

Market Square Strategic Plan



Paris, Maine

October 2014

Coming together is a beginning;

Keeping together is progress;

Working together is success.

Henry Ford

Sandy Swett
Development Director

Town Manager
Amy Bernard
Town Selectman

Janet Jamison
Ryan Lorrain
Robert Wessels
Samuel Elliot

Special Thanks To:

John S. Jenness, Jr. Property Photography

Ben Church Aerial Drone Photography

Jeanie Stone for her Determination to Develop a Revitalization Project in Paris

South Paris Revitalization Forum for their Continued Support

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Introduction

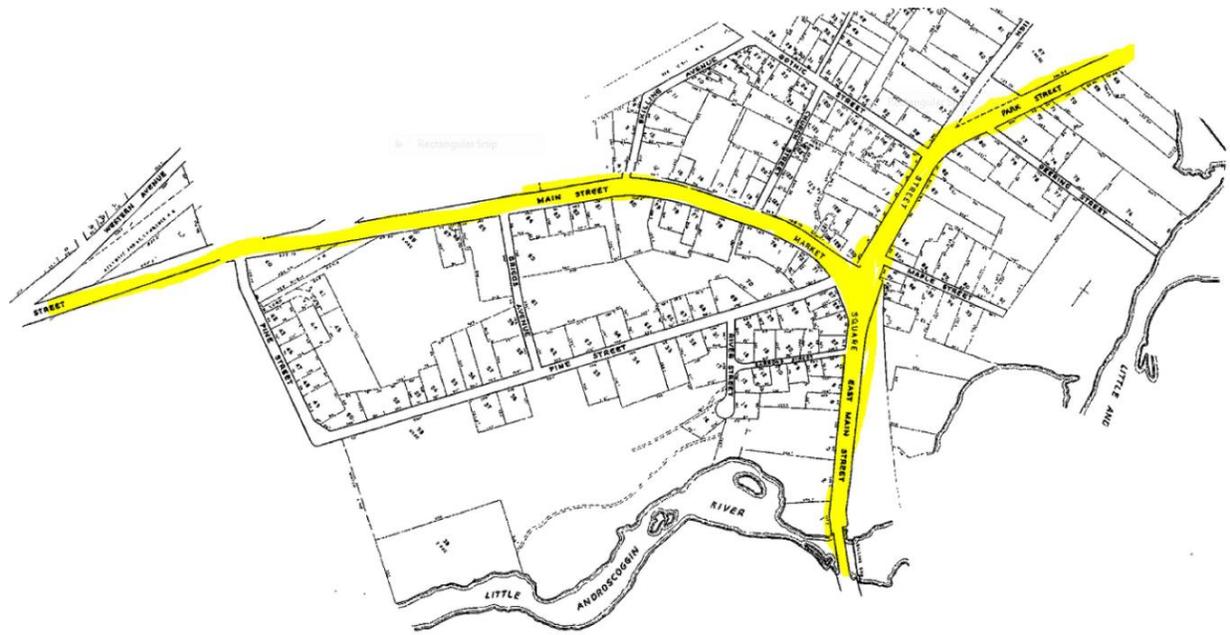
Paris, Maine was first settled in 1779 and later incorporated as Paris on June 20, 1793. When Oxford County was established in 1805, Paris was designated the County Seat. Paris has been known in recent years as South Paris only because the Historic Paris Hill region has a post office that is referred to as “Paris”, so the Post office in the town area came to be known as “South Paris”. The town encompasses a total of 40.97 square miles and is bounded by Norway, West Paris, Buckfield, Hebron and Oxford. The 51.4 mile Little Androscoggin River flowing through Paris is the largest body of water. In 2000, the census was 4,801 and ten years later in 2010, it has had a slow, steady increase to 5,183.

Paris once was filled with factories but as a result of those doors closing, we are now faced with a significantly different economic challenge. Residents are now commuting to jobs. Less businesses have lowered our tax revenue and limited our resources. Box stores have shut down the corner store and left vacancies in our historic buildings. Our economic future must come with a plan for stability and diversity to meet the growing needs of our changing world.

In the fall of 2013, a group of concerned citizens and business owners were formed and later adopted the name, South Paris Revitalization Forum. After several meetings, it was decided that long range planning was needed for the town to set goals to lay a foundation for economic stimulus, design a plan to attract and retain business in the historic Market Square, utilize our natural resources and finally to strategize a plan for future growth in our town. Our strategic goal embraces a plan of *Vision-Direction-Implementation*.

The process included two public planning meetings Aug. 19, 2014 and Sept. 24, 2014 for the citizens to bring ideas to the facilitator. It was a unanimous consensus that the town's people were interested in making Paris green, developing the river for public access and enjoyment and using the arts to reinvigorate the future growth of the town.

Study Area: The study area was defined as properties within the Main Street running from the railroad tracks at the intersection of Western Avenue and Route 26 to the Market Square intersection. Also, from the bridge at the intersection of Paris Hill and Route 26 running to the bridge at the Billings Dam on East Main Street.



Demographics: Based on the most current (2010) data, available from the US Census Bureau.

Vision and Goals: A vision was created to strategize a plan to open up green spaces, develop waterways, utilize the arts as a means for an aid to economic development and bring awareness to our natural resources in Paris.

Implementation: Detailed plans were defined as well as potential public and private partnerships for the completion of projects. Projects are broken into categories of short, medium and long range goals. Short term goals are generally completed in up to three years, medium in three to five years and long term, five years or more. This plan will serve as a road map for the town officials to prioritize projects in order to keep organized, productive and focused on our future growth.

Purpose

Downtown is the heart and soul of the community. With a quick glance, one should be able to visualize the character, pride and heritage that is displayed there. It is the town's historic area and should maintain a certain quaintness of a small New England town. In studies of community structure and character, people feel comfortable and identify most strongly with the presence of a focal point in a community with a "sense of place".

In as much as we do have a downtown area, we are limited to the type of development due to the heavy traffic pattern and the lack of a straight road with businesses and parking on both sides of the street. The intent of this Plan is to identify the specific assets, limitations and opportunities currently facing downtown Paris and use that knowledge to create a strategy that meets its challenges and capitalizes on its natural resources to reinvent the trajectory of the downtown revitalization.

This plan should infuse a perception of belonging to a town that is moving forward in the arts, incorporating more open green spaces, developing healthy lifestyles and creating more community events. Our senior citizens would have services under one roof. Public access to river waterways would be maintained for all our town's residents where nature and wildlife could be enjoyed. The children of our town would have creative outlets as well as areas to play, and families could enjoy picnic areas on the river.

Study Area

The Paris Revitalization Forum, under careful deliberation, set the boundaries of the study to be in an area that we shall refer to as Downtown Paris.

Consideration was given to defining a downtown area that highlighted the historic buildings, town hall, contained areas for green space and could embrace the town square feeling.

The resulting study area ran down Main Street from the railroad tracks, at the intersection of Western Avenue, and Route 26, to the Market Square circle. It then continued on, to the intersecting roads of Route 26 through East Main Street, from the intersection of Paris Hill and the bridge at the Billings Damn site. Please refer to the adjacent map.

The area includes 78 parcels of land. 34 are occupied by businesses, 23 of which contain apartments, 2 Churches, 6 private homes, 2 town owned properties, a library and a Nursing Home facility. This figure denotes a large amount of foot traffic in our downtown area.

A table was developed to create a database of information on each parcel within the study area. The data includes size, existing structures and their uses, ownership, historic status and attributes, as well as any specialized features or facilities. A current photograph also accompanies the database.

In addition to the downtown study area, 2 parcels in close proximity to the study area have been added to the plans research. They both contain important building sites that would strategize the revitalization of the downtown area.





Process

In the fall of 2013, a group of concerned citizens and business owners met under the direction of Jeanie Stone to try and figure out a way in which to levy the increase of the current tax base. After several meetings, in the spring of 2014, it was unanimously voted to formally petition the town to hire a strategic planner. The intent was to lay the groundwork to regenerate the business climate, improve the aesthetics, boost a positive image, attract new businesses, broaden the tax base and bring a sense of pride to our community. At future meetings, the group continued in that positive direction to:

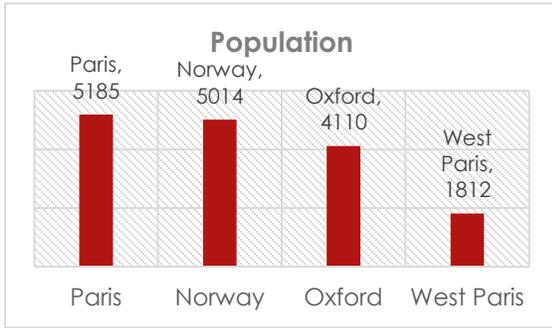
1. Create a board of directors
2. Design a mission statement
3. Set Goals in order to implement the strategic plan

The initial task in the process of developing a strategic plan was to gather demographic data of factual information from the 2012 US Census. Characteristics of the town's population, age distribution, education levels, household types, household income, home values, monthly rents and employment were accessed.

Two public meetings were held, one on August 19th and a second on September 24th of 2014 to catalyze ideas for direction. The first meeting clearly indicated the public support for arts and green space as a tool for revitalization. The second one brought in a few more ideas to the table but the main focus was still on the development of the waterways, using the Mildred Fox School for the arts, green space and working on ideas for a senior citizen center.

