

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Certificate of Approval
Comprehensive Community Plan
LITTLE COMPTON

BE IT HEREBY KNOWN that in accordance with Chapter 45 - 22.2 of the General Laws of Rhode Island entitled 'Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act', the comprehensive community plan submitted by the above named community has been approved.

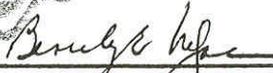
BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that this approval shall be in effect for a five year period commencing on

October 6, 2003 and ending on **October 5, 2008**

HENCEFORTH said plan shall serve to guide all of the municipality's land use decisions and shall be used to conform those decisions to state law, the State Guide Plan and the goals and policies of state agencies.

IN CONFIRMATION OF SAID APPROVAL I HERETO SET MY HAND FOR THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS THIS

29th DAY OF March 2004



Director Department of Administration

Acknowledgements

This Comprehensive Community Plan was first approved by the Town Council in June 1994. Since that time, the plan had been under review by the Statewide Planning Program and the various state agencies that are required to review such comprehensive plans. The plan as presented in 1994 did not meet the state's requirements in many respects. The Town's Planning Board and Town Council reviewed the changes that were mandated by the state agencies with its part-time consultant. Over a period of many years, many meetings and many iterations, the Town has approved the changes that are contained in this edition of the plan.

The Statewide Planning Program, under Director John O'Brien, and staff members George Johnson, Derwent Riding, Michael Ahnrud, and Kevin Nelson were very helpful in guiding the Town and its consultant through these changes.

Over the years, members of the Planning Board and Town Council, many whom are no longer serving on either body, have participated in this process of reviewing and approving the changes. They were helpful and patient as this process moved forward. The names of all the present and former members are listed below:

Town Council

Jane P. Cabot
Alexandre H. Goulart Jr.
Thomas A. Goulart
John D. Silvia
John A. McKinnon
Robert A. Dyer
Deborah B. Sullivan
Gary S. Mataronas
Abigail Brooks
William Mackintosh III
Joseph D. Maiato
Donald T. Gomez
William H. Hutson
Paul J. Golembeske

Planning Board

Robert J. Booth
James F. Brayton
Mark W. Cady
Robert M. Green
Whitney Jastram
George D. Mason
Paul J. Golembeske
Richard F. Rogers
William Smith
Charles E. Trowbridge
Ronald R. Smith
M. Jean Turcotte
Pasquale L. Parente
Patrice O'Malley Hagan
David R. DeSouza
David A. Doern
Thomas Joseph
Robert L. Mushen
Deborah B. Sullivan
James D. Truslow
Mark Sawoski

Consultant for the revised 2003 edition: Samuel J. Shamoan, AICP, Community Planner.
Consultants for the original 1994 edition: Albert Veri & Associates, Inc., Deborah M. Kupa, Esq.
AICP, Samuel J. Shamoan, AICP and Michael Philips.

**Town of Little Compton, Rhode Island
Responses to State Agencies on the Little Compton
Comprehensive Plan**

November, 1996

The attached pages contain the Town of Little Compton's responses to the State Agencies' comments on the Town's Comprehensive Plan. These responses represent the views of the Planning Board and Town Council.

The responses to the State Agencies' comments are grouped into the following categories:

A. State agencies that found the Comprehensive Plan to be "consistent with the goals and policies of the State Agency" with NO comments and do not require a response.

These are:

1. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
2. Department of Employment and Training
3. Department of Human Services
4. Governor's Justice Commission
5. Office of Housing, Energy and Intergovernmental Relations
6. Rhode Island Public Transit Authority
7. Office of Higher Education
8. Department of Corrections
9. R.I. National Guard
10. R.I. Port Authority and Economic Development Corporation
11. Department of Children, Youth, and Families

B. State agencies that found the Comprehensive Plan to be "consistent with the goals and policies of the State Agency" but nevertheless included comments that require responses and/or changes that are merely informational. These are:

1. Rhode Island State Council on the Arts

2. Water Resources Board
 3. Department of Health
 4. Rhode Island Department of Transportation
 5. Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation
- C. State agencies that found the Comprehensive Plan to be "NOT consistent with the goals and policies of the State Agency," and had specific comments and suggestions to achieve consistency. These are:
1. Department of Environmental Management - Nonpoint Sources Program
 2. R.I. Solid Waste Management Corporation
 3. Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
 4. Emergency Management Agency
 5. Department of MHRH
 6. Department of Elderly Affairs

The comments and responses on the following pages are for the B and C groups, noted above.

