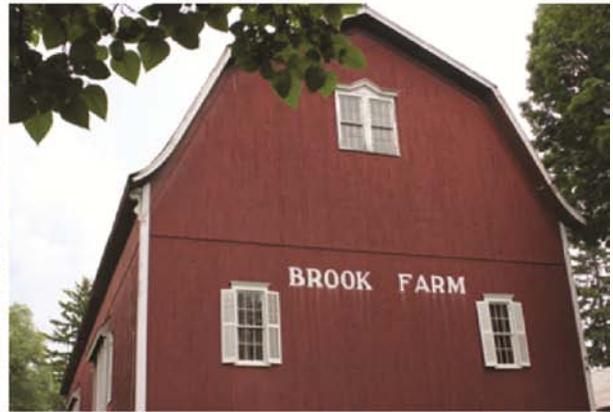


*Draft Comprehensive Plan*  
**Village of Interlaken, New York**



**FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**  
**March 10, 2015**

*Prepared for*  
**Village of Interlaken**  
8369 Main Street  
Interlaken, NY

*March 2015*

HUNT 1319-020



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## **Village of Interlaken Comprehensive Plan**

Prepared for  
**Village of Interlaken**  
8369 Main Street  
Interlaken, NY  
December 2014

### **Executive Summary**

The Village of Interlaken engaged Hunt Engineers, Architects & Land Surveyors, P.C. (HUNT) to write this Comprehensive Plan in 2014. This is Interlaken's first adopted plan and will be used by local officials to make decisions in the coming years.

The planning process involved meetings with the Village Board and the public over an 8-month period beginning summer 2014.

Based on initial research, an analysis of existing conditions, input from a Community Survey and other public outreach, the Village determined that the themes of this plan, around which the implementation matrix or list of actions would loosely follow, are:

1. Improve the quality of daily life in the Village.
2. Attract new residents and businesses.
3. Strengthen the Village's economic bottom line.

These goals are described in more detail in Chapter 3.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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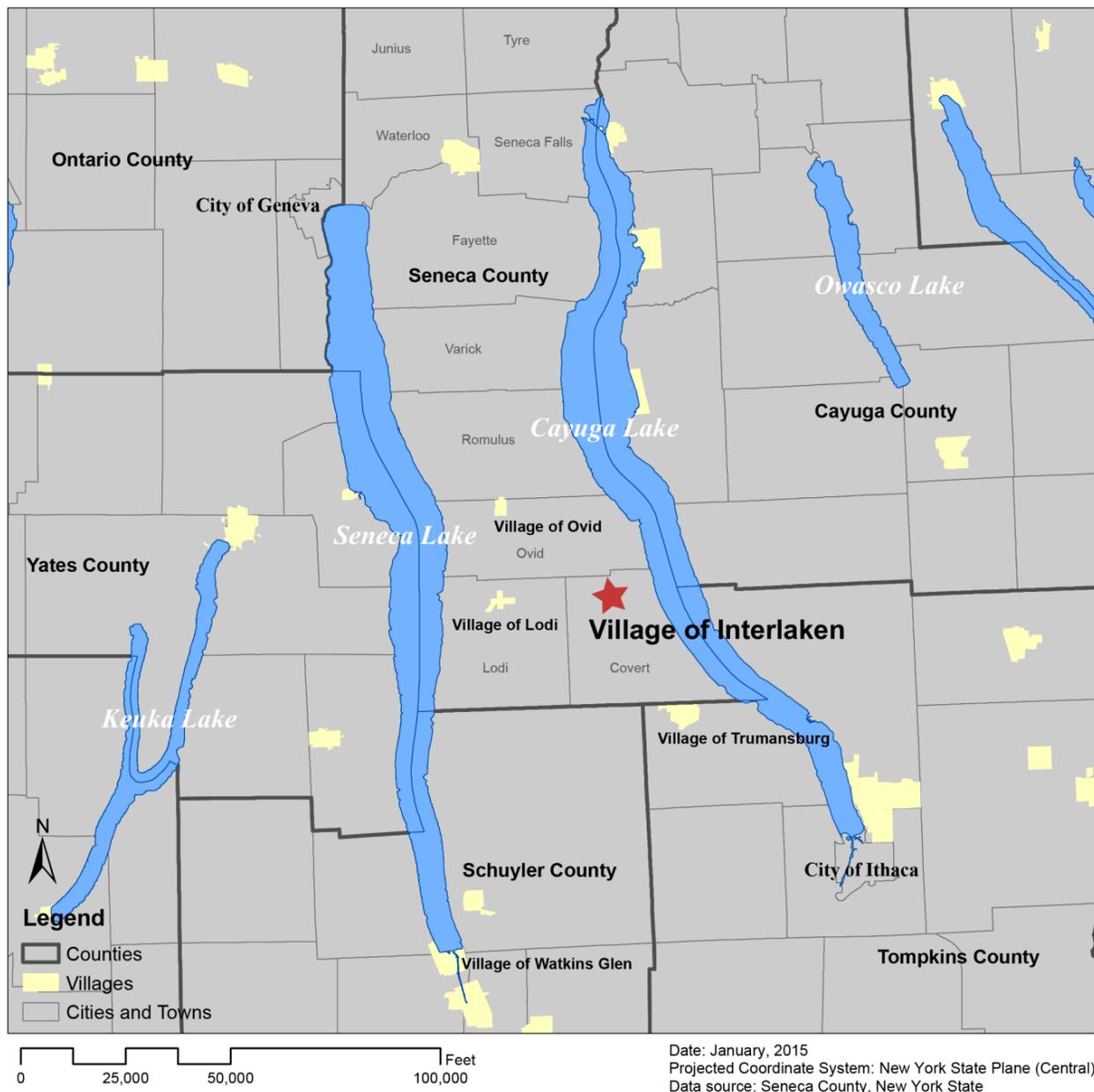
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# Chapter 1 / INTRODUCTION

The Village of Interlaken is a rural community of approximately 600 residents located in Seneca County, New York. As its name indicates, Interlaken is located in the Finger Lakes Region between Cayuga Lake, which is 2 miles to the east and Seneca Lake, 7.5 miles to the west. The Village is approximately 0.3 square miles in size and is characterized by a traditional Main Street (Route 96), various small businesses and established residential neighborhoods. Due to its location, Interlaken has plentiful natural resources including scenic views of the lake and surrounding countryside, as well as the benefits of being less than a half-hour drive from the nearby population centers of Ithaca, Seneca Falls, Geneva and Watkins Glen.



**Figure 1. Village of Interlaken Location Map.**

Interlaken is facing many of the benefits and challenges common to upstate New York municipalities. The population is aging and new job opportunities are scarce, yet the median age is relatively low and the community is eager to affect change that will contribute to its livability while attracting new businesses and residents. While economic and environmental factors (fiscal challenges, climate change) may cause uncertainty, one of Interlaken's advantages is that its residents are willing to listen to each others' ideas and hopefully act on those that resonate. With this in mind, the Village embarked upon a comprehensive planning process in 2014. Through this process, local officials and residents will develop strategies to guide its future and decision-making processes, to plan for the events it can anticipate and put a framework in place for those it cannot.

### **1.1 Purpose of a Comprehensive Plan**

The purpose of a Comprehensive Plan is to act as a blueprint guiding future growth, development and conservation. Comprehensive Plans, while not mandated in New York, are valuable in that they outline a long-term *vision* and *goals*, set forth objectives and result in a list of feasible action items for the short- to long-term. This vision and goals should be a collective statement of residents, business owners and others with an interest in how a municipality is functioning. In addition, once a comprehensive plan is adopted, "all land use regulations of the community must be consistent with the comprehensive plan. In the future, the plan must be consulted prior to adoption or amendment of any land use regulation. In addition, other governmental agencies that are considering capital projects on lands covered by the adopted comprehensive plan must take the plan into consideration."<sup>1</sup>

This is Interlaken's first adopted comprehensive plan. In the early 2000s the Village worked with the Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council on a plan that was not completed; however, some of the historic and environmental information remains relevant as background information. The Village Board chose to initiate a new comprehensive plan process in 2014, allowing for the opportunity to come together and establish a vision and guide for land use regulations.

The purpose of the Village of Interlaken Comprehensive Plan is to provide policy and recommendations for Village officials, property owners and potential investors. A well-implemented plan will ensure that important features of Interlaken such as its community character, natural beauty, historic residences and open spaces are preserved (or better yet, enhanced) and that development projects occur in a planned and orderly manner promoting the vision set forth within this plan.

To be successful, the plan depends on both the personal commitment of Village residents to consider the long-term well-being of their children and grandchildren and the public commitment of Village officials to update local land use laws with needed improvements and budget for needed and desired capital improvements and maintenance.

The plan is intended to serve as a guide for the next ten years; however, it should be reviewed every few months to track progress on implementation and to make any necessary changes. A more formal revision should occur ten years after plan adoption.

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<sup>1</sup> Village Law, §7-722(11)(b)

As mentioned above, although comprehensive planning is not mandated by law in New York, the state encourages comprehensive planning for the sake of the health, welfare, and general prosperity of its citizens. Current funding mechanisms look upon the existence of an updated comprehensive plan as a benefit when distributing money for specific planning and development projects. Agencies look favorably upon evidence that a proposed project is reflective of the municipality's current vision, which has been developed as part of a participatory planning process.

## 1.2 Background and Overview

This Comprehensive Plan will describe three things: the existing condition of the Village, your vision for the future, and a "road map" for achieving that vision. To develop this Plan, the Village Board is acting as the Steering Committee to identify key issues, assist with public outreach and define the vision and goals of the plan. The Village Board met monthly for four months to discuss the plan and was actively involved in all phases of development, including approval of the Community Survey. In addition to their regular meetings, the Village Board's public outreach process included a variety of opportunities for input including a presentation at the Historical Society Social on July 27, 2014 and a Public Hearing on February 12, 2015. The Village Board's goal is to ensure that the Comprehensive Plan reflects the Interlaken community's vision for the future.

Table 1. Community Survey: summary of results.

### **Community Survey**

In July and August 2014, the Village conducted a community survey to obtain input on a range of issues and to help inform the focus and direction of the Comprehensive Plan. The survey included questions addressing quality of life, values, and community needs, as well as demographic information. The Village mailed one survey to each household, approximately 150 in total. 70 surveys were returned for a response rate of about 47 percent. A summary of responses is in the box to the right. In general, the survey expressed that while residents are satisfied with the affordability and quality of life in Interlaken, they would like to see more economic development, retail and recreational opportunities nearby.

### **Community Survey: Summary**

- Residents agree that Interlaken is safe, affordable, and a good place to live and raise a family.
- The Village should work to beautify Main Street and improve the condition of housing.
- Residents expressed strong support for better sidewalks and new bike lanes.
- Residents would support more locally-owned retail and restaurants, especially a grocery store and farmers market.
- The Village should work to help seniors to stay in their homes, preserve agricultural land and natural resources, and improve job opportunities and housing options.

The survey and its results can be found in Appendix A.

### **Historical Society Social**

On July 27, 2014 the Village Historical Society held a social on the Library Lawn. Members of the Village Board and Tillie Baker from HUNT were present at the event to gather feedback about the plan and answer questions.