Demographics

Population:



Population, according to the US Census in 2010 was 5,183, much like our neighboring town of Norway, at 5,014. However, interestingly enough, through a study done by the Maine.gov/population projections, Norway's population will decline as Paris slowly continues to grow.

Maine.gov Population Projections

2010 was a peak growth. The projections continue at a slow growth. It will remain to be seen how the recent development of the Casino will affect the next US Census.

	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Paris	4477	4801	5175	5234	5275	5308	5324
Norway	4829	4616	5006	4842	4756	4664	4558

Total percentage changes from 2010-2030:
 Paris 2.9 Norway -8.9

	Paris	Norway
1990-2000	7.2	-4.4
2000-2010	7.8	8.4
2010-2015	1.1	-3.3
2015-2020	0.8	-1.8
2020-2025	0.6	-1.9
2025-2030	0.3	-2.3

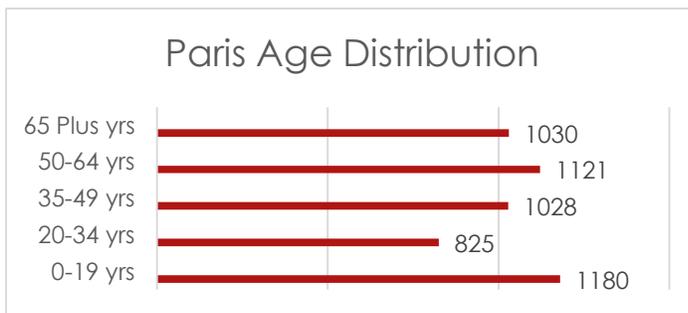
Paris is the 61st most populated town in the State of Maine, out of 488 towns.

Age Distribution:

For the purpose of this study, population data has been broken into 5 age sensitive user groups.

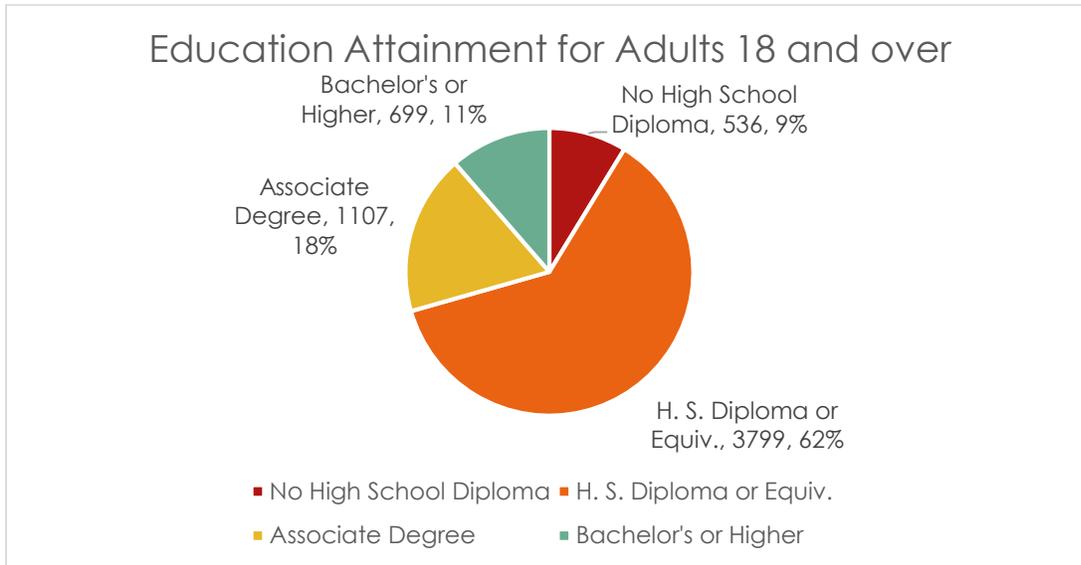
1. **0-19yrs.** Babies, preschool, primary and secondary school
2. **20-34yrs.** College age and starting new families and careers
3. **35-49yrs.** Adults with families and careers
4. **50-64yrs.** Adults with established careers and empty nest
5. **65+yrs.** Retirement age

It is noteworthy to add that this group will be increasing dramatically. Pew Research reports that by the time all Baby Boomers turn 65 in 2030, 15 percent of the nation's population will be at least that old. Recreation centers, senior centers and senior programs can be a significant link in the health care system. This group ranges from very healthy, active seniors to more physically inactive seniors.



One age group that we are showing a low stat, is our college to young adult with family, but that is coming back up at middle age. Kids are leaving but returning with established families.

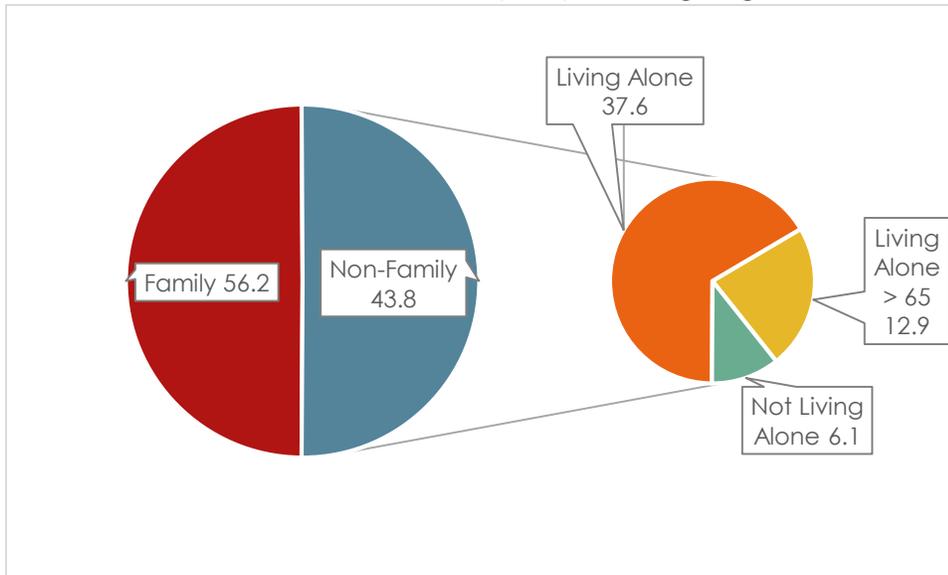
Education Levels:



10.9% of adults in Paris do not have a high school diploma or GED. Interestingly, in 2009, Maine ranks 10th in the country at 90.2% having a high school diploma or equivalent. The national percentage is 85.2% as of 2005, but that figure is projected to rise annually.

Household Types:

The US Census Bureau classifies household types into two categories, family and non-family. A family denotes a household with one or more related people, by birth, marriage or adoption. A non-family household denotes a person living alone or two or more unrelated people living together.



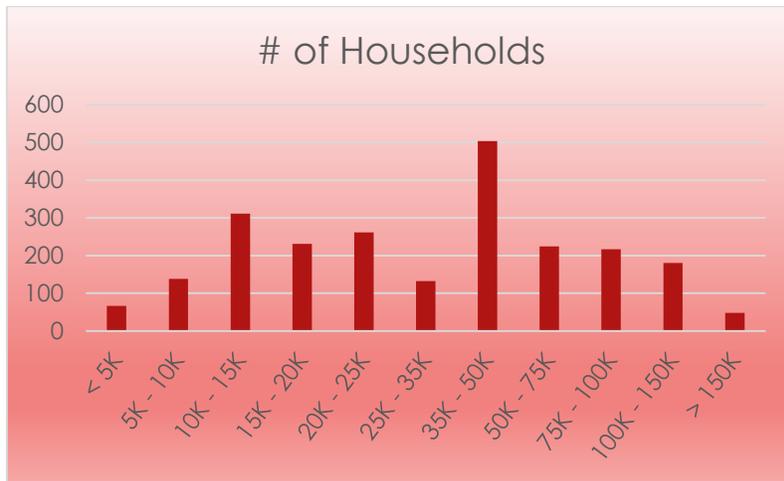
- Most family households in Paris have 1 or 2 persons.
- In the non-family category, 37.6% are living alone.
- 12.9% of them being 65 years or older.

