

- 4.4 Encourage the improvement of the streetscape along Main Street, such as encouraging businesses and owners to provide high quality landscaping, signage and facade treatments. The City should also explore funding opportunities for street improvements, including street trees, street benches, sheltered bus stops, bicycle racks, restrooms, information kiosks and public art displays. Existing street trees should be protected and maintained under the direction of a certified arborist.
- 4.5 Encourage the infill development of sites along Main Street to create new public spaces/pocket parks. Areas discussed in Section 4.2 include the Dutchess County Building and Veterans Place.
- ~~4.6 Change the zoning of areas on East and West Main Street to reflect density allowed in Central Main Street district.~~
- ~~4.7 Extend Central Main Street District north along Route 9D to Verplanck Avenue.~~

B. Artist Community

Cultivate the growing artist community so that it remains a part of the economic vitality of the City.

- 4.8 Encourage local and regional economic development organizations to study and provide direction regarding potential institutions or other strategies to attract and retain artists, art-related entrepreneurs, and potential consumers of their products and services.
- 4.9 Encourage creation of artist live/work spaces. Study the effect of Section 223-24.3 on the development of these spaces, and consider revising procedures which currently require the renewal of the special permit for artist live work space every two years. The City should consider the alternative of requiring renewal upon change of ownership or tenancy.
- 4.10 Support and nurture existing organizations that promote the development of Beacon's artist community.

C. Route 52

Maintain existing retail and service mix in the Route 52 business district while improving the character of the area through pedestrian amenities such as sidewalks and street trees, and improved architectural design.

- 4.11 Require property owners in this business district to provide sidewalks, street trees, and improved architectural design during site plan review.