### **Strengths and Weaknesses Analysis**

Members of the Village Board provided the consultant team with the following list of



Figure 2. Historical Society Social, July 27<sup>th</sup> 2014.

strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that they perceive as major issues for the Village.

**Table 2. Strengths and Weaknesses Analysis.**

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low crime rate</li> <li>• Friendly population</li> <li>• Water and sewer infrastructure</li> <li>• Tourism (lakes, family farms, CSAs, creameries)</li> <li>• Historic buildings</li> <li>• Access to airports in Ithaca, Syracuse, and Rochester</li> <li>• Low taxes</li> <li>• Small industries and local employment</li> <li>• South Seneca Elementary School</li> <li>• Summer recreation programs</li> <li>• Conifer development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No community center</li> <li>• Limited recreation centers</li> <li>• Limited public transportation</li> <li>• Lack of grocery stores, sit-down restaurants and other small shops</li> <li>• Vacant and condemned properties</li> <li>• Size of school population is decreasing</li> <li>• Variety of housing available to seniors</li> <li>• Few visitors / lack of tourism</li> </ul>

The Village Board then used this information to identify common themes and prioritize the goals around which this Comprehensive Plan is written. These goals are described in more detail in Chapter 3:

1. Improve the quality of daily life in the Village.
2. Attract new residents and businesses.
3. Strengthen the Village’s economic bottom line.

**Public Hearings and Adoption**

In compliance with Village Law §7-722(6)(a) and to gather additional public input, the Village Board held a Public Hearing on February 12, 2015. At these meetings, the consultants presented highlights and analysis from the Community Survey and drafts of the comprehensive plan for comment. The Village Board subsequently adopted the plan on [to come], 2015.

**1.3 Regional and Local Planning Efforts to Date**

Since Interlaken was formally incorporated in 1904, it has not adopted a comprehensive plan. The Village did begin a comprehensive planning process in 2005 with assistance from the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council as part of the “Local Laws to Protect Finger Lakes Water Quality” project. The Village conducted a community survey and several sections of the plan, but the process was not completed. The Village has therefore chosen to commence a new comprehensive plan process.

**Seneca County Comprehensive Plan**

Seneca County’s last adopted comprehensive plan was published in the 1960s. The County has been in the process of updating this plan in notebook format, adopting chapters/plans as they are written. Plan adoption was anticipated in summer 2014; however, it is still in progress.

**Finger Lakes Regional Economic Planning Council Strategic Plan**

In 2011, Governor Cuomo created ten regional councils to develop economic development plans for growth in their regions. The Councils are public-private partnerships comprising local stakeholders and experts from business, academia, government and non-governmental organizations. The Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council published its plan for

the nine-county Finger Lakes region in November 2011, outlining two specific goals: to accelerate job creation and strengthen quality of life in the region. The plan identified six critical issues facing the Finger Lakes: business climate, urban and rural poverty, infrastructure, access to capital, community development and housing, and K-12 education and workforce development. In terms of regional strategies, the plan aims to:

- Optimize business creation, retention and expansion
- Strengthen academic and industry partnerships
- Align workforce development efforts with sector needs
- Invest in community and industrial development and infrastructure.

The Village has taken these broad goals into account while developing the comprehensive plan.

### **Finger Lakes Regional Sustainability Plan**

The Cleaner, Greener Communities Program was created in 2012 to enable ten regions in New York State to develop regional sustainability plans to guide growth in areas such as renewable energy, reducing sprawl and reducing greenhouse gases. The program, administered by NYSERDA, provides funding through a two-phase competitive grant process. The first phase provided \$10 million to regions to create the sustainability plans, and the second phase provides up to \$90 million in funding towards projects identified for implementation during the planning process.

The Finger Lakes Regional Sustainability Plan outlines a number of goals and targets that have relevance to Interlaken, including:

- Increase the percentage of people commuting via walking, biking, public transportation and carpooling;
- Increase the percentage of population in community centers and reducing the rate of poverty;
- Increase the percentage of population living in areas with local energy codes exceeding state requirements;
- Improve and protect the water environment with respect to quality, quantity and availability;
- Decrease the generation of waste;
- Improve performance and resiliency of community assets (building and infrastructure systems, natural systems, and agriculture and business systems);
- Promote and establish stronger inter-municipal relationships and planning, and
- Increase the viability, accessibility and ecological contribution of farms while decreasing waste and dependence on external inputs.

The Village is mindful of sustainability and is seeking to expand the good work already underway in Interlaken to advance the goals of the Finger Lakes Plan.

### **1.4 Comprehensive Plan Framework**

The Village of Interlaken Comprehensive Plan is comprised of the following Chapters:

- 1 Introduction
  - 2 Existing Conditions
  - 3 Vision, Goals, Objectives & Actions
  - 4 Future Land Use Plan
  - 5 Implementation Matrix
- Appendix – Community Survey and results

# Chapter 2 / EXISTING CONDITIONS



Figure 3. Interlaken Memorial Garden, Main Street.

## 2.1 Location

The Village of Interlaken is located in south east Seneca County, in the Finger Lakes region of New York State (see Figure 1). It is 0.3 miles in size and cross-shaped. Interlaken borders the Town of Covert on all sides. Interlaken's residential neighborhoods roughly surround its Main Street corridor (NYS Route 96) along with County Route 141 to the east and NYS Route 96A to the west. The nearest population centers are the Village of Trumansburg, 6.5 miles to the southeast, the Village of Lodi, 5 miles to the west, and the Town of Ovid, 7.3 miles to the northwest. Although primarily residential, Interlaken includes a mix of land uses including a traditional commercial center, industrial parcels, agricultural land, community services and open space, all of which are described within this chapter.

## 2.2 History<sup>2</sup>

Until approximately 200 years ago, the verdant forests of South Seneca County were inhabited by Native American tribes, the most recent of which were the Seneca and Cayuga nations. During the Revolutionary War period, native villages throughout the region were destroyed. Many veterans would return after the war to settle in the scenic and fertile Finger Lakes. Interlaken's history dates to about 1800 when Peter and William Rappleye settled on Lot 42,

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<sup>2</sup> Adapted in part from *History of the Land Between the Lakes: The Good Land*, by Bill Gates. Written for the Interlaken Centennial and Seneca County Bicentennial in 2004.

along what is now Cayuga Street. Eventually, their family settled virtually all of the village including all or part of Lot 51 (south of the post office and east of Main Street) and Lot 49 (one mile west of the village and on the south side of Route 96A). Another early resident was Samuel Almy who arrived in 1800, established lots and called the settlement Farmerville.

The Village of Interlaken experienced name changes for the first 100 years of its existence. The first post office in Seneca County was located in McCall's Store, approximately 1802. This was across Route 96 from today's Usher property. In 1819 the U.S. Post Office changed the name of the Mc Call's Store post office from "Farmerville" to "Farmer", since a "Farmerville" already existed in Cattaraugus County. Local people continued to call it Farmerville. This created a problem during the Civil War when young men sent letters home addressed to Farmerville, which never arrived in Farmer, New York. Because of this problem, the name of the post office and the village were both changed to Farmer Village on November 20, 1865. When the Lehigh Valley Railroad was constructed through the village in the 1870s, it determined that Farmer Village was too long a name for the station sign so the railroad called it Farmer.

On July 1, 1892 the post office was officially changed back to Farmer. As the Farmer Railroad Station became the terminus for a growing summer trade of people from eastern cities coming to the Cayuga Lake hotels, the railroad wanted a more cosmopolitan name. A contest was sponsored to choose a name, and the residents agreed to incorporate the village using the new name for the village, the railroad station and the post office. Thus on March 2, 1904, Interlaken was born.

Newly incorporated as a village, Interlaken began the new century as the center of local retail trade and services for a prosperous farm region. However, changes were occurring in rural areas across the northeast, including the Finger Lakes. Farming on small holdings on marginal uplands became less practical as more mechanized equipment was introduced, and improved transportation made it easier to ship products from distant areas. Increasing automobile ownership and construction of roads provided easier transportation to nearby larger villages and towns such as Trumansburg, Ithaca, and Seneca Falls.

With the incorporation of the Village of Interlaken, local officials made additional infrastructure improvements, as they saw a need for a source of water for firefighting and sidewalks to ensure safe walking space. In the late 1800s a series of cisterns were built to catch and hold runoff water. These could be tapped into by the fire department. In each case the ready sources of water and necessary fire-fighting equipment saved property and lives—the 1916 fire at the corner of Main and Orchard Streets that destroyed a warehouse and its attached buildings and the 1939 fire that destroyed the former Robinson Hotel. In both cases, the cisterns—and later the village-wide water system—saved the village from greater damage.

Around the same time, the village installed sidewalks on many of its streets, allowing pedestrians to walk safely along Main Street and other side streets. The sidewalks were safer and much cleaner than the unpaved streets. Today, many of the sidewalks in Interlaken are original to this time period and in need of upgrading. Other locations within the Village have never had sidewalks. This need for new and improved pedestrian infrastructure is a frequent topic of discussion at the Village Board.

During the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the Great Depression, World War II, the building of the Seneca Army Depot and the consolidation of the school systems would all play a role in shaping the community. During the depression, the need to consolidate schools became an issue as New York State encouraged one-room rural districts to centralize with the Interlaken School District.

In 1934, to accommodate the growing number of students, the main section of the current school was built. Additions to the building and grounds were made over the next 70 years. In 1968, Interlaken Central School merged with the Ovid Central School to form South Seneca Central District. Forty years later, the Pre-K and elementary students attend school in Interlaken while the students in grades 6 to 12 (middle school through high school) travel to Ovid.

While the Depression impacted the region—particularly the rural areas—the Village had a stable and secure bank. The Wheeler National Bank was grounded in the Village from its beginnings in the 1860s when John Knight first began conducting bank business as an office within his general store. The bank continued to support the community into the 1960s when a merger was approved with the Waterloo bank. Several other name changes and mergers of those banks occurred and today the 1911 building and its many additions houses a branch of the Community Bank. The bank has remained a central location on Main Street since its establishment.

During World War II, over 240 young men and women left the Interlaken area to serve in the war effort. The community supported both these young people and also the war effort through purchasing War Bonds, as well as through the local newspaper. Each service member received a copy of the weekly newspaper so that they would know what was happening at home. In turn many of them would send notes to the newspaper telling about their experiences. These letters have been preserved and are a resource for studying the war. People from the Interlaken area benefited from the development of the Seneca Army Depot in the early 1940s, through jobs, rental income or increased retail business.

Over time, Interlaken's "Mom & Pop" stores which lined Main Street began to close. Where once there were five locations along Route 96 to buy gas, there is now one (and two garages outside the village where residents can get their vehicles serviced). At one time, the village boasted 5-6 various stores to buy groceries, another dozen places to shop for dry goods and a good variety of restaurants. Today, Interlaken has only two local stores that serve food for eating in or taking out, one of which also carries videos and DVDs.