Paris Household Sizes

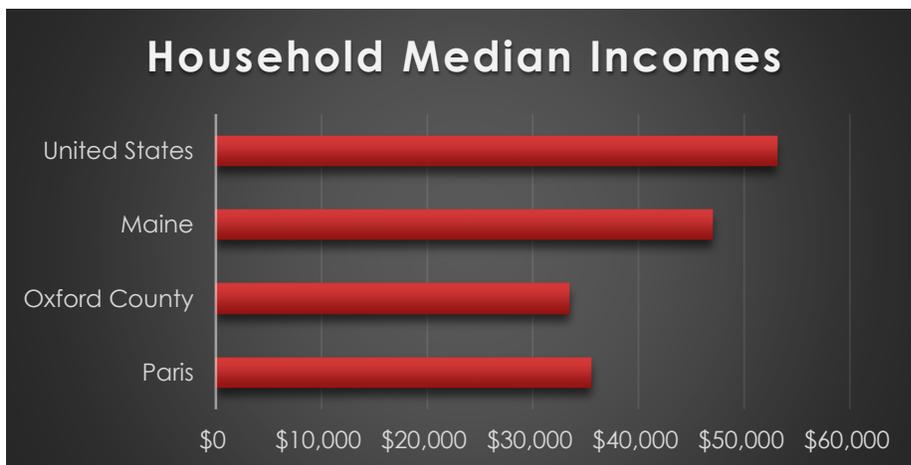
1 person household	868
2 person household	877
3 person household	275
4+ person household	290

Paris has 2,310 occupied housing units

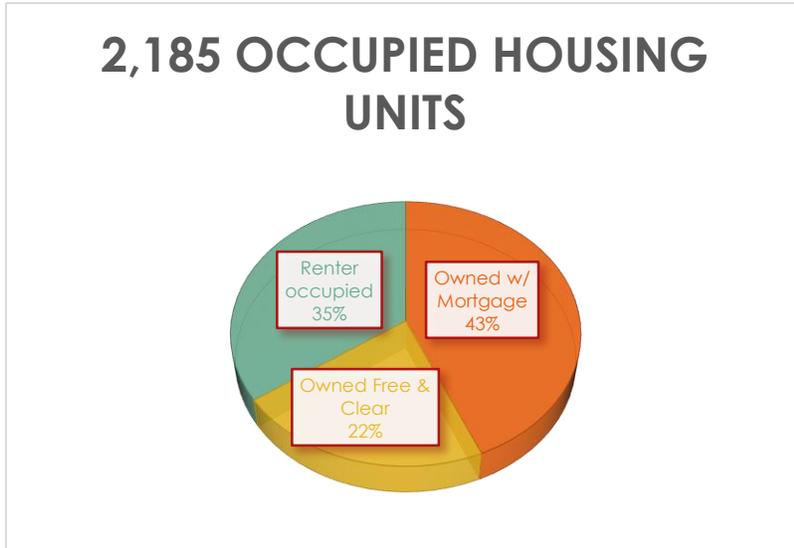
Household Income:



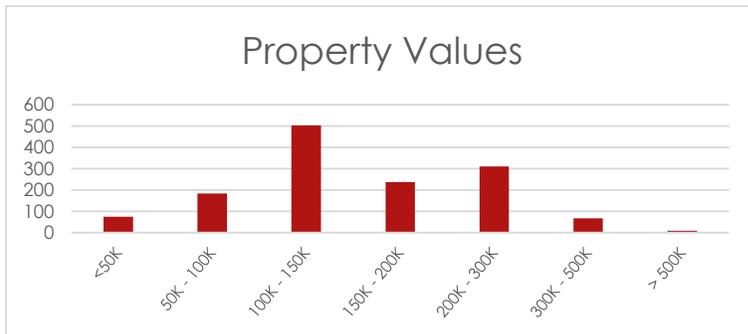
The median household income in Paris is \$35,483, with about one half of the total households earning less and the other half earning more. 17.2% of Paris residents live in Poverty.



Housing:

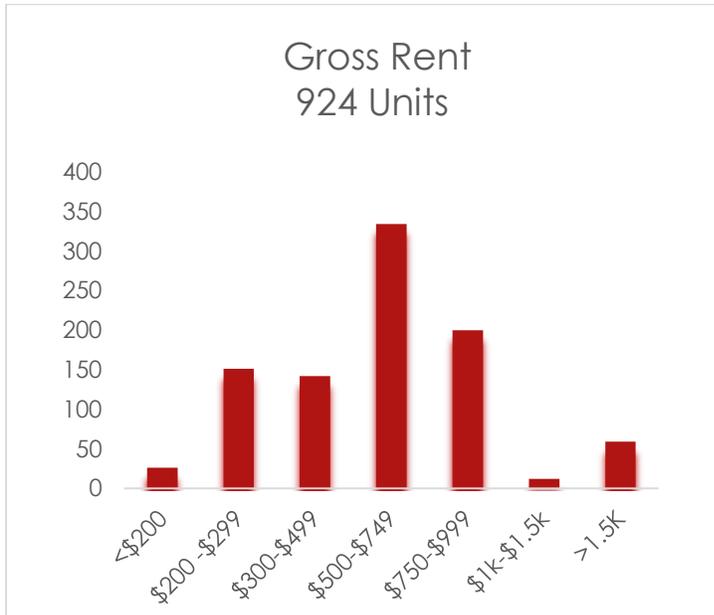


The Median House Value in Paris is \$138,300.



The median price of homes currently listed in Maine is \$199,900, slightly lower than the state at \$221,800 and US at \$213,600. New England median house ranges are high at \$273,600.

The town currently has 924 rental units. The median rent paid is \$549, way below the state median of \$1,100.



Economic Census:

Wholesale Trade	4
Retail Trade	25
Information	4
Professional, Scientific, Technical	20
Administrative, Waste Management	1
Educational Services	4
Health Care Social Services	46
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	8
Accommodation, Food	11
Other Services	24

Employment Status:

Population 16 years and over	4,418
In Labor Force	2,420
Employed	2,113
Unemployed	307
Not in Labor Force	1,998

Boards and Committees

Town Manager: Amy Bernard

Board of Selectman:

1. Janet Jamison
2. Ryan Lorrain
3. Robert Wessels
4. Samuel Elliot
5. 1 empty seat

Selectman meet the 2nd and 4th Monday at 7pm.

Committee	Date	Time
Appeals Board	As Needed	TBA
Budget Committee	Weekly March-May	TBA
Joint Cable TV	NPC-TV Station	Call for Date & Time
Norway/Paris Solid Waste	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday	5:15pm
Paris Cemetery	3 rd Wednesday	7:00pm
Recreation Department	1 st Monday	6:30pm
Planning Board	2 nd & 4 th Tuesday	7:00pm
Policies & Procedures	1 st Wednesday	7:00pm

*All meetings are at the Paris Town Hall

Police Department:



Michael Madden, Police Chief

8 Fulltime Officers

Police Department is located in a building adjacent to the Town Hall parking lot.

Fire Department:



Brad Frost, Fire Chief

39 firefighters on the roster

All are paid on call.

There is a new, 5 drive through bay fire barn built in 2000 on Western Ave. with a 20yr. bond.

Town Assessor: Jerry Sampson, part time

Town Code Enforcement: Fred Collins, full time

Emergency Services: E911 Stephens Memorial Hospital

Infrastructure

Roadways-

The roadway system in our study area is made up of state highway Route 26 and Route 119. Route 26 serves as a corridor bringing a substantial amount of traffic from the Portland area through Bethel continuing on into New Hampshire. Route 119 brings traffic into Route 26 from Auburn/Lewiston and smaller towns of Hebron and Buckfield. At the core of Market Square is the intersection of these two roads.

Utilities and Public Services-

Electric.....Central Maine Power

Water and Sewage.....Paris Utility District 7 CN Brown Way

Paris built a new water/sewage treatment plant in 2010. To fund the project, the utility issued a 40-year bond for \$5.4 million and used grants of \$1million form the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development Block Grant and more than \$3million from the US Department of Agriculture Rural Development Block Grant. Seven pumping stations were also upgraded and hooked into an industrial, computer driven, control system, otherwise known as a SCADA system.

Internet.....Time Warner Fairpoint Oxford Networks

Visions

Vision is the conceptual imagery that is perceived through careful examination of the unique qualities that define the character of Paris as a town, including its natural resources, historic character and scenic beauty. It is derived after countless hours of interviewing a cross-section of the community and analyzing information to form viable ideology to invigorate enthusiasm for restructuring the plan for the future of Paris. We, as a community, need to captivate those unique qualities and build on that foundation.

The Ford Foundation branding is *Working with Visionaries on the Frontlines of Social Change Worldwide*. We will be making social change in our area with an investment in community pride supporting the arts, drama, history and improving literacy.

It is important to offer quality programming to our youth. Preparing our youth today, will raise the standard of living for the future.

According to an article written by the Museum of Children's Art in Oakland, Ca., art has benefits associated with children, while they are young that that will impact their entire life.

The following is reproduced from that article:

1. Art stimulates both sides of the brain.
2. 33% of kids are visual learners.
3. There are studies that show that kids, who make art, read better and get better grades in science and mathematics.
4. The kids learn by using their senses and art is ideal in this process.
5. The kids need a place to express themselves at school.
6. Art promotes self-esteem.
7. Art encourages kids to give more attention to the physical space that surrounds them.
8. Art develops hand and eye coordination.
9. Art stimulates perception.

10. Art teaches them to think openly. It represents a culture of questioners more than a culture of responders.
11. Art teaches that there is more than one solution for a problem.
12. Art teaches kids to think creatively to solve problems.
13. Kids can share and reflect on their work of art and learn something about the world they live in.
14. When art is integrated with the other subjects in the curriculum, kids commit more to the learning process.
15. In the process of doing art, the child is exposed to different possibilities, to discover and to freedom, this way they avoid falling into the control and the predictability of the conventional education in the United States of today.
16. Art nourishes the human soul. One feels good doing it.
17. Art brings the cultural resources of the community into the class.
18. Art involves parents and tutors in the school, inviting them to participate as volunteers in diverse activities.
19. Art provides a common ground across racial stereotypes, barriers and prejudices.
20. Art is valuable all by itself.

Through the ages, art has played a pivotal role in the aid to recovery. President Obama campaigned on a platform of hope and convened a National Arts Policy Committee made up of 33 arts leaders. He promised to look to the arts as a vehicle to revitalization, "to remain competitive in the global economy, America needs to reinvigorate the kind of creativity and innovation that has made this country great".