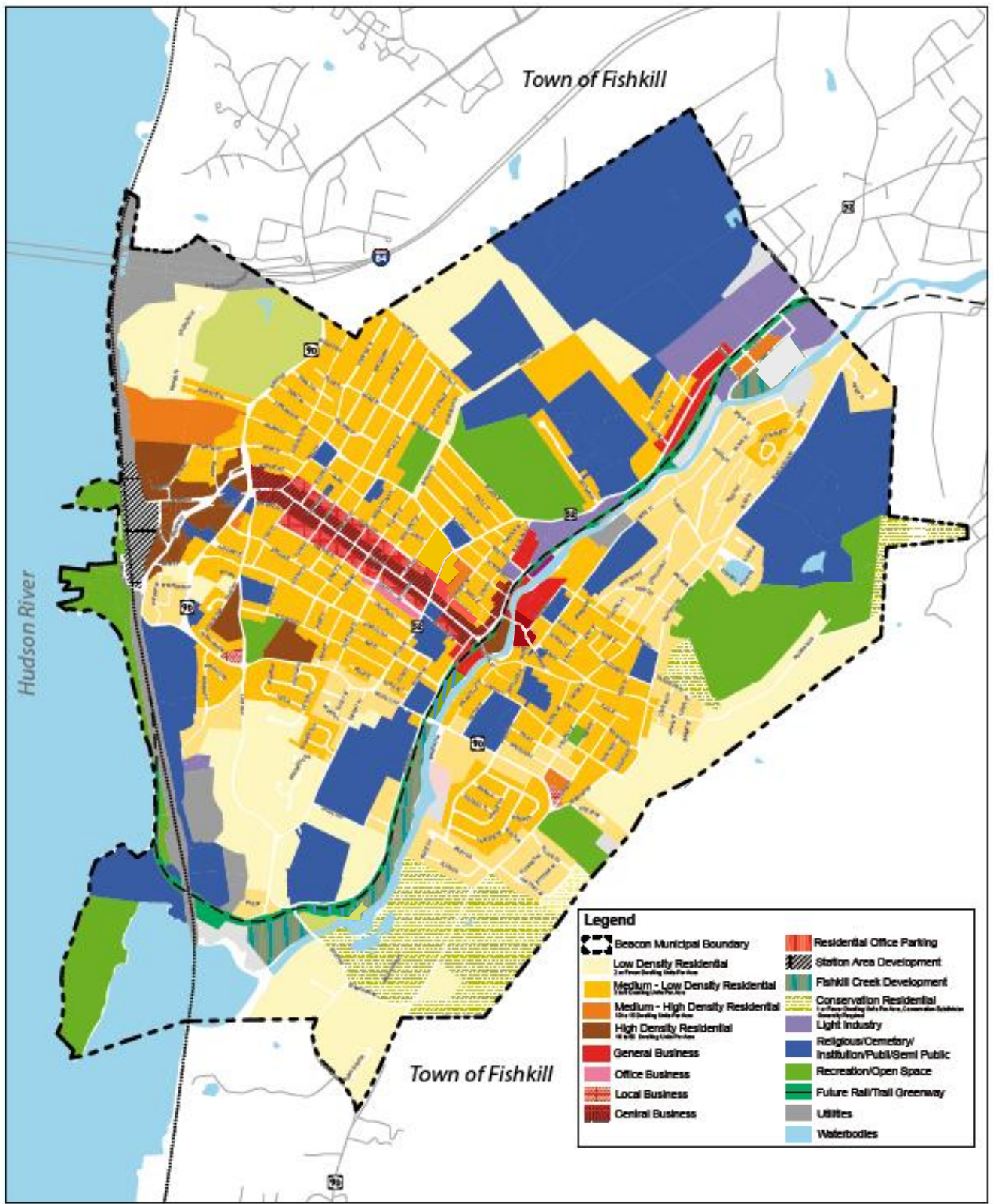


FIGURE 11-1: FUTURE LAND USE MAP

acre are generally found east of Fishkill Creek near Wolcott Avenue, or between Washington Avenue and Liberty Street. Densities of 5 to 8 dwellings per acre are generally found in neighborhoods north, south, and east of Main Street.

Recommendation

No changes from the previous Plan or from existing zoning are proposed for this land use category, except for three individual parcels along Fishkill Avenue (see Figure 12-1).

Residential – Medium-High Density

This category calls for 10 to 15 dwelling units per acre, which corresponds to areas in the City such as the townhouses on Schenck Avenue in the RD-4 Zoning District and the Tompkins Terrace Apartments and the Colonial Springs developments south of the golf course and north of the train station in the RD-3 Zoning District.

Recommendation

No changes from the previous Plan or from existing zoning are proposed for this land use category.

Residential – High Density

This category calls for 16 to 50 dwelling units per acre, which involves housing types such as apartment buildings and condominiums. Developed areas representing housing densities of this type are the Central Business District, which allows up to 29 dwelling units per acre, and the Forrestal Heights and Davies Terrace neighborhoods, which are in the RD-1.8 Zoning District (which allows 24 dwelling units per acre), and a redevelopment of an industrial site at one East Main Street. Properties in the Linkage Zone are also categorized as high density residential. The district allows 2-4 floor apartment buildings. The Linkage District does not regulate development through density limits. The code provides form-based design criteria that encourage buildings that increase the “vitality, attractiveness and marketability of the part of the City lying between Main Street and the Metro North Train Station.”

Recommendation

No changes from the previous Plan or from existing zoning are proposed for this land use category.

- East Main & Leonard Streets
- South & Wolcott Avenues
- Beekman & River Streets

Although the Dia:Beacon is also in the Local Business Zoning District, and is proposed to remain so, it is identified on the Land Use Plan Map as Institutional.

