

# SPO



## Maine State Planning Office

Executive Department

PAUL R. LEPAGE  
Governor

DARRYL BROWN  
Director

October 17, 2011

Nathan Pennel  
Selectman  
Town of Whitneyville  
42 South Main St.  
Whitneyville, ME 04654

Dear Mr. Pennel,

On September 6, 2011 the State Planning Office (Office) received and accepted for review the Town of Whitneyville Comprehensive Plan. We understand that organizing, processing, writing, debating, and eventually completing a Comprehensive Plan is an arduous task, and for doing this we extend our sincere appreciation to you, committee members, and residents. With great pleasure, I inform you that this Office has found the 2011 Town of Whitneyville Comprehensive Plan to be both '*complete*' and *consistent* with the Maine Growth Management Act.

According to state law, our review process consists of two phases. First, we review all elements of the Plan, save the Future Land Use Plan. This is called a review for 'completeness.' If we determine that the Comprehensive Plan is 'complete,' we undertake phase two, which is a focused review of the Future Land Use Plan, ultimately leading to a determination of consistency with the Growth Management Act. This process was created to encourage collaboration with municipalities, and, if necessary, giving opportunities to modify the Comprehensive Plan prior to official notification of whether a Plan is consistent with the Growth Management Act. Fortunately, Whitneyville does not require any extra opportunities to modify the Plan. Rather than write two separate letters, I am combining both the review for 'completeness' and review for consistency with the Growth Management Act in this single letter.

The Office has completed our review of the Whitneyville Comprehensive Plan for consistency with the Growth Management Act using the Comprehensive Planning Criteria Rule (Chapter 208). Using this criteria, we have found the 2011 Whitneyville Comprehensive Plan **consistent** with the Maine Growth Management Act.

As prescribed by state law, our office has solicited comments on the Plan from other state agencies. These comments provide additional detail and other suggestions that the comprehensive plan committee should find useful. The comments are meant as recommendations, actions you can take to improve the Plan, but not requirements from the Office. Our finding of consistency is not conditioned on their inclusion. The following agencies provided comments on the Comprehensive Plan:

OFFICE LOCATED AT: 19 UNION STREET, 38 STATE HOUSE STATION, AUGUSTA MAINE

PHONE: (207) 624-7660

internet: [www.maine.gov/spo](http://www.maine.gov/spo)

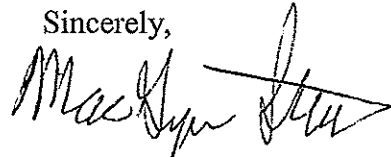
FAX: (207) 287-6489

- Department of Conservation
- Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
- Department of Environmental Protection
- Land Use Regulation Commission

We do understand the complexity of the comprehensive planning process. Our goal in developing the rules that govern this process is to help each town end with a plan that reflects that town's unique character and style while also supporting the State's goals and policies for managed growth. We appreciate any input you wish to make on the Comprehensive Planning Criteria Rule and your experience with it so that we may continue to refine the process.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MacGregor Stocco". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

MacGregor Stocco, AICP  
Senior Planner

cc: Judy East, Washington County Council of Governments

Enclosure: Comments from other agencies