As a result of polling a cross section of the community, it was also determined that green space is a very important aspect to the visionaries of our town. Green spaces help us discover the natural beauty of our outside world. Having community green space should slow down the pace of our busy lives so that we may enjoy the landscape, natural habitats and wildlife. The benefits are numerous.

Along with providing a place for exercise and relaxation, it also brings a community together socially. Interaction between people strengthen social bonds to the town.

On May 10, 2013, the following news press was released:

“Federal Agencies Expand Urban Waterway Revitalization Efforts in Communities Across the Nation-Washington, D.C.

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in partnership with the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other federal partners, announced that the Urban Waters Federal Partnership is adding 11 new locations. In addition, two more federal partner agencies will join the partnership in its collaborative efforts to restore waterways and their environments, boost recreation, help local economies', create jobs, and protect Americans' health.

Our government realized the importance of public waterways and green space for our communities. Protecting and developing public access to our water goes hand in hand with revitalization. Cities and towns across America have used their water ways as a means to improve their economic stimulus.

Included in this strategic plan is a recommendation focusing on using the arts, green space and the Little Androscoggin as a means to revitalize our Market Square district.

Recommendations

The term “community character” refers to those things that are important to residents and that most define Paris. While the elements of what comprises community character are different for each person, there are some common elements related to physical character and community spirit. In surveys and meetings for the plan, residents consistently indicated that the Town of Paris should continue to be concerned about the issue of community character. They want to clean up what we already have and be proud of Paris. Community spirit can be raised by hosting special programs or events, making Paris a special place to live. Get organizations involved to build community spirit. Actively seek out volunteers. Devoted volunteers can make Paris a better place to live. And lastly, give local recognition. Community pride and spirit is enhanced by positive publicity.

The following is a list of recommendations that could potentially change the physical character of Paris.

Traffic Pattern:

The first, and foremost, necessity for changing the conditions in Market Square would be to fix the traffic pattern. The town needs to follow through with



the state's engineer and planning board, after the new stats become available in the end of October. It is this plan's hope that a roundabout will be able to fit into the dimensions of the square and can be put in place to keep the flow of traffic in one pattern. At that time, assuming the entire square's roadway will be reconstructed, it would be the time to apply to the Maine Development Block Grant for sidewalks that are also handicap accessible. This whole process would be the foundation for rebuilding the foot traffic and "town square" feeling to the town's center.

Another area of concern is the Pine Street intersection at the traffic light. The area has been reviewed by the MDOT state engineering department. This intersection should not be overlooked as it is a dangerous section of road. Tractor trailers that are entering Pine Street to go to the New England Warehouse from the Norway side cannot make the turn without



going over into the oncoming lane of traffic, both on Rt. 26 and Pine Street. It is coupled by the fact that the traffic on Pine Street might have to back up to accommodate the impending tractor trailer. If this happens during the closing of the day at Oxford Hills Middle School, there might be a long line of traffic on Pine Street so the tractor trailer will close traffic on Rt. 26 until the changing of the light when the Pine Street traffic will move. There is a telephone pole on the side of Rainbow Credit Union that has sustained damage due to the short turning radius. At the Big Apple, on the other side of the street, the 2 lanes of Pine Street appear to be part of the parking lot of the store. The base of the roadway on Pine Street has fallen short of proper drainage causing highs and lows in the street and does not align with Rt. 26 as traffic enters. Follow through is recommended to see that this intersection is addressed and repaired.

Revitalization using the Arts:

The Market Square area is our town square. In the center stands many historically significant buildings that represent tangible links to the past. Historic preservation of this area should be a high priority. Sustainability is the key factor to the framework of making this area viable. In making these old buildings and the town center attractive and inviting, it might well be an art incubator. Artists like to be with other artists, where they can collaborate, exchange ideas, develop techniques and critique each other's work. We can learn a lot from fostering existing organizations and programming.

Art comes in many forms; paintings, drawing, sculpture, theater, photography, music, the art of handcrafting and even festivals. Antique stores could even fall into that category and blend well. It is a rule of thumb that 5 antique stores can do better than one. With 5, you have created a destination that will attract more people. Advocating for artists of all levels, ages and mediums, we can use art to facilitate events using various medias such as visual, art, performance and music. Embracing the arts can also assist in the need for beautification. With the aid of the arts, Market Square can attract visitors and become a vibrant town center.

The parking area for these buildings will not be in front of their stores, so that is a deterrent for commercial businesses. Artists, on the other hand, do not mind walking from other parking facilities. It adds to the eclectic charm of the area. A new dimension to the summer season could be to add art markets, workshops and new events for enrichment and draw visitors to the area.

Close watch of the Community Concepts building should be monitored, in that if that non-profit ever vacates that building, the theater on the 2nd floor is still intact. They are currently in the process of looking for ways to replace all the mirrored windows and add awnings in keeping with the historic look of the building. Depending on the roadway upgrades, the building would greatly improve with sidewalk landscaping.

Streetscapes and Beautification:

The South Paris Revitalization Forum plans to continue the beautification of Market Square with the addition of flower pots in the summer. We currently have 11 and have 5 more that have been paid for next summer. If the group can continue to solicit for money from businesses and citizens of the community, it will strengthen our movement to bring attention to the Market Square as our town center. This past summer, the flowers were generously donated by Young's Greenhouse. In the future, although their donation was gratefully received, it should not be taken for granted and an effort should be made to purchase flowers in the future. It is the intention of the committee to oversee this project and care for the plants.

Beautification of Paris is an important approach that needs to be identified as things that need to be done in the short and immediate term that move towards a longer term strategy and would move from revitalization to sustainability and growth.



Initiatives as simple as cleaning the sidewalks from growth of weeds and grass shows a community that is moving forward and taking pride in their community.

The addition of benches and trash receptacles should be in place at least in the onset in Market Square and then eventually continue on with our sidewalks. Care should be given that these areas should be kept free of trash and weeds.

The library bench that sits in the middle of the parking lot of the library and town hall was given as a memorial to the clients of the Progress Center. It is an example of a public place that has not been taken care of properly. Whether that area is owned by the library or the town, it is a reflection on the town's property.



There is money that is coming available to the Town of Paris within the next two years from an estate to be earmarked for beautification. It is the hope of this plan that the town will follow through with the need to work with the MDOT to fix the flow of traffic in Market Square. At that time, this money could be used to add Victorian Lamp Posts around the square.



Also, a project to add seasonal banners to the CMP utility posts with their prior permission would enhance the beauty the town square. With these projects completed, you have changed the atmosphere in the square to be a desirable place for walking traffic and eclectic shops.

Node Concept

Paris should strive to develop a community structure in the targeted study area that has a “sense of place”. People feel more comfortable when they are in areas developed as “nodes” with identifiable focal points, defined edges, and strong structures. Nodes tend to be compact areas with mixed uses where pedestrian traffic and multi-purpose trips are encouraged and buildings are a prominent feature. Nodes enhance community character, promote economic development and help unite the community whereas strips tend to be shallow, linear development oriented towards the roadway and parking areas. Nodal developments are walkable areas that contain a mix of residential, commercial and service elements. As a result, the area lends itself to social, health and economic



benefits. The node developments encourage pedestrian traffic and slows vehicle traffic down.

Many comments have been made concerning how dangerous it is to cross the road in the Market Square district. Painting crosswalks red is traffic calming. An added deterrent to faster speed in the high traffic area of Market Square would be a public infrastructure of pedestrian walkways painted in high contrast.



Parking:



Parking is an obvious concern in the study area. Street parking was taken out from the front of Deering Church and the Library when the old fire building was in existence and the fire trucks had to make the swing onto Rt. 26. Now, with that not happening, Paris should put the street parking spaces back in with the exception of the pedestrian crosswalk space.

In 2013, the board of selectman voted to designate the lower lot, behind Market Square Restaurant, as a public parking area. Currently, that area is the town road crew's snow dumping lot. A request for a clean fill area was received by the town code officer, Fred Collins, for Ben LaPrief's land on Wheeler Street. On closer inspection, it was determined that it could become the new dumping site for the town's snow removal. That being said, it would clean up the existing public parking in order for that lot to be paved. Additionally, wayfinding signs for public parking should be in place on Rt. 26 to indicate all public parking in the Market Square area.



Understandably, there are buildings in the confines of Market Square that do not have adequate parking facilities behind their buildings to house all the business or households that they contain. Every opportunity should be taken to help these building owners find parking. Again, emphasis should be made that it takes a community, and that single-handedly, we cannot make the changes necessary to improve the economic environment.

It has been suggested that the lower parking lot, under Market Square



Restaurant, could set the stage for a natural amphitheater. Ironically, that was the area for public festivals known as Brigg's Grove prior to the 1927 fire that burned that side of the street, from the Market Square Restaurant's parking lot to Portland Glass and up onto Pine Street. Bringing festivals back to Paris would help to build community character and build a "sense of place" to Market Square.

If this parking lot was developed, it would open up the possibility for additional business locations in the bottom of the Market Square Restaurant and adjacent brick building.

