

# City of Mount Vernon Comprehensive Plan Update



## What is a Comprehensive Plan?



As you may already know, the City of Mount Vernon is in the process of preparing a new Comprehensive Plan that guides the overall growth and physical development of the city. Mount Vernon's Comprehensive Plan was last updated in 1968, before man landed on the moon!

### *What is a Comprehensive Plan?*

A series of policies, guidelines, and recommendations for the orderly development and growth of Mount Vernon.

### *Why are we doing a Comprehensive Plan?*

To better direct the continued evolution of Mount Vernon and define its unique character within the greater New York metropolitan area.

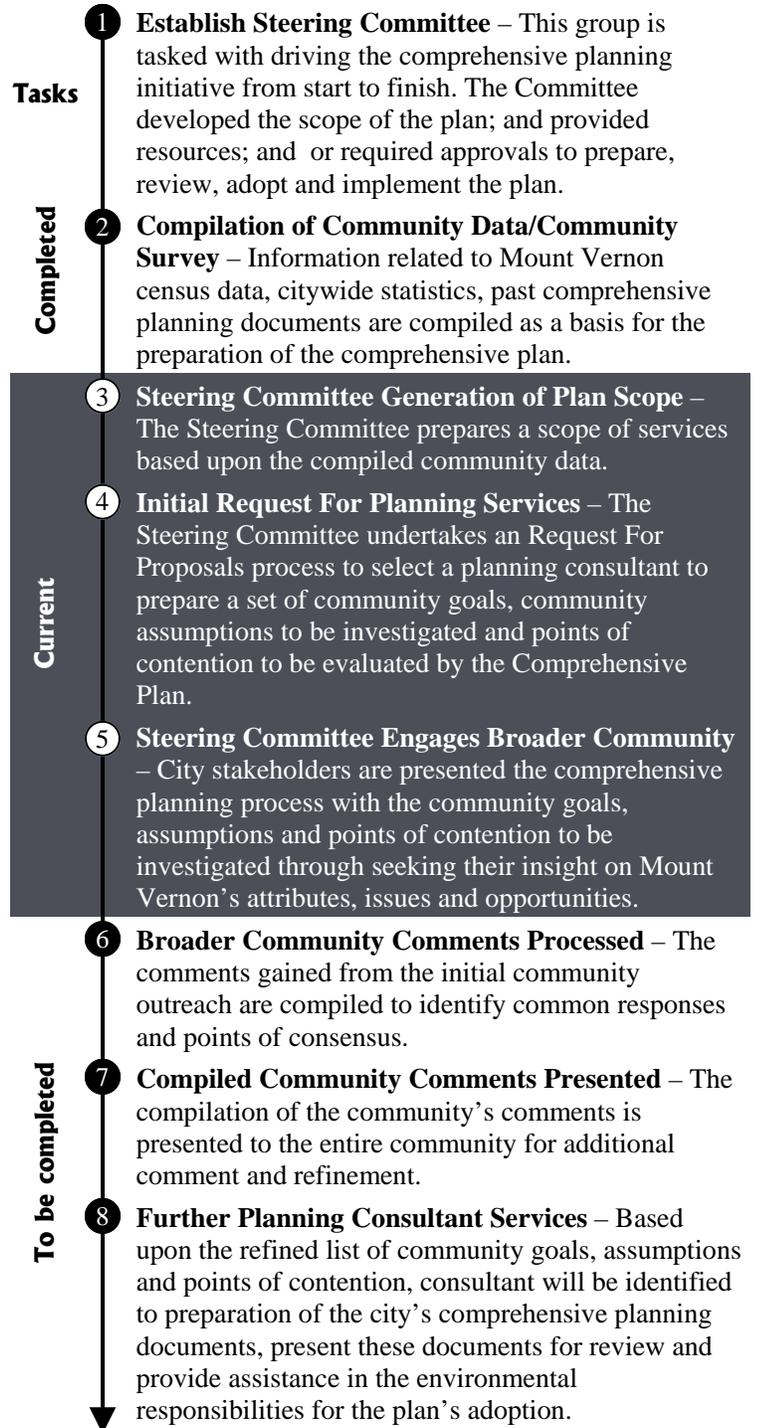
### *Who are we planning for?*

The stakeholders of Mount Vernon; people who live and work in Mount Vernon

### *When will we complete the plan?*

The anticipated completion date for the plan is Winter 2010/11

A major part of this initiative requires community participation to assist in establishing the overall goals and policies which will be included in the Comprehensive Plan.



