Town of Harwich
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
Emily Mitchell, Town Clerk
Harwich Town Hall • 732 Main Street • Harwich, MA 02645
Tel: 508-430-7516 • Fax: 508-430-7517

The following is a True Copy of Article 27 of the Annual Town Meeting held on May 4, 2026, and the vote passed thereunder.

ADOPT THE LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to adopt an updated Local Comprehensive Plan which has been developed by the Local Planning Committee, a copy of which plan is on file at the Town Clerk's office and posted on the Town's website, and which plan if adopted by the Town Meeting would constitute Harwich's Local Comprehensive Plan pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41 Section 81D and as defined in Section 9 of the Cape Cod Commission Act (Chapter 716 of the Acts of 1989) and to act fully thereon. ***Sponsored by the Select Board***.

Explanation: The Local Comprehensive Plan (LCP) is an important planning tool used to guide future growth and development in Harwich while balancing a wide variety of community needs, including protection of environmental resources, water quality, economic development, transportation, housing, coastal resiliency, infrastructure, cultural heritage, quality of life, and preservation of community character. The LCP identifies the Town's vision, goals, and needs for the next 10 years and outlines action steps to achieve those goals.

The 2025 LCP is intended to be a living guidance document that informs both long-term and short-term municipal decision-making. The LCP was guided by the goals and objectives of the Cape Cod Commission's 2018 and 2025 Regional Policy Plan, extensive public outreach, supporting plans and reports, and collaboration with Town staff, boards, and committees. The LCP Plan focuses on the Natural, Built, and Community Systems. The Town's Housing Production Plan (HPP), Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP), and Draft Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) were prepared concurrently, allowing the Local Planning Committee (LPC) to integrate their findings, goals, and strategies into the LCP.

Certification of the LCP by the Cape Cod Commission provides benefits including prioritized planning technical assistance and eligibility to enter into Development Agreements. Adoption of the LCP also positions the Town to pursue and leverage state and federal grant opportunities.

Motion: (Robert MacCready, Chair – Finance Committee) I move that Article 27 be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant.

Duly seconded

Action: The vote was taken using electronic voting clickers: Yes: 304, No: 29. The motion carried.

A True Copy, Attest:

Emily Mitchell

Emily Mitchell, Town Clerk