

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
Town of LeRay Community Survey

Town of LeRay Community Survey

The Town of LeRay was awarded a New York State Quality Communities Grant in 2007 to prepare a Town-wide Comprehensive Plan. The Town will be hiring a consultant in the near future to prepare the Plan. Your responses to this survey will be very valuable in the preparation of the Plan.

1. Identify the three community issues of greatest concern for you and your family. (Please check (✓) only three that apply.)

15% Cost and availability of housing	29% Local jobs/economic opportunities	20% Youth/senior services
27% Preservation of open space	26% Environmental quality	16% Public sewer and/or water services
15% Access to parks, recreation	25% Pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods	69% Property tax burden
22% Local shops and services	14% Design standards for new development	6% Other
Please identify other community issue of greatest concern for you and your family.		100%

2. Identify the three types of economic development you believe the community should focus most on. (Please check (✓) only three that apply.)

13% Promote superstores	25% Promote office parks/high tech industry	22% Promote compact business development in/adjacent to community center
17% Permit commercial strip development	28% Promote manufacturing	64% Promote adaptive reuse and conversion of underused buildings/sites
27% Encourage home-based businesses	75% Actively support existing local businesses (including farms)	

3. Identify three types of new commercial businesses you believe are most needed in the community? (Please check (✓) only three that apply.)

6% Auto repair shops	20% Movie theaters	20% Major department stores
2% Auto dealers	4% Fast food restaurants	34% Hardware and lumber stores
26% Supermarkets/grocery stores	70% Restaurants other than fast food	11% Gift/tourist shops
9% Convenient stores w/gas station	14% Hotels/motels	4% Video rental stores
21% Drug stores	21% Banks and financial institutions	20% Book stores

4. Identify the three types of housing most needed in the community. (Please check (✓) only three that apply.)

34% Rental units	77% Moderate-income housing	12% Multiple-family housing
58% Senior housing, including 'in-law apartments'	13% Luxury housing	22% Condominiums
49% Assisted living/nursing homes	4% Mobile home parks	

5. Do you support expanded protection for any of the following? (Please check (✓) Yes or No.)

	Yes	No
Farmland.....	78%	22%
Forest land.....	88%	12%
Open space.....	72%	28%
Scenic vistas.....	78%	22%
Wetlands.....	71%	29%
Stream corridors.....	80%	20%
Aquifers/groundwater.....	83%	17%
Historic buildings.....	80%	20%

6. Identify the three local services you would currently rate best performing. (Please check (✓) only three that apply.)

48% <i>Fire protection</i>	59% <i>Snow removal</i>	29% <i>Transfer station/recycling</i>
38% <i>Ambulance</i>	2% <i>Youth activities</i>	13% <i>Library</i>
10% <i>Police</i>	1% <i>Senior services</i>	15% <i>Public sewer</i>
23% <i>Road maintenance</i>	29% <i>School quality</i>	24% <i>Public water</i>

7. Would you support an increase in local taxes of, for instance, \$25 per assessed \$100,000 of proptery value, for any combination of the following? (Please check (✓) Yes or No.)

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
Parkland.....	37%	63%
Trails.....	43%	57%
Park improvements.....	40%	60%
Preservation of farmland.....	41%	59%
Preservation of other open space.....	41%	59%
Pedestrian improvements (trees, benches, lighting, ect.).....	48%	52%
Sidewalk expansion.....	40%	60%
Expanded youth/senior services.....	55%	45%

8. Are you a full-time resident? (Please check (✓) Yes or No.)

96% *Yes* 4% *No*

9. Please identify one idea to make our community a better place to live.

100%

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

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	Police Protection	Leash Law	Burning Barrels	Noise law	Additional Services
1	safety	roaming dogs	ban these	enforce a noise law	grocery stores, drug stores in Evans Mills
2	law enforcement/presence	leash law for dogs	no open fire pits	control loud music from cars	promote Mom and Pop stores
3	local police force	leash law for dogs	ban or control burn barrels	loudness of bar in Evans Mills	Wegman's supermarket
4	better law enforcement	keep dogs tied		lack of noise ordinance	main grocery store
5	community safety patrols	dogs must be leashed			build a mega gym
6	more constant police presence	leash law for dogs			promote department stores, restaurants, theaters
7	law enforcement				grocery stores, drug stores in Evans Mills
8	full-time police presence				grocery store
9	police -security				banks off base
10	better police protection				a mall is needed
11	enforcement of speed laws				all stores should give military discounts
12	enforcement of speeding on County Route 138				sitdown restaurant
13	control traffic better on Route 3 from Wtn to Great Bend				Olive Garden Restaurant
14	more police patrols especially for speeding				get a supermarket like Price Chopper
15	neighborhood security				something for Route 3 N
16	police protection				medical, dental offices
17	law enforcement for Town of LeRay				pharmacy
18	safety				grocery store
19	police patrol				discourage chain stores
20	more police protection				physician's offices
21	make community a safer place to live				child care centers
22	police protection in schools				adult daycare center
23	police protection - major drug use in area				grocery store in Village of Evans Mills
24	traffic monitoring by law enforcement				drug stores in Village of Evans Mills
25	law enforcement				more stores
26	more security on streets				real hotels
27	better traffic monitoring, cars speed				more shops for plus size women
28	need a full-time Police Department				local grocery stores and restaurants
29	crack down on crime caused by Fort Drum				doctors
30	closer supervision on bars in town				real restaurant
31	more police patrolling the area				nice dept. store
32					grocery store
33					want attractive stores
34					full stocked hardware store
35					more daycare and after school programs
36					support construction of fine arts center
37					need good family restaurant
38					need hardware store nearby
39					attract new businesses
40					large grocery store
41					grocery store owned by local resident
42					having a tourist information shop/booth

