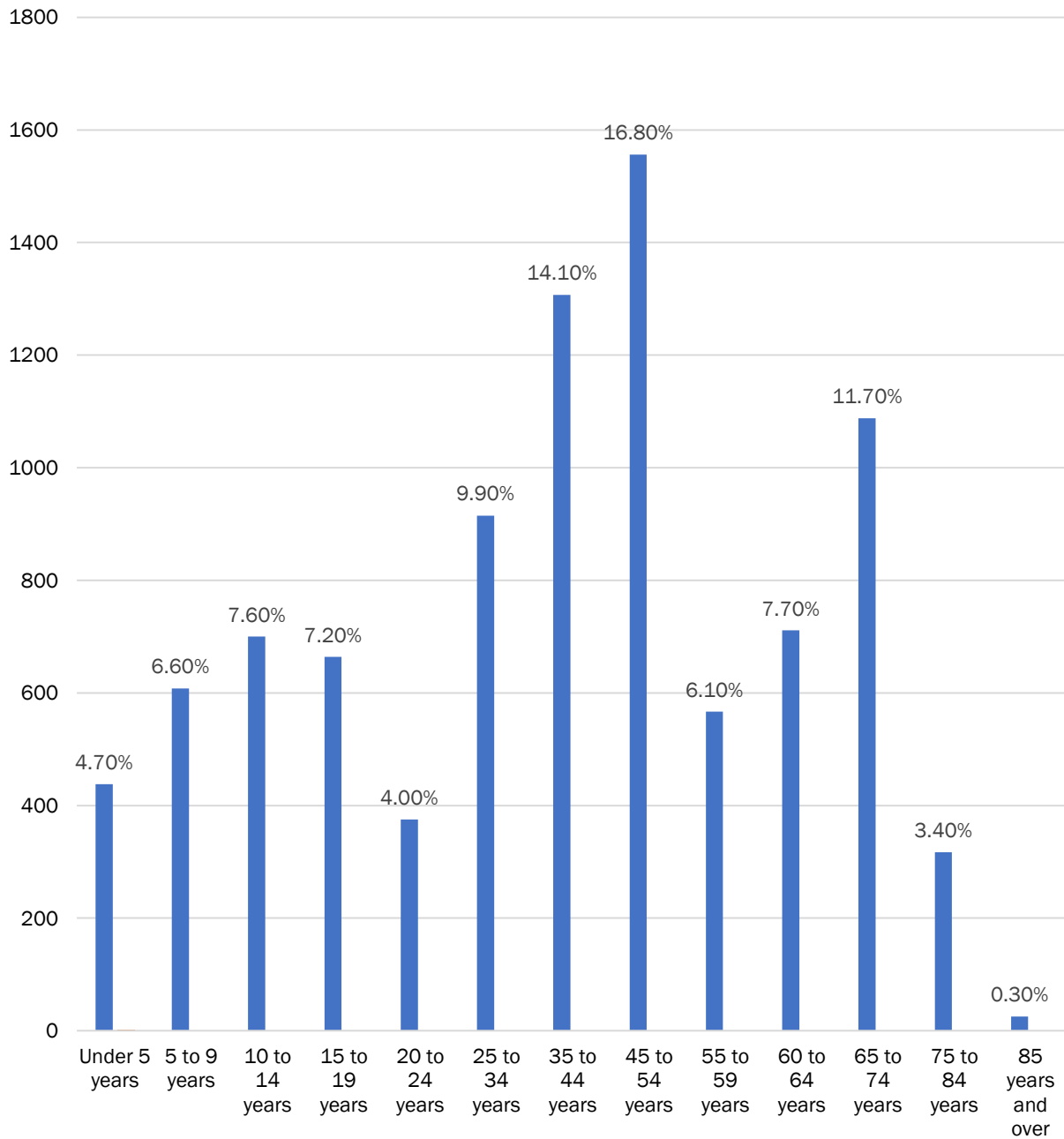
Year	Population	Margin of Error	Percent Change
2010	9,256	±20	-
2011	9,322	±24	0.71%
2012	9,381	±18	0.63%
2013	9,405	±33	0.26%
2014	9,415	±20	0.11%
2015	9,397	±18	-0.19%
2016	9,336	±22	-0.65%
2017	9,296	±22	-0.43%
2018	9,237	±36	-0.63%
2019	9,228	±29	-0.10%
2020	9,185	±19	-0.47%
2021	9,271	±33	0.94%

Town of Walworth,
Population over Time (2010 - 2021)



Source: U.S. Census, ACS 5- Year Estimates, 2010 - 2021

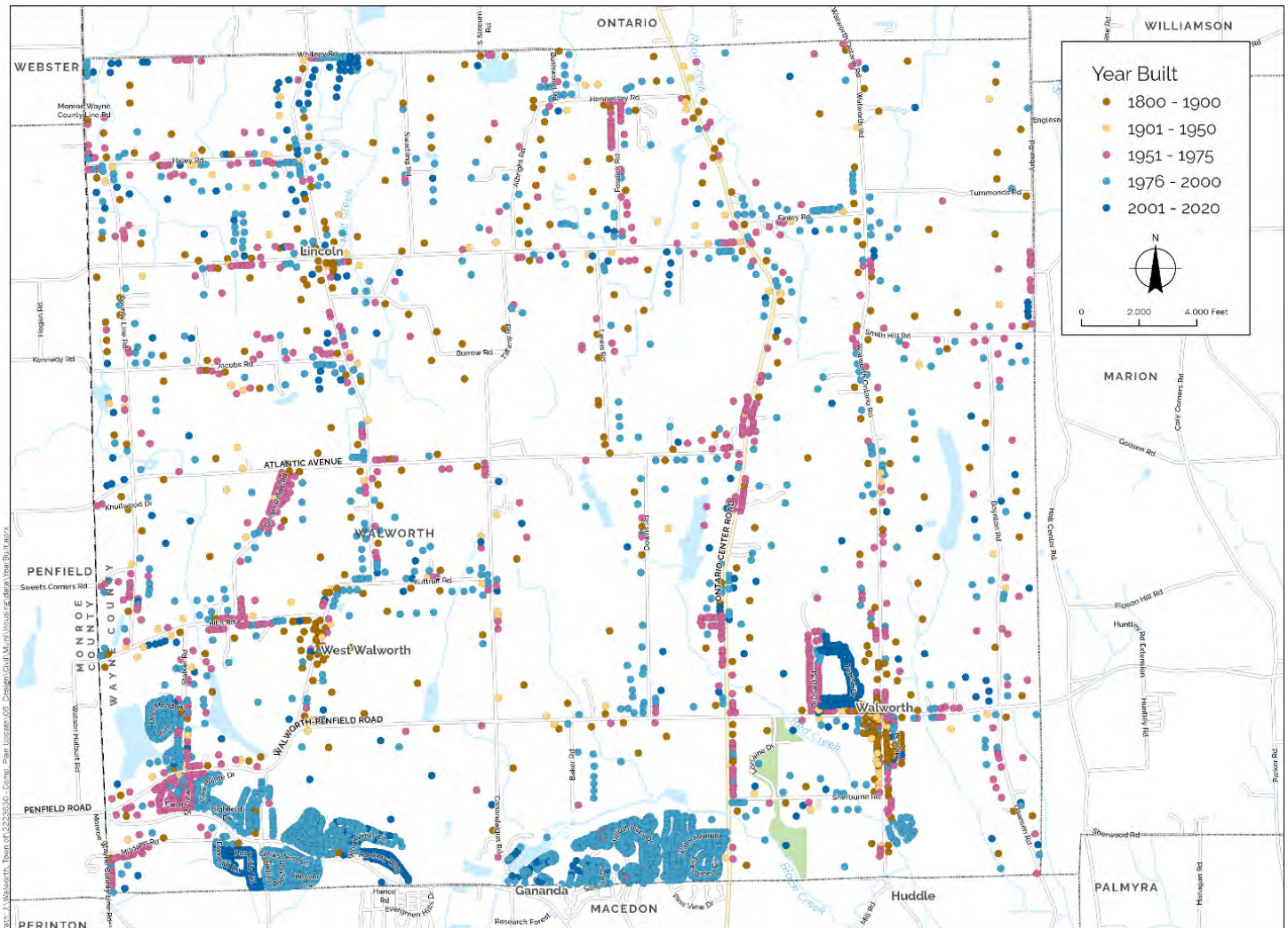
Town of Walworth, Age & Population (2021)



Source: U.S. Census, ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2021

Housing

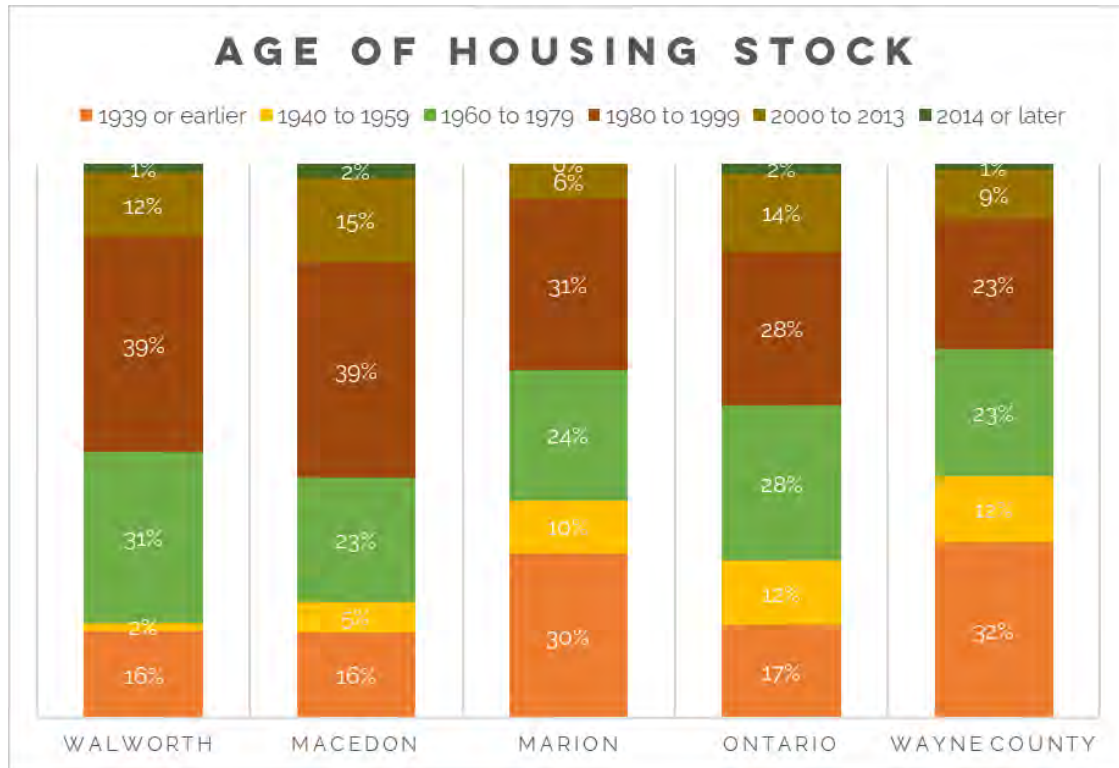
The Town of Walworth in 2020 was home to 9,185 residents living in 3,844 households across 3,670 units of housing. Housing in Walworth encompasses two centuries of growth and development and follows distinct spatial patterns that correspond to the period of building. The map below shows where residences are located in Town and their age, as indicated by color.



The earliest homes in Walworth, those built in the 19th century, can often be seen concentrated along the crossroads of the Town's earliest places of settlement, such as the intersection of Walworth-Renfield Road and Ontario Road in Walworth proper, and at the junction of West Walworth Road and Bills Road in West Walworth. In the first half of the 20th century, new builds generally grew on the edge of the established community centers or else as farmhouses scattered amongst the agricultural land.

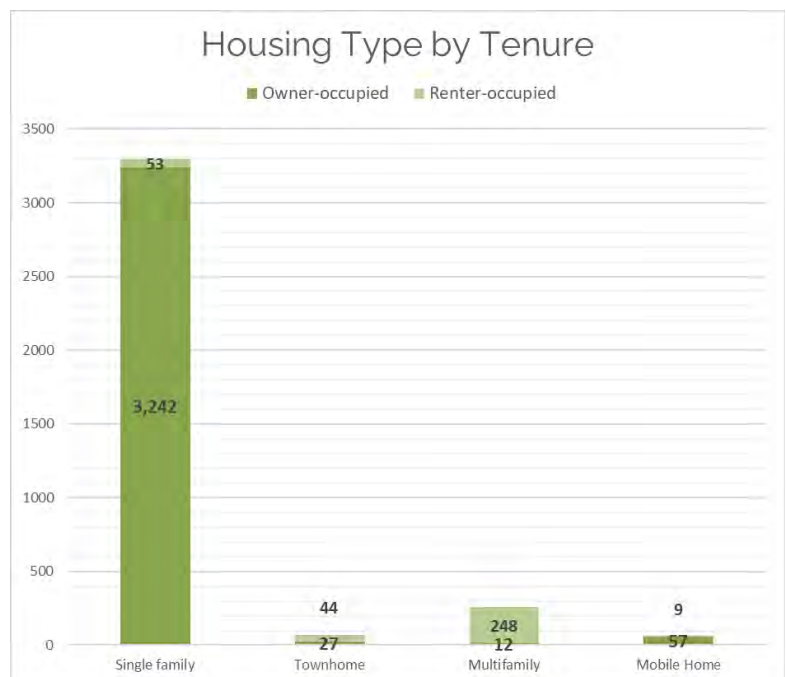
Development in the post-war period usually followed semi-dense suburban style north-south or east-west subdivisions along existing streets (Cream Ridge Road, Bills Road, Orchard Street). Conversely, much of the development in the last four decades has clustered along the Town's southern portion, along the border with Macdon. These subdivisions are arranged along curvilinear streets and generally feature smaller lot sizes than can be found elsewhere in Town.

