

Appendix D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

This appendix summarizes the public participation process used by the Machiasport Comprehensive Plan Update Committee to solicit public participation in developing the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to 30-A MRSA §4324. The public participation process included regularly schedule public meetings, coordination of the marine resource chapter with the Harbor Management Committee, a public Visioning Session (see *Appendix E*) and a public opinion survey (see *Appendix B*).

Comprehensive Plan Committee Meetings

The Machiasport Comprehensive Plan Update Committee worked to complete the Comprehensive Plan through a series of regular scheduled, monthly meetings held between March 2008 and August 2009. Comprehensive Plan Update Committee meetings were open to the public. The time and location of Comprehensive Plan Update Committee meetings was advertised at the Machiasport Town Office. Machiasport Comprehensive Plan Update committee meetings were staffed and facilitated by the Washington County Council of Governments.

Coordination with Harbor Management Committee

The Marine Resources and Natural Resources sections of the Machiasport Comprehensive Plan Update build in large part on the Machiasport Maritime Plan completed in 2008. Public processes, including advertise public meetings and a community vision session were used in the development of the Machiasport Maritime Plan. The Machiasport Comprehensive Plan Update referred to the work of the Machiasport Maritime Committee and consulted with members of the Maritime Committee in establishing goals, policies and strategies relative to marine and other natural resources.

Community Visioning Session

The Comprehensive Plan Committee hosted a community visioning meeting on January 21, 2009. The Community Vision Session was attended by 6 Machiasport residents representing a variety of interests and living different sections of town. Participants helped to craft the vision statement for Machiasport. The group process is recorded and summarized in *Appendix E*.

The Community Vision Statement was reviewed by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and posted on the Washington County Council of Governments website for comment. The Comprehensive Plan Update Committee made revisions based on input received through the website; and to coordinate with the Vision Statement development as part of the Machiasport Maritime Plan (2008). The Community Vision Statement provided direction to the policies and implementation measures developed by the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee.

Public Opinion Survey

A Public Opinion Survey was distributed to Machiasport residents in January 2009. Surveys were mailed to Machiasport residents from a list that combined registered voters and property owners; additional copies of the survey were made available at the Town

Office. The survey was also made available online through the Washington County Council of Governments' website. The Comprehensive Plan Committee received 80 responses (a response rate of approximately 20%).

Survey respondent were asked questions regarding a wide range of town affair. In addition, many survey respondents submitted written comments. Responses to the survey are summarized in relevant sections of the Comprehensive Plan. Responses and comments submitted by Machiasport residents guided the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee's development of goals and strategies. All of the written responses are reproduced in *Appendix B*.