Community Activities	Open Space	Pedestrian Amenities
group Community Activities	promote for windmills	need streetlights and sidewalks in Hamlet of Calcium
more entertainment locally	utilize vacant land for development	street lighting in Calcium
develop youth club program	quit promoting sprawl	add sidewalks
there is nothing for youths to do	better, efficient use of	streetlights
need program for youths	expansion or improvements to parkland	install sidewalk from Cemetary Road to Waddingham Road
want a Chucky Cheese	parks	sidewalk restoration to promote walking
activities for youth	preservation of open space	Patricia Drive's sidewalks need to be repaired
nice parks for children	preserve open space areas	sidewalks and bike lanes
more community events		more bicycle and pedestrian accessible stores
things for children to do		improve sidewalks
skateboard park/recreations site		sidewalks and bike lanes
provide kids with place to skateboard		facilities for biking and walking
provide place for kids to ride skateboards		
improvements to ballfield		
clean up park in riverbend		
expand activities for children		
local community center/YMCA		
need winter recreation for children		
baseball field has expanded but ice rink has disappeared		
youth and community activities		
work with Fort Drum to open Remington Pond		
community center		
winter and summer sports		
community pool		
activities for children		
community pool		
outside recreational activities		
public playground like Thompson Park		
more things for children to do		
downtown businesses with family centers		
park with baseball for kids/playground		
community based activities promoted by Fire Dept, churches		
increase positive activities for our youths		
encourage more youth /family oriented businesses		
olympic size pool to give youth a place to swim		
skate park at community park		
more services for youth		
water park or beach for children		
more equipment at recreation park		
increased local activities for all age groups		

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	Community Activities	Open Space	Pedestrian Amenities
1	group community activities	promote windmills	need streetlights and sidewalks in Hamlet of Calcium
2	more entertainment locally	utilize vacant land for development	street lighting in Calcium
3	develop youth club program	quit promoting sprawl	add sidewalks
4	there is nothing for youths to do	better, efficient use of	streetlights
5	need program for youths	expansion or improvements to parkland	install sidewalk from Cemetary Road to Waddingham Road
6	want a Chucky Cheese	parks	sidewalk restoration to promote walking
7	activities for youth	preservation of open space	Patricia Drive's sidewalks need to be repaired
8	nice parks for children	preserve open space areas	sidewalks and bike lanes
9	more community events		more bicycle and pedestrian accessible stores
10	things for children to do		improve sidewalks
11	skateboard park/recreation site		sidewalks and bike lanes
12	provide kids with place to skateboard		facilities for biking and walking
13	provide place for kids to ride skateboards		
14	improvements to ballfield		
15	clean up park in Riverbend		
16	expand activities for children		
17	local community center/YMCA		
18	need winter recreation for children		
19	baseball field has expanded but ice rink has disappeared		
20	youth and community activities		
21	work with Fort Drum to open Remington Pond		
22	community center		
23	winter and summer sports		
24	community pool		
25	activities for children		
26	community pool		
27	outside recreational activities		
28	public playground like Thompson Park		
29	more things for children to do		
30	downtown businesses with family centers		
31	park with baseball for kids/playground		
32	community based activities promoted by Fire Dept, churches		
33	increase positive activities for our youths		
34	encourage more youth /family oriented businesses		
35	olympic size pool to give youth a place to swim		
36	skate park at community park		
37	more services for youth		
38	water park or beach for children		
39	more equipment at recreation park		
40	development of youth center/park area		
41	better environments for school-age youths		
42	town to continue to support Jack Williams Park for ice rink		
43	need place for young kids to hang out		
44	need year round youth services for junior high (11 to 15) age group		
45	more community functions -socially and informative		
46	family recreation area with playgrounds and skate park		
47	safe place for kids to go and things for them to do		

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	Property Taxes	Property Maintenance	Trails
1	lower taxes	roadside cleanup	Finish paving the Black River Trail
2	taxes are high	community spring cleanup	want walking and biking trails along highways
3	decrease taxes	address clutter	wide sidewalks
4	taxes too high	address abandoned buildings	maintain Black River Trail
5	maintain tax rates	appearance of properties	develop walking trail parallel to Black River
6	outrageous rate of assessments	eyesores	atv and snowmobile trails
7	lower property taxes	homes are not being maintained	create walking/biking trails to connect to Fort Drum
8	stop giving tax breaks	offer trash cleanup service	atv trails that connect to the village
9	lower taxes	law for property owners to clean up litter and debris	prohibit use of atv trails on public streets
10	no more PILOT's	clean up private property	trail for four wheeling and snowmobiling
11	lower taxes for seniors	lower tax rate	recreational trails
12	taxes seem high	clean up poorly maintained residences	nature trails for walking, biking, jogging
13	stop raising taxes	revitalization of village prohibiting junk	do not allow atv's on public roads
14	no more taxes	forced cleanup of properties	do not allow local roads to be used by atv's
15	keep tax rate down	enforce code violations	open roads to atv's
16	property tax burden	improve rundown facades	too much atv traffic
17	reduce taxes	enforce cleanup of yard debris	pave Black River end of walking trail
18	lower taxes	demolish abandoned structures	
19	lower taxes	control trash around residential properties	
20	give senior citizens a break	care of property	
21	property considerations for local residents	lack of Trash Ordinance	
22	keep taxes under control	enforce laws	
23	lower the assessments	clean up yards	
24	lower property taxes	cleanup debris and cars	
25	lower tax rate	commend the Black River Village spring and Fall cleanup	
26	lower taxes	home/yard maintenance	
27	low property tax	remove junk from premises	
28	reduce taxes	enforce property upkeep	
29	lower taxes for senior citizens	neighbor's garbage	
30	quit raising assessments	require upkeep of property	
31	taxes too high	strict enforcement of property	
32	decrease taxes	junk property maintenance law	
33	keep taxes down	up keep of rental units	
34	tax breaks for seniors	ordinance to require homeowners to maintain their property	
35	cut taxes for seniors and farmers	keep litter picked up	
36	assessments too high on private homes	clean up is a must	
37	lower taxes	property maintenance law	
38	quit raising taxes	pass and enforce property maintenance laws	
39	build up tax base to lower taxes		
40	taxes are too high		
41	tax breaks to senior citizens		
42	tax breaks to Veterans and Fire Dept.		
43	no more taxes		
44	lower tax rates		
45	lower property taxes		
46	cut taxes to seniors		
47	decrease taxes, increase tax base with commercial development		
48	keep taxes low		
49	townwide veterans tax exemption		
50	keep property taxes low		
51	lower taxes		
52	less taxes for residents/more for corporations		
53	stop raising taxes		
54	don't give tax breaks to businesses		
55	property tax burden		
56	reduce taxes		
57	reappropriation to improve community development		
58	no tax breaks for large companies		
59	no PILOT Agreements		
60	don't give tax breaks to businesses		
61	decrease property taxes		
62	keep assessments down		
63	stop giving tax incentives to housing developers		