However, Walworth is a younger town relative to its neighbors and to Wayne County as a whole. Its most robust period of residential building was in the second half of the century (between 1960 and 1999), when an estimated 70% of Walworth's 3,764 homes were built. Only 18% of Walworth's total housing stock was built prior to 1960, a smaller proportion than Macedon (21%), Marion (40%), Ontario (29%) or Wayne County as a whole (44%). Walworth is by and large a young Town, one which owes much of its growth and development to the post-war period as residents left Rochester for new opportunities to own single family homes in its emerging suburbs.

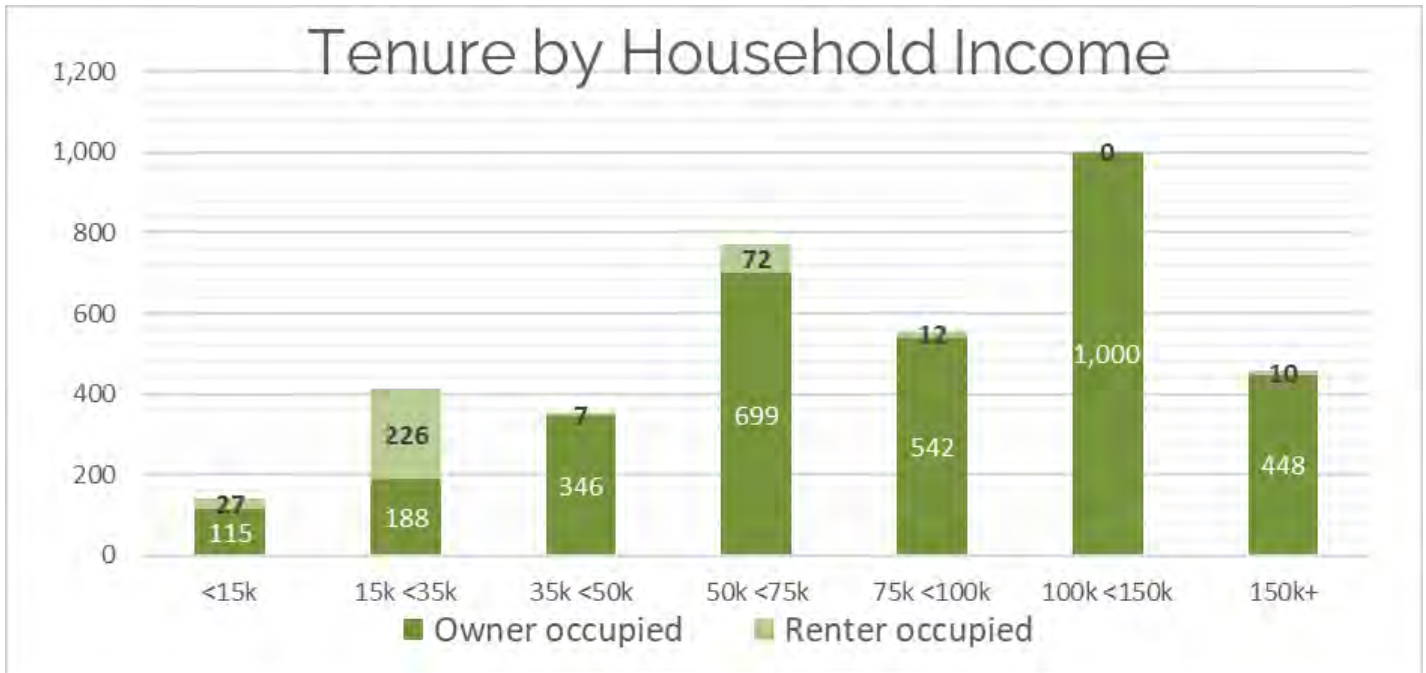


2023 real property data from the Town assessor indicate that Colonial-style buildings, which often feature symmetrical windows and a rectangular floorplan and flat exterior walls, was the most common architectural style among residential dwellings in Walworth, followed by ranches.

Homeownership is the dominant tenure arrangement in Walworth, and the vast majority of its housing stock is in the form of single-family homes. Walworth features a few other housing types, including townhomes, multifamily, and mobile homes, though none account to a significant share of overall inventory. Multifamily housing, however, accounts for the largest share of rental housing in Walworth, featuring some 248 rental units.

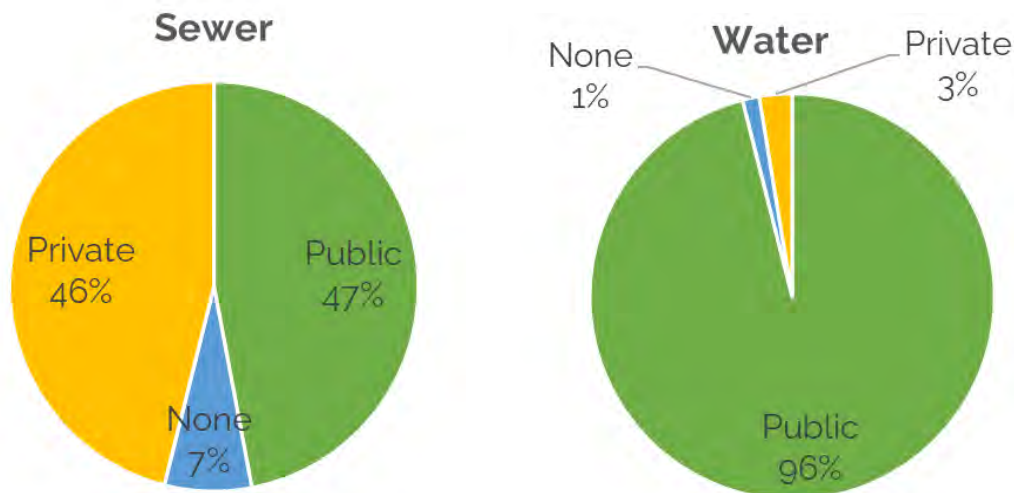


Walworth's inventory of rental housing forms a critical housing option for residents making below \$35,000 annually. Residents earning in excess of this generally own their homes.



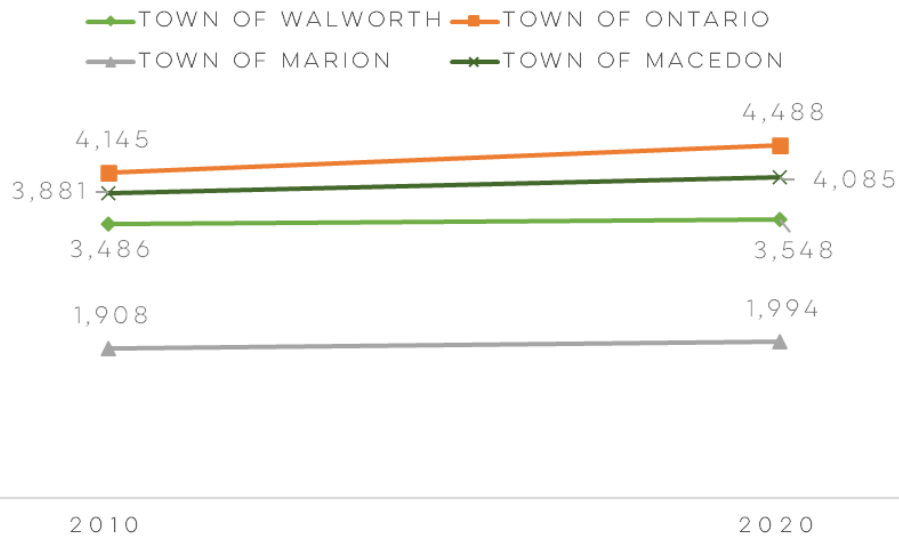
Roughly an equal share of parcels in Walworth contains either private or publicly provided sewer systems. The provision of public infrastructure in the form of water or sewer districts can be crucial in dictating the direction and location of future residential development in communities where there is private interest to build. Water and sewer mains necessarily subsidize the development of new homes – without this infrastructure, new development will often be prohibitively expensive.

Presently, public sewer districts are concentrated in the south of Town, along the hamlet of Walworth and the planned unit development (PUD) of Granada, along the southern border with Macedon. Conversely, public water is much more common throughout Walworth, extending to roughly 96% of all parcels.



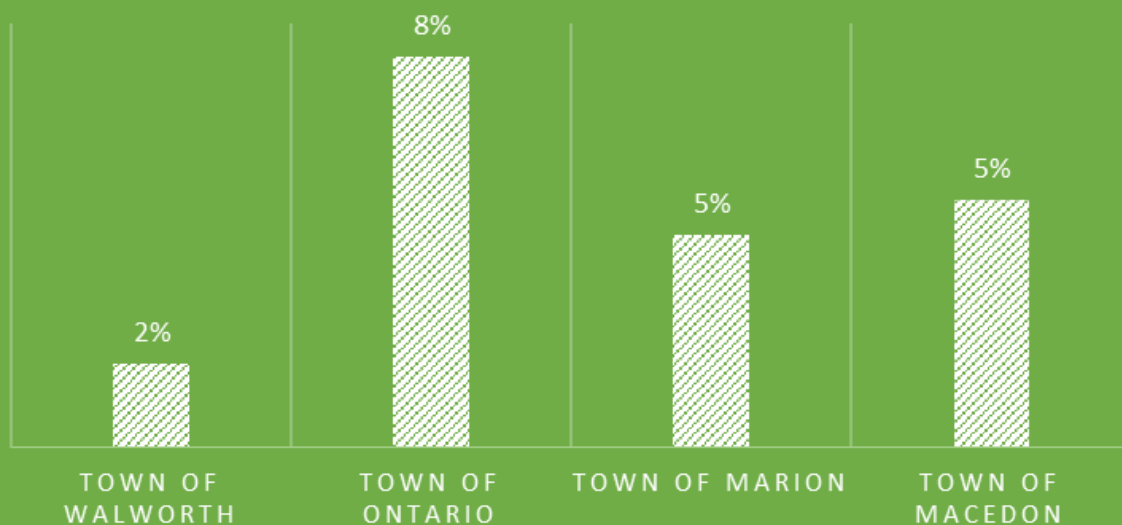
When compared to its neighboring townships, the rate of housing growth in Walworth has for the past decade been comparatively slow, growing 2% between 2010 and 2020.

TOTAL HOUSING UNITS 2010 TO 2020

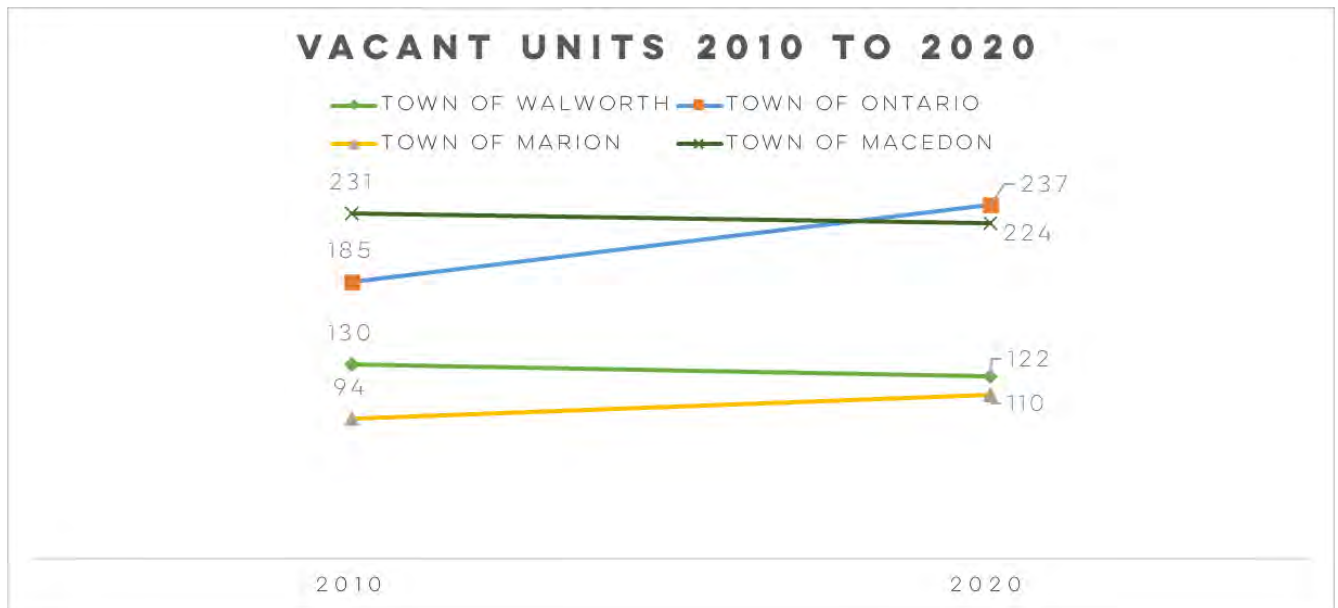


Walworth is outpaced by Marion, Ontario, and Macedon (the latter two of which are similarly sized). However, household growth in Walworth was only narrowly outpaced by Wayne County as a whole, which grew by 3% between 2010 and 2020, adding some 1,200 units of housing. The slower growth in Wayne County can most likely be attributed to conditions farther east in the County, outside the influence of the Rochester metropolitan area.

