

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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## OVERALL PLAN PHILOSOPHY

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During the process of preparing the Plan, the following philosophy emerged as the foundation for this Plan of Conservation and Development:

**To maintain and enhance those aspects of Madison's character that contribute to its high quality of life.**

While there may be refinements in the goals and strategies of this Plan over time, it is anticipated that this philosophy will remain relevant during the anticipated ten-year life of this Plan of Conservation and Development.

## OVERALL PLAN ORGANIZATION

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Many Plans of Conservation and Development are organized on a *topical* basis. That is, they are arranged by chapters about such things as natural resource protection, open space, residential development, economic development, community facilities, transportation, and similar topics. This Plan is different.

During the planning process, it became apparent that a *thematic* structure had greater potential to highlight the most important issues in Madison and provide flexibility in guiding future actions. Participants felt that a Plan organized around a set of broad themes had greater potential to concisely organize and present the recommendations of the Plan.

In addition, the recommended strategies result in a series of *benchmarks* to guide future legislative and administrative actions and help determine consistency with the Plan.

Winter on River Road



Joanne Volage

***This Plan is intended to highlight important issues in Madison and flexibly guide future actions ...***

## Plan Detail

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More detailed discussion of these themes and strategies is contained in the following chapters of the Plan.

## MAJOR THEMES

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The major themes and strategies contained in the Plan are outlined below.



### Enhance Community Character

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- Establish a Conservation Committee
- Protect Scenic Resources
- Protect Historic Resources
- Promote Architectural Character
- Protect Other Unique Resources



### Promote Community Spirit

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- Enhance Community Spirit
- Promote Community Involvement



### Enhance Madison Center

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- Carefully Manage Activities in Madison Center
- Enhance the Streetscape
- Enhance the Center's Sidewalk Network
- Provide Restrooms for Public Use
- Encourage Residential Development in the Center
- Monitor Parking Needs
- Consider Limited Sewer Service in the Center

### **Protect Natural Resources**

- Protect Water Quality
- Preserve Important Resources



### **Expand Open Space and Trails**

- Provide Additional Open Space and Greenbelts
- Expand the Existing Trail System
- Encourage Efforts of the Land Trust
- Expand Coastal Access Opportunities
- Retain Undeveloped Land



### **Carefully Manage Development**

- Enhance Village Centers
- Simplify Business Zones
- Enhance Commercial Areas on Route 1
- Maintain and Expand the Tax Base
- Encourage Business Activity Consistent with the Intent of the Plan
- Manage Residential Development
- Encourage Housing Diversity
- Control Development in Coastal Areas



### **Coastal Management**

Recommendations related to coastal issues and management of areas within the coastal boundary transcend many of the themes of the Plan.

Themes where responsible management of coastal resources is important include:

- Enhance Community Character
- Protect Natural Resources
- Expand Open Space and Trails
- Carefully Manage Development
- Address Community Facility Needs

Some of the most specific recommendations relating to management of activities in coastal areas are contained on pages 65-70.



### **Address Community Facility Needs**

- Undertake a Facility Planning Process
- Address Current Facility Needs
- Prepare for Mid-Range Facility Needs
- Consider Long Term Needs
- Enhance Facility Operations



### **Maintain and Enhance Infrastructure**

- Create an Overall Sidewalk and Trail Network
- Establish a Bikeway Network
- Maintain and Enhance Roadway Facilities
- Manage Access on Existing Roads
- Promote Vehicular Alternatives
- Maintain and Enhance Other Infrastructure



### **Implementation**

- Implement the Plan