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	Shared Services	Transportation (Town)	Transportation (State)	Aesthetics
1	shared services with Fort Drum		lower speed limit on Rte. 283 in residential areas	good landscaping
2	consolidate government services	traffic flow and volume	reduce speed limit on 342	quiet and clean
3	consolidate Fire Depts	public transportation	speed limit needs to be reduced on Route 11	limit development to preserve small town character
4	consolidate Ambulance squads	public transportation	improvement of roads to 81	set design standards for housing development
5	consolidate Local Government	bus service	better roads for 342	properly design new projects
6	shared services between towns and villages	road repairs - Duffy Road is not paved	traffic light on Route 11 where Dunkin Donuts is	
7	combine services between municipalities	bus service	control traffic better on Route 3 from Wtn to Great Bend	
8	smaller government at local level	provide public transportation	lower speed limit on Steinhilber Road	
9	county-wide fire and ambulance services	lighting and paving	traffic control (more traffic lights)	
10	stop government spending, share services with the village	better roads and snow removal	traffic control measures on Rt 11 from 342 to north side of North gate	
11	consolidate and streamline towns and villages	decrease congestion	complete the Northern Route, traffic is ridiculous	
12	wants consolidation of governments	traffic control	better traffic lights	
13	village and town become one government	rural transit facility	reassessment of speed limits on town roads	
14		improve road conditions	restore berm near NYS 342 to keep Black River back on Route 3	
15		consider traffic safety	Goulds Corners Road should be 45 mph	
16		road maintenance	lower speed limits on roads	
17		improved highways with better traffic control	widen Route 342	
18		supports connector roads between developments to decrease congestion	slower speed limit on Goulds Corners Road	
19		potholes on Gardnerville Road	speed limits too high in residential areas	
20		maintainance of Gardnerville Road	reduce speed on Gardnerville Road	
21		lawn repair as a result of snow removal	traffic flow and volume	
22		road repair	cleanup garbage along Route 3	
23		bus stops	lower speed limit on Lafave Road to 30mph	
24		public transportation	better traffic control on Route 11, reduced speed and fewer passing options	
25		senior citizens transportation		
26		repair town roads/ shoulders are nonexistent		
27		traffic control		
28		remove old firehall and make a parking lot		
29		clean up area along Cullen Drive		
30		under pass on Route 11 needs replacing		

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	Housing	Zoning/Setbacks	Other
1	affordable for senior with porches and green space	increase lot size	townwide newsletter
2	local citizens cannot afford housing	confine single and double-wide trailers	better control of military personnel
3	rental units not for military	no car dealerships on Route 11	feel like being forced out by Fort Drum
4	subsidized housing for retirees	no more strip malls	better paying jobs
5	keep Fort Drum Housing on base	control retail expansion	better full-time jobs
6	modern luxury housing	attract development that is energy efficient	need to be prepared if Fort Drum closes
7	increase affordable housing	stop development	utilize old factories on County Rte. 17
8	homes for owners, not renters	limit store development on 11 and 342	worried well will go dry because taking water for new housing
9	make more homes available at a reasonable cost	less red tape reviewing development proposals	concerned with schools
10	senior housing/ assisted living	no strip clubs, loan shops	alternative fuels
11	housing for seniors	do not promote superstores	community involvement
12	make housing more affordable	no more mega business	don't feel they should have to pay school taxes
13	801 housing converted to low cost senior citizen housing	focus development where traffic is	better management of public funds
14	no more housing in LeRay	no more growth	sound control for Race Track
15	low moderate income housing	keep growth on Route 11	utilize or demolish Factory Street warehouses
16	military needs more housing now	keep rural areas rural	Town of LeRay arbitration court
17	have Fort Drum build their own housing	concentrate commercial development on Route 11	improve quality and quantity of low income jobs
18		rezone areas on Route 3	take advantage of Fort Drum
19		simplify developer approval process	preserve old historic buildings
20		strict enforcement of zoning	convert barn building on Route 11 to senior activity place
21		wants small neighborhood feel	availability to town offices
22		Quality of Life	no sense of community anymore
23		town is turning Route 11 into a new Arsenal Street	considers Fort Drum's impacts on life long residents
24		housing lots (100 x 100) are not big enough	does not like suburbia - wants quiet rural life
25		zone out tatoo parlors	cleanup old buildings
26		protect quality of life for residential development through Zoning revisions	advertise the town as destination place
27		more knowledgeable people on the Planning Board	less military discounts/ more taxpayer discounts
28		greater scrutiny of development	support local businesses
29		no night clubs near residential areas	do not cater to businesses
30		don't lose our small town atmosphere	support those who live here
31		think about needs of local residents	jobs needed for young people
32		ban outdoor burning	no more development
33		strict laws on ATV's	don't spend money on studies
34		eliminate burning barrels	want quality educational system (too many cuts being made)
35		don't really have a downtown area to draw residents like old days	don't build anymore Fire Departments
36			senior citizens cannot afford taxes
37			promote local businesses not new ones
38			lack of tourist information center
39			keep wooded areas, build in open areas
40			the government that governs the least, governs the best
41			events to make troops feel more welcome
42			riff raff from bars on Route 3
43			encourage heavier industry to come to the area
44			bring jobs to the area
45			Soldiers should be respectful of local citizens
46			work together to make town a better place to live and work
47			aid to poor and homeless
48			full-time fire protection
49			communication
50			local jobs with healthcare
51			better ways of preventing drug abuse and more rehabilitation centers