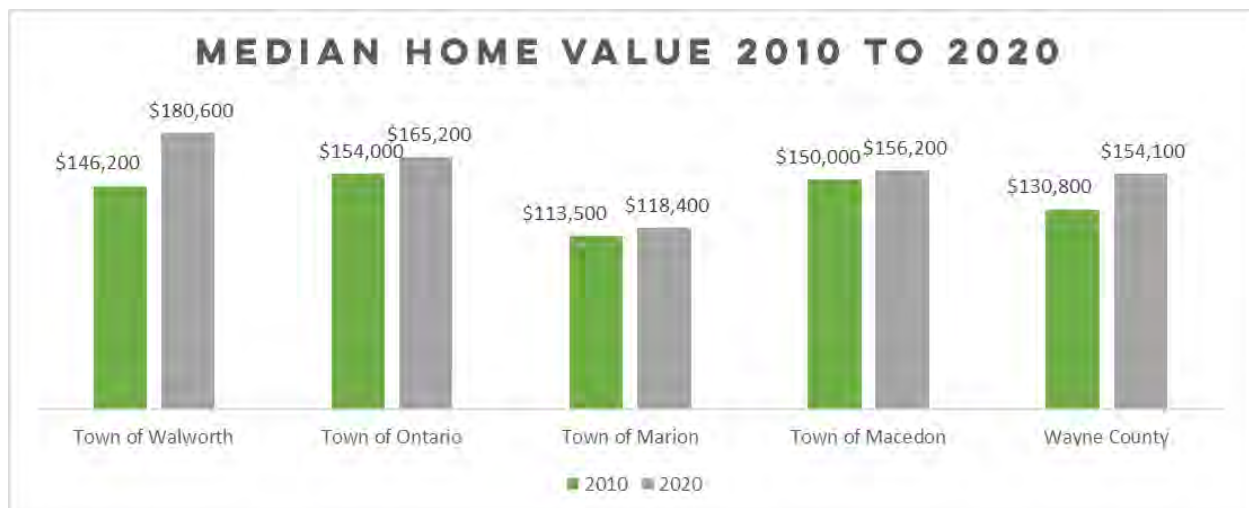
TOTAL HOUSING UNITS PERCENT CHANGE 2010 TO 2020



Vacancy statistics indicate, however, that continued demand exists for housing options in Walworth, with vacancy declining slightly between 2010 and 2020. This trend runs counter to that of adjacent townships, all of which other than Macedon demonstrated a modest increase in vacancy rates. An increase in vacant units was more appreciable in Wayne County, where vacancy increased by 6%. Walworth's downward trajectory in vacancy, albeit modest, likely speaks to modestly intensifying housing pressures in Walworth, possibly as a result of its slower rate of housing production. Among its 72 vacant units in 2020, 45 were classified as sold but unoccupied while 25 fell under the umbrella of "other vacant."



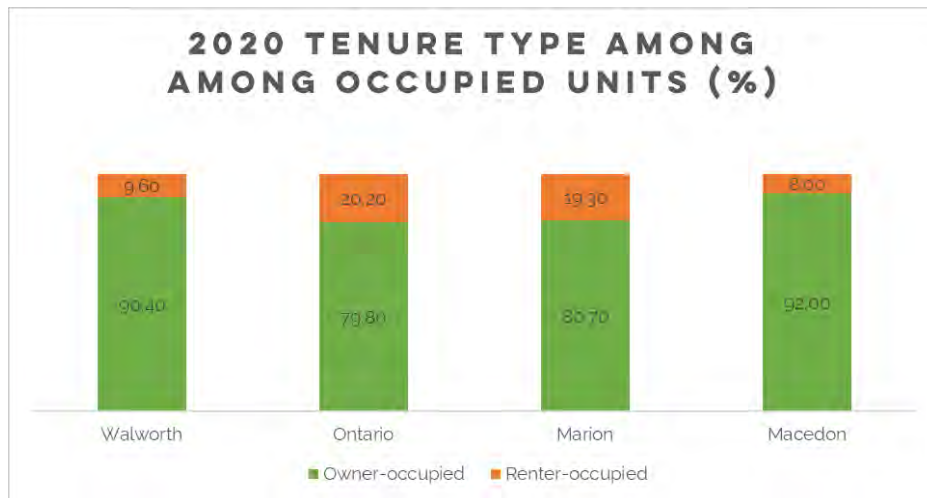
Another indication that the housing market in Walworth is tightening can be witnessed through the appreciation of home values (among housing units with a mortgage) in Town between 2010 and 2020. The rise in home values in Walworth – which grew 17% over the course of the decade – outpaced adjacent townships, including Marion and Macedon (both 4%) and Ontario (7%). Appreciation of home values in Walworth was also slightly greater than Wayne County, where values rose 15%. While it is difficult to say with certainty which factors were most decisive in this trend, apart from Walworth's desirability as a place to live and the strength of its school districts, it is likely a correlation exists between home value appreciation and reduced inventory/housing production.



Changes in median gross rents exhibited slightly less variability than home value. In the Town of Marion, for instance, gross rent declined by 6% over the decade. In Ontario, rents grew apace with home values (6%). In Walworth where mean gross rents increased by 11% between 2010 and 2020, a more modest rate of change than seen in neighboring Macedon (22%) and Wayne County (18%).



In Walworth, rental inventory was from the first more limited relative to adjacent townships, comprising only a smaller share of overall housing than in Macedon.



House production is determined by a variety of complex factors, chief among which are the provision of public infrastructure (i.e., water and sewer) and land use controls which dictate where additional housing units can be produced. For instance, much of Walworth's northern landmass is zoned Rural Residential which requires that homes be built on lot sizes no smaller than one acre. Denser zoning districts predominated in Walworth's southern half where Hamlet, Residential (R), and Planned Development (PD) zoning designations permit residential development on smaller lot sizes. Where public sewer districts overlap with these zoning designations are the areas where new residential development will likely focus. Development potential is constrained elsewhere by the lack of public sewer infrastructure and lot size requirements.

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Goal: Preserve existing rural character, especially outside sewerred areas and the hamlets

Goal: Accommodate continued residential subdivision and development in sewerred areas

As part of the public input survey, when respondents were asked what they liked most about the Town of Walworth, the following words were frequently used: “rural” (18 occurrences), “quiet” (13), “small town” (12), and “open spaces” (8). The Town of Walworth has a rich rural character that is appreciated by its residents. Residents indicated they would like this rural character to remain, as opposed to becoming more suburbanized with nearly 53% of respondents indicating they do not want to see additional residential development.

The Town can help maintain the rural character of the area by maintaining rural residential zoning outside of the Hamlet District and sewerred areas. Additionally, discouraging sewer infrastructure in agriculture-heavy areas can help preserve the Town’s current rural characteristics.

Infrastructure often sets the stage for development. While several residents indicated that they do not want to see additional residential development, geographic realities and current market conditions indicate that residential development in the Town will continue. By encouraging new residential development in sewerred areas, the Town can help keep the rural areas rural while accommodating residential growth in a more concentrated area.

Recommendations

1. Maintain zoning that guides more intensive residential development to areas with sewer infrastructure and retains the character of the town’s rural areas.

Goal: Allow for a mix of housing types in the hamlets

Hamlets tend to be characterized by a mix of housing types, consistent with historical development patterns. Allowing for a mix of housing types along with commercial establishments within a connected area can set the stage for an active, walkable hub in Town. A mix of housing types can attract a wide range of residents while maintaining the distinctive hamlet neighborhood quality.

Recommendations

2. Revise zoning to accommodate diversity of housing types as well as business development.

Goal: Improve quality of existing housing

Several homes in Town likely need upgrades with 18% of Walworth’s total housing stock built prior to 1960. Various programs exist on the state level that assist homeowners with home repairs and energy-efficiency upgrades. Having the Town promote these programs can help raise their awareness to local residents and help leverage state funds to improve housing conditions in Walworth.

Sources of funding and technical assistance include: Pathstone, USDA Rural Development, and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG).

Recommendation

3. Connect homeowners with sources of funding and resources for home repairs and energy-efficiency upgrades.

Goal: Promote a diversity of housing types, including those that are affordable for the average Walworth resident and aging population

With an aging population, many individuals will be looking to downsize. A common issue is individuals desire to age in their community, but affordable options tend to be limited. Allowing residents to easily build an accessory dwelling unit can allow older residents to downsize, rent their primary residents to supplement a fixed income, and remain a part of the community.

Recommendations

4. Revise zoning to accommodate Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) both attached to and separate from the primary residential structure.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

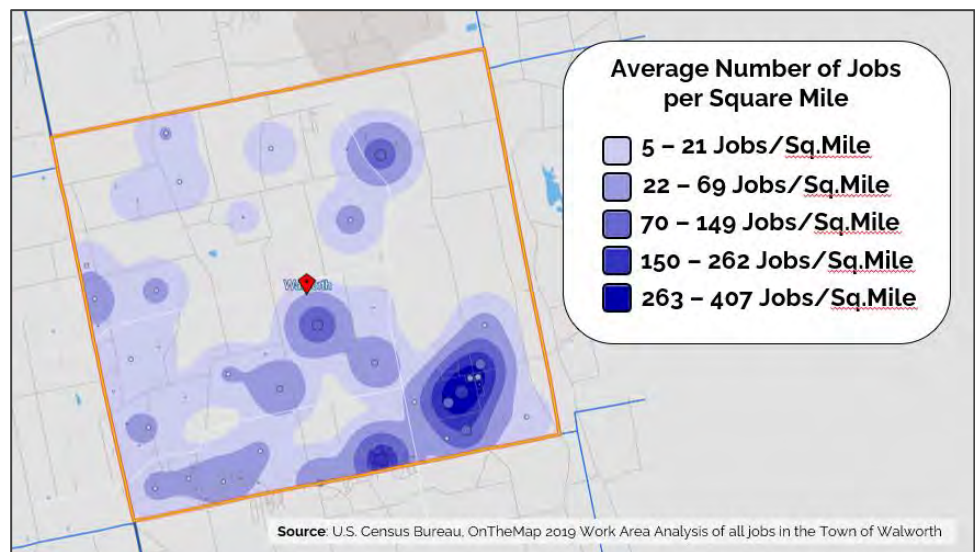
VISION

Route 441 Corridor with sewer expansion – shovel-ready sites. a focus on local business and retention of local economic activity. Desire to support local businesses through the permitting process, site requirements, external resources, and overall business-friendly environment.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Existing Businesses

The image to the right from the U.S. Census Bureau OnTheMap Analysis highlights the location of job creators and the concentration of jobs in the town. The most concentrated area of jobs in town is located in the southeast corner around the Hamlet of Walworth. There are various retail sales and service establishments located here as well as Town Hall and the Postal Service.



Businesses and places of employment in the southwest area of town include, but are not limited to:

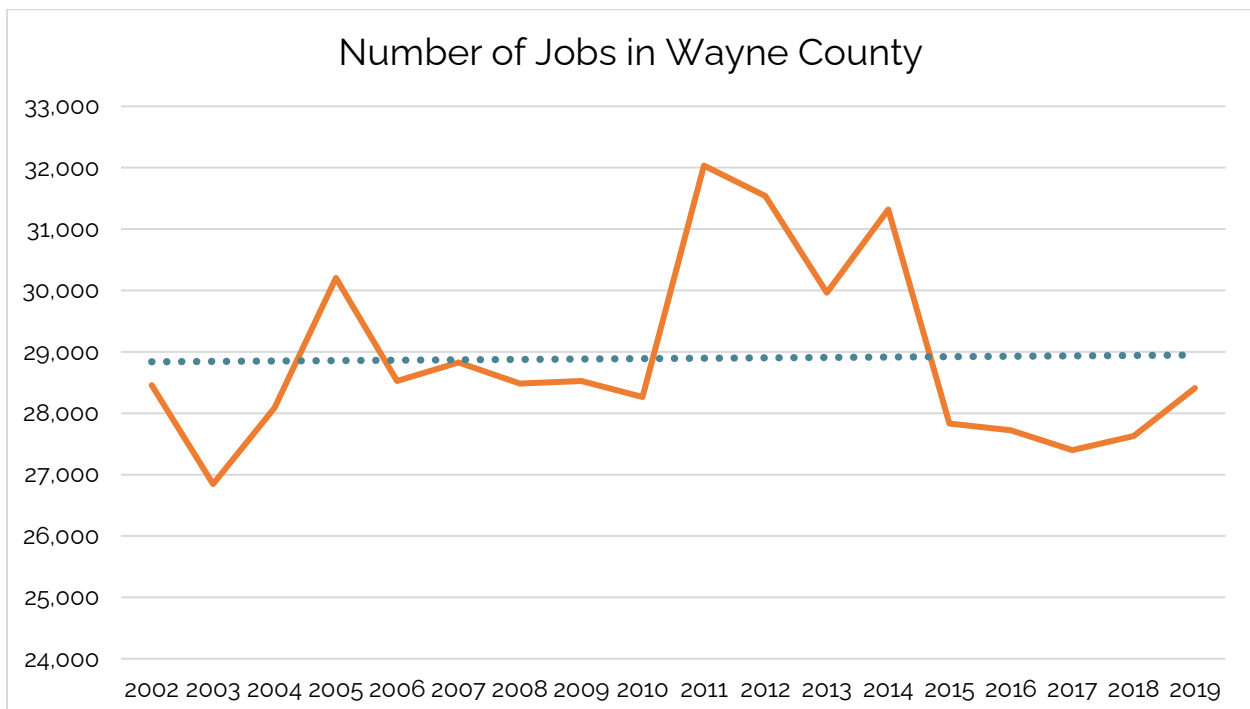
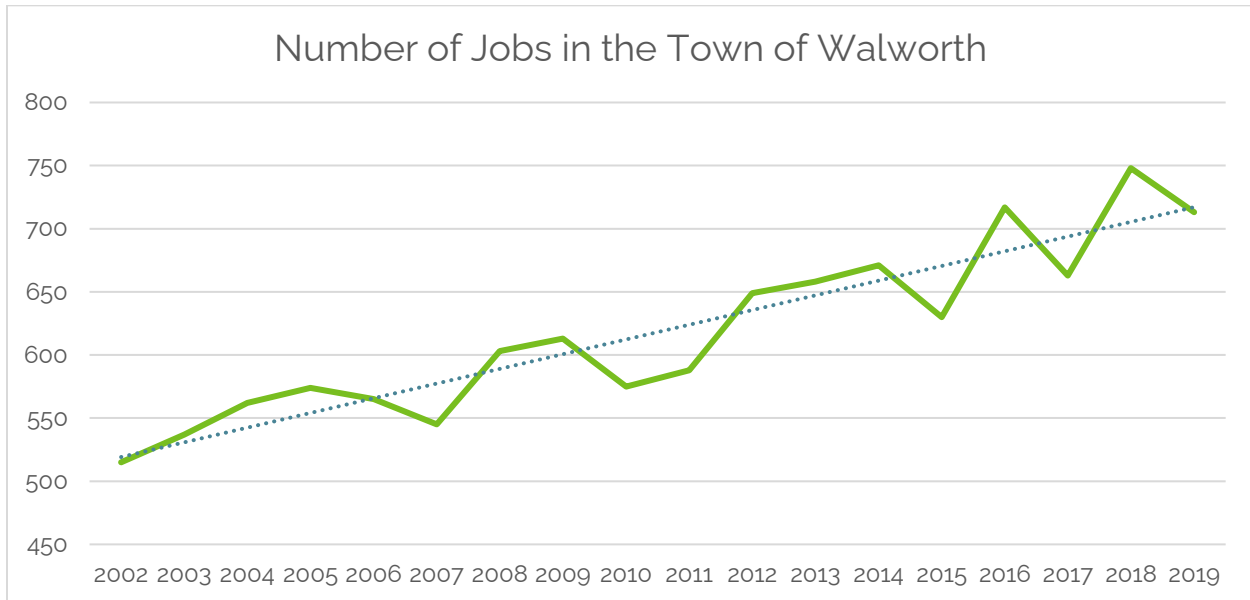
- Mark's Pizzeria
- Crossroads Automotive
- Roxy's Salon & Spa
- Eastern Shore
- The Custom Gun Shop
- NYS Sitepower (power systems sales and installation)
- Salvatore's Old Fashion Pizzeria
- Tops Market
- Dollar General
- FedEx
- Absolute Performance of NY (auto repair)
- Creekside Resort Kennel
- Kopykast Xerox repair
- Fine Line Property Maintenance and Landscaping
- Moltuc Dog Training
- Positive K-9 Dog Training
- Goat Crazy Roofing

Public places of employment in this area include Walworth Town Hall and the United States Postal Service.

