

Hardwick Municipal Plan Update

Action Steps Triage Worksheet

Cover Sheet – How to Use This Worksheet

Purpose

This worksheet is used to help the Planning Commission review existing Municipal Plan action steps and decide which ones should be carried forward, reconsidered, or removed in the updated plan.

This is a triage exercise, not a rewrite.

What to Look For

As you review each action step, consider:

- Has this already been completed or substantially addressed?
- Does this still reflect current conditions in Hardwick?
- Has this been superseded by newer plans, policies, or realities?
- Does this action need more information or discussion before deciding?

How to Mark Each Action Step

Check one box for each action step:

- Keep** – Still relevant and appropriate
- Reconsider** – Needs updating, reframing, or discussion
- Remove** – Outdated, completed, or no longer appropriate

Use the notes to flag why something stands out.

Action Steps Triage

Topic Area: Historic, Scenic, and Archeological Resources

Action Step:

Hardwick should continue to support the endeavors of the Hardwick Historical Society.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Select Board should continue to support the Village Center Designations in Hardwick Village and in East Hardwick.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Select Board should explore a tax stabilization program for downtown façade improvements.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Select Board should continue to provide funds to support maintenance and improvement of Town-owned historic structures, with line items included in the Town budget.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Where an archeological site is discovered, the Town supports purchase of development rights on the affected portion on a willing seller basis.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area: Economic Development

Action Step:

The Town Manager, Planning Commission, and Select Board should investigate Downtown Designation for the village area.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Town Manager and Planning Commission should pursue funding to develop a new location for a second industrial park.

Time Frame: Medium Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Town Manager and Planning Commission should identify appropriate locations for expansion of agricultural and value-added food producers.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Select Board should explore feasibility of improving the appearance and functionality of Hardwick’s downtown and East Hardwick’s village center.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area: Land & Natural Resources

Action Step:

The Town supports organizations pursuing conservation through purchase of development rights and related tools, with Planning and Conservation Commission review.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Planning Commission and Conservation Commission support property owners with questions about natural resources.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

A Natural Resources Inventory should be conducted throughout Hardwick.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area – Water Resources

Action Step:

Public education and signage should be placed at all boat accesses and public accesses to notify the public of Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive species and how to protect the lake.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

A wetland inventory of the town should be conducted.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Select Board should examine the feasibility of creating a new Source Protection Area which surrounds the Renaud Road spring.

Time Frame: Medium Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area: Flood Resilience

Action Step:

Maintain and regularly update the Local Emergency Operations Plan.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Continue to meet the VTrans Road and Bridge standards. Encourage participation in regional road foreman trainings and Transportation Advisory Committee meetings.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Identify and replace undersized and failing culverts.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Attempt to achieve yearly updating of the Town’s transportation infrastructure information in the Vermont Online Bridge and Culvert Inventory Tool.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Relocate the Fire Station and HED garage out of the floodplain or flood-proof to 500-year standards.

Time Frame: Long Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Maintain and regularly update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area: Public and Private Facilities and Services

Action Step:

The Select Board should support efforts to fund improvements to the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area: Education

Action Step:

The Select Board should support and facilitate the Jeudevine Memorial Library’s efforts to improve its educational and social services.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area: Transportation

Action Step:

Assess road and bridge conditions every three years to establish priorities.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Continue to seek funding to improve and extend sidewalks.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The town should review truck parking and seek opportunities to increase safe downtown parking.
Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Hardwick should consider using bio-fuels or electric vehicles wherever economically possible (including school buses and other municipal vehicles).
Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The town should encourage safe and convenient alternatives to automobile travel for local trips, including investigation of a commuter bus route from Hardwick to Montpelier.
Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

Examine feasibility of electric vehicle charging stations in Hardwick.
Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Topic Area: Energy

Action Step:

The Select Board and School Board should continue to realize energy savings through energy audits of all municipal buildings and the use of life cycle costing practices that incorporate long-term energy savings in the fiscal analysis of facility construction and equipment purchases.
Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The town should consider establishing a new energy reserve fund to help cover costs and leverage other funds for planned improvement projects to improve energy efficiency.

Time Frame: Short Term

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Action Step:

The Select Board should participate in Section 248 hearings that relate to projects within the Town to review applications and assure that the requirements as set forth in the Town Plan are met.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Keep Reconsider Remove

Notes: _____

Final Reflection

Are there any action steps that feel **clearly out of sync** with how Hardwick functions today?

Are there areas where **more information or community input** is clearly needed before decisions can be made?