Despite the changes in Interlaken's physical form, Interlaken remains a community of neighbors and events. In the 1990s, a concerned group of citizens revised the Interlaken Community Action Group (ICAG), and now hosts annual dinners and events. The focus of the group is Olde Home Day held every June, during which Main Street is closed and community groups set up tables, tents and a parade. Other events sponsored by the ICAG are dinners, Halloween Party and the annual trimming of the Christmas tree at the Post Office.

Through the efforts of ICAG and others a Memorial Garden was conceived and created where the Fire House once stood at the corner of Main Street and Railroad Avenue. This corner also houses the Farmers' Museum owned by the Interlaken Historical Society. Across Main Street is the Hinman Memorial Library, and two doors south, the Trumansburg Home Telephone Company building is the new home of the Interlaken Historical Society.

## **2.3 Profile**

### **2.3.1 Demographics**

Examining the Village's previous and current demographic characteristics is important in order to understand its growth trends. This section will describe existing conditions regarding population characteristics such as age, educational attainment and median household income. In some cases, the Village data is compared to the Town of Covert, the villages of Trumansburg and Lodi, Seneca County and/or New York State as a whole to provide a basis for comparison.

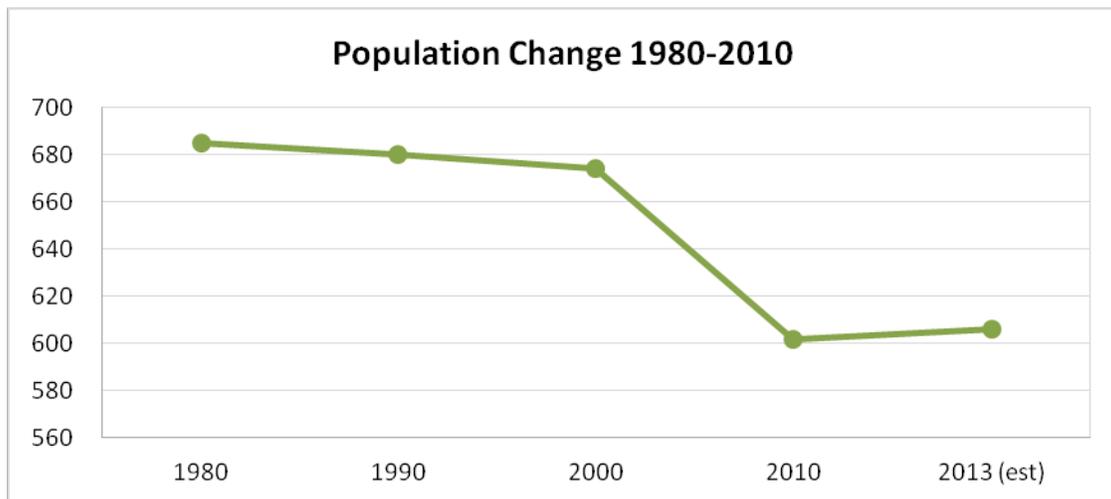
**Table 3. Basic Characteristics.**

<b>County</b>	Seneca
<b>CBSA (Core Based Statistical Area)</b>	Seneca Falls, NY
<b>NYS Dept. of Labor Market Region</b>	Finger Lakes
<b>Transportation Network</b>	Road: NY 96, NY 96A, CR 141; Air: 22.8 miles northwest of Ithaca-Tompkins Regional Airport (ITH)
<b>2010 Population</b>	602
<b>Total Area</b>	0.3 sq. mi.

*Source: NYS Department of Labor, Google Maps, U.S. Census Bureau*

Population

As of the 2010 census, there were 602 people in Interlaken, representing an 11% decrease from the 2000 population of 674. The Village’s population peaked in 2000 at 685 and decreased sharply between 2000 and 2010. Anecdotally, the closure of the Sampson Air Force Base in Romulus in 2000 and the loss of seniors before the establishment of the Bixby Home and Conifer, is likely to account for some of the population decrease between censuses. The most recent estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau shows a slight increase in population between 2010 and 2013.



**Figure 4. Population Change, 1980-2010.** Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Age and Race

Among the various age groups (or “cohorts”) from 2000 to 2010, the number of people in Interlaken has declined in all but the Under 5, 20 to 24 and 45 to 64 groups. The decline in the 5 to 14 cohort is the most pronounced (a loss of 45 persons) followed by the 25 to 44 (a decline of 28) and the 15 to 19 cohort (a decline of 23). Census data shows that the number of families in Interlaken has declined, from 175 in 2000 to 147 in 2010. The Median Age is 38, which is lower than that of Seneca County (41) and the same as NYS as a whole (38). The most concerning statistic according to these data is the loss of families in Interlaken between 2000 and 2010.

During this decade, Interlaken’s total population declined by 11%. As the Village hopes to stem this trend and attract new residents and families in particular, the vision, goals and action items will address this issue.

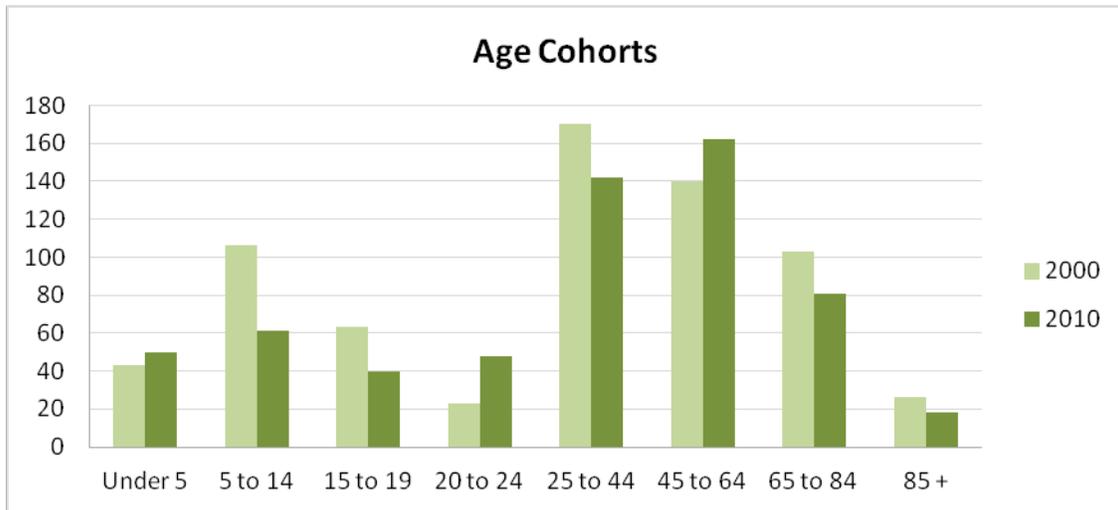


Figure 5. Age Cohorts. Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

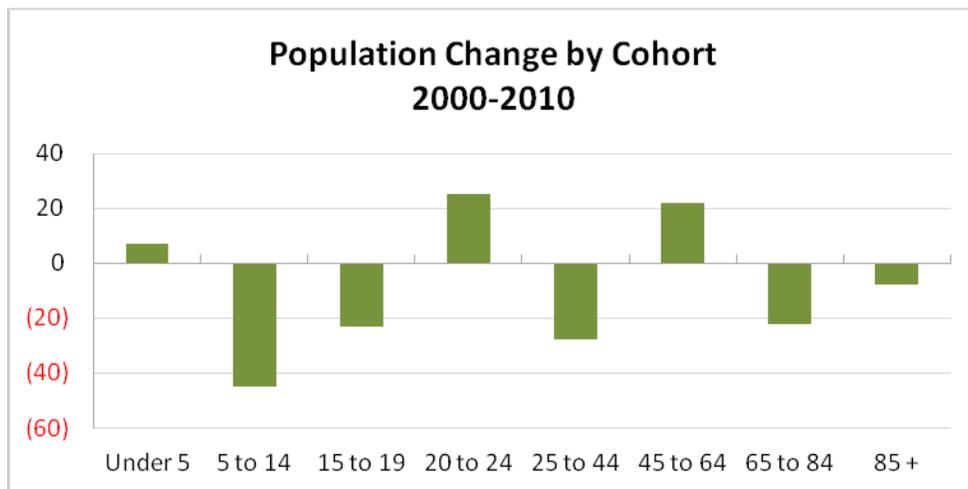


Figure 6. Population Change by Cohort, 2000-2010. Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Interlaken’s population is predominantly white, with 95% identifying themselves as such, fewer than 2% identifying themselves as African American, 1.5% as Asian, and less than 1% as American Indian and Alaska Native.

### Households and Families

A household is an occupied housing unit, such as a house or apartment unit. In 2010, the Village contained 243 households. Approximately 60.5% (147) of these households are considered “family households,” which are made up persons related to each other by birth, marriage or adoption. This is slightly below Seneca County as a whole, where 65.4% of households are family households. The census also provides a breakdown of these households by family construct, finding that 45% of households in Interlaken are comprised of a husband-wife family (21% of which have children living with them), 4% are male householders with no

female present (3% with children) and 11.5% are female householders with no male present (6.6% with children.) As a basis of comparison, Seneca County is comprised of 49.6% husband-wife family, 5.3% male householders (3% with children) and 10.5% female householders (6.3% with children) households. These figures show that the Village of Interlaken is generally in line with the County in family household terms.

Non-family households made up of single persons or unrelated occupants count for the other 96 (39.5%) of all households in Interlaken. In Seneca County, 34.6% of the households are non-family households.

Housing Units

According to 2012 data, the total number of housing units in Interlaken is 294 (up from 289 in 2010). Of these, 260 are occupied and 34 are vacant. 80% of the housing in Interlaken was built prior to 1939, with only 17 units in 2010 or later. In the interim decades, considerably fewer structures have been built, with 19 constructed between 1940 and 1949, 12 between 1980 and 1989, and between 1 and 4 in the remainder of the decades. A significant addition to Interlaken’s housing stock was the Conifer Village senior housing development in 2010, which provides 1-bedroom apartment for those 62 or older and for disabled residents 18 or older at affordable rents.

Of the 260 occupied units, in terms of units per structure, 66.9% are detached single-family homes, 0.8% are attached single-family homes, 8.1% are 2 units, 11.5% are 3 or 4 units, 2.7% are 5-9 units, 4.2% are 10+ units, and 5.8% are mobile homes.

According to 2012 data, the median home value in Interlaken is \$81,100 and the median rent is \$631 per month. Interlaken’s median home value is slightly below the Town of Lodi (\$87,100), and less than half of the median home value in Trumansburg (\$184,400). The median rent in Interlaken is \$631 per month compared with \$557 in Lodi and \$816 in Trumansburg.

Tenure and Ownership

According to the 2010 Census, of Interlaken’s 289 housing units, 243 (or 84%) are occupied and 46 units (or 16%) are vacant. As stated above, however, the 2012 American Community Survey estimates that 260 units are occupied (88%) and 34 (11.6%) are vacant, suggesting that vacancy has decreased slightly and occupancy has increased slightly since the Census. At the time of writing, three properties are condemned. In 2010, of the occupied housing units, 165 (or 68%) were owner-occupied and 78 (32%) were renter-occupied, which represents a lower owner-occupancy rate compared to Seneca County, which is 73.4%. The table below compares housing tenure in Interlaken with Trumansburg and Lodi.