Job creators southwest of the hamlet includes Gananda Middle School and the Walworth Water Treatment Plant. Job creators slightly west are Carey Lake, the Tri-County Sports Complex, and McAlpin Industries amongst other establishments. Additionally, near the center of town, the Links at Greystone golf course and the Highway Department employ individuals in Walworth.

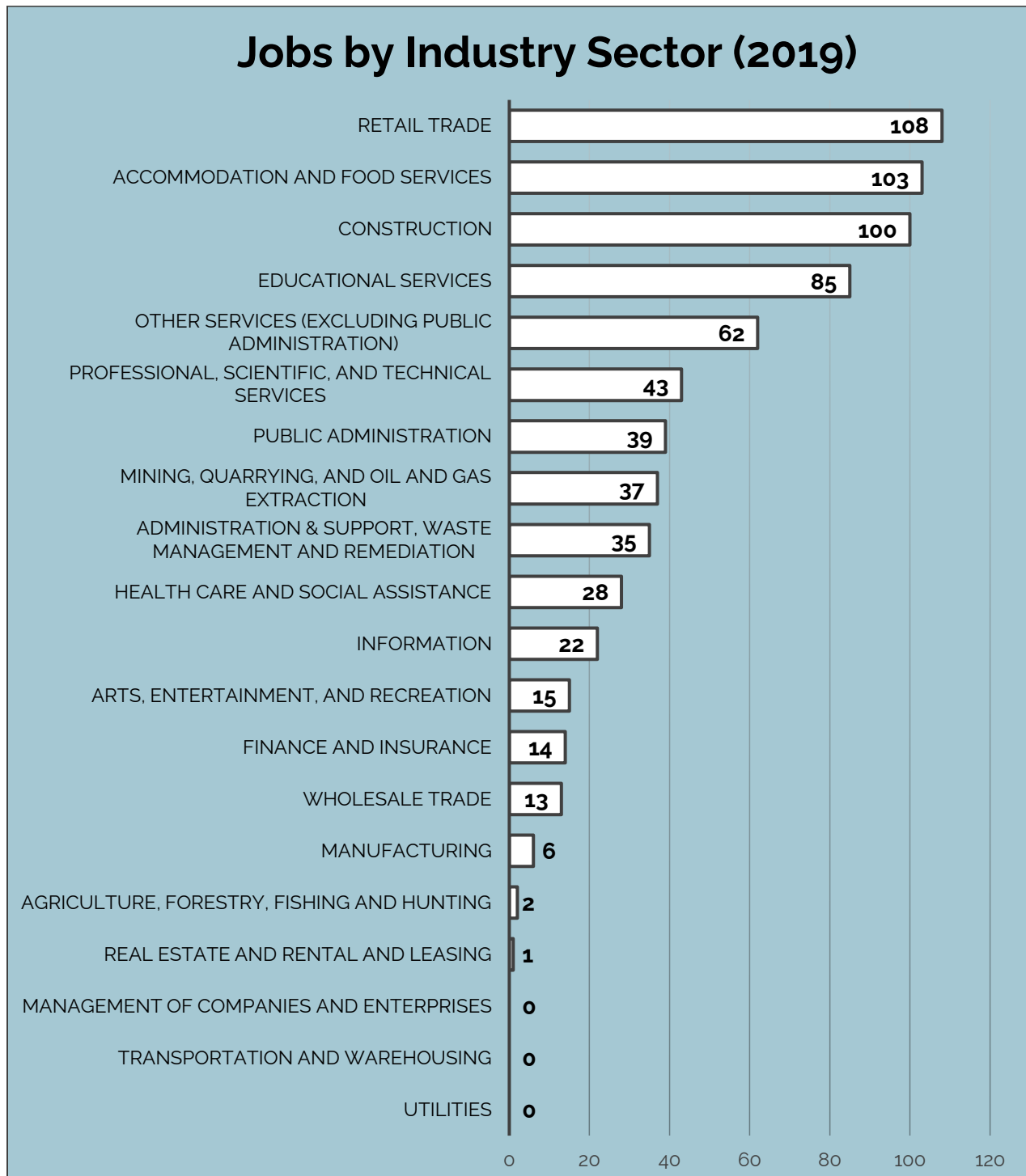
Employment

There are approximately 713 jobs located within the Town of Walworth out of a total of more than 19,589 in Wayne County. Therefore, approximately 3.6 percent of the jobs in Wayne County are located within the Town of Walworth.



The largest job sectors in the Town of Walworth include:

- Retail (108 jobs, 15.14% of total)
- Accommodation & Food Services (103 jobs, 14.44% of total)
- Construction (100 jobs; 14% of total)
- Education (85 jobs, 11.92% of total)



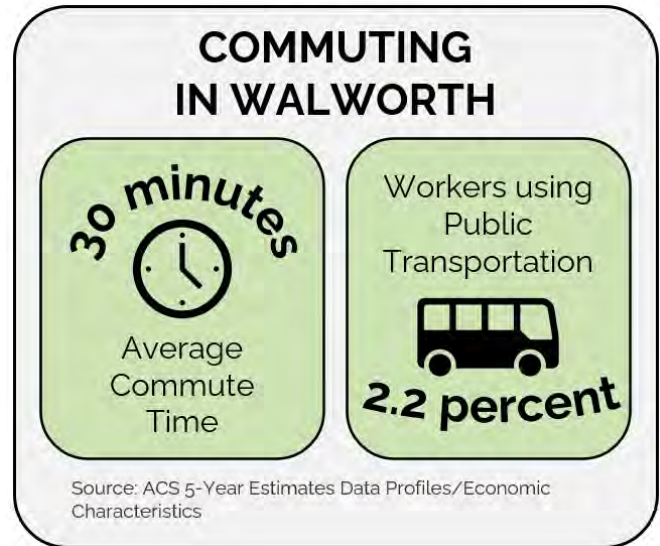
The largest change in jobs from 2004 to 2019 were in the following sectors:

- Finance & Insurance (600% increase from 2 to 14 jobs)
- Accommodation and Food Services (212% increase from 33 to 103 jobs)
- Manufacturing (200% increase from 2 to 6 jobs)
- Retail (177% increase from 39 to 108 jobs)

Place of Work

Based on the Census Bureau's 2019 Inflow/Outflow Analysis of Primary Jobs in the Town of Walworth, of the 4,879 employed Town residents, only 127 people work in the Town while the remaining 4,752 work outside of the Town. However, the analysis also revealed that 586 people living outside of the Town of Walworth commute to Walworth for week.

Per the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, the average commute time for Walworth residents is 30 minutes, slightly less than the state average of 33.3 minutes and slightly more than the national average of 26.8 minutes. Only 2.2% of Walworth residents utilize public transport to travel to work which is slightly less than the national average of 4.2% and significantly less than the state average of 24.7%.



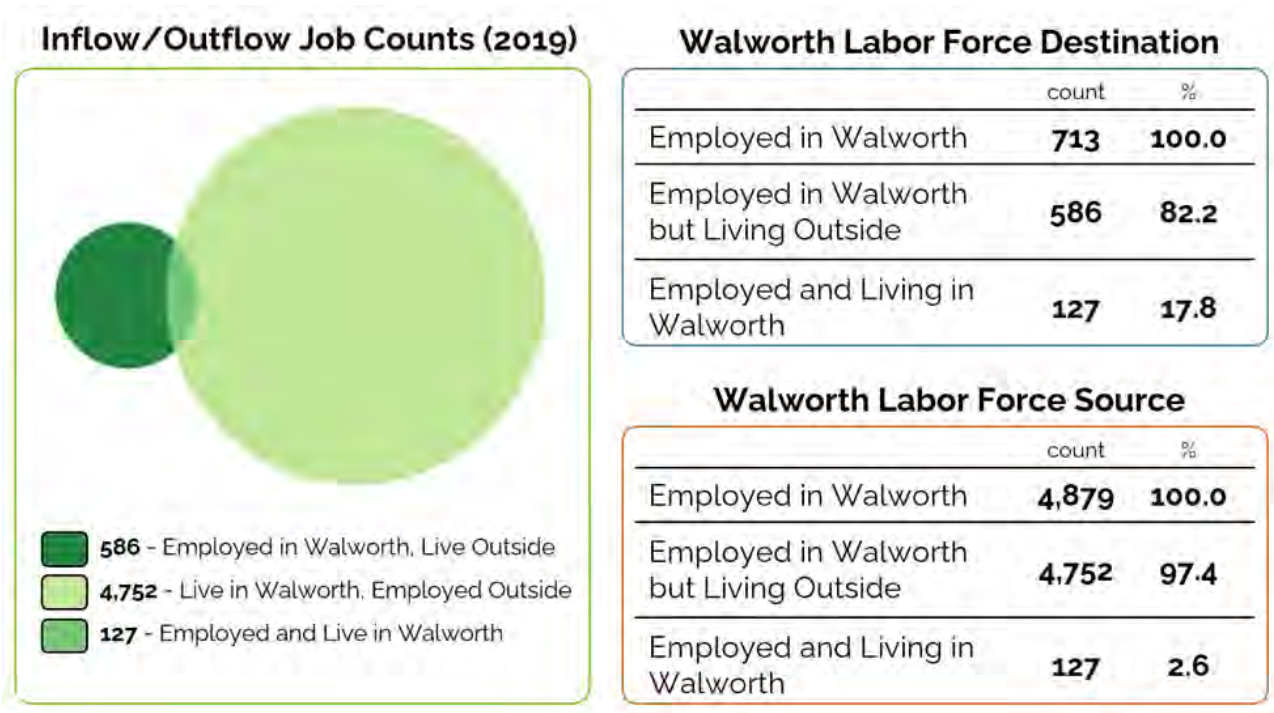
An inflow/outflow diagram related to workforce location can be found to the right.

Worker flow dynamics are symbolized by the green arrows. Workers employed in Walworth but living outside the city are represented by the arrow entering the town. Workers employed outside the town but living in Walworth are represented by the arrow leaving the town. Workers that live and work in Walworth are represented by the circular arrow. The flow arrows do not indicate directionality of worker flows.



You can see 586 workers employed by the Town of Walworth live outside the Town. 4,752 workers live in the Town of Walworth but work outside the municipal boundary. 127 workers both live and work in Walworth.

The Venn Diagram below highlights the number of workers living in Walworth (the light green circle) and number of workers employed in Walworth (the dark green circle). The intersection of the two circles represents the number of workers living and working in Walworth.



This analysis highlights the movement of workers commuting in and out of the Town of Walworth. The Town is analyzed as both a labor force source and destination. 82.2% of people working in the Town of Walworth do not live here, and 97.4% of Walworth residents work outside of the Town, with only 2.6% of residents both living and working in Town.

RELEVANT PLANS, PROGRAMS, & REGULATIONS

Wayne County Business Park Feasibility Study

Current study that will analyze existing business parks and areas with informal business clusters within the County. The study will identify infrastructure prerequisites, planning obstacles, development incentives and financial resources to boost investment in these areas and will be a catalyst for attracting companies to locate or expand their business in the County, with the ultimate goal of boosting the job prospects for local residents. The study has an anticipated completion of December 2024.

Wayne County Microburst Grant Program

It was created to provide a grant for local small business startup projects. It is an opportunity to give your new business a financial boost. Every application will be reviewed for completeness and sustainability by staff and a review committee. The reimbursable grant funding can range from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Wayne County Micro-Enterprise Revolving Loan Program

Makes loans up to \$150,000 for the purchase of fixed assets or working capital. Provides both technical and financial assistance to the startup or expanding small business creating or retaining low to moderate-income jobs. The interest rate, based on prime, will be fixed at the time of closing with a repayment term of up to eight years, depending on the use of proceeds. This is available for businesses with five or fewer employees within Wayne County.

Finger Lakes Works On-the-Job Training Reimbursement Program

Finger Lakes Works administers funds to help eligible employers train new employees. Additionally, they provide other support and training services for businesses.