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	Infrastructure	Transfer Station/Trash	Agriculture
1	need sewer and water in areas that do not have it	bad, want yearly rubbish removal	help for local farmers
2	sewer cost is too high	cost is too high	preserve and help local farmers
3	sewer and water is too high	hard to get out of the site	maintaining agriculture
4	need public water and sewer	want vending machine that gives out trash cards	need to promote agritourism
5	need water and sewer for entire township	want trash pickup outside the Village	
6	free water in Calcium	trash removal outside Village limits	
7	keep water district outside of Calcium	expand landfill hours	
8	don't force us to put in water	townwide trash removal	
9	high electric rates	curbside recycling program	
10	don't force us to pay for water	should accept all plastics for recycling	
11	look at renewable energy	add garbage to town services	
12	need public water and sewer	need to be able to purchase tickets at the site	
13	want DSL and cable service in rural areas	garbage and recycling removal for properties outside town	
14	no cable/DSL in rural areas	include trash and garbage pickup as a town service	
15	master plan for infrastructure needs	invest in transfer station recycling program	
16	public water on Bush Road/Plank Road	it would be nice to have trash service once a month	

2007 Town of LeRay Community Survey

Comments for Evans Mills

	Comments	Community Activities
1	convert wetlands behind LeRay Street into a Memorial Park	
2	need stop light at corner in Evans Mills	group Community Activities
3	sound control for Race Track	more entertainment locally
4	plant trees along streets	develop youth club program
5	install sidewalks	there is nothing for youths to do
6	downtown Evans Mills needs something besides bars	need program for youths
7	need a red and green light at the square	want a Chucky Cheese
8	keep parking away from the square	activities for youth
9	Village Police	nice parks for children
10	local Evans Mills bar needs to keep windows and doors shut after 10:00 pm	more community events
11	cigarette butt cans needed outside of bar	things for children to do
12	traffic light at Post Office intersection	skateboard park/recreations site
13	problem with children riding skateboards in the street	provide kids with place to skateboard
14	speed limit sign on Schell Ave	provide place for kids to ride skateboards
15	events to make troops feel more welcome	improvements to ballfield
16	wants a walking trail in Evans Mills similar to trail in Calcium	clean up park in Riverbend
17	restoration of downtown Evans Mills	expand activities for children
18	cleanup old buildings	local community center/YMCA
19	community center	need winter recreation for children
20	winter and summer sports	baseball field has expanded but ice rink has disappeared
21	community pool	a commuity park or recreation area
22	revitalization of Village prohibiting junk	more equipment at recreation park
23	grocery store in Village of Evans Mills	need skate board place on Noble Street
24	drug stores in Village of Evans Mills	turn old cheese factory into a community center with a skate park
25	police protection	need youth center and skate park
26	traffic has increased in Evans Mills (speeding)	need year round youth services for junior high (11 to 15) age group
27	cracked sidewalks in the Village	safe place for kids to go and things for them to do
28	new sidewalks on Factory Street	family recreation area with playgrounds and skate park
29	build a skateboard park	
30	downtown businesses with family centers	
31	remove old firehall and make a parking lot	
32	four way stop at Public Square	
33	make roadways in Village more pedestrian friendly	
34	improve parking availability for Last Call	
35	enforce speed limits	
36	make the railroad responsible for erosion	
37	assist Village residents with proper water drainage and extension of pipelines	
38	skate park at community park	
39	town to continue to support Jack Williams Park for ice rink	
40	need local police for youths	
41	investment in Village ti improve dilapidated buidlings	
42	more police patrols	

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Comments for Black River

	Comments	Community Activities
1	downtown coffee shop	group Community Activities
2	get rid of cell tower in Village	more entertainment locally
3	full-time police protection	develop youth club program
4	Village Police	there is nothing for youths to do
5	events to make troops feel more welcome	need program for youths
6	cleanup old buildings	want a Chucky Cheese
7	community center	activities for youth
8	winter and summer sports	nice parks for children
9	community pool	more community events
10	revitalization of village prohibiting junk	things for children to do
11	cracked sidewalks in the Village	skateboard park/recreations site
12	sidewalks are in horrible condition, taxes should cover the cost to repair	provide kids with place to skateboard
13	preserve quality of life in Black River	provide place for kids to ride skateboards
14	widen intersection on Route 3	improvements to ballfield
15	add left hand turn lanes on Route 3 in front of Dollar Shop and Post Office	clean up park in riverbend
16	major multi-community purpose center	expand activities for children
17	road repairs	local community center/YMCA
18	better street lighting in streets off Route 3	need winter recreation for children
19	keep the Village small as is	baseball field has expanded but ice rink has disappeared
20	increase size of Black River Police force	clean up garbage along Route 3
21	enforce speed limits	downtown businesses with family centers
22	better police protection in Black River	people drive too fast on Wendell lane
23	promote expansion of businesses near Black River	adding businesses will not improve the peaceful environment of Black River
24	pave Black River end of walking trail	commend the Black River Village spring and Fall cleanup
25		local grocery stores and restaurants
26		more businesses along Route 3 in Village area
27		need year round youth services for junior high (11 to 15) age group
28		safe place for kids to go and things for them to do
29		family recreation area with playgrounds and skate park

APPENDIX B
Public Meeting Notes and Summary

Town of LeRay Comprehensive Plan

Summary of Input from 11/27/07 Public Workshop

A: SWOT Analysis

In a "free for all" group discussion, workshop participants were asked to identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats for the Town of LeRay. Out of this list, workshop participants were then asked to vote on which Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats were the most important to them in the town.