**Over 850 Community Survey Forms were received by the City of Mount Vernon!**

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Mayor Young pictured dropping off his survey.

### Comprehensive Plan Survey Results are in

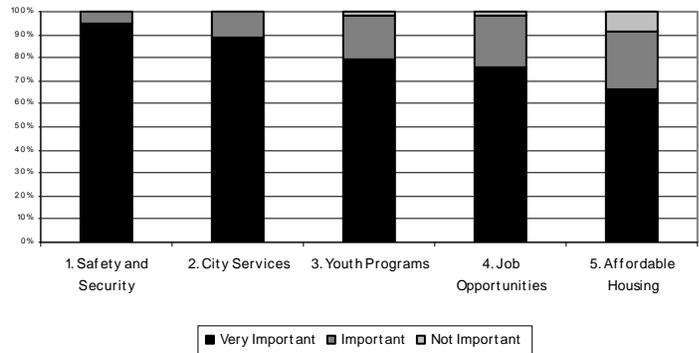
On February 2nd 2009, the Comprehensive Planning process was launched with the announcement of the community survey. Originally scheduled to end on March 16th, the deadline for submission was pushed back to April 30th to give Mount Vernon residents more time to fill out and submit their surveys.

The Mayor, on behalf of the City of Mount Vernon, would like to thank all of those people who took the time to fill out the surveys. Over 850 total submissions were made in print and on-line.

Below are the Top 5 responses to some of the questions. For a more detailed look at the Survey Results please refer to the Comprehensive Plan Survey Report available at WWW.PLANMV.COM.

#### How important are the following items as they pertain to quality of life in Mount Vernon:

This chart illustrates, that Safety (95%), City Services (89%), Job Opportunities (76%), Youth Programs (80%) and Affordable Housing (67%) were the top 5 themes identified by residents as being very important to quality of life.



#### We read your Comments:

“Create better parks for our youth.”

“Our Community needs a lot of attention for the future of our generations and generations to come. Respect compassion and understanding needs to be implemented into these problems.”

“The green revolution will be great for Mount Vernon. We can build the products that drive revenue and employ our young people. There is no where but up.”

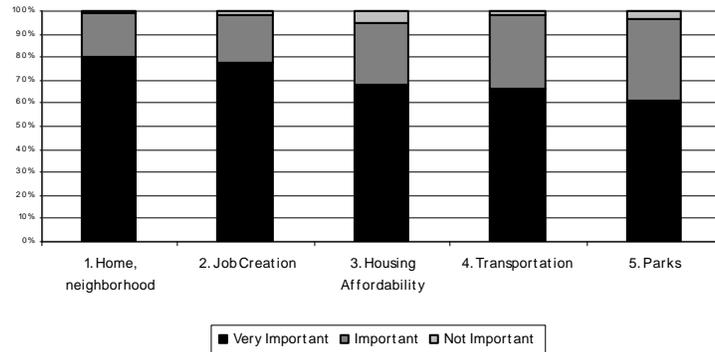
“Keep the library going. Its an invaluable resource. Upgrade the interior appearance as well as the exterior.”

“I am happy to see some action. MV is a great place to live, you have my full support.”

“This is an excellent vehicle for starting the process of building Mt. Vernon. We currently have a hodge podge of buildings. new, old, disrepair, and new buildings that have ruined communities because they were not in sync with other homes on the block...

This is not all that needs fixing and everything does not need to change, but this is a good start.”