FAST NY Shovel-Ready Grant Program

Under New York's FAST NY Shovel-Ready Grant Program, Empire State Development will provide up to \$200 million in grants to prepare and develop sites statewide to jumpstart New York's shovel-readiness and increase its attractiveness to large employers, including high-tech manufacturing, particularly semiconductor manufacturing, interstate distribution and logistics businesses. The program will help diversify New York State's economy while propelling new investments for businesses, communities, and job creation.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Economic Development Program

The Office of Community Renewal recognizes that New York's smaller communities must have an economy that encourages business development and promotes jobs for low- and moderate-income persons. Through the Office of Community Renewal's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Economic Development program, the Office of Community Renewal provides grants to communities that wish to sponsor economic development activities that create or retain jobs for low- and moderate-income persons. The goal of the program is to fund projects that result in high quality, full-time jobs that are well paying and provide benefits and training to low- and moderate-income persons.

The NYS CDBG Economic Development program consists of three funding activities: Economic Development, Small Business Assistance, and Microenterprise.

GOALS, STRATEGIES, & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**Goal: Expand business development along Route 441**

Infrastructure acts as a primer for development. Concentrating commercial development along Route 441 is practicable as there is existing sewer and water infrastructure, and it is a major thoroughfare. Concentrating development along a corridor also allows the remaining surrounding land to retain its rural characteristics.

There is general support for continued commercial development along Route 441, as over 56% of public survey respondents indicated that they would like to see additional business development along Route 441.

Recommendations

1. Obtain funding and expand sewer service along Route 441
2. Maintain zoning for businesses along Route 441
3. Maintain communication and assist property owners interested in developing land along Route 441

Goal: Foster a business-friendly environment

Timing, predictability, and clarity of regulations and processes are of high importance to businesses and developers. Communicating the required processes and available resources clearly can be of great help to those trying to establish a business.

Recommendations

4. Revise zoning to simplify list of permitted and specially permitted uses.
5. Maintain a clear and transparent permitting process.
6. Connect businesses to sources of funding for expansion.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Public Facilities



Town Parks

The Town of Walworth Recreation Department provides a multitude of service and programs for the residents of Walworth and surrounding communities. The Town has three parks – Ginegaw Park, Sherburne Park, and Dolomite Park – which include various fields and courts for soccer, basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball, lacrosse, and football. These parks contain lodges, pavilions, hiking trails, outdoor grills, playgrounds, and endless open space.



The Dog Park at Sherburne Road Park. Photo Source: Walworth Recreation Department

The pavilion at Sherburne Park. Photo Source: Walworth Recreation Department



Recent improvements include, but are not exclusive to, the following:

- Gaga Pit
- Merry-Go-Round
- Open air pavilion
- Dog parks at Sherburne Park

PARKS, RECREATION, AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Town of Walworth Recreation Department

The Town's Recreation Department organizes and hosts various activities including family activities, adult activities, fitness classes, pre-school activities, recess programs, senior activities, summer day camp, youth activities, and youth sports including baseball, basketball, soccer, softball. Walworth Recreation hosts a seasonal Farmers' Market in Ginegaw Park where vendors can sell produce, dairy products, baked goods, crafts, among other things.



Quarterly, the department publishes an edition of the "Town Topics" magazine providing information about upcoming recreation opportunities as well as general town information.



Town Topics Magazine, select covers. Photo Source: Walworth Recreation Department.

Town Hall

3600 Lorraine Drive, Walworth NY

The Walworth Town Hall, located in Walworth, NY, provides municipal services for residents of Walworth. The building houses government offices, including the Walworth legislative body, and provides public records, government services, and information about Walworth services.

Town Hall Staff field questions related to Walworth public records, voter poll locations and election procedures, Town Council, amongst other subject matter.

Walworth Seely Public Library

3600 Lorraine Drive, Walworth NY

The Walworth Reading Center was co-sponsored by the Wayne County Library Board and the Walworth Chamber of Commerce and first opened in January 1960. In October 1961, an appeal was made to the Town Board to establish a Walworth Public Library. The Town Board unanimously voted to establish the Walworth-Seely Public Library, a township library and appointed the first Board of Trustees.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The Walworth Seely Library has a variety of programs and services. It provides several types of materials for loan including books, music, movies, experience kits, story time bags, games, magazines, and internet hot spots. Programs organized and hosted by the public library includes story times, crafts, book clubs, and genealogy workshops.

Town Highway Department

4384 Canandaigua Road, Walworth, NY

The Walworth Highway Department provides road maintenance, snow removal, roadside drainage, and other services to the roads under the jurisdiction of the Town. The Department's goal is to quickly respond to complaints and to rectify them within their ability and resources. They directly service the needs of Walworth residents and provide safe roads through their services.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Current Facility: 3451 Ontario Center Road, Walworth, NY

New Regional Facility: 613 E Main Street, Palmyra, NY

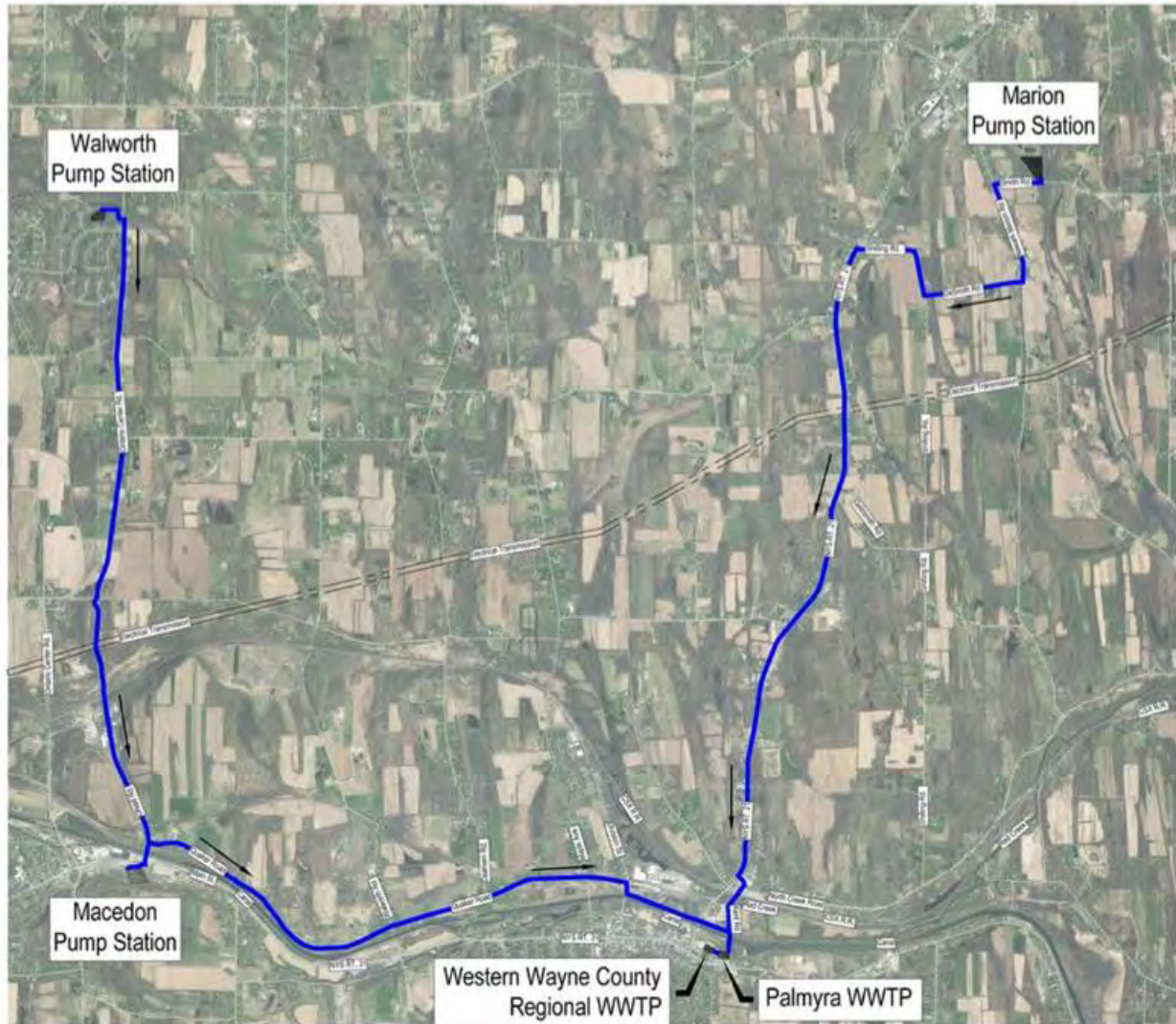
The Town of Walworth Wastewater Treatment Facility ensures residents' wastewater is effectively treated, protecting local water quality and safeguarding public health.

Currently, the Towns of Macedon, Marion, Palmyra, and Walworth own and operate their own wastewater treatment facilities. These Towns, with the Village of Palmyra and the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority (WCWSA), have planned for and are building a new regional wastewater treatment facility known as the Western Wayne County Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. A regional approach will eliminate the need for each community to undertake the substantial cost implications of independent upgrades, increasing efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

The new regional wastewater treatment facility is being built adjacent to the Village of Palmyra's current wastewater facility on Route 31 in the Village of Palmyra. New pumping stations, screening facilities, and transmission systems will convey each community's wastewater to the new regional facility, thereby consolidating operations into one modern and more efficient facility. Once the new plant is up and running, the outdated facilities will be decommissioned and taken out of service. At that time, the current Walworth facility will serve as a pump station for the regional facility. The Town will continue to maintain lines and pump stations. New residential development will require upgrades to pump stations.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The new pumping stations will bring wastewater from Walworth south along Ontario Center Road, to O'Neil Road to the Macedon Pump Station. The Macedon pump station will pump all Macedon and Walworth flows easterly through the Macedon forcemain along Quaker Road north of the canal. Wastewater coming from Marion will be conveyed south through a forcemain under Route 21. Both forcemains will discharge at the new wastewater treatment plant site. Map to the right illustrates this pathway.



Emergency Services

Walworth Fire Department

2178 Church Street, Walworth, NY

The Walworth Fire Department has been staffed entirely by volunteers since 1929 and is run by the Walworth Fire District, which owns and maintains the fire house, apparatus, and equipment. The Department and District work to provide fire and rescue protection for the residents of Walworth protecting approximately 12 square miles within the Fire District and assisting neighboring communities when needed.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Western Wayne Ambulance

2178 Church Street, Walworth, NY

Originally part of the Walworth Fire Department, Western Wayne Ambulance became its own entity in (date). Housing two ambulances within the Walworth Fire Department, this organization provides emergency medical transport services to the local area.

West Walworth Fire Volunteer Fire Department

3870 West Walworth Road, Walworth, NY

The West Walworth Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1947 to provide fire protection to the hamlet of West Walworth and the surrounding area. Located on West Walworth Road, the West Walworth Volunteer Fire Department responds to approximately 100 fire calls per year and hold approximately 40 drills and practices per year.

The West Walworth Fire District generally includes the southwestern portion of the Town of Walworth, extending from the Macedon town line, north to Atlantic Ave, and from the Monroe County line, east to Route 350. The eastern side then runs diagonally south across the town, to include Gananda Middle School, Hidden Pond Lane, Foxglove and Goldenrod Courts, and Aster Terrace until it intersects the Macedon town line.

Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department

719 Plank Road, Walworth, NY

Formed the same year as the West Walworth Fire Department, the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department formed in 1947 and serves the northwest portion of the Town of Walworth. In an average year, the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department responds to approximately 160 calls which have steadily increase over the past 20 years. They provide fire protection, rescue services, Haz Mat first response, and EMS first response assisting the Walworth Ambulance.

Gananda Middle School

1500 Dayspring Ridge, Walworth, NY

Gananda Middle School serves 210 students from 6th through 8th grade and is part of the Gananada Central School District. This is the only public school located within the borders of the Town. The Town of Walworth is within the boundaries of several school districts including the Wayne Central School District, the Penfield Central School District, the Gananda Central School District, the Marion Central School District, and the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District.

United States Post Office

2263 Walworth-Marion Road, Walworth, NY

The Town of Walworth contains a U.S. Post Office in the Hamlet of Walworth which provides postal service to the area.