**Table 4. Housing Tenure.** Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>No. of Units</b>	<b>Occupied</b>	<b>Owner-occupied</b>	<b>Renter-occupied</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
Interlaken (V)	289	243 (84%)	165 (68%)	78 (32%)	46 (16%)
Trumansburg (V)	883	816 (92.4%)	521 (63.8%)	295 (36.2%)	67 (7.6%)
Lodi (T)	981	633 (64.5%)	545 (86.1%)	88 (13.9%)	348 (35.5%)

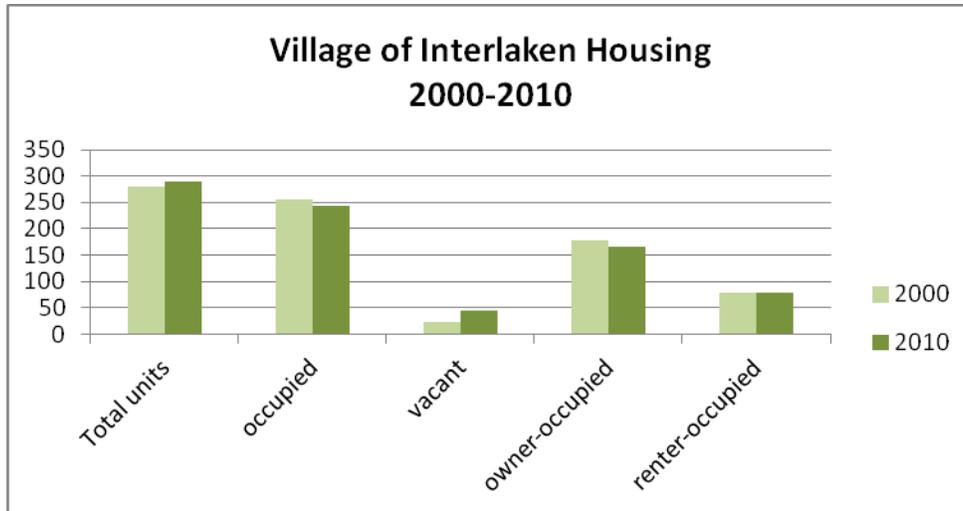


Figure 7. Housing Tenure. Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

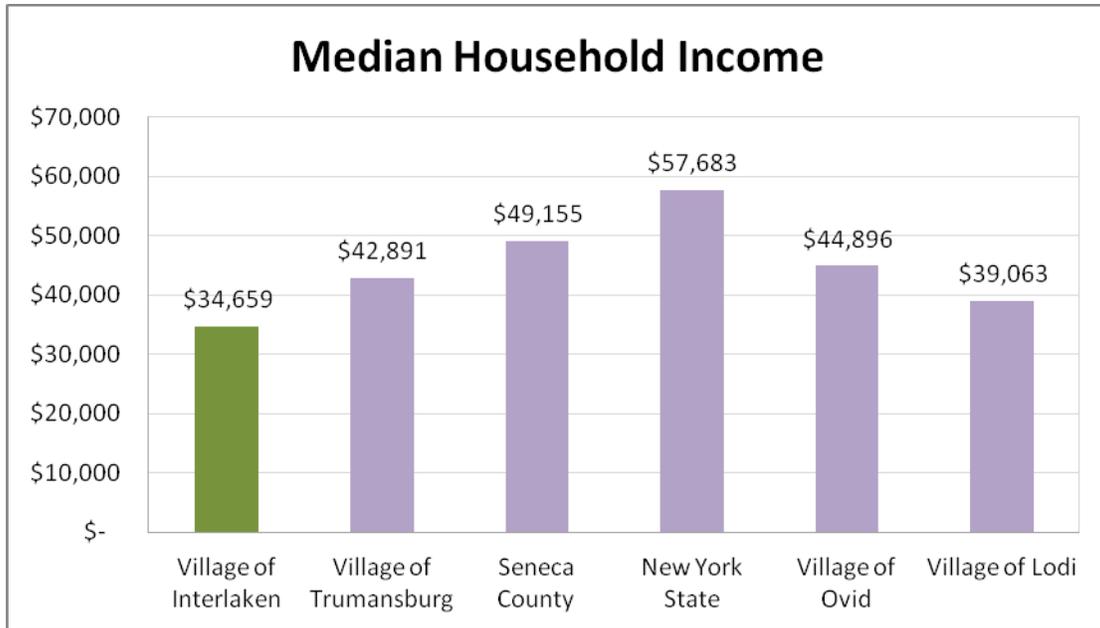
### 2.3.2 Workforce and Employment

An understanding of the income and employment characteristics of the Village is needed to guide the economic development goals for the Comprehensive Plan. As will be discussed in later chapters, working knowledge of the depth of resources of Interlaken residents will help determine what types of local and regional businesses are needed and should be pursued.

#### Household Income

As of 2012, the median household income<sup>3</sup> in Interlaken is \$34,659, which is considerably lower than Seneca County (\$49,155), and New York State (\$57,683). Interlaken's median income is also lower than nearby villages of Trumansburg (\$42,891), Ovid (\$44,896) and Lodi (\$39,063). Approximately 19% of the population lives below the poverty line, of which 19% are under age 18 and 13.5% are aged 65 or over. This represents an increase in the percentage of Interlaken's population living in poverty compared with 2000, when 11.5% of residents were below the poverty line (of which 10% were under 18 and 6.8% were over the age of 65.)

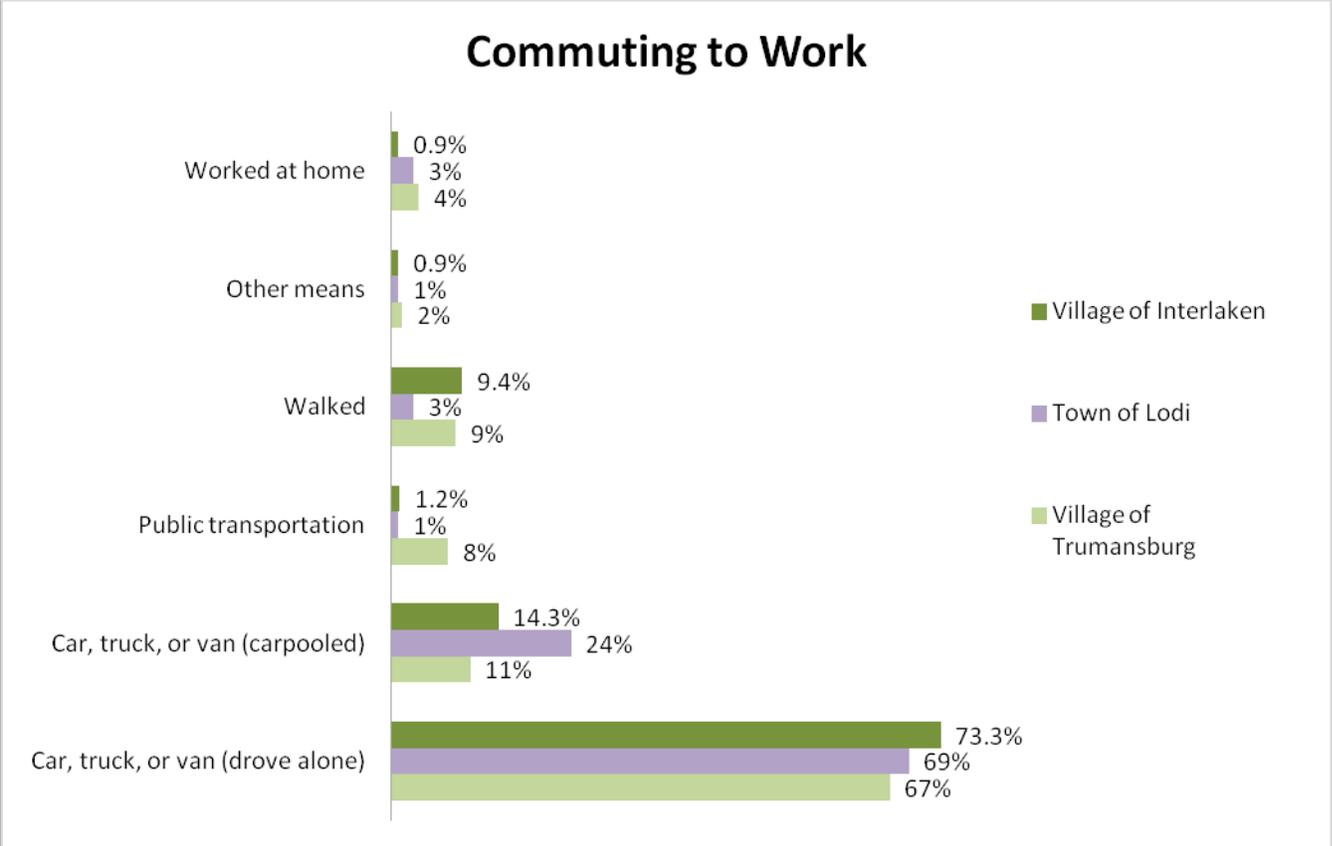
<sup>3</sup> It should be noted that median income data for Interlaken is an estimate from the American Community Survey (ACS). The U.S. Census Bureau uses ACS sample data to generate statistics on the population. Owing to the small sample size used for communities such as Interlaken, the data is subject to significant error. In this case, the margin of error for Interlaken's median income in 2012 is +/- \$12,738; for the Village of Ovid the margin of error is +/- \$6,265; and for the Village of Lodi the margin of error is +/- \$14,852. Decennial Census data is more accurate because data is gathered for the entire population.



**Figure 8. Median Household Income.** Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

According to 2012 data, of the approximately 522 residents aged 16 and over, 359 (or 69%) are active participants in the labor force and the unemployment rate is a low 2.7% (compared to 11.4% in 2000). The majority of Interlaken's working residents are represented in Management, Business, Science and Arts occupations (27%), Services (29%) and Sales and Office occupations (26%). A smaller proportion of residents are employed in Natural Resources, Construction and Maintenance occupations (7.5%) and Production, Transport and Material Moving occupations (10%). Anecdotally, the decrease in unemployment coupled with an increase in poverty could be due to some residents entering the workforce after a period of unemployment, with incomes too high to be eligible for public assistance but too low to improve their economic situation.

In terms of commuting to work, the majority of residents (73%) drive alone, 14% carpool, 9% walk, 1% utilize public transportation, just less than 1% work from home. Apart from a lower percentage of residents taking public transportation to work, Interlaken is approximately in line with Trumansburg in terms of transportation use, and is approximately in line with the Town of Lodi in terms of walking, but a smaller proportion of residents in Interlaken carpool in comparison to Lodi (14% compared with 24%). Importantly, Trumansburg residents have access to Ithaca's TCAT bus system which accounts for the higher use of public transportation.