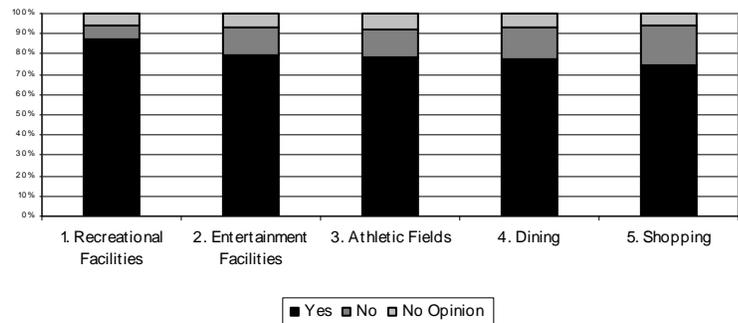
#### How important are the following items in terms of future development



Residents identified home (80%), Job Creation (77%), Housing Affordability (68%), Transportation (67%) and Parks (61%) as the items that very important in regards to future development in the City.

#### Do you feel that there is a need for more:

Residents also identified a need for more Recreational (87%) and Entertainment (79%) facilities, Athletic Fields (78%), Dining (77%) and Shopping (74%) in Mount Vernon.



## How Can You Get Involved?

The Mount Vernon Department of Planning and Community Development will be holding Public Meetings that will be used by city staff to update Mount Vernon residents on what has been accomplished to date. It will also give you an opportunity to give us feedback about the process and to ensure that we are not leaving out elements that are important to you.

*Your input is key to the development of this plan.*

*We still want to hear from you.*

We will be holding several meetings over the course of the Fall, Winter and Spring, where we will update you on what the Comprehensive Planning Committee has been working on and to ensure that Mount Vernon Residents' ideas are included in to the final plan.

## Public Meeting Schedule

- On **Thursday September 24th** the first Community Meeting will be held from 6:30-9:00 pm at: Cecil H Parker Elementary School, 461 South Sixth Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY.
- On **Tuesday September 29th** the second Community Meeting will be held from 6:30-9:00 pm at: AB Davis Middle School, 350 Gramatan Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY.
- On **Wednesday October 7th** a public meeting regarding the Mount Vernon West Plan will be held from 6:30-9:00 pm at Hamilton Elementary, 20 Oak St, Mount Vernon, NY.

Please be sure to arrive promptly at the time listed above to ensure that you get all of the necessary information about the Comprehensive Planning Process. If you can not make the first meeting on September 24th, you will have a second opportunity to hear the same information on September 29th. The October 7th meeting will be the first of several area specific visioning sessions in the Mount Vernon Area. Future meeting dates will be posted as they become available. We look forward to seeing you all there!

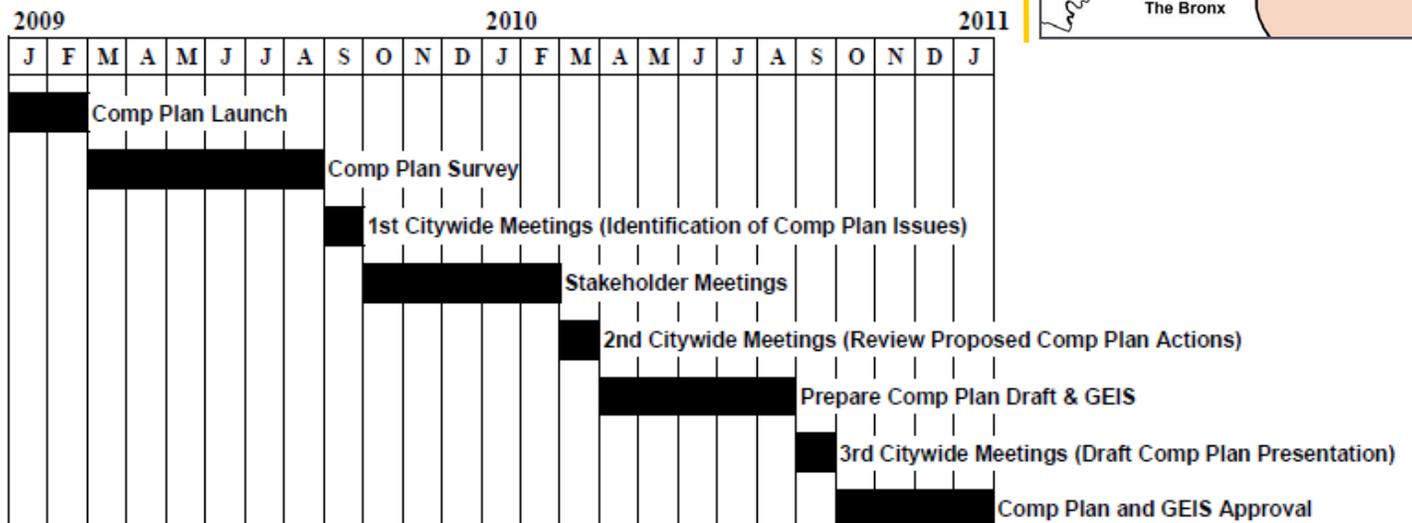
## What is the Mount Vernon West Plan?