RHODE ISLAND STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

Finding: Consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

The agency supports the Comprehensive Plan but encourages the important role of arts and culture.

Response:

Section 5.8h Cultural Resource Goals (page 5-63) states goal #2, (out of 11 goals):

2. **Arts and Culture** - To support artistic and cultural aspects of the town which play an important role in establishing the town's identity, including such elements as specific ethnic and interest groups, locations of historical and traditional importance within the community, and the creation and usage of places of formal and informal assembly.

The Plan also supports the consideration of an Arts and Cultural Council (page 5-65 and Reference action 5.39 on page 9-33) .

WATER RESOURCES BOARD

Finding: Consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

While the Agency notes that the relevant section "was very well done," there is a comment about the apparent lack of mention of the Watson Reservoir for protection purposes.

Response:

Table 7-2 of the Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Element, item # 41 in page 7-21 does list the Watson Reservoir within the Town's inventory of recreation conservation and open space sites. Moreover, Reference Action # 7.5 (page 943) calls for adding to "permanently protected conservation... and special areas to the Town's existing inventory." The Implementation Program Element, Section 9.7 (page 9-45) establishes 16 criteria for site selection for the protection of open space and conservation lands. Criterion # 10 includes properties for the "protection of watershed or groundwater recharge area." Hence, the Town's concerns for the protection of Watson Reservoir are well established.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Finding: Consistent Summary of Agency comments:

Watershed protection zoning and planning, stormwater management, water conservation, and planning for the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

Response:

This agency's comments closely parallel those of the RIDEM and the Water Resources Board. A copy of the Town's comments to those Agencies should be forwarded to the Department of Health.

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Finding: Consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

RIDOT found the Circulation Element of the Comprehensive plan to be consistent, with the following recommendations:

Response:

1. Amend Section 8.3, Scheduled Road Improvements, of the Circulation Element, page 8-8, by adding the following at the end of that section:

Highway projects affecting the Town of Little Compton that are currently in various stages of planning and engineering design are:

- A. CRANDALL ROAD - MODIFIED 3R (reconstruction, resurfacing and rehabilitation) CONSTRUCTION
- B. MAIN ROAD/STONE CHURCH ROAD - MODIFIED 3R

Improvements to roads in Little Compton that are under State jurisdiction will have to meet design standards acceptable to RIDOT. RIDOT will work with the Town to achieve designs in keeping with the rural and village character of the Town.

RIDOT has prepared a Statewide Bicycle System Plan with the aim of linking bicycle-tolerant roadways and independent bike paths in an integrated network.

Recently, RIPTA did an extensive evaluation of their bus routes throughout the State. As a result of this analysis, changes in the areas served and in the frequency of service may occur that affect the Town of Little Compton.

Little Compton is presently served by the States coordinated paratransit brokerage project, or RIDE Program. This program is designed to coordinate all state funded transportation in Kent, Washington, Newport, and Bristol Counties and the City of East Providence. The RIDE Program acts as a middleman between the State agency purchasing the transportation and the client who receives it. Elderly and disabled residents who live in Little Compton and attend day care and nutrition programs, or need transportation to and from medical appointments qualify for transportation through the RIDE Program. Also, the Little Compton Visiting Nurse's Association and the Newport County Chapter RIARC Center provide transportation to their clientele who live in town.

The TIP, approved for the time of October 1, 1993 to September 30, 1996, includes the following for the Town of Little Compton.

- A. STONE CHURCH ROAD; EAST ROAD TO ADAMSVILLE ROAD - MODIFIED 3R PROJECT

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation

Finding: Consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

The Agency generally praised the plan as "very well composed" and noted that some of the tables were "excellent." The major recommendation dealt with the implementation mechanisms. It states that "the opportunity certainly exists to combine affordable housing opportunities with efforts to preserve the pastoral character of one of Rhode Island's gems."

In addition, the Agency made specific comments that are addressed in the responses below:

Responses to Comments:

Comment: Special Needs of Homeless was marked "incomplete" even though the author of the comments wrote "Homeless addressed."