Town Budget

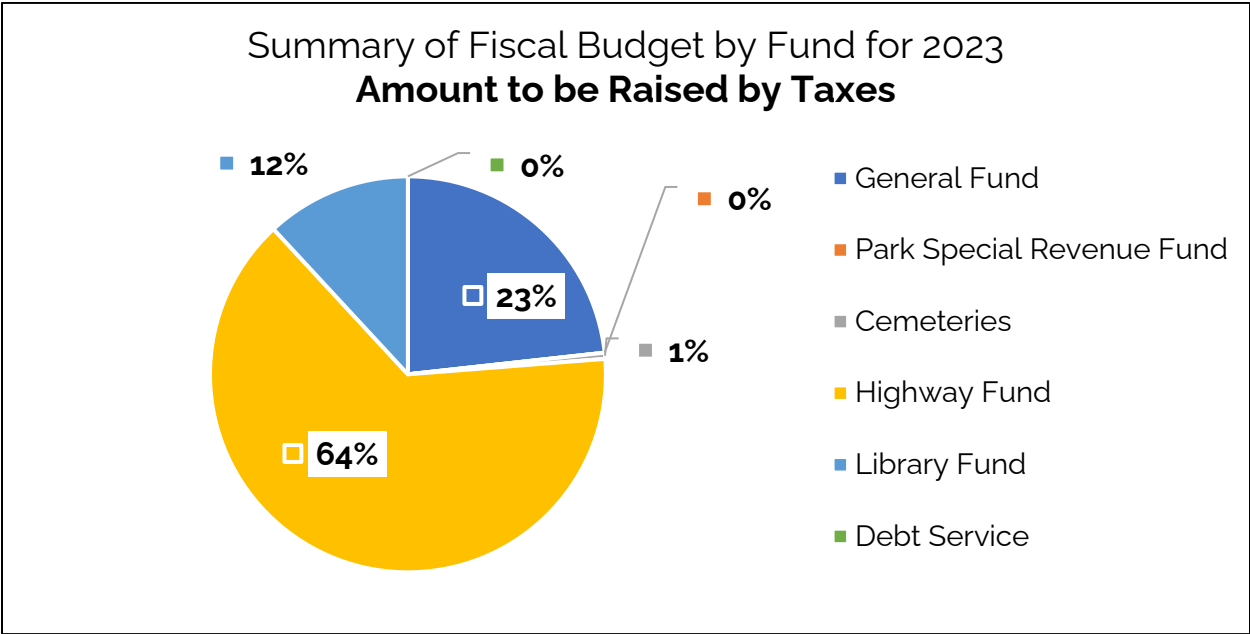
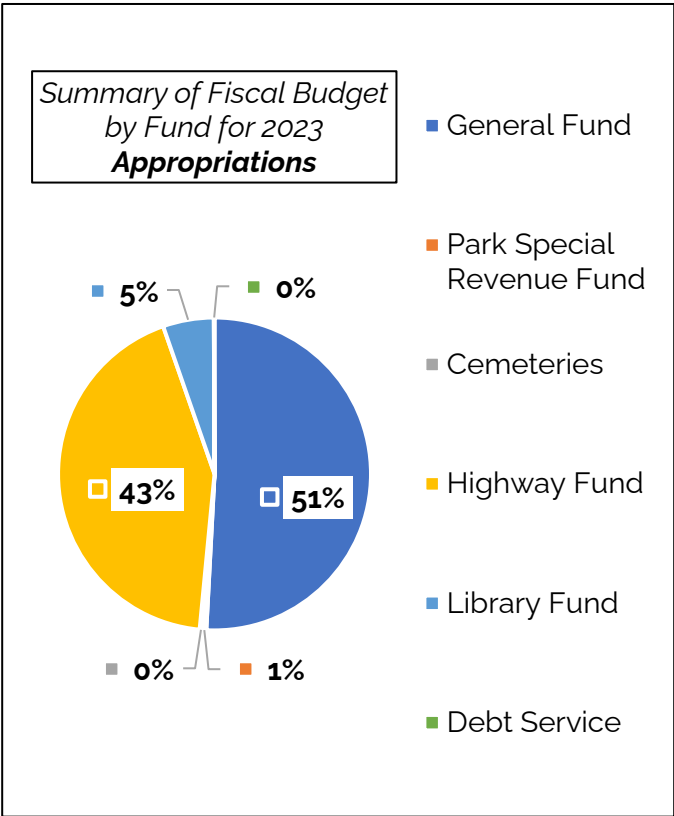
The Town’s budget appropriations, where the town’s funds are devoted, is broken down into the following categories: general fund, park special revenue fund, cemeteries, highway fund, library fund, and debt services. The analysis below does not include the Town’s special districts including the fire districts, lighting districts, drainage districts, and sidewalk districts which focus on public services within a specific boundary.

The largest portion of taxes are dedicated to the Highway Fund – three times what is raised for the General Fund.

Total revenues associated with the general fund is roughly \$2.7 million with about 20% coming from property taxes and roughly 35% coming from county sales tax. Wayne County’s tax rate is 8%.

Not every county shares their sales tax revenues with its municipalities. However, Wayne County does, in addition to providing a share to its school district. In 2020, towns and villages shared in \$8.1 million in sales tax revenue. In the 2023 budget, the Town anticipated receiving \$950,000 in county sales tax.

Departmental income makes up about 13% of revenues. This includes town clerk fees, dog pick up fees, developer fees and development review fees, recreation fees, park revenues, etc.



PARKS, RECREATION, AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Cable tv franchise fee makes up about 4%; state aid about 10% which includes general purpose state aid and mortgage tax; reserves and fund balance account for 13.67%; and lastly, miscellaneous accounts for roughly 3% of revenue which includes fines, licenses, permits, etc.

In terms of appropriations, where money will be dedicated, almost 44% is dedicated to general government support – salaries, training, related fees, security, mileage, dues, software, administrative support, equipment, office expenses, and record management. An additional 15% is allocated towards employee benefits.

The next largest amount (almost 17%) is allocated towards Culture and Recreation which includes parks, youth recreation, adult recreation, and the Town Historian.

The remaining allocations are broken down as follows:

- Transportation, 7.26%
- Public Safety, 6.45%
- Debt Service (Interfund Transfers), 3.71%
- Transfer to Reserves, 3.08%
- Home & Community Services, 2.37%
- Health, 1.28%

<i>Summary of Fiscal Budget by Fund for 2023 Appropriations</i>		
General Fund	\$ 2,694,520.00	51%
Park Special Revenue Fund	\$ 21,519.00	1%
Cemeteries	\$ 14,670.00	<1%
Highway Fund	\$ 2,286,987.00	43%
Library Fund	\$ 278,632.00	5%
Debt Service	\$ 3,876.00	<1%
Town Total	\$ 5,300,204.00	100%

GOALS & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Goal: Maintain and enhance parks and recreation programming

In the community public input survey, respondents shared overwhelming support of the Town's parks and recreation offerings. Nearly 78% of respondents indicated that they utilize Ginegaw Park and over 36% indicated they utilize Sherburne Park. The use of trails, pavilions, and lodges, as well as playgrounds were popular amongst respondents. Additionally, when asked what they most liked about the Town of Walworth, several respondents indicated that the Town's parks and green spaces were among their favorite amenities.

With such a strong parks and recreation program, utilized by both Walworth residents and those outside the town, the Town should continue to prioritize its recreational efforts as these offerings are of great public value. In order to maintain current resources and programming, adequate budget funding is required. The Town has continually supported its parks programs via allocated funds.

Recommendation

1. Continue allocating funding within the Town's budget for recreation initiatives and development.
2. Obtain grant funding for park improvements.
3. Continue to partner with schools and other community organizations to share facilities and enhance programming.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Goal: Maintain fire and public safety services

The Town of Walworth has the advantage of robust fire and public safety services. Its continued support is essential to the health and well-being of residents and visitors.

Recommendations

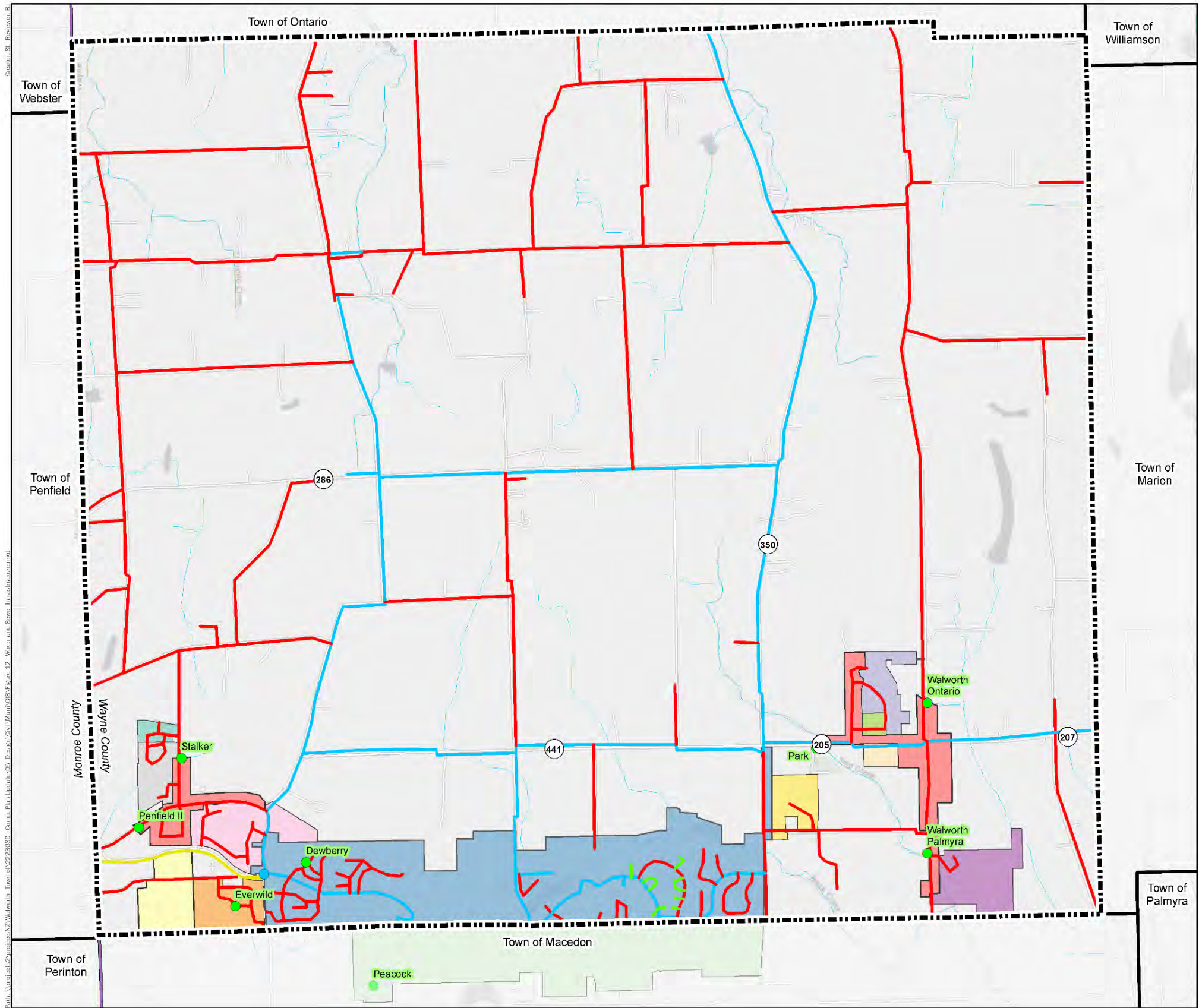
4. Continue to support the town's fire districts and companies.

Goal: Maintain town services and facilities at a level needed to meet the needs of the community

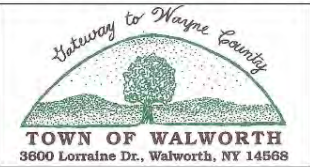
Similarly, town services and facilities are essential to the community and maintaining a high quality of life for residents.

Recommendations

5. Continue to budget sufficient funds to maintain town hall and other facilities.



TOWN OF WALWORTH
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



WATER & SEWER
INFRASTRUCTURE

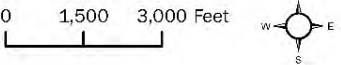
- WATER PUMP STATION
- SEWER PUMP STATION
- 6" WATERLINE
- 8" WATERLINE
- 12" WATERLINE
- 16" WATERLINE
- MACEDON GANANDA SEWER DISTRICT 1
- SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 1
- SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 2
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 2 B
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 3
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 4
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 5
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 6
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 7
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 8
- SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION NO. 9

- Town Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary
- Roads
- Railroad
- Streams



LaBella Project No: 2223630
NOVEMBER 2022

- Sources:
1. Municipality Boundaries and Roads: NYS GIS Program Office
 2. Parcels (2021): Regrid
 3. Streams: U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program
 4. Railroad: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 5. Basemap: ESRI
 6. Water and Sewer Data: Provided by Town of Walworth; digitized by LaBella



HISTORY & HISTORIC RESOURCES

Town of Walworth History

Established in 1829, the Town of Walworth is comprised of 20,425 acres bordered by the towns of Ontario to the north, Marion to the east, Macedon to the south, and Penfield (Monroe County) to the west. Its upland areas have some of the highest elevations in Wayne County and its fertile soil is comprised to rich sandy loam. elevated rolling upland.

Deep valleys and lofty hills, composed of rich sandy loam, very fertile and easily cultivated, several rivulets on the north and tributaries of Red Creek on the south.

Intersected by New York State Route 350 and New York State Route 441, the town contains three hamlets – Walworth, West Walworth, and Lincoln. An additional community, Gananda, is located partially in the Town of Walworth and partially in the Town of Macedon. Gananda was established in 1971 as a planned development district.

Originally the Village of Birch Bridge, the Town was renamed to Walworth in honor of General Chancellor Walworth.

Once comprised of dense growth of beech, maple, hemlock, ash, and brasswood trees, the Town was replaced with farms and residences.

Settlement started in the southeast part of town in what is now known as the Walworth Hamlet by the Millelt brothers and their families in 1799.

The hamlet of Walworth was originally known as Douglass Corners from 1801 to 1825. Settlers Stephen and Daniel Douglass erected the first frame building there in 1805.



Walworth Academy, the first academy in Walworth, was incorporated in 1842. Sourced from the Walworth Historical Society.



Portrait of General Chancellor Walworth sourced from the Walworth Historical Society

West Walworth was first settled in 1805 (established by Joseph Howe, Ira Howard, and Nathaniel Holmes) with its first store opened in 1835.