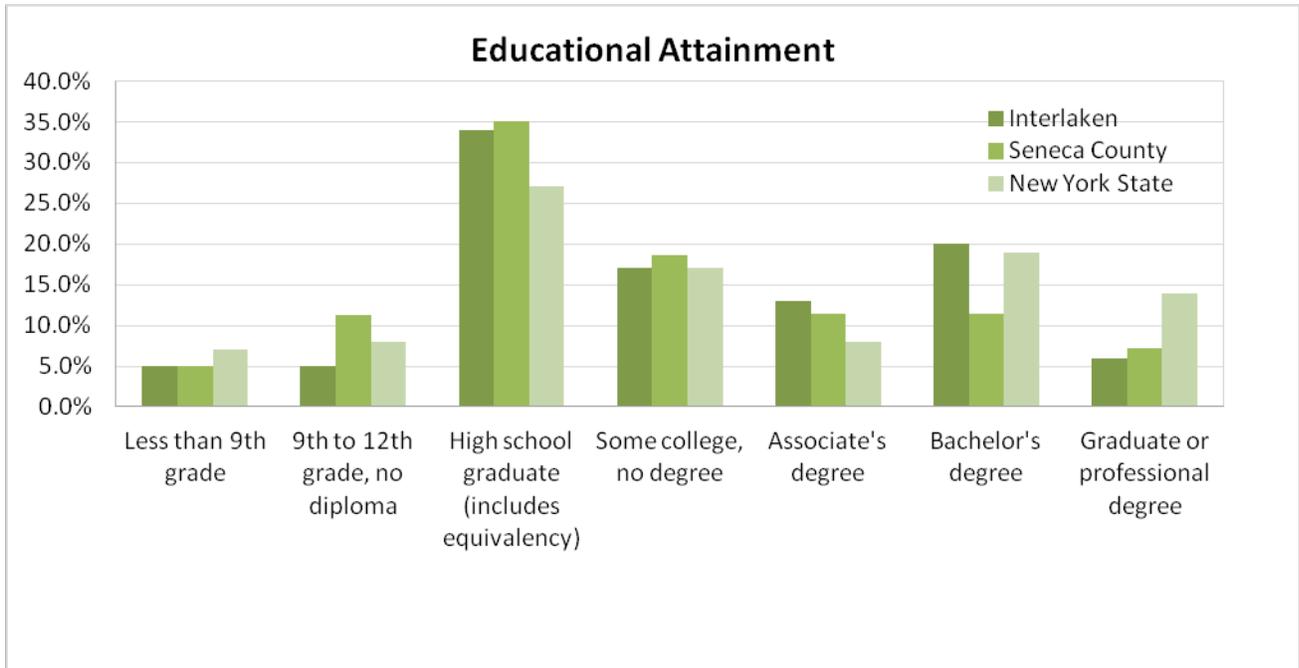


**Figure 9. Commuting to Work.** Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

**Educational Attainment**

A community’s overall education level strongly influences the economic success of a community, because earnings from employment and income (from all sources) vary by education level.<sup>4</sup> In addition, an understanding of educational attainment is important, as because these statistics are indicative of the types of jobs and industries a municipality can hope and strive to attract. As the graphic below shows, 90% of Interlaken residents have a high school degree or greater, and Interlaken has a higher proportion of residents with an Associate’s degree or bachelor’s degree than both Seneca County and New York State. However, the Village is significantly below the State and slightly below the County in terms of graduate degree attainment. Overall, Interlaken residents are less likely to be employed in highly-skilled professional sectors compared with residents of Seneca County and the State as a whole.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Educational Attainment FAQs. Source: <https://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/education/about/faqs.html>



**Figure 10. Educational Attainment.** Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

**Local Economy**

General observations, survey data and committee discussions indicate that the existing business mix in the Village is weighted toward services and manufacturing rather than traditional retail. Along with a bank, post office and gas station, local businesses include Jay’s (diner, video and cleaning service), hairdressers, fitness center, funeral home, auto repairers, pet grooming, heating and plumbing, a firearm retailer and a bed and breakfast inn. Notable businesses in Interlaken include Hip Shot Products Inc, manufacturer of bass and guitar hardware, Pine Tree Farms, a bird seed manufacturer that has expanded twice in recent years, GunBlack Inc., a metals finisher and gun repairer, Alarmtech Systems LLC, Westwind Farms, a chicken hatchery, and Interlaken Guns & Ammo. All local businesses employ fewer than 50 staff.

Land use for commercial and industrial uses comprises 18% of Interlaken’s total land area. Agricultural land accounts for only 3% of the area. Interlaken is home to a number of local businesses including manufacturing, retail and services, comprising a healthy mix of businesses for a village of its size. With an existing sewer and water network and a number of historic stores that are currently vacant, Interlaken has the potential to grow local businesses along its historic Main Street.

**Amish Community**

Interlaken’s Amish community has had a positive impact on the Village in recent years, by revitalizing a number of abandoned farms in the area and selling goods at local markets, including a farmer’s market in Interlaken on the library lawn. Goods sold include annuals and perennials, hanging baskets, vegetable plants, bakery goods, jams jellies spices, dairy products, meat and poultry. Amish children often ride the local school buses and the community also contributes to Interlaken through payment of local property taxes. Plants in the Village planters (maintained by the local garden club) were provided by Amish growers at a reduced cost.

### Regional Economic Development

Of note from an economic development standpoint are several local or regional economic development projects currently in progress. While they may not directly affect Interlaken, the recommendations may affect how land use or zoning are modified in the nearby area.

In 2011, Governor Cuomo created ten Regional Councils throughout the state, including the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council (FLREDC) to develop long-term strategic plans for economic growth for their regions. These councils are public-private partnerships made up of local experts and stakeholders from business, academia, local government, and non-governmental organizations, and are a key component of the Governor's transformative approach to economic development. FLREDC has been instrumental in funding projects throughout the 9-county region in which Interlaken is located. It will be important for the Village to communicate its own strategy to members of the FLREDC as its strategic plan evolves in coming years, and to determine the shared aims between the region and village (as this is currently one of the primary funding mechanisms for State agencies.)



**Figure 11. Pine Tree Farms Inc.** Pine Tree Farms is a local manufacturer established in 1984.

### Fiscal Conditions and Tax Rates

**The tax base** of the community consists of the value of all fully taxable real property within the Village boundary. The value of such property is generally referred to, and is published by the tax assessor of the community, as the **Assessed Valuation**. The Assessed Valuation generally does not reflect the market value of the property, but rather a specified percentage of market price level in the locality. The Assessed Valuation is used to prepare the annual property tax roll and to compute tax rates and their application to property. Municipalities cannot tax government property, nor certain quasi-public properties, such as churches and hospitals. In summary, the tax base is that portion of real property subject to taxation by the municipality for municipal purposes. It is expressed in terms of assessed valuation which generally represents a percentage of its full value.

**The tax rate** is the amount per \$1,000 of full taxable assessed valuation that is required to raise the funds needed in the operation of the community. Overlapping jurisdictions make tax rates difficult to ascertain but for the purposes of this analysis, an approximation of the rate sufficient to provide information on scope and trends is satisfactory. Since tax rates are generally computed on the basis of assessed value, they must be converted to a full value rate to be of any worth to fiscal analysis.

In order to ensure an equitable sharing of County and State tax burdens, New York State (after studying the assessed value in a community) fixes a rate on the valuation that indicates the ratio of assessed valuation to the full value of the property, called the **equalization rate**. The State equalization rate for Interlaken in 2014 was 0.91; meaning that the total market value of property in the Village is greater than its taxed value (a rate of 1.00 would indicate that property is assessed at full market value).

The Village of Interlaken is not an assessing unit.<sup>5</sup> The Village has agreed to adopt the town assessment roll, thereby eliminating the duplication of effort that some villages in New York State still do. The Town of Covert has entered into a Real Property Tax Law Section 1537 agreement with Tompkins County to provide the assessment function for the town. This was done at a cost savings as compared to what the Town prior to this agreement. NYS Office of Real Property Services indicated that the property in Interlaken was assessed at 91% of its full value in 2014.<sup>6</sup> For 2015, the level of assessment and equalization rate is anticipated to be 89%.

The table below shows the taxable value of property in Interlaken, the tax rate and the change in the tax levy from 2009-2015. The taxable value of property reached a peak of just over \$19,600 in 2012-13, which has dropped to just over \$19,300 in 2014-15. Therefore, a small increase in the tax rate has been applied in 2013 and 2014.

**Table 5.** Taxable Values in Interlaken

Year	Taxable Value	Amount to be raised by taxes	Tax Levy increase	Tax Rate per \$1,000
2015-2016	\$ 19,285,411.00			
2014-2015	\$ 19,318,694.00	\$ 262,927.50	0.008%	13.61
2013-2014	\$ 19,188,325.00	\$ 259,042.42	0.038%	13.50
2012-2013	\$ 19,624,152.00	\$ 255,133.92	-0.037%	13.00
2011-2012	\$ 17,374,267.00	\$ 234,552.60	0.000%	13.50
2010-2011	\$ 17,034,050.00	\$ 119,959.69	0.000%	13.50
2009-2010	\$ 16,966,027.00	\$ 229,041.41		13.50

Source: Village of Interlaken

The following table shows the tax rates in Interlaken (based on a tax rate per \$1,000 assessed valuation) for the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

**Table 6.** Tax Rates based on 2014-2015 Assessment Rolls

Village of Interlaken	13.61
Seneca County	5.42
Town of Covert	2.69
South Seneca School District	16.67*
Interlaken Fire	0.89*

\*2013

Source: Seneca County tax rate schedules, Village of Interlaken

**Table 7a.** Tax Rates based on 2015-2016 Assessment Rolls

Village of Interlaken	TBC
Seneca County	5.41
Town of Covert	2.58
South Seneca School District	17.12*

<sup>5</sup> Local Law 1987-1. <http://www.tax.ny.gov/research/property/legal/localop/village.htm>

<sup>6</sup> [http://orpts.tax.ny.gov/cfapps/MuniPro/muni\\_theme/county/currequa.cfm?swis=59&prefix=StateWide](http://orpts.tax.ny.gov/cfapps/MuniPro/muni_theme/county/currequa.cfm?swis=59&prefix=StateWide)

Interlaken Fire *2013	0.89*
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Source: Seneca County tax rate schedules, Village of Interlaken

**Revenues and expenditure.** The only revenues in the Village of Interlaken include those funds that have been raised by taxes, fire protection and highway aid. The largest expenditure is for police/fire, followed by streets and street lights.

**Table 8.** Top Revenue Sources 2014-2015

Village Taxes	\$262,927
Fire Protection	\$94,000
CHIPS Highway Aid (NYS)	\$8,000

Source: Village of Interlaken

**Table 9.** Top Expenditures, 2014-2015

Police/Fire	\$112,500.00
Streets	\$75,281.68
Street Lights	\$11,000.00
Insurance	\$30,000.00
Employee Benefits	\$47,152.39

Source: Village of Interlaken

**Table 10.** General Fixed Assets, 2014-15

Land	\$7,500.00
Buildings	\$232,100.00
Machinery	\$1,117,934.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,357,534.00</b>

Source: Village of Interlaken

**Table 11.** Summary of Fiscal Budget, 2013-2014

Appropriations	\$ 424,576.62
Estimated Revenues	\$ 151,393.00
Raised by Taxes	\$ 259,042.39
Fund Balance	\$ 14,141.23

Source: Village of Interlaken

Although the fund balance is relatively modest, the Village is in a healthy fiscal condition. The fund balance should be carefully managed and earmarked for investment in community projects that will improve services and infrastructure while advancing the goals and objectives outlined in this plan.