The results of these exercises are summarized below.

1) Complete listing of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.

Strengths

Proximity to Fort Drum

Lots of undeveloped/open lands

Diversity of the community

Good schools

Convenient stopping place when going to points north on Route 11

Good hunting

Small town aspect

Proximity to Canada, 1000 Islands, Adirondacks, Syracuse

Lower taxes in comparison to surrounding areas

Weaknesses

Proximity to Fort Drum

Weather in the area, especially in the winter

Lack of proximity and access to major airports

Taxes

Lack of recreational trails in the area

Lack of a true community center in LeRay

Lack of public transportation

Too much thru traffic to Fort Drum

Escalating housing costs in the area

Increasing crime

Lack of complete infrastructure system in the town, forcing dependence on neighboring communities to provide services.

Opportunities

Power independence, through use of alternative energy sources, such as wind power, biofuels, and small generation plants.

Putting a plan in place for community development

Enhancement of recreation opportunities, especially for youths, including "alternative sports" such as BMX and skateboarding

Movie Theater (Family Focused)

Sit-down eating establishments

Economic opportunities related to Fort Drum

Supporting local businesses, including agriculture and small businesses

Preservation of land by providing options to landowners such as a purchase of development rights program that will limit the development of viable farmland by large-scale developers

Increased outdoor motorized recreational opportunities, such as snowmobile and ATV trails

Adult entertainment establishments within LeRay

Location of a stand-alone supermarket within LeRay

Commercial and residential infill within the villages and hamlets

Location of a health club within LeRay

Increased business development in the town

Improving access to the Black River, and awareness of rental opportunities for outdoor equipment

Creating more natural looking, attractive development in LeRay

Sensitivity and support for local, small-scale developers

Threats

Traffic conflicts, especially for farm operations

Lack of vision amongst local residents and officials for where LeRay is and should be going.

Rush to development

Large, non-local companies threatening local businesses

Fort Drum as a closed society

Competition from businesses and services located within Fort Drum (I.e. Self-Storage facilities)

Frequent deployments from Fort Drum

Overbuilding and deterioration of sub-standard housing

Inadequate housing supply

Mismatch of housing prices versus incomes of non-military, permanent population living in area, due to military BHA.

Rising assessments for local landowners in commercial areas, due to growth along corridors pricing local landowners off of land

2) Most Important Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Top Strengths

Proximity to Fort Drum

Small town atmosphere

Low taxes in comparison to surrounding areas

Top Weaknesses

High taxes
Lack of complete infrastructure and reliance on adjoining communities
Escalating housing costs

Top Opportunities

Supporting existing local businesses
Power independence via alternative energy sources
Enhancement of recreational and youth sports in the area

Top Threats

The existing rush to develop the area
Existing and possible future building of sub-standard housing
Rising taxes due to increased property assessments along commercial corridors.

B: Breakout Groups Discussion

Workshop participants divided into breakout groups to discuss issues and opportunities associated with specific resources, opportunities, and issue areas within the Town of LeRay. The results of these breakout group discussions have been organized by the specific subarea discussed by the individual breakout group.

Commercial Corridors, Transportation, & Infrastructure

At the present time, there is no public transit option connecting the town to employment, shopping, and recreational opportunities in the City and Town of Watertown. Transit service serving LeRay, Fort Drum, and Watertown would provide options for seniors and youths, provide additional options for those without vehicles, and lessen the number of vehicles travelling on Routes 11, 342, & 3

The creation of new traffic patterns on Route 11 that limit left hand turns in the area between Route 342 and the Fort Drum entrance could create safety concerns

The possibility of improvements being made to straighten and make Route 342 into four lanes within the Town, even if the Northern Alternative to the Fort Drum Corridor Study is constructed

The need for a traffic signal on Route 342 at the entrance to the Calcium Primary School and the Eagle Ridge subdivision, since buses leaving Eagle Ridge will be forced to travel several miles, due to the absence of a traffic signal

The need for lighting on roadways, especially along Route 11 between Route 342 and the main entrance to Fort Drum

With the proposed water district coming to the area between Routes 11 and 3 west of Fort Drum, there is the possibility that sewer will come too and development will then be steered to this section of the town

The need to create additional parking opportunities in the Village of Evans Mills, either through surface parking facilities or, preferably, through diagonal on-street parking

Extension of the sidewalk system from the southern boundary of Evans Mills to the Town Hall, and eventually, to the Pleasant Creek Meadows apartments

Natural Resources & Recreation

Lack of knowledge of existing resources in the area by incoming residents

A need to extend the DANC trail through the Town of LeRay

The possible future use of the town landfill as a park facility

The need to create opportunities for the preservation of open space as new development occurs in the area

Exploration of different methods of protection of key open spaces and farmlands, possibly through grants

Extension of sidewalks and trails to the Village of Evans Mills ball fields to form a loop trail.

Expansion of organized youth recreation opportunities within the Town of LeRay, possibly through the shared use of the existing James Cox Memorial RC Field

The building of a large central park for the township similar to Thompson Park in Watertown or the park in Carthage

Agriculture

The need of tax breaks for local farmers, especially from school taxes.

Allowing local farmers to continue to be able to farm fruits and vegetables and sell them at roadside stands (most of purchasers are local residents, since most Fort Drum soldiers and family members pass by these on the way to Wal-Mart or the commissary?)