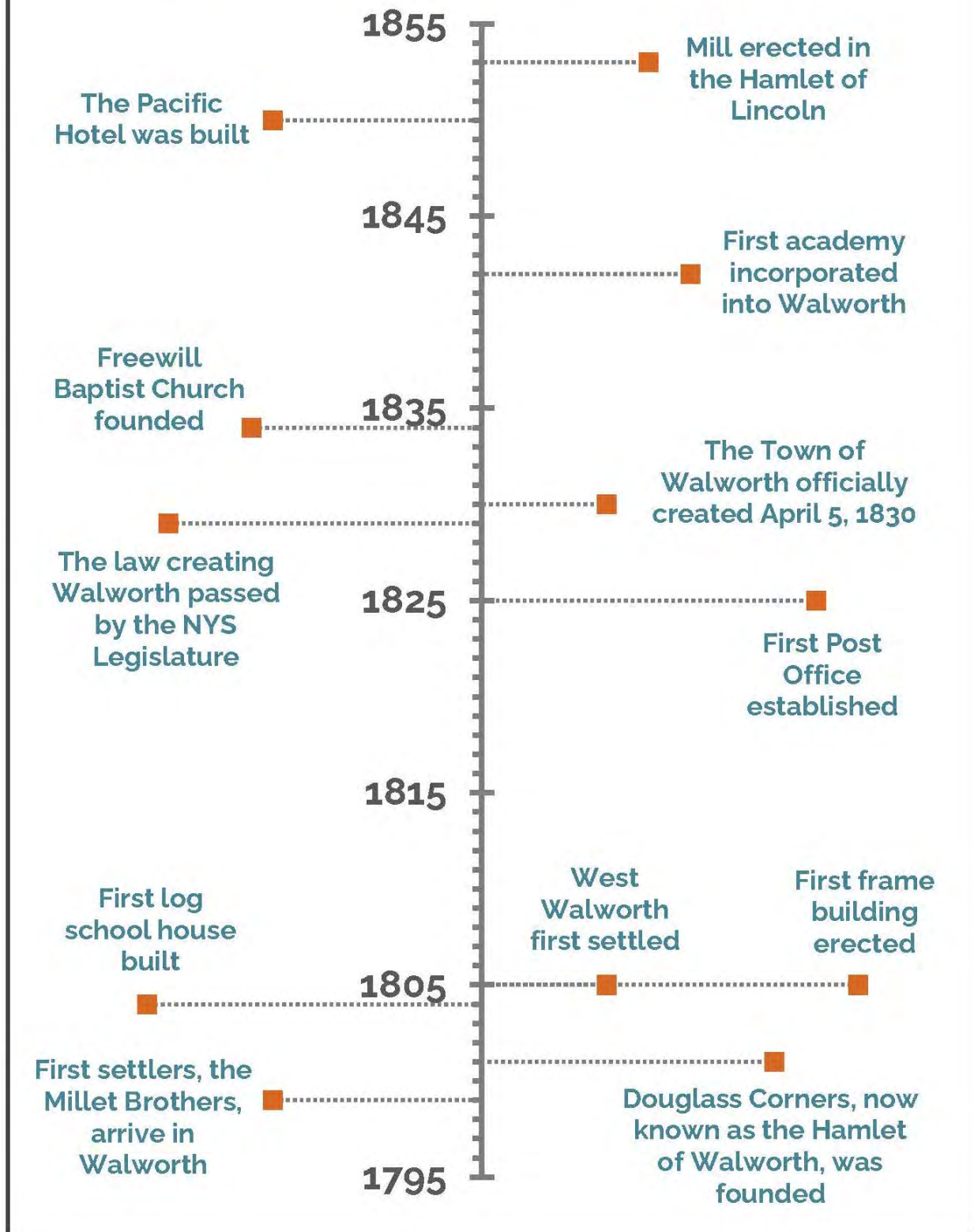
In 1853, a mill was erected in the Hamlet of Lincoln

The town of Walworth was created 5 April 1830 from the town of Ontario. The law creating Walworth was passed by the NYS Legislature on April 20, 1829, and signed by Governor Enos T. Throop.

Sisters Ellen & Anna shared their wedding date here June 10, 1891. Guests included their uncle former president Grover Cleveland. Near the intersection of High Street and Center Street.

President Cleveland's visit to Walworth on June 10, 1891, to attend the double wedding of his nieces, Nellie and Anna Yeomans.

Town of Walworth Early Timeline



Historic Preservation

Organizations

Walworth Historical Society and Museum

Established in 1975, the Walworth Historical Society (WHS) collects, preserves, and displays items and artifacts that are of historical importance to the people of the Town of Walworth.

Some of the people instrumental in organizing the Walworth Historical Society were Ethel Henning, Dorothy Petty, Chuck Bills, Hazel Bassage, Howard and Pearl Billings, Cliff and Bernice Nortier, Cliff and Emily Huntley, Gene Bavis, Joe Finley, and John Traas.

The museum has collections of books by Walworth authors, sets of old china, dishes, and local advertising memorabilia, and scrapbooks containing hundreds of newspaper articles concerning local, national, and international people and events.

Further information on the Walworth Historical Society, the Town's history, and related resources can be found at walworthhistoricalsociety.org.



The Pacific Hotel was built in 1850. Photo sourced from the Walworth Historical Society.

Landmark Society of Western New York

Founded in 1937, the Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc., is one of the nation's oldest and most active historic preservation organizations. It is a not-for-profit membership organization dedicated to assisting regional communities preserve and capitalize on their rich architectural, historical, and cultural heritage. The organization provides resources, services, and information regarding the unique historic heritage of the region.



Map of the Landmark Society's service area. Sourced from the Landmark Society's website.

Resources

Specialized Building Repairs

The Landmark Society connects skilled contractors and craftspeople who have experience working with owners of older properties. These contractors specialize in historic masonry, stained and leaded glass, architectural salvage, and reproduction, amongst other areas.

The Landmark Society of Western New York houses a contractor request form to put individuals in contact with specialized professionals. The request form, and additional information, can be found at landmarksociety.org/contractors/.

Funding Opportunities

New York State Programs: Organizations

Preservation League of New York State – Preserve New York Program

Launched in 1993, Preserve New York makes grants for historic structure reports, building condition reports, cultural landscape reports, and cultural resource surveys. Applicants must be a unit of local government or a nonprofit group with tax-exempt status. State agencies and religious institutions are not eligible to apply. The program provides support up to 80% of the project cost. Find more information at preservenys.org/preserve-new-york.

Preservation League of New York State – Technical Assistance Grants

Technical Assistance Grants are available to eligible NYS nonprofits and municipalities. This program provides support for consulting projects that preserve New York State's cultural and historic resources. For more information, visit preservenys.org/technical-assistance-grants.

New York State Programs: Homeowners

New York State Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program for Income Producing Properties

Owners of income producing properties that have been approved to receive the 20% federal rehabilitation tax credit can additionally claim a state tax credit if the property is located in a qualifying census tract. Owners can receive an additional state credit of 20% or 30% of the qualified rehabilitation expenditure up to \$5,000,000.

New York State Historic Homeownership Rehabilitation Credit

Rehabilitation of historic residential buildings may qualify for a New York State tax incentive. The Historic Homeownership Rehabilitation Credit program offers a state income tax credit equal to 20% of qualified rehabilitation expenses associated with repair, maintenance, and upgrades to historic homes up to a credit value of \$50,000 per year.

New York State Historic Barn Rehabilitation Tax Credit

The Historic Barn Rehabilitation Tax Credit program offers a state income tax credit equal to 25% of the expenditures incurred to rehabilitate a historic barn. The barn must have been built prior to 1946 (National Register listing is not a requirement) and the work must be approved by the Division for Historic Preservation.

Find more information on these programs at parks.ny.gov/shpo/tax-credit-programs/.

Federal Programs: Homeowners

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 203(k) Program

Section 203(k) insurance enables homebuyers and homeowners to finance both the purchase (or refinancing) of a house and the cost of its rehabilitation through a single mortgage or to finance the rehabilitation of their existing home. Find more information at

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/housing/sfh/203k/.

GOALS & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Goal: Promote Walworth's local history and preserve historic resources

Preservation is essential to maintaining the character, history, and aesthetic of the Town. Safeguarding the existence and appearance of historic features of the Town can help provide a sense of place, continuity, and uniqueness. The following actions can assist the Town in preserving its rich history.

For the last 75 years, the Landmark Society of Western New York has been a resource for preservation information, education, and advocacy. They advocate for threatened historic buildings, advise municipal officials, and educational tours and events. The Landmark Society can be a beneficial resource to the Town of Walworth as their expertise can be utilized by the Town in any potential preservation initiatives or developments. Their resources can be shared with property owners and developers alike further promoting the Town's goal of historic preservation. Leveraging the Landmark Society can assist the Town in taking full advantage of funding and educational opportunities.

Recommendations

1. Identify historically significant buildings.
2. Consider developing local design standards and regulations related to historic preservation.
3. Refer development projects that may impact historic resources to the Walworth Historical Society and Landmark Society of Western New York for review and comment.
4. Connect property owners and developers to information about funding sources and tax credits related to historic preservation.

TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

CURRENT CONDITIONS

The following analysis and maps describe available transportation infrastructure within the Town of Walworth including roadways, trails, rail, and public transportation. The purpose of this analysis is to offer a better understanding of the existing conditions to guide recommendations for improvements that are consistent with the Town's needs.

Road Jurisdiction

Road and bridge construction and maintenance is divided between several agencies and municipal levels in New York State depending on the road or bridge's jurisdiction as well as any agreements in place between the jurisdiction with authority of the road and a partner – typically the local municipality. Understanding the jurisdictional authority for each road is necessary for maintenance requests and partnerships for road construction projects.

As the major routes through the Town of Walworth are not owned by the Town, the Town will need to collaborate and partner with the State and County to implement improvements on these roadways.

New York State

New York State maintains jurisdictional authority over two major thoroughfares and freight connections through the Town. NYS Route 350 runs north-south through the center of the Town. NYS Route 441 connects Walworth hamlet to population centers and facilities in Monroe County to the west.

Wayne County

Wayne County maintains jurisdictional authority over several roads in the Town of Walworth including Plank Road, Atlantic Avenue (CR 286), North and South Lincoln Roads, West Walworth Road, Walworth Penfield Road and Walworth Marion Road, and Walworth Road, and Gananda Parkway.

Town of Walworth

All other public roads in the Town of Walworth that are not under the jurisdiction of New York State or Wayne County fall under the jurisdiction of the Town.

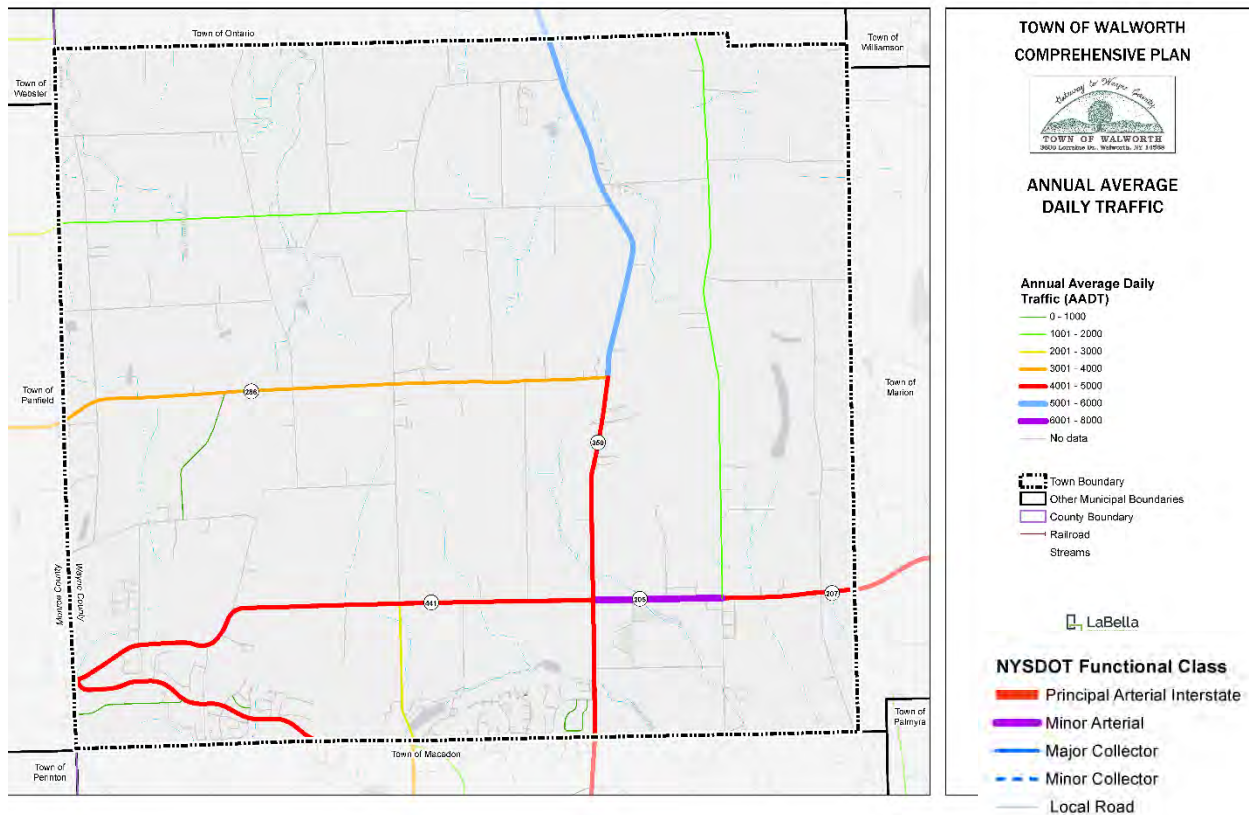
Traffic Volumes

The map below depicts the road network in the Town of Walworth according to each road's annual average daily traffic counts¹. The busiest roadway in terms of traffic volume is the segment of Walworth-Penfield Road between the hamlet of Walworth and NYS Route 350. This segment sees an average of 7,641 vehicles daily, 4% of which is truck traffic. Route 350 north of Atlantic Avenue sees an average of 5,141 vehicles per day. The next busiest road segments in the Town in Walworth are NYS Route 350, Walworth-Marion Road, Route 441 and Gananda Parkway. Each of these see between 4900 and 5000

¹ Annual Average Daily traffic is the average of total yearly traffic divided by the number of days in a year

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

vehicles per day on average. Canandaigua Road averages 2,327 vehicles per day. Plank Road and Walworth Ontario Road see 1,437 and 1,972 vehicles per day on average. No other road segments in the Town handles more than 1,000 vehicles per day on average.