### 2.3.3 Community Resources

#### Village-Owned Property

The Village owns the following buildings or structures: The Village Offices on Main Street, the Hinman Library Building, Memorial Garden, the land under the Farmer Museum<sup>10</sup>, and the Fire Hall. The Village Rooms have offices for the Village Clerk, Treasurer and the Police Department.

#### Schools

The South Seneca School District serves the geographic area from Seneca to Cayuga Lakes encompassing Interlaken and Ovid. The Elementary School (Grades K-5) is located at 8326 Main Street in Interlaken. Both the Middle School and High School are located in the Town of Ovid. The SSSD's mission is "to create and maintain an environment that ensures that every student reaches a high level of academic achievement as determined by state and national standards. We commit to a comprehensive system of social, emotional, and academic support to assure this outcome." According to the district offices, SSSD had a 2013-2014 total enrollment of 790 students. Graduating classes are typically around 60 students (67 in 2012 and 58 in 2013). Analysis conducted in 2013 showed that enrolment in the district was likely to stay flat for five years.

#### Healthcare

Interlaken contains no hospitals or other health care facilities. The closest medical facility is Trumansburg Family Health on Seneca Drive. The closest hospital is the Cayuga Medical Center on Dates Drive in Ithaca, which is 15 miles south of Interlaken. The Bixby Home offers medical care to residents.

#### Senior Services

Interlaken has made great strides in the accommodation of seniors in recent years with the completion of the Conifer senior housing development in 2010. This development complements the existing assisted living senior housing offered by the Bixby Home on Main Street. Conifer has 28 one-bedroom apartments that are offered to seniors over the age of 62 at affordable rents. The Bixby Home was established in 1987. Bixby is a 24-bed assisted living facility offering 24-hour care, medical assistance and recreation for seniors and disabled veterans. Residents have the option of private and semi-private suites.

The provision of senior housing is important for any community because it enables residents to remain in the Village when they are looking to downsize. However, there are other factors that contribute to quality of life for seniors besides housing. Access to medical care and basic daily needs such as grocery stores and pharmacies remains a challenge for seniors in Interlaken, especially for those who are unable to drive. Local officials



Figure 12. South Seneca Elementary School.

<sup>10</sup> The Farmer Museum building is owned by the Interlaken Historical Society.

need to be mindful of this when crafting future policy regarding transportation and land use.

### Civic Groups

Historically, Interlaken has a strong tradition of volunteer activity. Volunteer groups within the village include the Green Thumb Garden Club, the Interlaken Community Action Group, the Interlaken Central School Alumni Association and the Farmerville F&AM and Eastern Stars Lodge. The Reformed Church offers an emergency food pantry and clothing (open Fridays 3-6). The Church also hosts an annual 5K Steeple Chase. Volunteers have offered tax services to Interlaken residents through an organization called Volunteer Income Tax Associates. There is some concern that community engagement has ebbed in recent years and the Board is eager for residents to be more active in community events and advocate for the Village on Town and County matters.

### Events

Interlaken hosts a number of events throughout the year. These include:

- Volunteer Fire Department BBQ Palm Sunday (March/April)
- Olde Home Day (June)
- Interlaken Historical Society Social (July) The Society also runs 3-4 programs during the winter
- Car Show and Chicken BBQ (August)
- Plowing Day and Country Fair (Biannual, September), hosted by the Interlaken Historical Society

### Churches

Three houses of worship are located within the Village of Interlaken. These are the First Baptist Church (Main Street), the Interlaken Reformed Church (Main Street) and St. Francis Solanus Catholic Church (Orchard Street).



Figure 13. Interlaken Reformed Church.



Figure 14. First Baptist Church.



Figure 15. St Francis Solanus Catholic Church.

### **2.3.4 Historic Resources**

The Village has an active historical society established in 1951 (the Interlaken Historical Society), as well as a number of interesting historic resources. The Society runs two museums: the Farmer's Museum, in the Nivision Grain Cradle building on Main Street (moved from its original site on Route 89) and the Community Life Museum in the former Trumansburg Telephone Company building, also on Main Street. The latter, remodeled and opened in 2008, now houses the Society's offices along with display galleries (for both temporary and permanent

exhibits), a library and storage space for 2,500 cataloged items (along with 3,300 photographs and glass plate negatives). The work of remodeling the space took over six months and many volunteer hours. Although the Village of Interlaken does not have any buildings or structures that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, these structures are important to the fabric of the village and may be nominated in the future.

As census data shows, over 80% of Interlaken's housing stock was built prior to 1939. Interlaken is home to Brook Farm, a historic Wells barn, a 40' by 100' structure built by the Usher family in 1908. The Usher family home was built by Frederick Robert Usher, who oversaw the construction of the original Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City. The contents of the home were auctioned in June 2014. The block of stores on Main Street and the Lake View Cemetery are also historic resources for the Village (although not located within the Village boundary, the Lake View Cemetery on County Route 150 is close by). The cemetery holds significant historic value to the community and every year a locally-made quilt is raffled to raise money for the cemetery's upkeep. In 2014, members of the Interlaken Historical Society applied for funding through the Seneca Towns Engaging People for Solutions program (STEPS) to develop a walking tour for the cemetery. A total of \$415 was awarded to purchase poles for signage and to print booklets. Twenty cemetery features were chosen for inclusion in the tour, which has been designed to highlight the history of the cemetery create a comfortable space for walking. Five walks were held in summer 2014 with attendance between 5 and 15 per event.

### **2.3.5 Government and Services**

The Village is governed by an elected Mayor and four additional Trustees, which are elected to four-year terms. The Board of Trustees is responsible for implementing policies and directives. Trustees are assigned job responsibilities for fire, streets, water and sewer. Members of the Village staff include the Village Clerk and Treasurer, Deputy Clerk, Police Chief and two Department of Public Works positions. Village services include water and sewer, snow removal, garbage, fall leaves collection and police. The County provides recycling collection.

The Village of Interlaken Police Department provides police protection within the Village. Ambulance service is provided by Trumansburg Fire Co. The Interlaken Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1981. The 45 volunteer department serves a 26 square mile area containing 2,600 people. It provides fire production, EMS, school education, natural disaster support and shelter, and pump-out for flooded homes. The fire department receives an average of 140 calls per year.



**Figure 16. Interlaken Historical Society Community Life Museum.**

## 2.4 Existing Land Use

Land use classifications are determined by the county assessor according to a system established by the New York State Office of Real Property Services (NYSORPS). NYSORPS uses nine categories to classify land based on the primary use of each property. The Village is primarily residential in character, with pockets of commercial and industrial land. Only a small portion of the land area in the Village (3%) is classified as agricultural. As shown in Table 12, Land Use, residential properties make up the largest amount of any land use type within Interlaken (64%). Industrial and commercial land uses both account for 9% of land, community services and vacant land 7%, and community services 1%. There is no land given over formally to recreational use in the Village.

**Table 12. Land Use.**

<b>Land Use Classification</b>	<b>% of Village Land</b>
Residential	64%
Vacant Land	7%
Public Services	1%
Agricultural	3%
Community Services	7%
Industrial	9%
Commercial	9%
Recreational	0%

*Source: Seneca County Planning, NYS Office of Real Property*

## **Agricultural Districts**

The New York State Legislature is required by the New York State Constitution to protect agricultural lands. The Agricultural Districts Law, Article 25AA of the Agriculture and Markets Law (1971) was implemented to preserve agricultural products and land resources, and to encourage agricultural production. There are many benefits to maintaining the State's Agricultural Districts, as they include limitations on the exercise of eminent domain on certain projects and the mandate that State agencies encourage viable farming as a matter of policy. Primary responsibility for the creation, review and management of Ag Districts is administered at the County level. The Village of Interlaken is surrounded by Ag District 12. There is no land in the Village included in the Ag District.<sup>11</sup>

## 2.5 Village Code

The Code of the Village of Interlaken was adopted in 2012 (Local Law No. 1 of 2012). The Village does not have zoning, but regulates land use in the Village through the Code, including sections on unsafe buildings, property maintenance, junkyards, adult businesses, and manufactured homes. The Police Chief carries out code enforcement duties on behalf of the Village. Seneca County is responsible for enforcement of the State Building Code.

## 2.6 Natural Resources

Demographic data and trends gives an indication of the direction an area is going, but environmental factors place constraints on how future development should occur. Features such as steep slopes, and major water bodies may define areas where future development should be

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<sup>11</sup> The parcel on which Conifer is located is assessed for residential use. However, the parcel is included in Ag District 12 according to the most recent available data from the NYS Agricultural Districts Mapping Program. The parcel was annexed into the Village on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

avoided. Planning for land use in concert with existing environmental conditions promotes the protection of valuable natural resources.

### **Geography**

The Village of Interlaken lies in the Finger Lakes Region in central New York. The Finger Lakes Region is a subdivision of the larger geographic area known as the Appalachian Upland, which covers about half of New York State. This area was deeply scoured by glaciers that receded 8,000 to 10,000 years ago. The movement of huge masses of glacial ice deepened existing stream valleys. When the glaciers receded, these deep valleys filled with water, forming the eleven Finger Lakes.

Interlaken is situated on the plateau between Seneca and Cayuga Lakes in the Southern part of Seneca County. The topography of the Village is generally level, gently sloping to the east. The Village is wholly situated within the Cayuga Lake watershed. All the Finger Lakes, including Cayuga, drain into the Atlantic Ocean via the St Lawrence River, Lake Ontario, the Oswego and Seneca Rivers. Interlaken does not have any regulations in place regarding the Cayuga Lake Watershed (the Village is not located on Cayuga Lake); however, the Village is a member of the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network (CLWN).

The CLWN is a charitable, non-profit organization established in 1997, with a membership of approximately 400 comprised of individual citizens, businesses, local governments and others from across the watershed. The CLWN's mission states: "The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network identifies key threats to Cayuga Lake and its watershed, and advocates for solutions that support a healthy environment and vibrant communities. It takes a Network to protect a watershed".

In 2001, the Cayuga Lake Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan was developed . the "Cayuga Watershed Intermunicipal Organization", a voluntary partnership of 31 villages, towns, cities and counties was also established. Interlaken is a member of the Organization. The Town of Lodi is also a member. The Intermunicipal Organization is in the process of updating the 2001 Plan.