Response: The Housing Element of the Comprehensive Plan does address homeless issues in Section 3.10 (pages 3-13 and 3-14). The plan documents the number of people utilizing state shelters who listed Little Compton as their last address.

Comment: Forecasted housing needs over a five-year and twenty-year period not addressed.

Response: While specific time frames are not mentioned, the Plan's recommendations include implementation actions (3.2) that will "consider creating a standing housing committee...to serve as an advisory group for any person or group desiring to address the problem of housing affordability or housing for the elderly," and (3.3) "Create a forum for the elderly community to elaborate on specific housing needs..." These actions demonstrate the Plan's approach to housing needs. Over time, as the population ages, the needs of the elderly become more acute and the Town has addressed ways for long time residents to remain in their homes and have other arrangements for the frail elderly and those in need of assistance.

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation
(continued)

Comment: Enhancing Affordability - Responsible Agency(ies)
Identified is marked as incomplete, with a comment that states: "Not clear who would be responsible for implementing changes proposed."

Response: Each implementation action, listed in Chapter 9 - Implementation Program, designates stewardship. These are not listed in the element chapters but rather in Chapter 9. For example, most actions would be the responsibility of the Planning Board or Town Council or both. Actions for all elements are listed in Chapter 9.

Comment: Enhancing Affordability - Financial Strategies is marked as incomplete, with a comment that states "Might consider use of HOME funds and Farmer's Home to create eligibility."

Response: Some Town residents do receive HOME funds and Farmer's Home funds through local banks.

Comment: Potential Conversion Sites - it is noted that "if new police station is built maybe old complexes could be converted for housing."

Response: Existing facilities will remain for public safety and/or maintenance facility use.

Comment: Female-headed and minority households not addressed.

Response: Of the Town's 1990 population of 3,339 people, less than 2% are listed as minority. The number is too few to list without identifying individuals. As for female-headed households, there were 48 households listed that were headed by a woman with children and 67 households listed that were headed by a woman with no children. (Source: 1990 Census).

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - NONPOINT SOURCES PROGRAM

Finding: Not consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

Ref # 7. Adopt and implement stormwater management requirements through revision of subdivision, and if authority exists, zoning ordinances, including routine inspection and enforcement.

In addition to the suggestion to adopt stormwater management requirements, the agency indicated that on page 6-13 of the Comprehensive Plan:

- (1) an Appendix reference was missing,
- (2) stormwater management manuals were suggested only as "design guidelines," instead of requirements,
- (3) a reference to "further discussion" in another element was nonexistent, and
- (4) page 6-17 lists only eight recommendations while the Implementation Element, Section 9.6 on pages 9-36 through 9-42, lists 33 recommendations.

Ref # 18 Establish operational and site stabilization requirements for sand and gravel operations.

Ref # 20 Adopt and implement hazardous materials storage and handling requirement.

Ref # 21 Adopt and implement siting requirements for automobile junk yards to protect water resources.

Response to Ref # 7: Adopt and Implement Stormwater Management Requirements

The Planning Board agrees that Page 6-13 should have been edited for cross references to appendices and other elements. The Board recommends that the language be amended to more accurately reflect the Town's policy with respect to stormwater management, erosion and sediment control. In that regard, the following are recommended:

1. Amend Section 6.12 on page 6-13 of the Comprehensive Plan to read as follows: (strikeout words - to be deleted, shaded words - new language proposed), as follows:

6.12 Drainage and Stormwater Management Facilities

The National Urban Runoff Program has shown that the stormwater from residential and commercial areas can contain a variety of pollutants, including heavy metals, fecal coliform, pesticides, suspended solids, nutrients and floatables. These findings have advanced the art of

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - NONPOINT SOURCES PROGRAM (continued)

stormwater management to a state where comprehensive stormwater management provides not only flood protection, but water quality protection and soil erosion and sediment control.