Bike Lanes and Racks:

The design of the town's center requires expertise in planning for cars, pedestrians, and bicycles and successful integration of all of them. The local organization of ACE (Active Community Environments) is working to develop walking and biking trails in Norway. We need to partner with them and make our presence at their meetings to continue this healthy living concept into Paris. Plans should be made to join them in the quest to connect bikes lanes to Norway. A project should also be put in place to add bike racks to the Market Square study area and eventually further.

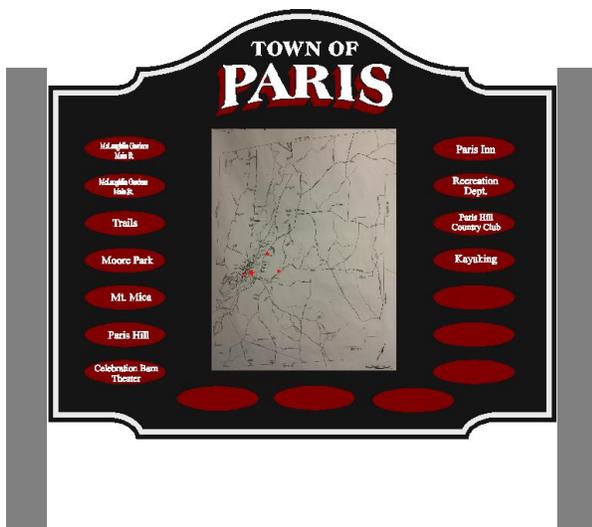


CEBE (Center for an Ecology Based Economy) is currently working on a new public bike share program where you can borrow a bike at "point A" and return it to "point B. At this time, they have secured about 25 bicycles

from donations or stolen bikes that the police department turned over and have painted and repaired them. Initially, it will be only offered to adults that borrow them from CEBE on Main Street and return them there but they would like to expand on this program in the near future.

Paris could assist in this endeavor by joining the program and placing the first bike rack in front of the Community Concepts building.

Signage Project for Historic Market Square:



Based on an interest in preserving our historic district and cultural heritage, Paris should erect a sign near the town hall with the map of Paris pointing out the public parking, police station, Legion, Moore Park, non-profits such as McLaughlin Gardens and Celebration Barn Theater, the proposed new home of the Recreation Department and Center for the Arts, the trail system, mines, our Finnish Heritage and the list would go on. It would work very much in the same way as *Museum in the Streets*. A project

could be put in place that would continue through Market Square and plaque all the antique buildings for age and original use. Implementing this signage project would increase the foot traffic and visitors to the square.

Signs are a critical part of identifying businesses, services and direction in our town but it also displays the pride and heritage in our community. We have to be careful about the underlying messages that we convey. Maybe the "No

Parking signs in Moore Park could have been accomplished in a different way. Aesthetically, a row of rocks or posts with a large rope draped through would have had the same outcome. We have to portray the image of a "friendly village" to attract new families and businesses and avoid condescending messages.



Development of the Little Androscoggin:

The Little Androscoggin River spans 51.4 miles long. It flows from Bryant Pond in Woodstock to its confluence with the Androscoggin in Auburn. Paris has never developed any of its river frontage to be enjoyed by the public. One of the most important issues when polled by the citizens of Paris was to have more green space for public use.



It is the recommendation of this plan to negotiate with the Paris Water and Sewer District to obtain use of their now vacated building at the foot of Paris Hill for a public boat launch and park for everyone to enjoy.

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Public Lands offered a grant in 2014 to develop public boat access to Maine waterways. This grant opportunity is supposed to be duplicated for the upcoming year. At the same time, the Land and Water Conservation Fund program that funds the development of public recreational areas should be considered.

The old PUD could transform into the new home of the Paris Recreation Department. Paris is in need of a stronger presence of the recreation department that services children's programs.

The garage portion of this building could be utilized by a seasonal business that rents Kayaks and paddle boats for families to enjoy the Little Androscoggin's beauty and wildlife habitats.



To keep this property a four season facility, it can be used during the winter months as a warming hut for ice skating. Family ice skating could be offered based on a model program at the old town hall in Bridgton. Their rec department has collected skates and keeps them sharpened for anyone to use that comes skating. It is all staffed by volunteers. This would be a major step to help families of Paris be able to offer their children free activities in the winter.



The park portion of the seven and one half acre property should have picnic tables, both covered and uncovered with barbecuing equipment. By investing in river town parks, trails and open spaces, we create healthier, greener communities, which in turn attract business investment and improve the economic potential for tourism.

The essentials needed for community living is within walking distance so that our home, work and play are conveniently woven together. People choose to visit and live in communities with memorable town centers for social activity and recreation. The river property is an asset for the town and the success is built from the work of partners that recognize the inextricable links between the environment, the economy and the quality of life that Paris has to offer.



Development of Trails:

Paris' best kept secret is the walking trail along the Little Androscoggin that spans from the Oxford Hills High School to the 1st Congregational Church in South Paris. Several years ago, the trail from the High School to the Junior High School was widened and a footing of stone dust was laid. Viking trail, as it was named, was built by the Healthy Oxford Hills Trail group and New Balance. Presently, school age children use the trail but very few adults do. The main reason for this is that there are no signs that direct people to the trails.

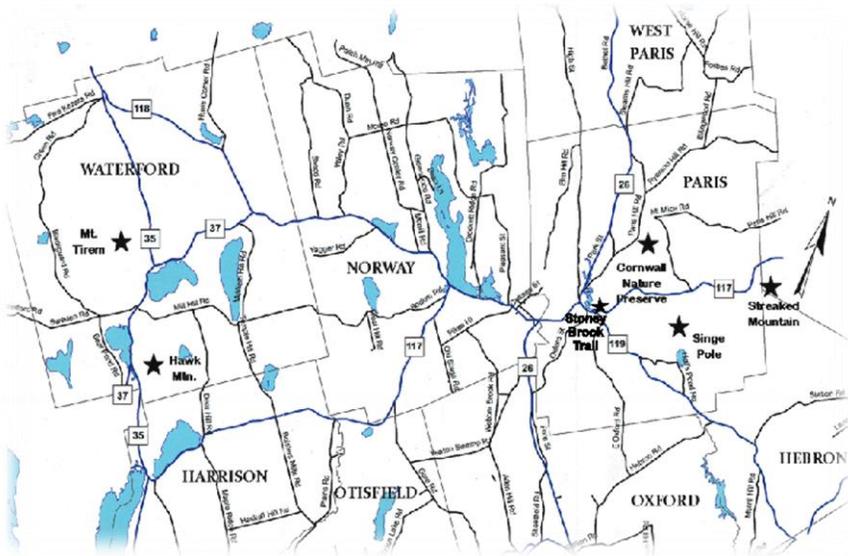
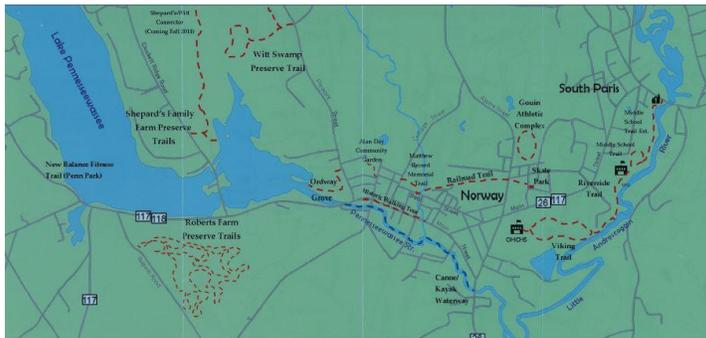
As a result of working with Healthy Oxford Hills and ACE, it is the recommendation of this plan to develop a brand for walking trails and partner with nearby communities to have a recognizable brand and wayfinding signs to designate the location and promote the trail system.



The trail from the Oxford Hills Junior High School to the 1st Congo Church on East Main Street should be upgraded. To accomplish this, Paris should work with the Western Foothills Land Trust to gain right-of-ways and Healthy Oxford Hills and ACE for Biking

Paris might want to consider continuing this trail system from Billings Damn to the old PUD that will hopefully be upgraded to a park, kayak facility and home to the Paris Rec Dept. This area would need extensive board walks due to the steep terrain and a bridge across an inlet of the river to the PUD land. The completion of this trail system to the family park area would be a benefit to Norway and Paris. The key to success would be to market the trail system so that you create a destination point for exercise and wildlife enjoyment.





Mildred Fox School:

In the summer of 2014, the SAD#17 moved their superintendent's office to the college building beside the high school. Given the fact that they are not going to be using the Mildred Fox School, they will be bringing it to their school board to formally be offering it back to the town of Paris.

It is the recommendation of this plan to except the building back into the responsibility of the town. It is currently home to the Oxford Hills Christian Academy with 165 student body. The Christian school has been paying for the heat and electricity in lieu of rent to SAD#17. During an interview with them this past summer, it was stated that



they are looking for other alternatives for schools since this building does not offer the amenities that it requires, such as a gym and library. It has been brought to my attention that they have recently signed a three year lease with the school system. In as much as alternative schools are important, Paris cannot afford to subsidize the Oxford Hills Christian Academy operational costs in the form of free rent.

Knowing that the school would be at this location for the next three years, this goal would be a medium to long term project but Paris would benefit greatly from a Center for the Arts in that location. Hopefully, as the arts gains popularity, it would have a spillover effect into Market Square and Paris would become a destination point.