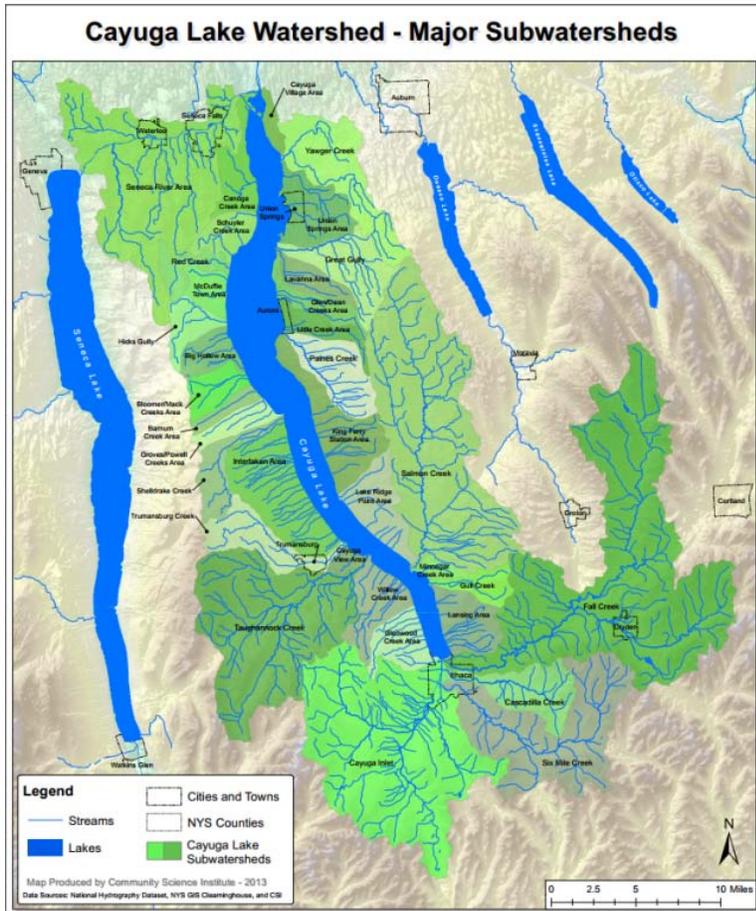


Figure 17. Map of Cayuga Lake Watershed by Matt Yarrow. Source: www.cayugalake.org

Six streams run through the Village. These are Lively Run North and Lively Run South (650' and 860' respectively), which supply the Village well; Miner Creek North and Miner Creek South (3,205' and 1,890' respectively); and two unnamed streams of 3,060' and 545' in length. (Distances given are within the Village boundary.)

## 2.8 Public Infrastructure

### 2.8.1 Water

The Village has two water districts, one for the Village and one that serves Cemetery Road. The Village relies on a single well for its water, although a spring can be used for backup if necessary. There are 278 service connections within the Village (including Conifer) and 39 connections serving customers outside the Village. Other water infrastructure in Interlaken is a wastewater treatment plant and a water tank. However, the water tank is operating below capacity and the wastewater treatment plant is aging. There are also issues with water collection in the Village. The Village submitted a successful grant application through the CFA process in June 2014 to carry out an infiltration and inflow (I&I) study to determine a strategy for cutting down on ground and surface water entering the plant. The Village received \$30,000 from New York State to carry out the study. The grant requires a 20% local match.

A study was carried out in 2013 to explore the feasibility of connecting the water systems of Trumansburg, Interlaken and Lodi. This would have provided backup systems for each village in the event of groundwater contamination.

### **2.8.2 Sewer**

The entire Village is served by a municipal sewer system. The Village contracts with a company to remove sludge from the sewage plant. The presence of municipal sewer is very advantageous to Interlaken regarding potential future economic development within the Village. Municipalities that lack basic infrastructure, such as sewer, struggle to attract new business and residents who must rely on individual septic systems.

### **2.8.3 Utilities**

NYSEG provides electricity to commercial and residential customers in Interlaken. There is no natural gas service. Time Warner Cable is the primary provider of cable and provides high-speed internet and digital telephone service, but residents also use satellite service. Telephone service is provided by Ontario & Trumansburg Telephone Companies.

### **2.8.4 Waste Disposal**

The Village provides weekly garbage collection to the Seneca Meadows landfill. The Village also collects leaves and branches in the fall, bringing in a shredder once a year. The mulch is sold at cost to buyers in the Village. Recycling collection is provided fortnightly by Seneca County.

## **2.9 Transportation Network**

The transportation network determines how easily residents are about to move to and throughout the Village, and what goods and services they are able to easily access. The transportation system in Interlaken consists of roadways, public transportation, and sidewalks. Although the goal of this Comprehensive Plan is not to develop a long-range transportation plan, it will analyze and consider transportation issues as they are inherently related to land use and zoning decisions.

The transportation considerations impacting land use planning decisions can be divided into two categories that may be thought of as external and internal. The former involve those that affect the delineation of Village areas that are recommended for open space preservation or development/ redevelopment for mixed-use, residential, commercial, industrial, public or other use. They require consideration of different neighborhood needs for connections to the rest of the Village and region and the impact of different land uses on these connections. The latter is concerned with the layout of through and local transportation service within the different areas, and zoning and subdivision regulations that impact development as it occurs.

The ability of existing routes to accommodate future demand and the feasibility of new and improvements to existing routes should bear on the land use decisions. Planning for future land use should consider, among other factors, the different needs for access and service of different types of land use. It should then evaluate the capacity of local and regional routes serving the different areas to provide those connections and service. This involves an assessment of major routes, their capacity, and existing and projected use. It also involves a generalized estimate of the transportation impact of land use alternatives. In addition to traffic capacity, the highway and street networks, bicycle and pedestrian networks, and connections to transit will be evaluated and considered in the Future Land Use plan.

### **2.9.1 Road Network**

Within Interlaken's boundaries, the roads are primarily maintained by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and the Village. The only County Route within the Village of Interlaken is Route 141 (Cayuga Street). The County maintains approximately ¾ mile

of this road between Main Street and Lakeview Street. Within Interlaken, NYSDOT maintains approximately 1.3 miles of roadway. Maintenance includes repairing asphalt and other actions needed to keep roads in a state of good repair. NYSDOT contracts snow and ice maintenance within the Village to the County. Sidewalks, landscaping and drainage are the responsibility of the Village. As of this writing NYSDOT has two projects within Interlaken on its program of projects: repaving of Route 96 scheduled for summer 2014 and Safe Routes to School (see 2.9.3, “Bicycles & Pedestrians”).

### **2.9.2 Public Transportation**

Seneca Transit Service Route 5 serves Interlaken, which stops at the corner of Main Street and Route 96A. The bus operates a fixed schedule with four trips per day and provides service from Interlaken to Lodi, Ovid, Willard, Romulus, Fayette, Route 96 and Rte 336, Fall & State, Virginia & Main, and the Seneca County Office Building. Dial-A-Ride service operates Monday-Friday. The County strives to provide affordable and reliable transit service, charging \$1 for travel on fixed routes and \$3 for Dial-A-Ride, which is reduced by one-half for seniors, those with disabilities and children aged 5-11.

The TCAT bus route 21 serves the Village of Trumansburg seven days per week, with three trips on weekends. The bus serves the Trumansburg Park and Ride lot (Salo Drive, adjacent to Route 227) inbound in the morning and outbound in the afternoon and evening. Trumansburg is a 6.5 mile (8 minute) drive from Interlaken.

### **2.9.3 Bicycles & Pedestrians**

The Village is well suited for bicycling. Its relatively low traffic volumes, quiet streets and relatively flat elevations create an attractive bicycling environment. Like many rural areas, Interlaken does not have an extensive network of formal bicycle and pedestrian facilities. However, the Village may want to consider accommodating bicyclists and pedestrians as these activities increase in popularity as inexpensive and convenient forms of exercise and transportation.

In 2013 Interlaken received \$400,000 Safe Routes to School Grant from NYSDOT to build new and repair existing sidewalks in the Village. Recognizing that travel to school by walking and bicycling has declined dramatically in recent decades, the goal of New York's Safe Routes to School Program is “to assist New York communities in developing and implementing projects and programs that encourage walking and bicycling to school while enhancing the safety of these trips”. Even though the sidewalk project is being funded through Safe Routes to School, the improvements will benefit residents of all ages. According to the plans being drafted by NYSDOT, the project will replace approximately 5,820 linear feet of sidewalk. Approximately 2,860 linear feet of new sidewalks will be constructed along sections of Mechanic, Knight, Prospect, Leroy, Geneva, Lakeview and Cayuga Streets including a small section on West Ave (Route 96A).

Although Interlaken is generally well-suited to walking, owing to the lack services available on Main Street (such as groceries or pharmacies) the community is not considered “walkable”. According to the popular website Walk Score®, Interlaken is “car dependent”, because most errands require a car. The community receives a score of just 35 out of 100.

### **2.9.4 Wayfinding**

Wayfinding refers to a signage and other graphic communication that assists people in orienting themselves and navigating a place. Wayfinding systems are often used to market a place and evoke a sense of history and character. The Village maintains typical street signs such as

directional, stop signs, intersection markers, road name signs, seasonal signs, and the like. The Village also maintains three gateway signs at entrances along routes 89, 96, 96A.



**Figure 18. Village of Interlaken gateway sign, Route 96A.**

# Chapter 3 / VISION, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS



Figure 19. View of the Village of Interlaken looking east along Route 96A.

## 3.1 Plan Framework

The recommendations within this Comprehensive Plan will assist the Village of Interlaken in achieving its vision for the next decade. The Comprehensive Plan Committee has developed this plan to help Interlaken achieve its economic development goals and expand the rural residential and village center characteristics that its residents value. Throughout the planning process, the committee members working with residents and business owners have defined a *vision* for Interlaken. The major Goals, Objectives and Action Items—defined below—are designed to bring about an implementation of the Vision.

**Goals** are generalized, broad or overarching statements identifying what the Village wants to accomplish. Goals should be clear, concise, and realistic, and include a vision of community desires for the future. The goals should be representative of ideas and values expressed throughout the public outreach process. When formulating goals, the Committee discussed how they would like Interlaken to look and feel, ten to twenty years in the future.

**Objectives** are more specific and further well-defined than goal statements. Objectives state what the Village must do in order to satisfy their stated goal or vision statement. Objectives are listed in the plan in priority order.

**Actions** are the actual tasks that need to be accomplished in order to achieve the Village's goals and objectives. A plan will be considered a much stronger document if the action steps are *SMART*<sup>12</sup>:

**S**pecific – What is to be achieved? Who or what is expected to change and by how much? When is the change to occur? Who is responsible for taking the lead? What partnerships need to be fostered in order to achieve the desired outcome? Each Action should include a timeframe, lead partner, proposed partnerships, and proposed funding sources.

**M**easurable – Can the information in your action step be collected, detected, or obtained from records?

**A**chievable – Can the action steps really be met? Are your proposals realistic?

**R**elevant to the larger goal and/or objective – do the action steps reflect the Village's desired accomplishments?

**T**imed – Do the action steps include a timeframe during which they will be achieved? Timeframes can help create the motivation needed to meet a commitment by setting a deadline for initiating or implementing a project.

The full implementation strategy with a “smart” list of Actions is discussed in Chapter 5.

### 3.2 Vision Statement

The Village Board agreed on this simple vision statement, which is brief enough for the residents of Interlaken to recall when discussing the plan's purpose. The goals listed below will help guide the implementation plan, which in turn will lead to fulfillment of the vision.

**In 2025, Interlaken will be a historic village with a plan for the future. Within a regional tourism destination at the intersection of Routes 96, 96A and 141, you'll find a quaint downtown, attractive homes and apartments and a local school. It is the ideal place for those who appreciate the offerings of the Finger Lakes and nearby larger cities, yet are happy to come home to a small town and its natural surroundings.**

### 3.3 Goals

The three goals listed below were developed through months of public outreach that included conversations with the Village Board and with other residents and regional officials. They represent the most significant topics to address in the Comprehensive Plan. Within each goal, the Objectives and Actions listed below will guide the Village toward its full potential. Section 5 includes a matrix that prioritizes the Actions into an Implementation Plan.

