

Town Manager's Message

The 2005-2006 Annual Report will provide you with details of the accomplishments achieved by elected and appointed officials as well as Town of Farmington employees during the fiscal year July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006. In addition, the Annual Report calendar will include regularly scheduled Town Council meetings, Boards and Commissions meetings, and important dates for the community to remember.

In July 2005 the Town of Farmington presented its first Strategic Plan for the Town of Farmington.

The Strategic Plan incorporates the results of a telephone survey of Farmington residents conducted by the University of Connecticut Center for Research and Analysis and eleven SWOT analysis sessions (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) with various citizen and business groups. The Strategic Plan for the Town of Farmington explicitly outlines the challenges and opportunities the Town faces as well as the goals and plans necessary to guide the Town in coming years. The Strategic Plan contains a vision and goals that cover the areas of education, transportation/land, business development, budgeting and governmental best practices.

Vision Statement

Farmington will be recognized as a historic and progressive town with an engaged citizenry committed to the betterment of the entire community. To that end, high quality services will be provided to a diverse population living and working in a balanced blend of open space, residential housing and commercial properties supported by stable and equitable revenues.

Goal 1: Education

Continue the tradition of having extraordinary public schools, which are vital to Farmington's long-term future; a reputation of having excellent public schools gives the community a sense of pride and attracts new residents to Farmington.

Goal 2: Traffic and Land Use

Improve the transportation systems and facilitate implementation of traffic improvements/systems; endorse policies that expand, preserve and protect the character of neighborhoods with a balance between open space and land development.

Goal 3: Business/Economic Development

Promote growth of the tax base through programs and processes designed to encourage business retention, expansion and attraction while maintaining the character of the community.

Goal 4: Budgeting

Operate with balanced budgets supported by stable and equitable revenues collected from varied public and private sources.

Goal 5: Governmental Best Practices

Incorporate best practices in all government services to provide excellent customer service and increase civic responsibility.

The Town Council has focused its energy on implementing our Strategic Plan and each of the five goals. A copy of the Plan and each goal committee's progress is available in my office, or residents can view announcements of these Goal Sub-committee meetings, agendas and minutes that are available by visiting the Town's website at <http://www.farmington-ct.org/TownGovernment/StrategicPlan>.

At the close of the 2006 fiscal year, Farmington continues to be in a strong financial position with one of the highest tax collection rates in the State. The Town's annual financial report once again won a "Certification for Excellence" in financial reporting for the Governor Finance Officer's Association. Farmington has been awarded this distinction for seventeen consecutive years. To ensure future financial stability the Town Council established three very important financial policies this year. These policies are a debt management policy, a reserve or fund balance policy and lastly a capital improvement policy. These policies will ensure that the Town of Farmington remains in outstanding fiscal shape.

As always, working with the residents of the Town of Farmington continues to be a satisfying experience. I look forward to working together with the community to meet the facility, the land and service needs of the community without significantly burdening the residents with higher taxes. I look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to give me a call at 675-2350.

Kathleen A. Eagen
Town Manager