Recommendation

~~No changes from the previous Plan or from existing zoning are proposed for this land use category. The historic section of the Local Business District in the Fountain Square area on East Main Street should be converted to the Central Main Street District to provide more specific architectural and design standards. Four Fountain Square area parcels not in the Historic District Overlay should be changed from LB to the adjacent R1-5 district (see Figure 12-1).~~

Central Business

The purpose of this category is to allow for the continued commercial vitality and mixed uses of area along Main Street, which is the Central Business District in the City. This area corresponds with the Central Business Zoning District. In 2013, the City Council rezoned a large portion of downtown into the Central Main Street (CMS) District. This area is identified as Central Main Street II. The CMS encourages infill development by raising development potential and lowering parking requirements.

Recommendation

~~The Plan supports the extension of the urban form of Main Street to Route 52 between Main Street and Verplanck Avenue. It is recommended that this stretch be rezoned to CMS. It is also recommended that the CMS district be extended to the upper and lower sections of Main Street that are currently zoned CB. With this change, the entirety of Main Street would have the same zoning district. The City may wish to rename the CMS district to represent that the zone covers the entire corridor and not just the central area. When extending CMS standards to the existing CB district, heights of Historic Overlay Zone parcels should be limited to what is currently allowed.~~

As noted in Chapter 3 and 9, the Main Street corridor should be planned in greater detail, with an overall strategy of identifying activity centers based on the types of activities that have developed in each area, identifying the types of activities to be encouraged in each center, the major amenities serving each center (such as small parks, parking facilities), and illustrations of the activity centers with sketch plans.

Gas stations are no longer a permitted use within the CB and CMS Districts. Gas stations should be encouraged to relocate to other locations outside of the Main Street area. Pre-existing non-conforming gas stations seeking building permits or other such approvals should be required to comply with architectural and design standards established specifically for gas stations.

Residential/Office/Parking

The purpose of this district is primarily to allow parking as a principal use on a lot in order to support the development of the Central Business District. The district is located to the north and south of the Central Business District, extending from the District boundary to Church Street on the north and DeWindt Street on the south.

Recommendation

~~No changes from the previous Plan or from existing zoning are proposed for this land use category.~~ The changes recommended for this district are to convert one parcel along Fishkill Avenue from RD-5 to the PB District and all or parts of eight parcels along the south side of South Street from R1-5 to PB to provide a transitional area between Main Street and the adjacent residential districts (see Figure 12-1).

General Business

The General Business category occurs between Conklin Street and State Street on Fishkill Avenue. The General Business District allows a broad range business uses, including residential uses.

Recommendation

~~No changes from the previous Plan or from existing zoning are proposed for this land use category.~~ The adjacent section of the HI rail right-of-way between Churchill Street and 850 feet north of Wolcott Avenue should be merged into the adjacent GB District (see Figure 12-1).

Light Industry

Industrial areas are generally found on scattered sites along the Fishkill Creek, most commonly on the west side of the Creek. There is a light industrial area adjacent to the train station, which is the location of MTA's commuter parking lot and maintenance shed (within the former Dorel Hat Factory). Two large underutilized properties between Fishkill Avenue and Fishkill Creek on the north end of the City are available for future industrial uses. Although the City has lost many industrial businesses in the past, the remaining industries are important to the tax base of the City, and they provide an important source of employment for many residents.

Recommendations

The Plan proposes to revise the regulation of industrial areas so that all active industrial sites will be within a Light Industrial Zoning District tailored to fit the operational criteria of these existing businesses. It is recommended that the light industrial zone adjacent to the train station allow uses that are not discordant with the adjacent land uses proposed for the station area (WD District). This area should not allow auto body shops, repair shops, or adult uses. Alternatively, the City may consider rezoning the station area LI zone to LB, with the provision that retail be limited to accessory uses within 1,000 feet of the station platform so that stores and shops do not compete with other retail areas including Main Street.

Recreation/Open Space

This category includes areas of the City intended to remain green space, to continue recreational uses and to preserve important environmental or scenic features. This category includes public and privately owned lands that are used for active and passive recreational purposes.

This category has been expanded to include the waterfront lands along the Hudson including Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park and an additional parcel at the north end of Madam Brett Park.