A model program is in Belfast at the Waterfall Arts that has been in operation since 2000. They reclaimed an old school in the same era as the Mildred Fox School. There, they host a variety of classes, events, exhibitions, and rentals for art studios and events.

We can further gain support and direction from joining area groups such as the Bethel Area Non-profit Collaborative. Their mission statement includes all the goals that we are trying to accomplish to make Paris a better place to live, work and play.

Senior Citizens:



During the course of research for this project, it was apparent that the citizens were interested in the need to have senior services in Paris. I had the opportunity to be a guest speaker at the Legion Hall and I spoke about our need for a Senior Citizens Center. After the meeting, it was pointed out to me that there was a possible location that could be donated for that Center. As a result of that meeting and talking with potential interested organizers, a group of dedicated stakeholders have come forward with the intentions of partnering to open a Senior Citizens Center. Plans are currently underway to apply for a non-profit status to make a senior owned center. Our intentions are for a board of directors elected by the membership, in other words, the seniors own their own senior center.

The group is currently looking at the VFW Hall as a possible location but if this does not come to fruition, the group is dedicated to move forward and look for a suitable location. Together, they will partner with various senior organizations, services and the hospital to see this project into reality. Remember that our senior population is going to explode over the next few years with all the baby boomers reaching that golden age. Paris is going to benefit as it will be the only town in Oxford County with a senior citizens center where senior services can be housed under one roof.





Acquiring Property for Future Growth:

As a result of surveying the general population of Paris, many people spoke about the town's acquisition of the old Paris Farmer's Union property on Skillings Avenue as a wise move. The reasons varied from green space, artisan's mall, preservation of the historic grain tower, to the hope of the passenger rail returning.

The potential uses should be studied and brought to the town warrant for a vote to see if the residents will support such an acquisition.



A key note, to remember, is that its location is the only viable spot for a train station in South Paris in the event that the passenger rail is restored. It would serve as a hub for Norway and South Paris. The old station is not a viable option as it is privately owned and the traffic on Rt 26 could not be stopped to allow passenger boarding. The PFU property, runs the length of Skillings Ave. adjacent to the track and has ample parking. In the meantime, it would serve the town as green space or development of business endeavors. Polling ideas for revitalization, green space was very important to the citizens of Paris.

YMCA:

“Community leaders in the Oxford Hills area have been talking for the past twenty years about the need for a comprehensive wellness and recreation center to serve the towns and communities in the region. A study group was formed in 2000 to prepare a strategic study to determine if it made sense to have a YMCA serve Oxford County. That study found that there was strong support for a community recreation center because the region had few family-oriented indoor recreational facilities. A major theme throughout the study was the need for a swimming pool, youth programs, and after-school childcare, as well as adult and teen wellness and fitness programs.

In the winter of 2012, twelve students in a CADD and design course at Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School (OHCHS) took on the challenge of preparing designs for a recreation center to be attached to the school. As a result of the students' interest and designs, a steering committee was put together with civic leaders from the Oxford Hills School District and representatives from Western Maine Health and Stephens Memorial Hospital. The steering committee engaged the services of PDR Architects of Portland, Maine, who designed OHCHS and who have extensive experience designing educational, medical, and recreation facilities, both public and private.”



The Y's focus is on *Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility*. They are passionate about creating leadership and a strong, healthy community where everyone can learn, grow and thrive. It is an important step in demonstrating that we, as a community, care about our youth and their families.

It has already been 20 years in the thought process. Our town leaders need to continue on this course of open communication to see if the Y is in our future.

Architectural Review:

Market Square contains historic buildings from the late eighteenth century, the era which the neighborhood was founded. Victorian commercial buildings and early twentieth century buildings as well, need historic preservation. Distinctive architecture is of vital importance to the economy and the historic character of the community.

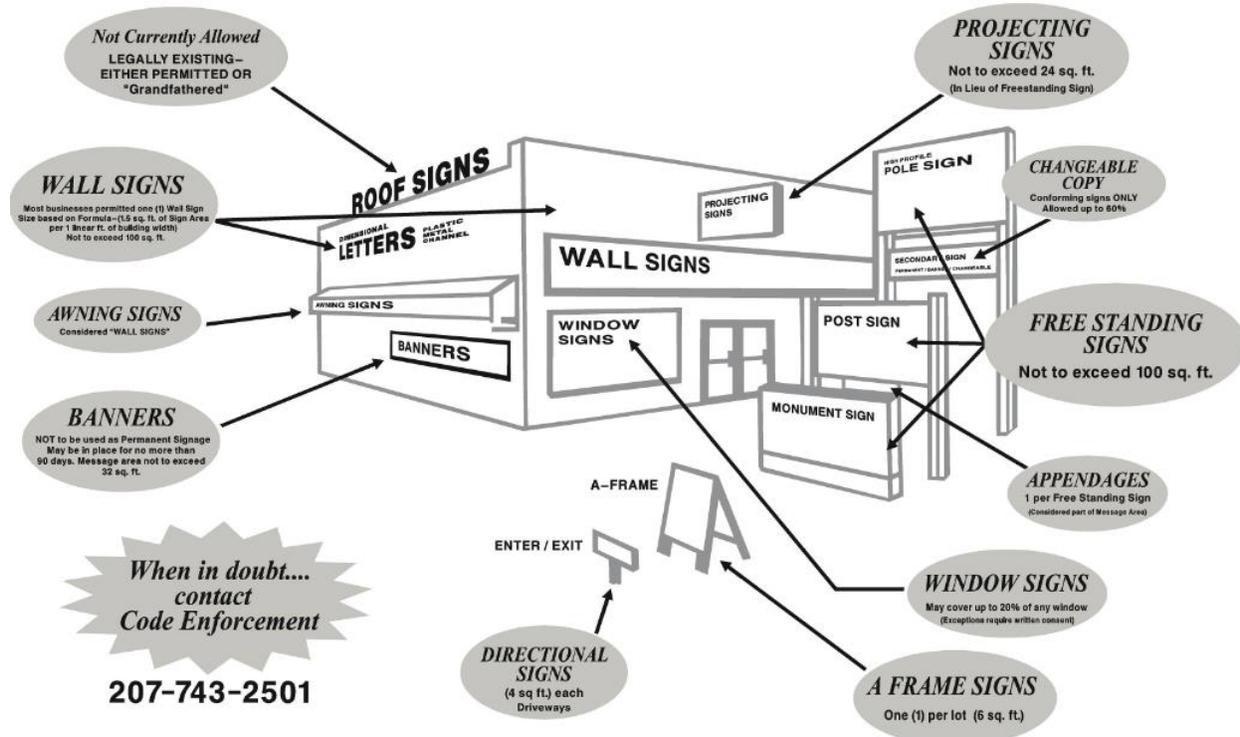
The Paris Planning Board needs to maintain historic preservation through architectural review to assist owners of landmarks and properties in the Market Square District through the review of designs for proposed exterior modifications, color changes, new construction and demolition. It is their obligation to preserve the cultural importance of buildings and areas of natural beauty to insure that they are in good taste, design and harmonious with their surroundings.

Discussion and careful systematization by the Planning Board should develop a master plan for approving new construction, modification, signage, colors and landscaping in Market Square to ensure that our growth is moving forward in a positive fashion and complementing the town. Any work that the board is approving is setting a precedent for the future development.

A collaborative effort by the town officials and building owners in the Market Square area need to coordinate building colors and roofing that are in keeping with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Signage:

Town of Paris-Commercial Sign Regulations:



**Colored Scale Drawing Must Accompany Sign Permit Application*

The present sign ordinance states that all signs have to go through the planning board to be approved. With the adoption of this new diagram and the power granted to the code enforcement officer, time and money could be saved. All signs that fit into this criteria could now be approved by the town code enforcement officer. The only time that it would have to go before the planning board would be for a variance or an appeal.

Existing Conditions Survey

 				Address	7 High Street		
				Owner	Norway Savings Bank		
				Map	U8		
				Lot	86		
							
					Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
				Ground Floor	Business	Excellent	
				Second Floor			
				Basement			
Parking							

 				Address	1 Park Street		
				Owner	South Paris Baptist Church		
				Map	U8		
				Lot	80,81,82		
							
					Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
				Ground Floor	Church	Excellent	3 Lots, Ample Parking on Lot 81, 82
				Second Floor			
				Basement			
Parking							



Address	13 Park Street
Owner	Resam Properties LLC
Map	U8
Lot	73

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	Commercial	Average	US Post Office
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking			



Address	15 Park Street
Owner	Fredrick and Debra Johnson
Map	U8
Lot	72

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	780 sq ft	Average	Private Home Built in 1920
Second Floor	780 sq ft		
Basement	Damp		
Parking			



Address	19 Park Street
Owner	Ben Conant
Map	U8
Lot	71

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1152 sq ft	Good	Private Home 1998 Rebuilt after Fire
Second Floor	1152 sq ft		
Basement	Dry		
Parking			



Address	21 Park Street
Owner	Diane Christopher
Map	U8
Lot	70

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1206 sq ft	Good	2 Apartment Home Built in 1900
Second Floor	1206 sq ft		
Basement	Damp		
Parking			



Address	27 Park Street
Owner	James Palmer
Map	U8
Lot	69

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	(2) 956 sq ft	Average	3 Apartments Built in 1895 Palmer & Son Heating
Second Floor	956 sq ft	Average	
Basement	Dirt (full)		
Parking			