Town of Walworth Annual Average Daily Traffic Counts

Safety

Understanding road safety and the causes of crashes that occur within the Town of Walworth help to identify recommendations that will improve the safety of road users in the Town while also alleviating the demand these crashes place on the Town's emergency services. All data in this section is sourced from the Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research's (ITSMR) Traffic Safety Statistical Repository (TSSR). The TSSR data is sourced from police crash and ticketing reports which does not provide specific locations of crashes and tickets issued but does provide a broad overview of trends by municipality.

Crash Data

Overall, crashes resulting in injury or death have declined slightly since 2018 with the lowest crash rates occurring in 2020. A slight rise in crashes in 2021 is consistent with national trends as traffic volumes increased following the COVID-19 pandemic. Between 2018 and 2022 three fatal crashes occurred within the Town of Walworth, while 109 crashes resulting in personal injury occurred over the same time frame. According to TSSR data, a significant share of all crashes involved young drivers (16-20 years) and older drivers (65+ years).

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Table 1 Town of Walworth Crash Data – Fatalities, Injuries, and Property Damage

2018-2022 Town of Walworth Vehicle Crash Summary					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Fatality	2	0	0	1	0
Personal Injury	23	24	23	18	21
Property Damage	89	125	93	103	117
Total	114	149	116	122	138
Source: Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research – Traffic Safety Statistical Repository					

Table 2 Town of Walworth Crash Data - Contributing Factors

Town of Walworth 2018-2022 Vehicle Crash Contributing Factors	
Factor	Total Crashes 2018-2022
Animal's Action	264
Unsafe Speed	95
Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	67
Pavement Slippery	51
Driver Inattention/Distracted	46
Passing/Lane Changing/Improper Use	45
Following Too Closely	36
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	27
Backing Unsafely	25
Alcohol Involvement	24
Other	72
Source: Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research – Traffic Safety Statistical Repository	

Crashes involving wildlife are the most common type of crash in the Town of Walworth with animal actions being a contributing factor in more than twice as many crashes as the next most common contributing factor. This fact combined with an increase in crashes in the Fall, particularly in November, would suggest that deer populations may be a significant source of road safety issues in the Town. Slippery pavement is another common contributing traffic, related to the Town's winter snowfalls.

Public Transportation

Public transportation in Wayne County is provided by RTS Wayne. However, no fixed route service operates within the Town of Walworth.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

Formal pedestrian facilities in the Town of Walworth are limited to the sidewalk network in and around the hamlet of Walworth. Sidewalks extend along Route 441 west of the hamlet to the Tops supermarket and the Town Park.

The Town of Walworth does not have formally delineated bicycle lanes. In some areas, wide shoulders provide space for bicyclists. The Town's rural roads have low traffic volumes and often have wide shoulders that are attractive places to ride for confident and experienced bicyclists. While these road conditions are appropriate for confident and experienced bicyclists, research indicates that approximately half of the U.S. population is interested in bicycling for transportation but requires dedicated infrastructure to feel comfortable doing so².

Relevant Plans and Studies

Genesee Transportation Council Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP 2045)

The Genesee Transportation Council LRTP 2045 was adopted in June 2021 and outlines a long-term vision for transportation in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. The plan identifies the region's future needs and identifies strategies to meet those needs. Major goals of the plan include:

1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Facilitate partnerships in planning, financing, and the execution of transportation initiatives.
4. Increase the accessibility and mobility options available to people and freight.
5. Promote efficient system management and operations.
6. Protect and enhance the natural environment, cultural heritage and community appearance, and promote energy conservation.

The plan outlines several broad recommendations to achieve these goals, funding sources for project implementation, and metrics used to evaluate project proposals and progress in the region. No specific recommendations are made for the Town of Walworth but the goals, recommendations, funding sources, and project metrics are all applicable to the Town and may be used to help the Town develop, fund, and implement plans.

Genesee Transportation Council Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2023-2027

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) requires all Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to prepare a multi-year program of projects. The Genesee Transportation Council (GTC) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible for transportation policy, planning, and investment decision making for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the multi-year program for all highway, bridge, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation projects scheduled between 2023-2027 which will utilize federal transportation funds. Project outlined in the TIP must be consistent with the broad goals and recommendations made in the LRTP 2045. There are no proposed projects in the 2023-2027 TIP in the Town of Walworth.

² https://web.pdx.edu/~jdill/Types_of_Cyclists_PSUWorkingPaper.pdf

Partners and Relevant Organizations

Because a significant number of roads in the Town of Walworth are under the jurisdiction of other entities, the Town will be reliant on partnerships and good relationships with the following organizations to implement changes to its transportation network. These organizations not only have jurisdiction over many of the roads in the Town, but they also provide significant technical support, resources, and transportation funding in the region.

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)

NYSDOT has jurisdiction over many of the major roads in the Town of Walworth. NYSDOT manages several resources to assist local municipalities with transportation projects, all of which are compiled in the NYSDOT Local Projects Manual (LPM). The manual includes guidance on project development, highway design, environmental considerations, bridges, and more. Additionally, NYSDOT oversees several funding programs including:

- **Transportation Alternatives Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (TAP-CMAQ)** – funds for projects that promote environmentally friendly modes of travel and safety improvements for walking and biking.
- **Multi-Modal Program** – funds for rail, ports, ferry facilities, airports, and state and local highway and bridge projects.
- **Rail and Port Capital Improvement Program** – funds for freight or passenger rail

Genesee Transportation Council (GTC)

The Genesee Transportation Council is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. MPOs oversee transportation policy and federal funding for urbanized areas with a population over 50,000 as designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation. GTC sets long term transportation goals and policies through Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTP), identifies upcoming projects through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and distributes funds through the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) on an annual or bi-annual basis.

Wayne County

Wayne County has jurisdiction over several roads in the Town of Walworth. The Wayne County Highway Department is responsible for the operation and maintenance of county-owned highways, bridges, culverts, and traffic signals. Transportation projects and curb cuts along county-owned rights-of-way must be approved by Wayne County Highway Department.

Complete Streets

The New York State Complete Streets Act, signed into law in 2011, requires state, county, and local agencies to consider the convenience and mobility of all users when developing transportation projects that receive state and/or federal funding. More broadly, complete streets policies are a tool that combine planning and engineering to design a transportation system that considers the needs and safety of all road users of all ages and abilities.

Complete streets policies are flexible and should be customized to meet the unique needs of road users in a community. A complete streets policy in an urban environment should be different from a complete

streets policy in a rural environment given the differences in road users, transportation modes available, street geometries, and distances between destinations. Each environment presents unique challenges within the transportation system that can be addressed through a complete streets policy.

GOALS, POLICIES, & RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Goals: Improve mobility

Recommendations

1. Develop a Complete Streets policy.

Goal: Expand connectivity

Recommendations

2. Sidewalks on the northside of Sherburne Road creating a walkable loop.
3. On-going sidewalk and roadway maintenance.

Goal: Increase safety

Recommendations

4. Integrate access management principles into laws, zoning, and project review.
5. Expand street lighting to include more pedestrian-scaled fixtures, installation of LEDs, and streetscape lighting on both side of the street.
6. Plant additional Street trees to beautify the streetscape and provide shade for pedestrians.



Photo Source: Walworth Historical Society

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

LAND USE	
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Strategies</i>
LU-1. Preserve existing rural character, especially outside sewered areas and hamlets	LU-1a. Maintain zoning for rural areas.
LU-2. Revitalize the Hamlet District to allow for a mix of uses, encourage local business development, and to create a greater sense of community	LU-2a. Revise zoning in the hamlets to accommodate a mix of residential and business uses.
LU-3. Encourage business development along the Route 441 corridor	LU-3a. Maintain business zoning along the Route 441 corridor.
	LU-3b. Revise zoning - clear, streamlined, customize list for each district.
	LU-3c. Extend sewer to additional locations along Route 441.

HAMLET REVITALIZATION	
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Strategies</i>
HR-1. Allow for a mix of uses in the hamlet areas	HR-1a. Revise zoning regulations to accommodate a mix of uses and the traditional character of the hamlets.
	HR-1b. Promote adaptive reuse of existing structures within the hamlet.
HR-2. Foster a business-friendly environment	HR-2a. Eliminate parking minimums in the Hamlet District allowing for more efficient land use, further walkability, and the removal of a substantial barrier to the establishment of new businesses.
	HR-2b. Create a shop local campaign with a local business passport available at town hall for both residents and visitors.

HAMLET REVITALIZATION	
Goal	Strategies
HR-2. Foster a business-friendly environment	HR-2c. Host workshops or open office hours at town hall which provide information regarding approvals required to run a business in town.
	HR-2d. Reach out to local businesses to be a part of existing Town events including the Farmers Market and annual festivals.
HR-3. Improve mobility, connectivity, and safety in the Hamlet	HR-3a. Installation of clear signage, maps, and wayfinding markers to guide pedestrians and visitors to key destinations. Features should be consistent and visually appealing.
	HR-3b. Installation of pedestrian-scaled lights which may include adding lamps low on existing poles to eliminate the sidewalk.
	HR-3c. As needed, replace public lighting to LEDs.
	HR-3d. Installation of bike racks and repair stations to promote alternative forms of transit within the hamlet.
	HR-3e. Delineate parking lot access points and reduce curb cut widths to discourage frontage pavement.
	HR-3f. Enhance sidewalks, crosswalks, and street lighting where possible to make the town more pedestrian-friendly and safe.
	HR-3g. Evaluate current sidewalk conditions and incorporate expected costs into capital improvement program.
	HR-3h. Expand sidewalk network along Sherburne Road.
HR-4. Enhance the sense of community in the Hamlet	HR-3i. Advocate for pedestrian-activated signals or countdown timers at crosswalks, and for additional mid-block crossings, to improve safety for pedestrians along state roadways.
	HR-4a. Encourage local businesses and organizations to create public art installations which can include large-scale murals, sculptures, and painted intersections.
	HR-4b. Install outdoor seating areas like benches, picnic tables, or seating areas in public spaces encourage relaxation and socializing.
	HR-4c. Maintain existing green spaces and incorporate trees, shrubs, and plantings to create a visually appealing environment and provide shade.

AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND	
Goal	Strategies
AF-1. Retain high quality farmland for agricultural production	AF-1a. Encourage farmers to partner with land trust organizations to place permanent easements on their land.
	AF-1b. Maintain local laws to limit the development of large-scale solar facilities on high quality farmland.
AF-2. Maintain the economic viability of farms	AF-2a. Revise zoning as needed to accommodate value-added production and agri-tourism activities on farms.

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	
Goal	Strategies
NR-1. Protect water quality	NR-1a. Revise zoning to incorporate minimum buffers around streams.
	NR-1b. Continue active participation in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program which prioritizes stormwater management.
NR-2. Maintain natural features and environmental resources	NR-2a. Continue comprehensive SEQRA reviews as part of the development review process.
	NR-2b. Review Town's zoning code to incorporate additional protections of environmental resources.
	NR-2c. Revise zoning code to ensure open space retained via cluster development is meaningful and has ecological and/or recreational benefits.
NR-3. Prioritize stewardship of Town parks and their natural features	NR-3a. Carry out tree planting and maintain vegetation within stream buffers at Town parks and other Town-owned land.

POPULATION & HOUSING	
Goal	Strategies
PH-1. Preserve existing rural character, especially outside sewerred areas and the hamlets	PH-1a. Maintain zoning that guides more intensive residential development to areas with sewer infrastructure and retains the character of the town's rural areas.
PH-2. Accommodate continued residential subdivision and development in sewerred areas	
PH-3. Allow for a mix of housing types in the hamlets	PH-3a. Revise zoning to accommodate diversity of housing types as well as business development.
PH-4. Improve quality of existing housing.	PH-4a. Connect homeowners with sources of funding and resources for home repairs and energy-efficiency upgrades.
PH-5. Promote a diversity of housing types, including those that are affordable for the average Walworth resident and aging population	PH-5a. Revise zoning to accommodate Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) both attached to and separate from the primary residential structure.

ECONOMIC VITALITY	
Goal	Strategies
EV-1. Expand business development along Route 441	EV-1a. Obtain funding and expand sewer service along Route 441.
	EV-1b. Maintain zoning for businesses along Route 441.
	EV-1c. Maintain communication and assist property owners interested in developing land along Route 441.
EV-2. Foster a business-friendly environment	EV-2a. Revise zoning to simplify list of permitted and specially permitted uses.
	EV-2b. Maintain a clear and transparent permitting process.
	EV-2c. Connect businesses to sources of funding for expansion.

PARKS, RECREATION, & COMMUNITY SERVICES	
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Strategies</i>
PR-1. Maintain & enhance parks & recreation programming	PR-1a. Continue allocating funding within the Town's budget for recreation initiatives and development.
	PR-1b. Obtain grant funding for park improvements.
	PR-1c. Continue to partner with schools and other community organizations to share facilities and enhance programming.
PR-2. Continue to support the town's fire district and companies	PR-2a. Continue to support the town's fire districts and companies.
PR-3. Maintain town services and facilities at a level needed to meet the needs of the community	PR-3a. Continue to budget sufficient funds to maintain town hall and other facilities.

HISTORY & HISTORIC RESOURCES	
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Strategies</i>
HH-1. Promote Walworth's local history and preserve historic resources	HH-1a. Identify historically significant buildings.
	HH-1b. Consider developing local design standards and regulations related to historic preservation.
	HH-1c. Refer development projects that may impact historic resources to the Walworth Historical Society and Landmark Society of Western New York for review and comment.
	HH-1d. Connect property owners and developers to information about funding sources and tax credits related to historic preservation.

TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY	
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Strategies</i>
TM-1. Improve mobility	TM-1a. Development a Complete Streets policy
TM-2. Expand connectivity	TM-2a. Sidewalks on the northside of Sherburne Road creating a walkable loop.
	TM-2b. On-going sidewalks and roadway maintenance.
TM-3. Increase safety	TM-3a. Integrate access management principles into laws, zoning, and project reviews.
	TM-3b. Expand street lighting to include more pedestrian-scaled features, installation of LEDS, and streetscape lighting on both sides of the street.
	TM-3c. Plant additional street trees to beautify the streetscape and provide shade for pedestrians.