ORLEANS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INTRODUCTION copied from above link.

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"1.1 The Planning Process

1.1.1 The Local Comprehensive Planning Committee The process for development and approval of an Official Town Plan is set forth in Chapter 9, Section 2 of the Orleans Home Rule Charter.

In 1988, a Long Range Planning Advisory Committee was appointed to oversee the preparation of an Official Town Plan, as required by the Charter. The committee sponsored a survey of Orleans residents that was used in the development of the new Plan, which was adopted in 1991 as the Official Town Plan. The process of drafting the 1999 Orleans Comprehensive Plan took place in two distinct phases. Introduction 1-2 In 1993, the Board of Selectmen appointed a Local Comprehensive Planning Committee (LCPC).

The original committee had ten members, many of whom represented other boards. This committee worked for four years developing a preliminary draft of all the chapters. With the help of the Planning Board, a plan was completed which included a summary of the main issues and priorities.

In 1998, the LCPC hired the planning consulting firm of Whiteman & Taintor to assist them in the task. The LCPC worked diligently to build upon the previous group's efforts and to tailor the Plan to meet the needs of the community. During this time, the Town hired a new Director of Planning and Community Development and an Assistant Town Planner, who were thoroughly involved in revising the draft Plan.

Throughout the process, the LCPC held open sessions and worked to ensure that the Plan accurately represented the views and opinions of the residents. Several forums and workshops were held to gather public input before the committee discussed final recommendations. The draft Plan was presented to the public in the form of a series of public workshops in the spring of 1999.

Relevant chapters were sent to individual boards and committees for their input. The Board of Selectmen discussed each chapter in depth at its regular meetings. Working meetings were held on each chapter over the summer months of 1999 in order to incorporate opinions expressed by residents and members of other Town committees prior to assembling the Plan in its entirety. This second draft Plan was developed based on the input received and was presented at another series of public meetings to ensure that the Plan truly reflected the opinions of residents before the final version was published.

The Plan was adopted by the Town Meeting in December 1999. Upon review by the Cape Cod Commission, several amendments were requested in order for the Plan to be certified as consistent with the Regional Policy Plan. The amended Plan was returned to the Town Meeting and approved in May 2001.

Copied from Introduction to Orleans Comprehensive Plan 1-2 and 1-3 by Gail Meyers Lavin for review CRC meeting Aug 15, 2022

In 2005 and 2006 the Planning Board began an effort to update data and action items throughout the plan. Over the period of 16 months at regularly scheduled public meetings the Planning Board and Planning Department reviewed each chapter independently. This 5-year update was intended to incorporate current data to ensure that the Plan remains a viable reference and guidance document for the appropriate and orderly development of the town. Minor changes to the Action items were made and completed Actions have been moved to an appendix."