Address	31 Park Street
Owner	Steve & Carole Barrett
Map	U8
Lot	68

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	(3) 1080 sq ft	Average	6 Apartments Built in 1902
Second Floor	(3) 1080 sq ft	Average	
Basement	Dirt (full)		
Parking	yes		



Address	39 Park Street
Owner	Louisa Andre
Map	U9
Lot	78

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	792	Average	Private Home Built in 1908 Remodeled In 1980
Second Floor	792	Average	
Basement	792 Wet		
Parking			



Address	43 Park Street
Owner	Beverly Cotton
Map	U9
Lot	77

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	588	Average	Private Home Built in 1920 Remodeled In 1963
Second Floor	588	Average	
Basement	588 Damp		
Parking			



Address	53 Park Street
Owner	Mecervler Perlene
Map	U9
Lot	76

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	360	Fair	1.5 Apartments Built in 1897 Remodeled In 1930
Second Floor	130	Fair	
Basement	130 Damp	Fair	
Parking			



Address	52 Park Street
Owner	Henry Morton
Map	U9
Lot	81

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1456 sq ft	Good	Private Home Built in 1905 Remodeled In 1961
Second Floor	1456 sq ft	Good	
Basement	1456 sq ft Damp		
Parking			



Address	42 Park Street
Owner	Paul & Martha Finnegan
Map	U9
Lot	80

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1404 sq ft	Average	6 Apts Built in 1870 Remodeled In 1950 3rd floor 702 sq ft
Second Floor	1404 sq ft	Average	
Basement	1404 sq ft Dry		
Parking	yes		



Address	34 Park Street
Owner	Kevin & Jane Billings
Map	U9
Lot	79

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	890 sq ft	Average	1st Floor State Farm Insurance 2nd Floor Residence .5 in Basement Built in 1891 Remodeled 1989
Second Floor	890 sq ft	Average	
Basement	445 sq ft Dry		
Parking	yes		



Address	Park Street
Owner	Town of Paris, Moore Park
Map	U9
Lot	67

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor			Town Park
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking			



Address	14 High Street
Owner	Supportive Housing Associates
Map	U8
Lot	113

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1180 sq ft	Average	6 Apartment Building Built In 1845 Remodeled 1997 Addition has 644&140 sq ft
Second Floor	1180 sq ft	Average	
Basement	Partial		
Parking	yes		



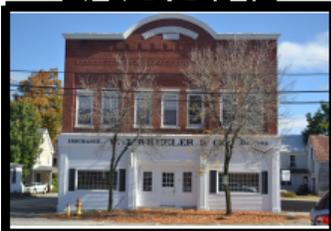
Address	20 Park Street
Owner	Helga Z. Thurston
Map	U8
Lot	114

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1144 sq ft	Good	Cape Paris Realty 2nd Floor Apartment Built in 1820 Remodeled 2003
Second Floor	1144 sq ft	Good	
Basement	1/4 Dry		
Parking	yes		



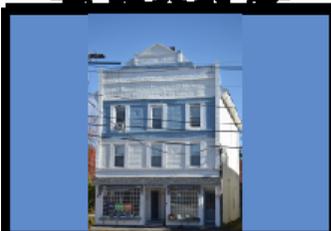
Address	1 High Street & Maple Street
Owner	Murlel E. Dignan
Map	U8
Lot	87

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1400 sq ft	Average	1st Floor Residence 2 apt. need renovation before using Built in 1899 Remodeled 1956
Second Floor	1400 sq ft	Average	
Basement	Dry		
Parking	Limited		



Address	15 Market Square
Owner	W.J. Wheeler
Map	U8
Lot	97

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2596 sq ft	Average	1st Floor Wheeler Insurance 2nd Floor Rented to OHMPA Known as the Billings Block Built in 1895 Original home to the "Oxford Democrat"
Second Floor	2596 sq ft	Average	
Basement			
Parking	ample		



Address	11 Market Square
Owner	Pan Am R.E. Holdings, LLC
Map	U8
Lot	99

Current Use		Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1800 sq ft	Average	1st Floor 2 store fronts-1 turned into apt 2nd Floor 3 apts 3rd Floor 3 apts Built in 1867 "Masonic Block"
Second Floor	1800 sq ft	Average	
Basement			
Parking	not adequate		



Address	9 Market Square
Owner	Theodore Kurtz
Map	U8
Lot	100

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3069 sq ft	Average	1st Floor Bolster's Flooring 2nd Floor 1/3 empty law office 2/3 storage for Bolsters. 3rd fl empty Built in 1852 Originally a general store Features a large central staircase
Second Floor	3069 sq ft	Average	
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	3 Market Square
Owner	Andrews House, Western Maine Health Care
Map	U8
Lot	102

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	9948 sq ft	Excellent	1st Floor Nursing Home 2nd Floor Residential Care
Second Floor	7520 sq ft	Excellent	
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	10 East Main Street
Owner	SAD # 17
Map	U8
Lot	104

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	Classrooms	fair	SAD # 17 have vacated the building Building is being rented by Oxford Hills Christian Academy
Second Floor	Classrooms	fair	
Basement	Classrooms	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	18 East Main Street
Owner	Raymond J. Gallant
Map	U8
Lot	106

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1278 sq ft	fair	Private Residence Built in 1907 Remodeled in 1999
Second Floor	1278 sq ft	fair	
Basement	No	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	28 East Main Street
Owner	Stoney Brook Housing, Inc
Map	U8
Lot	108

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3 Apts	average	Stoney Brook Apartments (6) 876sq ft Apartments Built in 1902 Remodeled 2001
Second Floor	3 Apts	average	
Basement	Crawl		
Parking	yes		



Address	35 East Main Street
Owner	Thomas Hutchinsen
Map	U7
Lot	1

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	660 Sq Ft	average	Private Home Built in 1850
Second Floor	660 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	.5	Dry	
Parking	yes		



Address	29 East Main Street
Owner	Eleanor Zupokfska
Map	U7
Lot	2

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	768 Sq Ft	average	2 Apartment Building Farmhouse Built in 1850
Second Floor	768 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	n/a		
Parking	yes		



Address	27 East Main Street
Owner	1st Congregational Church
Map	U7
Lot	3

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2672 Sq Ft	average	Church Built in 1812 Parking behind and Verbal Agreement w/ Mildred Fox School to use theirs
Second Floor	1244 Sq Ft	average	
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	27 East Main Street
Owner	1st Congregational Church
Map	U7
Lot	3

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2252 Sq Ft	average	Parsonage for 1st Congo Church Built in 1886
Second Floor	2252 Sq Ft	average	
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	11 East Main Street
Owner	
Map	U7
Lot	5

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	780 Sq Ft	average	Private Residence
Second Floor	780 Sq Ft	average	
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	2 Market Square & Barrows Street
Owner	Shekinah Realty
Map	U7
Lot	22

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1548 Sq Ft	average	Score on 1st Floor 2C Knights of Columbus Barrows St has apartment entrance
Second Floor	1518 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	1518		
Parking	yes		



Address	27 East Main Street
Owner	Paris Masonic Lodge #94
Map	U7
Lot	5

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2856 Sq Ft	average	Built in 1886 Tanning Salon on 1st Floor Masonic Lodge on 2nd Floor 3rd Floor has an empty apartment Parking Lot is in Lot 6 (21,960 sq ft)
Second Floor	1792 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	yes		
Parking	yes		



Address	4 Market Square & Barrows Street
Owner	Shekinah Realty
Map	U7
Lot	25

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2766 Sq Ft	average	Empty Store Front on 1st Floor 2nd Floor has 3 Apartments Business in the basement through rear entrance
Second Floor	2766 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	2766		
Parking	yes		



Address	8 Market Square
Owner	Jemm Properties, LLC
Map	U7
Lot	26

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	936 Sq Ft	average	Day Spa in 1st Floor 2nd Floor storage
Second Floor	936 Sq Ft	average	
Basement			
Parking	In rear		



Address	10 Market Square
Owner	Jemm Properties, LLC
Map	U7
Lot	27

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2520 Sq Ft	average	Smiling Moose Restaurant in 1st Floor 2nd Floor Offices & Software Company 3rd Floor Dental Offices Built in 1889
Second Floor	2520 Sq Ft	average	
Third Floor	2520 Sq Ft	average	
Parking	In rear		



Address	16 Market Square
Owner	Bergeron Properties, LLC
Map	U7
Lot	71

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	800 Sq Ft	average	Portland Glass 1,216 Sq Ft Garages
Second Floor			
Third Floor			
Parking	ample		



Address	20 Market Square
Owner	Blitm enterprises, LLC
Map	U7
Lot	72

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2233 Sq Ft	fair	D&L Treasures on 1st Floor Front 2 Apartments behind Store 2 Apartments on 2nd Floor 2 Apartments in Basement
Second Floor	2233 Sq Ft	fair	
Basement	2233 Sq Ft	fair	
Parking	limited		



Address	24 Market Square
Owner	MSR Associates, LLC
Map	U7
Lot	74

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3000 Sq Ft	good	Kitchen for Market Square Restaurant on 1st Floor..buildings connected large office on 2nd Floor 1 Apartment In Basement
Second Floor	1000 Sq Ft	good	
Basement	2233 Sq Ft	good	
Parking	yes		