Recommendation

This category has been expanded to include the waterfront lands along the Hudson including Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park. It also includes the Beacon Line railroad right-of-way for future development of a greenway rail-to-trail route.

There are two pocket parks proposed for Main Street, as identified in Section 9. One potential location is at Veterans Place, and the other is at the Dutchess County offices at South Elm Street. The exact location of these parks will be determined by circumstances as they arise and future study. The provision of outdoor public space in the Main Street corridor should be coordinated with a detailed urban design plan for Main Street. The Main Street plan may involve multiple small parks or squares.

Some lands identified as Recreation/Open Space are privately owned. These lands, in particular the Southern Dutchess Country Club, should be maintained as Recreation/Open Space if possible. If this is not possible, these lands should be limited to the lowest residential densities in the City and conservation subdivisions should be generally required, as described in the Conservation Residential category, in order to preserve neighborhood character in the vicinity of these sites.

Future areas for open space preservation will be identified in an Open Space Plan.

Stream/Wetland Preservation

This category includes areas along the Fishkill Creek. The purpose of this category is to emphasize the objective of protecting this natural corridor for flora and fauna, for passive recreation for people, and for water quality purposes. Development within this area should minimize impact to the functional needs of the flora and fauna in this environment and should allow for the creation of a linear parkway along the Creek.

Section 12: Zoning and Implementation Plan

12.1. Zoning Recommendations

Based on the recommended land uses described above, this section provides a list of zoning recommendations that the City can pursue as it moves forward with implementation of the overall Comprehensive Plan. Upon adoption of this Plan, the City Council would be empowered to undertake specific zoning amendments to the City's Zoning Code in support of the land uses described in this Future Land Use Plan. Amendments to the Zoning Code would include site specific changes to the City's Official Zoning Map and corresponding text changes to the Zoning Code. The courts of the State of New York have consistently upheld the principle that "zoning should be based on a well-reasoned plan." Any future zoning amendments undertaken in support of this Plan are subject to the requirements of and compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act [6 NYCRR Part 617 (SEQR)].

Description of Proposed Zoning Recommendations

A series of zoning map and text amendments are needed to implement the land use proposals outlined in the Future Land Use Map. Depending on available funding for undertaking amendments to the Zoning Code and Zoning Map, the proposed zoning amendments could be undertaken in a series of steps or as one comprehensive set of text and map changes. The following presents a discussion of recommended zoning changes needed in order to implement the future land uses described in Section 11.1. A list of zoning recommendations is included in Table 12-1 and Figure 12.1.

Table 12-1: Proposed Zoning Changes

Area ID	Description	Existing Zoning	Proposed Zoning
1a	Rezone Long Dock Park to WP (see Section 10.0)	WD	WP
2a/2b	Rezone two areas east of station to WD (see Sec. 10.0)	WP, LB, LI	WD
3	<u>Rezone two parcels on Rt. 52 to R1-5</u>	<u>RD-5</u>	<u>R1-5</u>
4a/4b	Rezone Main Street CB <u>and Fountain Square</u> to CMS	CB, <u>LB</u>	CMS
5	Rezone <u>southern</u> Groveville Mills property to FCD	LI	FCD
6	Rezone <u>section of HI rail right-of-way to CB</u> and GB	LI	<u>CB</u> , GB
7	Rezone former DPW Garage <u>to FCD</u>	LI	<u>FCD</u>
8	Rezone <u>section of HI rail right-of-way</u> to FCD	HI	FCD
9	Rezone LI District to LB or restrict uses in LI	LI	LB or modified LI
<u>10</u>	<u>Rezone parcels on Rt. 52 and South St. to PB</u>	<u>RD-5, R1-5</u>	<u>PB</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>Rezone parcel along Fishkill Creek to WP</u>	<u>FCD</u>	<u>WP</u>



CITY OF BEACON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE