

## The Initiative for a 2020 Vision of Concord "Concord 20/20"

Concord 2020 is a non profit organization formed in 1999 to convene the community for the purpose of developing a vision for the planning and growth of the City of Concord in the year 2020 and beyond. The result was an award winning vision that was adopted by the Concord City Council in 2001 and is the framework for planning and development in Concord.

Ultimately, five principles came to the fore as desired goals:

- 1. A vibrant, livable Downtown
- 2. Neighborhoods served by walkable villages
- 3. Preservation and access to the natural environment
- 4. Economic vitality
- 5. Transportation that serves the community

As a result of the initial effort and ongoing activities to realize these goals another principle has come into clear focus; *land use and transportation can not be considered or planned for exclusive of each other*.

Concord 2020 has vast experience in bringing community stakeholders to the table to find common ground and enhance and promote ideas and planning that benefit all parties. Concord 2020 has a keen understanding of the relationships within a community and interrelationships between communities, the State and Federal governments.

Concord 2020 is mostly funded through the US Department of Transportation's Transportation and Community and System Preservation Program (TCSP) due to the strong support of Senator Judd Gregg. In addition, the City of Concord has consistently funded the organization in its annual budget. These funds are critical in providing the opportunity for innovative and progressive exploration and planning that forwards not only this community's vision, but that of our regional neighbors as we consider the impacts neighboring communities have on one another's development.

Concord 2020 is pleased to be a part of the Community Technical Assistance Program. By bring to the table our experiences of working with residents, business people, City and State officials, developers and transportation planners, it is this organization's hope that the New Hampshire community at large will benefit from our participation.

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