~~Appendix — contains a series of Best Management Practices fact sheets that should be used as guides by advisory boards in their assessment of stormwater management design by developers. Additionally, the *Recommendations of the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Committee Regarding the Implementation of Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management* (RIDEM, 1988) as well as the *Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook* (RIDEM, 1989) should be referenced for design guidelines. Further discussion of drainage and stormwater management issues is included in the Natural and Cultural Resources element. The *State of Rhode Island Stormwater Design and Installation Standards Manual* (RIDEM & CRMC, 1993) and/or the latest edition of *Rhode Island Erosion and Sedimentation Control Handbook*, prepared by the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture should be included in the Town's new Subdivision Regulations as a mandatory provision for designing a soil erosion and sedimentation plan in all minor and major subdivisions in the Town.~~

2. RIDEM should also note that the Planning Board's Subdivision Regulations, adopted pursuant to the Rhode Island Land Development and Subdivision Review Enabling Act of 1992, does include mandatory language with respect to erosion and sedimentation control and surface water drainage. The pertinent section of the Subdivision Regulations is reprinted below:

D.6 Erosion, and Sedimentation Control and Surface Water Drainage

Measures and improvements designed to provide soil erosion and sedimentation control shall be designed and installed in accordance with a Soil Erosion and Storm Runoff Control Plan that shall be prepared and submitted by the subdivider. Said measures and improvements shall be subject to the inspection and approval of the Administrative Officer and shall be covered by the required surety to assure satisfactory completion.

- a. The Soil Erosion and Storm Runoff Control Plan shall include measures during and following the development of the subdivision and the improvements designed to carry storm runoff from the subdivision.
- b. Measures to control soil erosion and sedimentation shall meet the standards of the latest edition of the *Rhode Island Erosion and Sedimentation Control Handbook*, prepared by the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. All engineering calculations in connection with the design of said measures shall be submitted with the Plan.
- c. The standards for the design of all surface and subsurface storm drainage facilities shall be in conformity with the appropriate provisions of the *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction*, published by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation. (*Little Compton Subdivision Regulations*)

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT -
NONPOINT SOURCES PROGRAM (continued)**

**Response to incomplete list of recommendation on page 6-17 of the
Comprehensive Plan, Section 6.14.b.**

1. The final version of the Comprehensive Plan inadvertently omitted Recommendations 6.9 through 6.33. This is remedied by the Planning Board' s recommendation to add the following to page 6-17, following 6.8:
6.9 Continue to strengthen the membership and commitment to the Substance Abuse Task Force. 6.10 Assess the town's goals and strategies for disaster preparedness and civil defense planning. 6.11 Assess the options for improved public communications by the police and fire departments.
6.12 As a policy, consider the benefits of regional versus local programs where there are cost reduction and service delivery benefits to be gained by the Town.
6.13 Consider contracting engineering review services for soil erosion and sediment control. stormwater management and ISDS permitting to ensure environmentally sound development practices.
6.14 Encourage the study for staffing and program development for a community center, and coordinate the use of existing space for meetings of various Town boards.
6.15 Recognize and support the recently formed Little Compton Health and Human Resources Committee.
6.16 Consider establishing wastewater management districts in densely populated areas and areas of ISDS failure in order to provide periodic inspection, maintenance and connection of ISDS systems.
6.17 Support a public education program in conjunction with public awareness group (e.g. Cooperative Extension Service, Save the Bay) to make property owners aware of the importance, of proper ISDS maintenance and the need for periodic pumping.
6.18 Consider a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance, utilizing the services of the Soil Conservation Service and the local Conservation District

- 6.19 ~~Develop and implement~~ Continue to maintain a townwide recycling program in coordination with State efforts.
- 6.20 Continue to maintain an igloo for waste oil collection at the transfer station, and vigorously promote its use.
- 6.21 Work with RIDEM's OSCAR program to develop a public education program toward reducing the waste stream and encourage private and commercial recycling through municipal assistance in the form of newspaper drop-off spots, multiple large item trash pick-ups, and announcement or sponsorship of the OSCAR program's household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Day(s).
- 6.22 Retain Town service departments (police, fire, town hall) in the Commons area. 6.23 Fully utilize existing public buildings.
- 6.24 Consider establishing standards for design review for any construction or building alterations in the Commons areas.
- 6.25 Contract for a professional technical and economic study for a comprehensive analysis of water supply and sewage treatment for all public buildings on the "Commons."
- 6.26 Fully clarify the Town's legal position for the use of Watson Reservoir water for the school and other public facilities on the Commons.
- 6.27 When and if it becomes available, lease/purchase a small amount of land behind the school, town hall and police department for provision of additional off-street parking facilities and for the safe drop-off of school children from buses.
- 6.28 When and if needed acquire additional land behind the library and St. Catherine's for off-street parking and for an alternate route out of the Commons.
- 6.29 Complete a detailed study of municipal administration space needs.
- 6.30 As necessary, expand town offices into space in the Legion Hall and/or expand to a second floor above the existing addition to relieve congestion.
- 6.31 Efficiently utilize the Oddfellows Hall and the existing fire station if they become available.
- 6.32 As funding becomes available, complete renovation of Grange Hall for use as a community center.
- 6.33 Select a site for the new police/fire complex, that includes, but is not limited to:
1. The space occupied by the existing fire station, police station, and if necessary the tennis court;
 2. Part of the field north of the existing fire station;

