

**Long Island Comprehensive Plan 2035**  
**Land Stewardship Forum**  
**Oct. 9, 2021**

On Oct. 9, 2021, Betsy Whitman facilitated a forum on Land Stewardship for the Long Island Comprehensive Plan (LICP) 2035 team. The major focus of this meeting was identifying Long Island's natural and human resources along with hopes and dreams that Long Islanders have for enhancing, preserving, protecting, and managing those assets.

Betsy, who is a volunteer assisting the LICP2035 team, worked with approximately 35 islanders at the community center event to develop lists of what people said make our island special. The lists helped guide the discussion. The physical assets identified included public/private/shared lands, water sources and beaches, public buildings and facilities, and the animals who inhabit the island. The way-of-life assets that attendees cited included the natural beauty which surrounds us as well as the peace and quiet, the safety and the simplicity of our island lifestyle. The human assets identified included the volunteers, visionaries, experts, workers, and friends and families which inhabit our island. Land use assets were also identified, including outdoor recreation, gardening, fishing, sports, and exploring all our island has to offer.

The discussion then moved on to the challenges, barriers, and concerns people have for the future of the island. This included the impact of growth and development on the environment, way of life, community cohesiveness, and water use. Invasive species are a big concern causing eco-environmental damage, health threats, limiting outdoor space use, and impacting gardening. Climate change was also discussed including sea-level rise, temperature change, and the increase in severe weather events. Water quality and protecting our aquifer rounded out the concerns expressed by attendees.

Finally, the discussion about hopes, dreams, aspirations for the future of the island centered around maintaining our current way of life while responsibly managing our assets. This included management of invasives and development of policies around maintenance, preservation, and effective use of public lands. Many of those in attendance said they wanted to see a healthy balance that includes development, land use and open spaces while developing a strong year-round community.

Further community engagement addressing these concerns is planned for the future.

Notes taken during the discussion are included in photographs below.

Meadows + Fields <sup>2/</sup>

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Garden - Community School

ROCKY SHORE SOIL SEAWARD

Animal Life

Birds	Foxes
Butterflies	Deer
Wild life	Snakes
Pollinators	Beavers
Other Critters	

Assets

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Aquifer - Pond wetlands

WATER

The Conservation Area

The Beaches Front Beach  
Fowler  
South Beach  
Wreck Cove East End  
The Harbors Shark Cove  
Claves  
Tidal Pools  
Dunes

Assets - Way of Life <sup>3/</sup>

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Beauty	Democracy
Space	Free Parking
Nature	Able to see stars
Peace	
Quiet	
Community	
Great Views	
Access to Nature	
Working Water	
the school - safety	

trails  
public lands  
beaches - shore lines

Assets <sup>4/</sup>

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College Rock

Little Chebo

Cow Island

Vail - Marsh Island

Crow Island

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Forests + Woods

The Conservation Area

Wreck Cove

South Beach - area (state)

Town Parcels

