



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Administration
DIVISION OF STATEWIDE PLANNING
235 Promenade Street, Suite 230
Providence, RI 02908

Office: (401) 222-7901
Fax: (401) 222-2083

October 9, 2019

Ms. Jane Weidman, AICP
Town Planner
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

Subject: Draft Comprehensive Plan Review – Land Use Chapter

Dear Ms. Weidman,

Our office greatly appreciates the opportunity to work with our municipal partners in the drafting of community comprehensive plans. Our office has completed its review of the draft Land Use chapter of the Charlestown Comprehensive Plan. I am very pleased to inform you that there were no issues or concerns that could be an impediment to State approval identified in the material provided. However, there were some suggestions provided during the review that we would like to forward for your consideration.

Comment 1: The draft Plan presents the Town's zoning districts on page 12. Although the Plan's descriptions of the future land use categories (page 16) and residential densities (page 25) helps to give context and understanding to the zoning districts, it would be helpful to the reader if brief descriptions or definitions of the zoning were added in the *Zoning* section. Alternatively, a note to the reader to see further information on pages 16 and 25 could be inserted.

Comment 2: The draft Plan contains two action items referencing zoning in Shannock; namely:
Action 2 - Review the zoning regulations for the villages of Shannock, Carolina and Cross Mills and adopt standards relating to building and parking placement, building form and design and signage and site amenities so as to protect and enhance traditional uses and development patterns, and the historic nature of the villages (page 27), and Action 1 - Continue to coordinate with the Town of Richmond on the redevelopment of the villages of Carolina and Shannock, including development of compatible zoning and design standards (page 32).

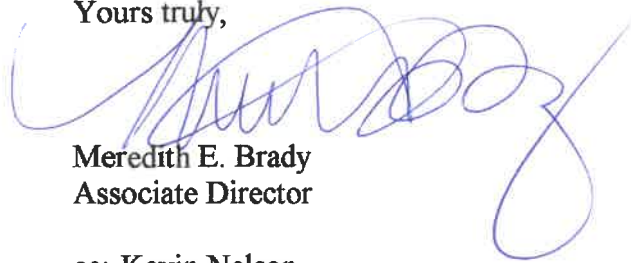
We commend the Town for its vision for its villages and recommend that the Town review Richmond's Comprehensive Plan and adopted Shannock Village Zoning District as models for implementation of these actions.

Comment 3: In this draft, there are discrepancies between textual references and actual titles of the accompanying maps; please ensure that the final version of the plan presents consistent titles and references to each map.

In this review, we have attempted to identify any issues regarding the material provided, but there are some items, such as requirements related to the plan's internal consistency and completeness, which cannot be evaluated until a full draft is furnished. At the appropriate time, we encourage the Town to provide us with the full, final draft for review.

As always, please feel free to contact Kevin Nelson, Supervising Planner with any questions, concerns, or requests that you may have at 222-2093 or at kevin.nelson@doa.ri.gov.

Yours truly,



Meredith E. Brady
Associate Director

cc: Kevin Nelson