As part of the Comprehensive Plan the city has identified specific areas where a vision must be developed to make improvements that will improve quality of life. Mount Vernon West is the area between the Mount Vernon and Yonkers border on the West, the Bronx City Line on the South, West 1st and West Lincoln Avenue on the East and all of MacQuesten Parkway up until Grand Street on the North.

This area has been identified as an area worthy of further study due to the location of the Mount Vernon West Commuter train station and the Oak St, soon to be Mount Vernon Avenue exit, as a major Gateway in to Mount Vernon. We want to hear from you how to preserve the good and improve upon the bad in this area.



## Comprehensive Plan Timeline



### Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Members

The purpose of the Steering Committee is to guide the development process of the Comprehensive Plan. The group meets regularly on a monthly basis at minimum to review new data and planning ideas and to ensure that the process is moving forward according to schedule.

Below is a listing of current Steering Committee members:

- Brian Bochow, Jr — Deputy Chief of Staff
- Ted D’Amore — Chamber of Commerce
- Irwin Davison—Zoning Board Member
- Robin Douglas—African-American Chamber of Commerce
- Desiree Grand—MV City School District
- Marcus Griffith—MV City Council Member
- Hernan Guerrero—GIS Administrator
- Terrence Horton—Commissioner, DPW
- Loretta Hottinger—Corporation Counsel
- Alexandria Lascelles—Thornton High School Student
- William Long—Planning Administrator
- William Randolph—MV City Council, President
- Yolanda Robinson—Chief of Staff
- Janet Snyder– Local Real Estate Developer
- Carmen Sylvester— Executive Director, Urban Renewal Agency
- Jeffrey Williams—Commissioner, PCD

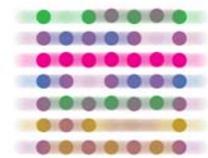
### Westchester 2025: A Partnership for Westchester’s Future

While Mount Vernon and other neighboring communities are updating or have updated their local Comprehensive Plans, the County Planning Department has been working on the creation of a regional plan for Westchester County. The plan will answer some of the following questions:

“What should Westchester County look like in 2025? How do we ensure that we preserve the Westchester so many people love while moving to the future in a deliberate, progressive fashion? How do we best prepare for the environmental and land use challenges of which we are not yet aware? “

The focus of the County’s plan is to address some of the common issues that its 45 municipalities are confronting individually and lay out some methodologies for resolving them on a regional scale. The plan acknowledges the regions projected growth patterns and attempts to address some of the environmental constraints that come hand in hand with increased density and development. Some of the challenges include: Sewage Treatment and Capacity, Recreation Needs, Waterfront Access, Intermunicipal Cooperation, Water Supply and Quality, Global Warming, Transit and Mobility Options, Housing Market Dynamics, Travel Patterns and Trends, Sustainable Development, Brownfield Redevelopment, Energy Sources and Supply.

As part of this process the County has developed a website that has a profile for each municipality including Mount Vernon. To find out more about the County’s Regional Planning efforts, please visit: [WWW.WESTCHESTERGOV.COM/W2025](http://WWW.WESTCHESTERGOV.COM/W2025)



**westchester 2025 /plan together**  
a partnership for Westchester's future

*The City of Mount Vernon’s Department of Planning & Community Development is working diligently to ensure that the Comprehensive Plan is developed in a transparent and orderly way. Should you not be able to attend the public meetings, you can find out more information about the process on the web. You can also call our hotline to ask questions about the process or write your comments to us via mail or e-mail. We look forward to hearing from you!*



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**FOR MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT: [WWW.PLANMV.COM](http://WWW.PLANMV.COM)**