3. On Willow Avenue/Common's End;
4. Peckham Lot.

Note 1: **Recommendation 6.13** indicates that the Town is considering the use of engineering review services in regard to stormwater management. Indeed, the Planning Board's Subdivision Regulations requires that "All improvements to be installed by the subdivider shall be inspected by a registered professional engineer... engaged by the Planning Board and paid for by fees charged to the subdivider.." (*Little Compton Subdivision Regulations, Section D.9*).

Note 2: **Recommendation 6.19** is corrected to reflect the fact that a townwide recycling program exists. The same change in language will appear in Chapter 9, Implementation Program, page 9-40, Reference Action 6.19.

Responses to Ref # 18 - Sand and Gravel Operations, Ref # 20 -Hazardous Materials Storage and Handling, and Ref # 21 -Automobile Junk Yards

The Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan, Section 2.4 on page 2-19, recommended eliminating the remaining industrial zone in the north central part of the Town. The Town's Zoning Ordinance, adopted on July 1, 1994, eliminated the industrial zone. With that, the Town prohibits sand and gravel operations, hazardous materials storage and handling, and automobile junk yards anywhere in the Town.

R.I. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

Finding: Not consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

The Agency recommends two specific items that need to be updated. There is apparently no comment on any of the Town's goals or policies.

Response:

The Planning Board agrees to update the Comprehensive Plan, Services and Facilities Element, as follows:

1. Amend Section 6.9 on page 6-11 to read as follows: (Strikeout text to be deleted, shaded text to be added)

6.9 Transfer Station

The Town operates a transfer station (location) where refuse is prepared for disposal at the State landfill and materials handling facility in Johnston, RI. The Town does not have a waste pick-up program. Residents are responsible for transport of waste to the transfer station and many contract with private haulers for this service. The Town's waste disposal cap for fiscal year 1991 was set at 2,568 tons per year.³ In the 1989-90 fiscal year, the Town was charged \$13/ton below the cap and \$59/ton above the cap for waste disposed at the landfill. Little Compton came close to exceeding the cap in fiscal year 1988-89, and exceeded the cap for nine days in fiscal year 1989-90.

The Municipal Cap information for fiscal years 1991-95 is provided below

FY	CAP	AMOUNT OVER CAP
FY95	2,072 tons	185.95 tons
FY94	2,059 tons	381.55 tons
FY93	2,059 tons	67.44 tons
FY92	1,985 tons	156.92 tons
FY91	2,568 tons	n/a

The 1995 tipping fee for Little Compton is \$32.00/ton for anything under the cap, and \$40.00/ton for anything over the cap.

Tipping fees below the cap, for fiscal year 1991-92, have increased to \$15.93/ton. Fees above the cap have decreased to \$49/ton. Little Compton's cap has been reduced to 1,985

³ Solid Waste Management Corporation uses 1990 population figures and a material generation multiplier 01.628 in determining the municipal cap. Pop. 3,339 * .628 (Town Multiplier) + 359 tons (allowance for seasonal population) =2,568 tons.

R.I. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (continued)

Page 6-12 to be amended as follows:

tons. The new cap is based on a statewide multiplier for material generation, where a town specific multiplier had been used in the past.⁴ The reduction in the cap will result in a significant increase in the cost of solid waste disposal for the Town. In 1991 the Town paid approximately \$43,758 for disposal of some 2,787 tons of waste.

