

Chapter II

Vision



"People only see what they are prepared to see."
~*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

A Vision for Tamworth

Imagine yourself in the year 2020.

In the year 2020 Tamworth residents will see that their town has avoided significant physical changes, but has refined some of the many fine qualities that already exist.

The small town, rural atmosphere and sense of community are intact and stronger than ever. Opportunities exist for residents of all income levels to remain in the community, and for future generations to meet their anticipated needs. The townspeople accomplish this by:

- Working together to decide on the best techniques for guiding future growth.
- Providing high quality municipal facilities and services in this rural community, which are cost effective.
- Reducing the tax burden.
- Supporting community events that draw people together.
- Communicating clearly and frequently with all residents to encourage broad involvement with town decisions.
- Protecting areas valuable for recreational uses.

New business opportunities are plentiful and natural resources are protected, giving Tamworth its scenic and healthy setting. The townspeople accomplish this by:

- Creating flexible regulations that guide growth and reinforce the importance of natural resources.
- Supporting existing businesses and creating new employment opportunities.
- Establish value added businesses for farming and timber industries.
- Developing markets for local products.
- Encouraging environmentally sensitive, low-impact business and industrial development consistent with the overall character of our community.
- Establishing an economic development committee to promote Tamworth as a desirable business environment.

Residents, land owners, and businesses continue to be good stewards of local resources.

The townspeople accomplish this by:

- Protecting open spaces and preserving natural resources.
- Protecting natural systems that maintain clean water, clean air, and promote biodiversity in native wildlife.
- Promoting innovative systems for pollution control, waste management, and energy.
- Promoting sustainable agriculture and forestry practices in the community, and ensuring that the best farm and forest soils are preserved.
- Recognizing and protecting view sheds and open spaces.
- Promoting the sustainable use and stewardship of cultural and historic resources.

Housing and infrastructure are safe, diverse, efficient, and of high quality. The townspeople accomplish this by:

- Creating ordinances that guide growth and regulate the size, type and location of residential development in order to restrict sprawl, and promote quality, diversity and safety in housing.
- Providing single-family, elderly, affordable housing, and cluster developments.
- Providing access to reliable and affordable communication services consistent with the best available technology, linking Tamworth to the global community for the benefit of residents and businesses.
- Promoting transportation alternatives within the community, and creating links to regional public transportation systems.