At the present time, there are roughly 6 working dairy farms remaining in the Town of LeRay. A priority should be to preserve, and if possible, increase the number of dairy farms that can survive in the Town of LeRay.

Town of LeRay Comprehensive Plan

Summary of Input from 4/23/08 Public Workshop

Following a presentation, workshop participants broke into groups to answer the following questions:

- 1. What do you like about the ideas presented this evening? Why?**
- 2. Which ideas do you think will make a positive contribution to the future of LeRay?**

These are ideas and concepts that were presented by the comprehensive plan committee and consultants that were viewed favorably by those in attendance at the workshop:

Proactive Community Planning

Working together as a town to think about the future

Protection of Ag and Farm Lands, but some concern about financing a Farmland Protection Program

Recognizes farming and agriculture as working landscapes

Improving the existing agri-zoning to make it more difficult for developers to cut out small lots that will disrupt farming

While maps and concepts are close, some minor tweaking of potential conceptual access points within the NYS 342/US 11 Focus Area may be desirable

Providing Connections Between the residential, commercial, and proposed park lands (mentioned several times)

Sidewalks, paths, and trails (mentioned several times)

Improves both vehicle and pedestrian connectivity

The idea of concentrating growth in the vicinity of Fort Drum and in and near villages and hamlets (mentioned several times), leaving the remainder of LeRay as ag lands and open space, in part to reduce traffic and provide connectivity options for travel along Route 11.

How to make hamlets and villages more attractive to investment and desirable as places to live and work.

Providing mixed use options for residents

Providing settings that will encourage interaction

Neighborhoods

Parks

Community Facilities

Providing a balance of housing types for residents, regardless of age or income

Provision for frontage and access roads along Route 11 (mentioned several times)

"Green" concepts

Recreation Options (mentioned several times)

Active recreational options such as leagues

Passive recreation

Close to neighborhoods

How should the town organize this, since this is not currently a town function?

Places for younger residents to go and have fun

Provision for green spaces "Provide as much as possible"

Greenbelt areas

Protection of the Indiana Bat

Fosters land conservation

Small ways to make buildings attractive (Design Guidelines)

Retention of existing forest land and more trees in some places to mitigate the "heat island" effect

The possibility of a Farmers Market located in LeRay

Outreach and understanding of the current and future Amish population

Agritourism, including mazes, wineries, honey production, cheese production, farm tours, petting zoo, etc

Working with Fort Drum to minimize light pollution into LeRay

Increase outreach, communications, and connections between LeRay and Fort Drum and vice-versa

Work to obtain grants to mitigate some costs of this vision

Realization that the region is a vacation area (pools and places to encourage year-round use)

3) Any concerns about the ideas presented this evening?

These are issue areas that residents felt some measure of concern about during the group discussions:

Parks and recreation – concern about addressing possible liability issues for developers and landowners, especially smaller scale landowners, who may be asked to provide public access for recreational purposes.

Recognize Local Businesses - make it possible for them to succeed – question of fairness. Some of this is perceived as unfriendly to local business, since plans may inhibit their right to develop in some fashion.

Homebuilders

Self-Storage businesses

Car Dealerships

How does the existing moratorium for self-storage units play into this?

How to make this happen, is there the financial and political will to make this vision real, since the devil is in the details

Taxes, since growth raises demands for services which raises taxes -

Can other funding sources make this work, whether it be Fort Drum, NYS, Federal funding, working to get YMCA in LeRay, etc?

Who will pay for these projects, including farmland protection?

Heavy vehicles (large trucks) should be restricted to major roads - this is an issue on some county roads that are primarily residential. As traffic grows on major roads (Route 11), trucks look for shortcuts.

How can the town tell a farmer that they can't sell their property to a developer?

Will this require zoning changes?

Will new roads be designed in a way not to serve as shortcuts?

Costs and financing for new facilities for town residents

Need to work with local and state governments to regulate speed limits, since the growth has come, but speed limits are same as when roads were very rural in nature

How to introduce ped/bike access along the Route 11 corridor

Are provisions for Neighborhood Electric Vehicles (NEV's), Segways', Golf carts, or other small electric vehicle, similar to Celebration or in The Villages (both in Florida) reasonable?

How can villages/hamlets position themselves to benefit from potential growth?

Limitations to existing sewer/water systems in village areas

Look to future extensions of both sewer and water

City of Watertown

Town of LeRay/Fort Drum

What are the trigger points for capacity improvements along local roads, including NYS Route 342?

4. Issues we missed

These were issues that were not discussed earlier in the evening that residents felt should be addressed in the creation of the Comprehensive Plan:

Property Maintenance

Are there any plans for addressing transit in this process, both internally, and as part of a county-wide system, whether it be park and ride, paratransit, commuter buses to Watertown, or ridesharing systems (vans or otherwise)

APPENDIX C
Additional Transportation Information

ROAD CLASSIFICATIONS.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION
RURAL LOCAL ROAD (FC 09)	Rural Local Roads primarily provide access to adjacent land and service to travel over relatively short distances as compared to collectors or other highway systems. Roads within town that have this designation include CR 16, CR 17, CR 18, CR 46, CR 50, CR 129 and CR 138
URBAN PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL - OTHER (NO CONTROL OF ACCESS) (FC 14)	This road type serves the major centers of activity of a metropolitan area, the highest traffic volume corridors. Urban principal arterials carry a high proportion of the total urban area travel on a minimum mileage. The principal arterial system should carry the major portion of trips entering and leaving the urban area, as well as the majority of through movements desiring to bypass the central city. Almost all fully and partially controlled access facilities will be part of this functional system. U.S. US Route 11 in the town carries this classification.
URBAN MINOR ARTERIAL (FC 16)	This type of road interconnects with and augments the urban principal arterial system and provides service to trips of moderate length at somewhat lower of travel mobility than principal arterials. Ideally, urban minor arterials should not penetrate identifiable neighborhoods. The spacing of minor arterial streets should normally be not more than 1 mile in fully developed areas. Roads within town that have this designation include NYS Routes 342, 37, 283, 26, 3 and 971Q.
URBAN COLLECTOR (FC 17)	Provides both land access service and traffic circulation within residential neighborhoods, commercial and industrial areas. An urban collector may penetrate residential neighborhoods, distributing trips from the arterials through the area to the ultimate destination. The collector street also collects traffic from local streets in residential neighborhoods and channels it into the arterial system. In the central business district, and in other areas of like development and traffic density, the collector system may include the street grid which forms a logical entity for traffic circulation. NYS Route 971V in the town carries this classification.