~~A lower cap will result in a greater tonnage of waste being assessed at excess tonnage municipal rates. the commercial rate of \$49 a ton. At present levels of waste generation the Town can expect to pay approximately \$69,000 for waste disposal in the 1991-92 fiscal year.~~

~~Due to state fiscal problems, and the lack of capacity at Solid Waste Management Corporation's (SWMC) material handling facility, towns that are not currently part of the mandatory recycling program will not be brought on line in the near future. Given the SWMC's current fiscal condition it is unlikely that a new materials handling facility will be built in the near future. Little Compton is in the process of developing a voluntary recycling program, and has had some initial success. Large metal items, and white metals are taken by a scrap metal firm in Massachusetts, news papers are collected at the transfer station by a local farmer who uses them for animal bedding, tentative arrangements have been made with a firm to recycle Little Compton's glass items, the school and town hall have made provisions for the recycling white paper. Provisions for the recycling and disposal of aluminum cans, plastic jugs, cardboard, and leaves, grass and tree trimmings need to be worked out.~~

On August 22, 1994, Little Compton became the 28th municipality to join the state's Mandatory Recycling Program. The town operates a drop-off recycling program, which allows residents to come to the transfer station and place their recyclables in designated containers. The containers containing bottles and cans are then hauled to the Solid Waste Management Corporation's (SWMC) Materials Recycling Facility in Johnston, RI for processing. The newspapers collected under the program are taken by a local farmer who uses the paper for animal bedding. Large metal items, and white metals are taken by a scrap metal firm in Massachusetts. (*Source: RI Solid Waste Management Corporation*).

In fiscal year (FY)1989-90 the transfer station spent \$115,244, and in FY 1990-91 a total of \$155,190 was spent for the operation of the transfer station and tipping fees.

4 Pop. 3,339 .487 (statewide multiplier) + 359 tons (allowance for seasonal population) =
Municipal Cap 1,985 tons.

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

Finding: Not consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

The Agency had eight substantive comments. Of those, six were satisfactorily answered within the Comprehensive Plan and no further action is required. The two comments that require response are addressed as follows:

Response:

1. To address Item # 6 of the RIHP&HC comments, amend the Natural and Cultural Resources Element, Recommendation 5.8.i on page 5-64, item 38 to read as follows:

38. Consider establishing a Little Compton Historical Preservation Advisory Board which would address the Town's scenic character, historical sites and structures, architectural integrity and archaeological resources. The Planning Board will investigate the feasibility of establishing said Board. More specifically the Board would:

Balance to remain unchanged.

The change will be carried over into the Implementation Program, page 9-33.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Finding: Not consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

The Agency had seven checklist type questions. Of those, two (Items 3 and 7) were satisfactorily answered in the Comprehensive Plan.

Response:

The remaining issues are addressed as follows:

1. Listing the title of the Emergency Management Director among its list of municipal officials. Chapter 6, Service and Facilities, Section 6.2, Town Government, on page 6-1 is amended to read as follows:

6.2 Town Government

Little Compton is governed by a five member Town Council which is headed by the Council President. Council members are elected for 2 year terms. Other elected posts in the Town include:

<u>Position</u>	<u># of Posts</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u># of Posts</u>	<u>Term</u>
Town clerk	1	2 years	Town Moderator	1	2 years
Treasurer	1	2 years	Town Sergeant	1	2 years
Tax Assessor	3	6 years	Welfare Director	1	2 years
School Committee	5	4 years	Highway Superintendent	1	2 years

Appointed positions are:

Local Emergency Management Agency Director

Police Chief

Fire Chief

Building Official

Director of Public Works

Town Sergeant

Welfare Director

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (continued)

2. Questions 2, 4, 5, 6 and the "Comment" section are concerned with documentation of the Town's emergency operations plan. The comments correctly note that the Comprehensive Plan does not actually document such activities even though they exist in the Town. To address this issue the following amendment to the Comprehensive Plan is offered:

Amend Chapter 6, Service and Facilities by adding a new subsection that will be inserted as a new section 6.7 on page 6-10. The existing sections 6.7 through 6.14 will be renumbered 6.8 through 6.15, respectively.

