

**CITY OF BELFAST COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
JANUARY 2021**

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SECTION 1.1 LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

To the readers of this Comprehensive Plan update:

In 2019, the Belfast City Council appointed a Comprehensive Plan Committee with the task of providing a basic update of the previously approved Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in 2012. The Comprehensive Plan Committee was comprised of residents from various Wards of the City. The following plan is the result of this Committee.

The Committee, with planning assistance from The Musson Group, went through, in detail, each section of 2012 Comprehensive Plan to update data, statistics and subsequent analysis as well as ensuring consistency. Each section's goals and strategies and made changes where items were determined to have been completed since 2012 or no longer relevant to the current plan.

An outline of the public participation executed as a part of planning process and dating back to 2012 can be found in Section 2.2 (Public Participation Process) of this Plan. In addition to monthly Committee meetings, which were open to the public and advertised, the planning process involved outreach to various City Committees and Department Heads, discussions with members of the public and City Council updates. A formal Public Hearing on the plan update will be scheduled after the Plan is submitted to the State for review. The proposed changes are posted on the website.

As part of the recommended process, the Comprehensive Plan Committee has also been tasked with continuing to meet in order to take a deeper dive into goals, policies, and land use issues that might need to be changed or addressed in the future. This continued planning phase will include additional public outreach and a community wide survey. The result of this effort will be completed in 2022 with a possible plan update.