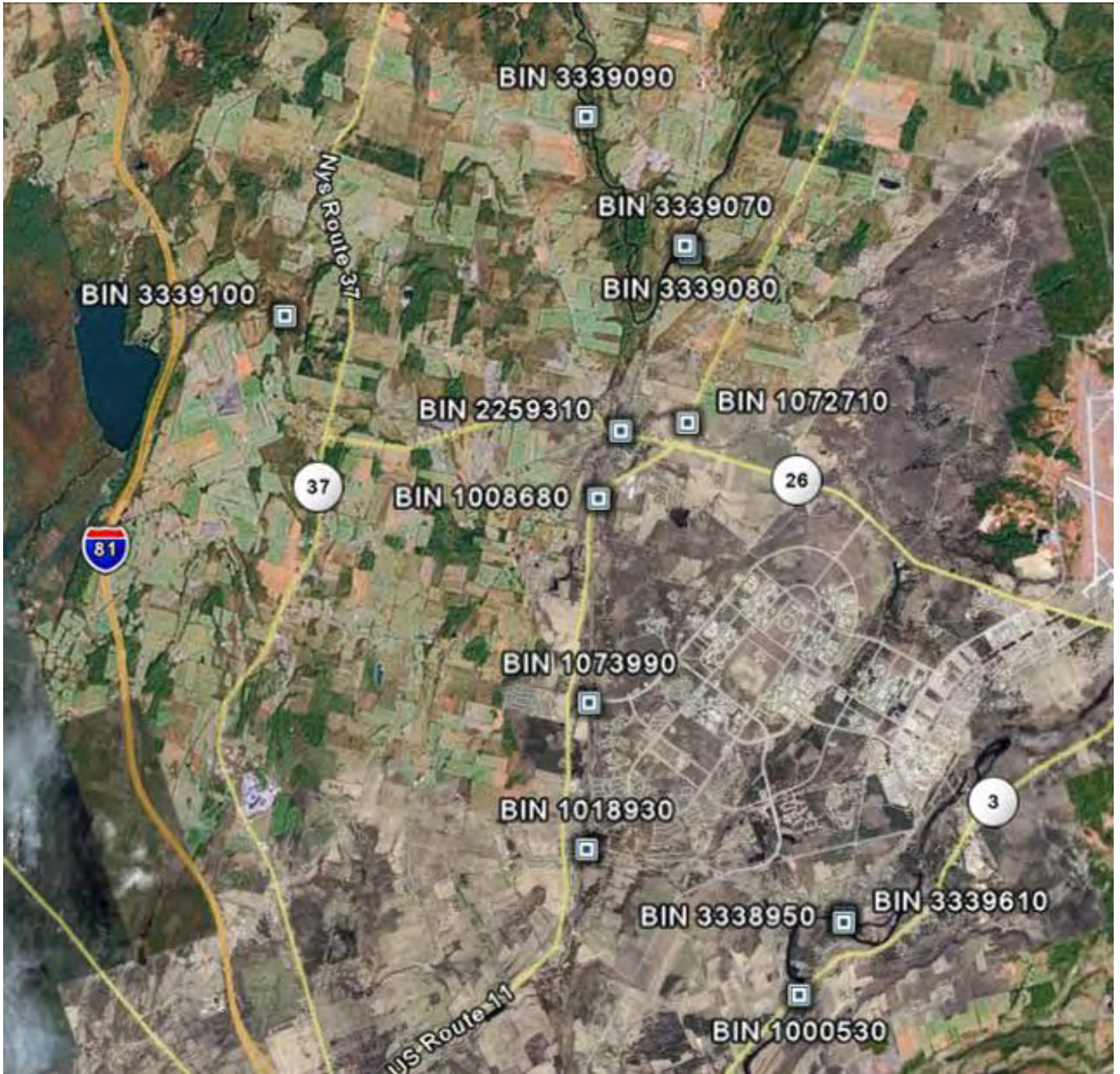
Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) for State highways in LeRay.

AVERAGE ANNUAL DAILY TRAFFIC STATE HIGHWAYS		
Highway	Location	Annual Traffic Volume (Year)
NYS Route 342	Town line to US Route 11	12,389 (2005)
	US Route 11 to NYS Route 283	6,390 (2004)
	NYS Route 283 to NYS Route 3	5,433 (2004)
US Route 11	NYS Route 37 to NYS Route 342	8,882 (2004)
	NYS Route 342 to NYS Route 971Q	28,617 (2004)
	NYS Route 971Q to NYS Route 26	9,887 (2005)
	NYS Route 26 to CR 29 Philadelphia	7,257 (2004)
NYS Route 37	NYS Route 342 to CR 136	2,905 (2004)
NYS Route 283	Watertown City line to NYS Route 342	5,810 (2004)
NYS Route 26	US Route 11 to CR 37	4,815 (2004)
	CR 37 to NYS Route 3	7,903 (2005)
NYS Route 3	Watertown City line to NYS Route 342	8,637 (2005)
	NYS Route 342 to Main Street Black River	7,292 (2005)
NYS Route 971Q	US Route 11 to end of NYS Route 971Q	15,480 (2004)
NYS Route 971V	Gate #1 Fort Drum to Gate #2 Fort Drum	3,964 (2005)
	Gate #2 Fort Drum to NYS Route 3	3,330 (2004)

Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) for County maintained highways in LeRay.