Address	24 Market Square
Owner	MSR Associates, LLC
Map	U7
Lot	74

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3000 Sq Ft	fair	Market Square Restaurant 1st Floor buildings connected Apartment on 2nd Floor 1 Apartment In Basement
Second Floor	1000 Sq Ft	fair	
Basement	2233 Sq Ft	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	32 Main Street
Owner	Irving Oil Corporation
Map	U7
Lot	76

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1382 Sq Ft	average	Circle K Store
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	40 Main Street
Owner	Scott Everett & Elias McKeen
Map	U7
Lot	78

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	560 Sq Ft	good	Hair Salon on 1st Floor Apartment on 2nd
Second Floor	560 Sq Ft	good	
Basement	560 Sq Ft	good	
Parking	yes		



Address	46 Main Street
Owner	Gordon E. Bryant
Map	U7
Lot	76

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1320 Sq Ft	fair	5 Apartments
Second Floor	1320 Sq Ft	fair	
Third Floor	.5 Apt	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	42 Main Street
Owner	Janet Everett
Map	U7
Lot	79

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	884 Sq Ft	average	H&R Block Business 2nd Floor Apartment
Second Floor	884 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	yes	average	
Parking	yes		Built In 1931



Address	52 Main Street
Owner	Rawn Phinney
Map	U7
Lot	81

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	800 Sq Ft per apt	fair	4 Apartments Built in 1920
Second Floor	800 Sq Ft per apt	fair	
Basement	yes	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	52 Main Street
Owner	Dana Hanley
Map	U7
Lot	84

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1061 Sq Ft	fair	only 1 small apt. in use House needs totally renovation
Second Floor	730 Sq Ft	fair	
Basement	yes	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	70 Main Street
Owner	Jones of Malne
Map	U7
Lot	85

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3600 Sq Ft	fair	3 businesses
Second Floor			
Basement	slab		
Parking	yes		



Address	74 Main Street
Owner	Jennifer Gentempo
Map	U7
Lot	86

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	330 Sq Ft	fair	Massage Therapy Business
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	76 Main Street
Owner	Jones of Maine
Map	U7
Lot	87

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1174 Sq Ft	fair	R.A.Johnson Insurance Company 2nd Floor Apartment
Second Floor	1174 Sq Ft	fair	
Basement	yes	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	32 Main Street
Owner	Jones of Maine
Map	U7
Lot	88

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3000 Sq Ft	average	Ripley and Fletcher Ford Basement houses Garages/Repair
Second Floor			
Basement	7900 Sq Ft	average	
Parking	yes		



Address	65 Main Street
Owner	Jones of Maine
Map	U5
Lot	1.1

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1552 Sq Ft	fair	Norway Soft Serve
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	61 Main Street
Owner	Conifer Industries
Map	U8
Lot	01

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	2432 Sq Ft	average	KFC Store
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	59 Main Street
Owner	Bisco Properties, LLC
Map	U8
Lot	2

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1559 Sq Ft	fair	4 Apartments
Second Floor	1559 Sq Ft	fair	
Basement	Dry	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	32 Main Street
Owner	Perceptive Business, Inc.
Map	U8
Lot	3 & 4

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor		poor	Empty PFU
Second Floor		poor	
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	51 Main Street
Owner	Peter Chapman
Map	U8
Lot	14

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1778 Sq Ft	good	Chandler Funeral Home Offices
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	45 Main Street
Owner	Weston-Chandler Funeral Home
Map	U8
Lot	16

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3676 Sq Ft	fair	Chandler Funeral Home Built in 1902 Remodeled in 1993
Second Floor	1166 Sq Ft	fair	
Basement	792 Sq Ft	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	43 Main Street
Owner	Dana C. Hanley
Map	U8
Lot	17

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1572 Sq Ft	fair	Dana Hanley Law Office 1st Floor House Title Company in Remodeled Barn Built in 1870 Remodeled in 1987
Second Floor	990 Sq Ft	fair	
Basement	720 Sq Ft Barn	fair	
Parking	yes		



Address	41 Main Street
Owner	Glen H. & Alice M. Gruba
Map	U8
Lot	18

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1620 Sq Ft	average	Office Space 3 Apartments
Second Floor	1620 Sq Ft	average	
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	39 Main Street
Owner	Deering Memorial Methodist Church
Map	U8
Lot	19

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3184 Sq Ft	good	Deering Memorial Methodist Church Built in 1872 Remodeled in 1993
Second Floor			
Basement			
Parking	yes		



Address	23 Market Square
Owner	John S Jenness, Jr.
Map	U8
Lot	129

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3836 Sq Ft	average	Lawyers Office on 1st Floor Residence on 2nd floor Built in 1860 Remodeled in 1989
Second Floor	2302 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	2302 Sq Ft	average	
Parking	limited		

	Address	25 Market Square																		
	Owner	Harold S Jones																		
	Map	U8																		
	Lot	128																		
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	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features																	
Ground Floor	932 Sq Ft	average	Computer Store 1st Floor Residence 2nd Floor Built in 1932 Remodeled in 1975																	
Second Floor	932 Sq Ft	average																		
Basement	yes	average																		
Parking	yes																			

	Address	27 Market Square																		
	Owner	Ralph Stone																		
	Map	U8																		
	Lot	127																		
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	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features																	
Ground Floor	504 Sq Ft	poor	Residence with no plumbing/heating																	
Second Floor																				
Basement																				
Parking	yes																			

	Address	29 Market Square																		
	Owner	TWN Propertles, LLC																		
	Map	U8																		
	Lot	126																		
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	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features																	
Ground Floor	1600 Sq Ft	fair	4 Apartments Built in 1864 Remodeled in 1985																	
Second Floor	1600 Sq Ft	fair																		
Basement	yes	fair																		
Parking	yes																			



Address	33 Market Square
Owner	Town of Paris
Map	U8
Lot	125

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	3376 Sq Ft	good	Town Office Building Built in 1977 Remodeled in 1996
Second Floor			
Basement	no		
Parking	yes		



Address	37 Market Square
Owner	Paris Public Library
Map	U8
Lot	124

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	1057 Sq Ft	good	Paris Public Library Built in 1902 Remodeled in 1998
Second Floor			
Basement	1618 Sq Ft	good	
Parking	yes		



Address	17 & 19 Market Square
Owner	Community Concepts
Map	U8
Lot	130

	Current Use	Current Condition	Specialized or Historic Features
Ground Floor	5610 Sq Ft	average	3 Floors of Offices for Community Concepts Built in 1897 Remodeled in 2000
Second Floor	5610 Sq Ft	average	
Basement	5610 Sq Ft	average	
Parking	limited		

Implementation



A Strategic Plan is a roadmap for the future. To be truly successful, and not end up on a shelf collecting dust, it needs to be adopted by the selectmen and a plan has to be formulated to ensure that the major objectives are actually implemented. The South Paris Revitalization Forum, elected officials, business community and residents all have to work together to move forward in a positive direction.

Building community and civic infrastructure is the key to a prosperous small town economy. Improving the quality of life in Paris and open communication can bring business retention, entrepreneurial development, tourism and new families to Paris. Successful development strategies depend on community leadership that is inclusive, collaborative, and connected. Local assets should be the main focus of the strategy, connecting with area towns, groups and organizations to help cultivate mutually beneficial goals. A sense of authenticity and charm, quality of life, community leadership and partnerships will ultimately make this community more attractive to both existing and potential residents and employers.

Project Title	Description	Potential Partners	Time Frame
Adoption of Strategic Plan	Plan to be formally adopted By Paris Selectmen	Town Manager Planning Board, South Paris Revitalization Forum	Short
Traffic Pattern	Market Square, End of Pine St. @ traffic light	MDOT	Short
Streetscapes	Beautification, Sidewalks, Lanterns, Banners, Benches, Trash Receptacles	So. Paris Revitalization Forum, McLaughlin Gardens, Community Development Block Grants, Co-Op, Gardeners	Short-Medium
Branding & Wayfinding Signs	Wayfinding Signs, Branding Trails & Arts	Town, Sign Professional, ACE, CEBE, Art Collaborative	Short
Paving	Paving Additional Parking Areas	Town, Community Block Grant	Short-Medium
Trails	Develop Trail System on the Little Androscoggin	CEBE, Rivers & Trails Conservation, Healthy Oxford Hills, Davis Conservation Foundation, ME Trails Advisory	Medium
Bikes Lanes & Racks	Add Racks & promote Lanes	CEBE, ACE	Short-Medium
Little Androscoggin Park	Develop Park & Recreation @ old PUD	Me. Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Land & Water Conservation, Androscoggin Watershed, Davis Conservation, Healthy Oxford Hills	Short-Medium
Mildred Fox School	Develop Center for the Arts	Bethel Area Art Collaboration, Celebration Barn, Ford Foundation, ME Arts & Humanities, Libra, ME Community Foundation, Stephen King Foundation	Medium-Long
Special Events	Festivals, Parades, Music, Old Home Days, Triathlons	Town, Residents, Local Organizations, So Paris Revitalization Forum	Short-Medium
Architectural Review & Sign Ordinance	Architectural Plan for Future Growth, Adjust Sign Ordinance	Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Town Code Enforcement	Short
Senior Center	Build a Senior Center	Senior Services, Healthy Oxford Hills, Hospital, Residents, Churches Local Organizations	Medium-Long