6.7 Emergency Management

The Town of Little Compton has a "Local Peacetime Disaster Plan," which was adopted in 1980 and is reviewed annually. The Town's Emergency Management Director is the President of the Town Council, who works with the Police and Fire Chiefs to review and, if necessary, update the Local Peacetime Disaster Plan. Copies of the Plan are on file in the Town Hall and at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the Little Compton Police Station, 32 Commons.

The Plan identifies the Police Station as the EOC, where the Director and Chiefs of Police and Fire Departments would gather to direct emergency operations. Local officials work with the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency and has received the most recent State Emergency Operations Plan dated February, 1995.

The Fire Chief attends all State and County meetings to coordinate mutual aid with other fire Departments. All Police and Fire Department vehicles carry Hazmat Handbooks.

The Town has identified the Wilbur/McMahon School as the primary public shelter in agreement with the Red Cross. Local and Red Cross officials will staff the school site in the event of an emergency.

Since the Town appointed its own Council President as the Director of Emergency Management, there has not been the need to apply for federal funding for the position.

DEPARTMENT OF MHRH

Finding: Not consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

The Agency indicated that the Comprehensive Plan did not address the needs of disabled residents who may require assistance in "housing, employment, recreation and access to community services and facilities."

Response:

The Town actually provides a number of services for disabled residents that are not documented in the Comprehensive Plan. To correct this, the following amendment to the text of the Comprehensive Plan is offered:

Amend Section 6.7 Health and Human Services, pages 6-10 and 611 by adding the following paragraphs at the end of the section. Note that the section is renumbered to 6.8 to accommodate comments for the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency.

The Town works with several public and private agencies to provide assistance to disabled residents of Little Compton. These include:

1. **School Department** - The School Department provides transportation for disabled students. In the classroom, computers are supplied for special needs pupils. Wheelchair elevator facilities are available.
2. **Public Buildings** - The Town Hall and all public buildings are accessible for the handicapped, with elevators and ramps. In addition, both the Police Station is equipped with TDD facilities for telephone calls from the hearing impaired.
3. **Nursing Association** - The Little Compton Nursing Association provides a van for disabled persons and the elderly for transportation to a day care center on East Main Road.
4. **New Visions** - A local social service agency that receives funding from the Town, provides assistance to the disabled.
5. **Church Community Housing Corporation** - A regional housing agency supported by federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, provides assistance and low interest loans to residents who need to retrofit existing homes with facilities, such as ramps and elevators, for disabled and elderly residents.

DEPARTMENT OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS

Finding: Not consistent

Summary of Agency comments:

The Agency indicated that the Comprehensive Plan was lacking information on social services, transportation, senior center, property tax relief, recreation and housing for elderly residents of Little Compton.

The Agency also noted that it could not find evidence that elderly people participated in the plan preparation.

Response:

Over 100 residents participated in the plan preparation; their names are listed on pages 10-1 and 10-2 of the Comprehensive Plan. Although the ages of the people are not indicated, many were retired individuals who gave generously of their time. The citizens survey, conducted in the Spring of 1990, documented that 14% of those surveyed were age 65 or older. This roughly corresponds to the approximately 16+% of all Town residents who were 65 years or older at the time of the survey. (See pages 10-6 and 1-7 of the Comprehensive Plan). The survey also revealed that 67% of those interviewed "would encourage the Town to create housing for the elderly." (Page 10-10 of the Comprehensive Plan). Given this strong representation of the elderly population's input into the Plan, there is no need to further document the issue of elderly participation in the Plan preparation.

However there is a need to amend the Plan to document the Town's efforts in the areas noted in the first paragraph of the Agency comments above.

Amend Section 3.9, page 3-13, by adding the following at the end of the existing paragraph:

The Town provides assistance for the elderly in the following areas:

1. Transportation - The Town provides annual funding of about \$4,000 to support bus service for senior citizens. The service affords transportation to recreational services.
2. Recreation/Senior Center - The Legion Hall, attached to the Town Hall, is used three (3) times per month as a senior recreation center. Meetings are held there and amusements, such as bingo, are provided.
3. Nursing Association - The Little Compton Nursing Association provides an adult day care center, with health care and preventive clinics, such as a flu clinic, at its building on East Main Road. The Association also coordinates meals on wheels for elderly residents.
4. Tax Relief - The Town provides property tax for low income elderly property owners, in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws 44-3-3(16).