AVERAGE ANNUAL DAILY TRAFFIC (3 day count)		
COUNTY ROADS		
Highway	Location	AADT
County Road 16	NYS Route 37 (east)	800
	Evans Mills Village	1,200
County Road 17	NYS Route 37 (west)	300
	NYS Route 37 (east)	200
	Beckwith Road (north)	360
	CR 46	370
County Road 18	CR 46	1,420
	NYS Route 37	1,360
County Road 46	US Route 11	1,620
	Evans Mills Village	2,030
	CR 18 (south)	490
	Silver Street (north)	430
County Road 50	NYS Route 283	1,180
	Black River Village	1,000
County Road 129	Black River Village	690
	NYS Route 342	840
County Road 138	US Route 11	1,030
	NYS Route 342	890

Bridge Locations in the Town of LeRay



Bridge Locations in the Town of LeRay

Bridge Identification Number	Municipality	Location	Owner	Year Built	Last Inspection	Condition Rating
2259310	Village of Evans Mills	North Main Street over Pleasant Creek	Village of Evans Mills	1930	08/28/06	3.318*
1000530	Town of LeRay	Route 3 over Power Canal	NYSDOT	1948	01/08/06	4.507
1008680	Town of LeRay	US Route 11 over CSX Trans	NYSDOT	1963	11/15/05	6.730
1072710	Town of LeRay	US Route 11 over Pleasant Creek	NYSDOT	1963	04/25/06	4.737
1018930	Town of LeRay	NYS Route 342 over CSX Trans	NYSDOT	2004	09/19/06	6.771
1073990	Town of LeRay	971Q over CSX Trans	NYSDOT	1988	10/18/06	5.659
3339080	Town of LeRay	Anstead Road over Trout Brook	Jefferson County	1942	09/20/06	4.673
3339100	Town of LeRay	County Road 17 over Lowell Creek	Jefferson County	2002	09/21/06	6.561
3339070	Town of LeRay	Elm Ridge Road over Indian River	Jefferson County	1962	10/05/05	6.492
3339090	Town of LeRay	Joachim Road over Indian River	Jefferson County	1931	09/20/06	4.772
3338950	Village of Black River	Main Street over Black River	Jefferson County	2005	11/09/05	7.000
3339610	Village of Black River	South Main Street over NiMo Power Canal	Jefferson County	2005	11/08/05	7.000

Source: New York State Department of Transportation

Data current as of 8/29/2007

*BIN 2259310, North Main Street over Pleasant Creek is listed as Structurally Deficient

Notes

The bridge condition ratings shown in the table above are current as of August 2007. NYSDOT Bridge General Recommendations rating is an assessment of the bridge's overall condition. Bridges are rated on a scale of 1 to 7, with 7 being the best. Items considered in the ratings include evaluations of the bridge's abutments, wingwalls, deck, superstructure, and pier.

The narrative descriptions for condition ratings in this range are as follows:

3. Considerable deterioration of some or all bridge components. The bridge may no longer be able to support original design loads. Load posting may be needed. There may be considerable section loss on primary and secondary members. Concrete components are spalled with rebar exposure over a large portion of the areas. Extensive footing undermining may have occurred.
4. Moderate deterioration of primaries, secondaries, and substructures has occurred, but bridge load capacity is not substantially reduced. Considerable reconditioning of secondary members, substructures, and other components may be needed. Primary members do not yet need extensive reconditioning. There may be some minor substructure undermining.
5. Primary members and substructures are in good condition and do not need major repairs. Bridge load capacity is not reduced, but other parts of the bridge (such as deck elements) may need extensive repairs. The bridge may require repainting because of corrosion starting on steel members. Scour may have exposed, but not undermined footings.
6. Only minor deterioration is present. Touch-up painting may be required or other minor repairs to secondary items. Minor bearing readjustments may be needed. There may be minor cracks or spalls in the substructures.
7. The bridge is in new condition, without deterioration except perhaps minor flaking of the top coat of paint. No work is needed other than routine maintenance.

As shown in the table, all of the bridges within the Town have condition ratings above 4, with the exception of North Main Street over Pleasant Creek in the Village of Evans Mills which has a condition rating of 3.318.

APPENDIX D
*Listing of Endangered and Threatened
Species in the Town of LeRay*

Appendix D: Listing of Endangered and Threatened Species in the Town of LeRay

Scientific Name	Common Name	Last Date	Elem. Group	NY Listed	US Listed
Emys blandingii	Blanding's Turtle	1980-07	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Successional northern sandplain grassland	Successional Northern Sandplain Grassland	1992-09-09	Community	Unlisted	
Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier	1992-06-07	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Boechera stricta	Drummond's Rock-cress	2001-07-17	Vascular Plant	Endangered	
Cyperus schweinitzii	Schweinitz's Flatsedge	1993-07-28	Vascular Plant	Rare	
Cistothorus platensis	Sedge Wren	2000-07-16	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Bartramia longicauda	Upland Sandpiper	2000-07	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Ixobrychus exilis	Least Bittern	2000-07	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Chlidonias niger	Black Tern	2004-06-21	Vertebrate Animal	Endangered	
Bartramia longicauda	Upland Sandpiper	2005-06-30	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Ammodramus henslowii	Henslow's Sparrow	2005-07-14	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Cistothorus platensis	Sedge Wren	2005-07-11	Vertebrate Animal	Threatened	
Myotis sodalis	Indiana Bat	2006-08-20	Vertebrate Animal	Endangered	Endangered

Source: NYSDEC Natural Heritage Program – September 2007