#### **GOAL 1: Attract new residents and businesses.**

##### a. Objective: Revitalize Main Street through historic preservation

Interlaken has a healthy mix of local businesses and the Village is keen to retain and support these unique assets. However, feedback from the survey demonstrates that there is room for improvement in the provision of local retail, particularly shops and restaurants. The Village

<sup>12</sup> City of San Antonio Planning Department, Action Steps for Neighborhood Plans, August 2006.

Board understands that improving the condition of its Main Street buildings is an important first step towards attracting new retail businesses. The creation of a historic district would enable property owners to register contributing structures and apply for tax credits to assist property owners with rehabilitation efforts. It is important to note that having individual buildings listed on the Historic Register does not place restrictions on owners wishing to alter their properties except where State or Federal money is used.

**Actions:**

- **Create a Main Street Historic District.** Work with the Interlaken Historical Society, the Preservation League of New York State and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to explore options available for Historic Register designation, federal and state tax credits, and grant programs to rehabilitate and market historic buildings on Main Street.
- **Create a Main Street Association.** Work with existing business owners and the Interlaken Community Action Group to create a Main Street Association that will strengthen business ties within the community, enable local business owners to share knowledge and resources, and produce a strategy to attract new small businesses to Interlaken. Recruit residents, even those who are not business owners, to the organization as part of an effort to bolster the local volunteer base.

b. Objective: Retain the South Seneca Elementary School in Interlaken

**Actions:**

- **Establish Village representation on the School Board.** The Village recognizes that South Seneca Elementary is an important community asset. The Village should ensure that the interests of residents are represented on the School Board.
- **Create a committee to work with the South Seneca School District to plan for the future of the South Seneca Elementary.** The Elementary School is an important community asset in Interlaken and residents want the school to remain open in the coming years. However, with declining numbers of elementary school age children in Interlaken, and newer facilities available in Ovid, the Village should be active in advocating for the future of South Seneca Elementary, and explore the options for alternative uses of the school building should the District decide to consolidate the various facilities. Having a plan developed with community consensus will strengthen the Village's advocacy position in the event of a future closure.
- **Leverage the Safe Routes to School sidewalks project.** Keep residents up to date about the Safe Routes to School project on the Village website and through social media and local newspapers. Work with the School District to plan promotional events to make local residents and neighboring municipalities aware of the project. Educate students on pedestrian safety and the benefits of walking to school.
- **Promote walking to school on an ongoing basis.** Work with the School District and South Seneca Elementary to create a walking school bus, and explore options for walking events such as 'walk to school Wednesday' or a polar walk in winter.

c. Objective: Substantially improve Village communications (internal with residents) and marketing (external to new residents and visitors)

The public outreach process conducted for this plan revealed a number of misconceptions about Village operations. It is important for the Village to improve communications with residents to limit future misunderstandings and to encourage productive dialogue between the Village

Board and the community. Specifically, the Village should improve its online presence by revamping the Village website, creating a presence on social media, and making Village staff responsible for regular updates. Improved communications are essential for efficient Village operations and a strong online presence will also enable the Village to implement this comprehensive plan over time.

#### **Actions:**

- **Overhaul the Village website and keep it up-to-date.** Work with a website developer to refresh the Village's online presence, or create a simple blog-style website (Wordpress or Blogspot) that is easy to maintain to communicate Village news and resources in an effective and timely manner. Ensure that the new website will have an attractive design while being functional and easy to maintain (it should not cost the Village money to post updates on the site). Consider sharing a website or website services with the Town of Covert. Nominate a Village staff member to be responsible for regularly updating the site by posting public meeting notices, agendas and minutes online. Recruit volunteers from community organizations to create website content. Create photo albums of Village events to post on the website. Leverage the website as a marketing tool for Interlaken that will appeal to young families, tourists, and potential new businesses.
- **Create a Village presence on social media to engage residents.** Social media sites are widely used and are an effective (and inexpensive) way to keep residents up to date. Leverage sites such as Facebook and SeeClickFix as marketing and communications tools.
- **Work with local realtors to ensure housing opportunities in Interlaken are well-advertised and easy to find.** Many municipalities in upstate New York have listings of available property on their website.
- **Re-establish the welcome pack for new residents.** The welcome pack is an important gesture on the Village's part to welcome residents, as well as an effective way to encourage new residents to participate in Village life.
- **Encourage local business owners to expand their web presence.** Work with local business owners and the new Main Street Association to expand and improve websites.
- **Utilize SeeClickFix and Snowcrew to make more efficient use of Town/County DPW.** These are free and easy-to-use websites through which residents can communicate directly with Village, Town and County officials to report infrastructure issues.

#### d. Objective: Improve and expand Interlaken's housing stock

Improving housing options and helping seniors to stay in their homes were high priorities for survey respondents. Residents would also like to see action regarding condemned properties. The survey revealed strong support for senior housing and new single-family homes, however, often these building types are not compatible (seniors often prefer to downsize). The Village should focus efforts on helping seniors to stay in their homes and work to attract young families.

#### **Actions:**

- **Leverage the I&I study, research funding opportunities and apply for grants to carry out essential upgrades on Village water infrastructure.** Infrastructure upgrades are essential to attract new residents and businesses to Interlaken.
- **Research alternative ways to fund infrastructure improvement programs.** The Village cannot use property tax revenue to fund infrastructure projects. The Village should consider alternative funding sources, such as user fees, to raise money for essential upgrades.

- **Build upon the Village’s events to market Interlaken at a regional level.** Capitalize on the Village’s beautiful scenic location (a short drive from nearby Trumansburg and local wineries) to draw visitors into the Village for local events.
- **Set up a local shared resources program to assist local home owners and renters with maintenance.** Consider creating and expanding seasonal events to bolster community pride and encourage ongoing maintenance of residential properties, such as a holiday lights festival (or competition) and yard clean-up days (such as Dumpster Day).
- **Provide tax incentives for homeowners or developers to invest in Interlaken.**
- **Work with the County and nearby municipalities to institute an effective policy/strategy for demolition of condemned property.** Communicate the Village’s efforts to date and future plans regarding condemned properties through the Village newsletter, website and Facebook page.
- **Strengthen local ordinance relating to condemned properties/property maintenance.** Consider establishing standards for conversion of single-family homes into apartments and encourage conversions to meet the needs of seniors (for example, first and second floor apartments are better suited to seniors than split level).
- **Work with Conifer to explore options for future expansion to meet demand.**

**GOAL 2: Improve the quality of daily life in the Village**

- e. Objective: Expand opportunities for recreation in the Village

**Actions:**

- **Make better use of existing vacant land for recreation.** Carry out a feasibility study for the railway line right-of-way, potentially engaging Cornell planning and landscape architecture students to assist through a Design Connect project, and investigate grant opportunities to implement projects.
- **Complete the Safe Routes to School project.** Then leverage this investment with future grant applications and a coordinated effort.

- f. Objective: Improve access to healthy food within the Village

**Actions:**

- **Work with Main Street business owners and local farms to install a farm stand.** In the future, the farm stand could expand into a farmers market if there are sufficient producers with capacity for a market. The local convenience markets could pilot this program for a trial period to gauge interest.
- **Engage the Amish community.** Encourage the Amish community to sell fresh produce and other goods in Interlaken.
- **Work with existing CSA (Community-Supported Agriculture) owners to explore the feasibility of bringing fresh produce to residents.** CSAs in Hector and Ovid deliver regularly to Watkins Glen, Corning and Elmira—a greater distance than Interlaken.

- g. Objective: Encourage sustainable practices to reduce the Village’s carbon footprint and save money over the long term

**Actions:**

- **Adopt the Climate Smart Communities Pledge.** Formally adopting the Climate Smart Communities Pledge will demonstrate Interlaken’s commitment to GHG emission reduction and climate adaptation, and enable the community to reduce costs to

taxpayers by increasing energy efficiency, improving operations and infrastructure, and positioning the Village for economic growth. By signing the Pledge, the Village will also receive notifications about funding opportunities, informational webinars and other resources. Further information and resource pages are available on the DEC's website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/50845.html>.

- **Adopt a local law to encourage/incentivize homeowners to install renewable energy on their property.** The Village should build on existing efforts by residents installing solar and geothermal energy in their homes and businesses by defining renewable energy sources in the Village code and encouraging their use.
- **Create a public information program to encourage composting of household waste and monitor progress.** When done correctly, composting is a sustainable and effective way to dispose of food waste that reduces landfill and helps gardeners. The Village should document efforts on the website and Facebook page to encourage greater participation.
- **Periodically remind residents about the benefits of recycling.** Once a year, inform residents about the benefits of waste reduction (both environmental and monetary) in the community newsletter, and on the website and Facebook page.

h. Objective: Encourage walking and biking in the Village

**Actions:**

- **Continue the Cemetery tour program.** Work with the Historical Society and local church groups to create a walking tour of the Village that can be posted on the Village website, provided at the Bed and Breakfast and advertised to local tourists. Consider running the walking tour as a Jane's Walk to celebrate Interlaken's historical assets and engage local residents in their community.
- **Leverage the Safe Routes to School Project.** (See Actions under Objective e, above.)

**GOAL 3: Strengthen the Village's economic bottom line**

i. Objective: Work with the Towns and the County to improve the Village's economic position.

**Actions:**

- **Revisit opportunities for Shared Services between the Village and the Town of Covert.** The Village should revisit previous conversations about shared service agreements between the Village and the Town, and formalize existing "handshake" agreements to enable the Village to measure and report on the efficiencies already benefiting the Village.
- **Advocate for sales tax distribution at the County level.** 30% of counties in New York State distribute a percentage of sales tax revenue to towns and villages within their borders. Seneca County does not currently distribute any sales tax revenue to municipalities.
- **Create an implementation committee responsible for taking forward the action items outlined in the Comprehensive Plan and documenting progress.** To realize the goals of the Comprehensive Plan it is very important for the Village to take all the necessary steps to implement the action items in the plan according to the schedule set out in Chapter 5. Although funding will be necessary to achieve many of the actions, community participation is imperative to coordinate the significant volunteer effort that will also be required.

j. Objective: Maintain low tax rates in the Village

**Actions:**

- **Increase the number of properties on the tax rolls.** (See actions regarding condemned properties under Objective d, above, and marketing efforts under Objective c, above.)
- **Work with realtors to market empty stores.** Interlaken has a historic Main Street and a community that is strongly in favor of supporting local retail businesses. Along with actions related to improving communications, the Village should ensure that its Main Street stores are sufficiently well-advertised to take advantage of the Village's Finger Lakes location and affordability relative to nearby Trumansburg.

# Chapter 4 / FUTURE LAND USE

## 4.1 Purpose of Land Use Planning

The goal of the Future Land Use Plan is to provide a general pattern for the location, distribution and character of the future land uses within the Village of Interlaken. The plan, as shown in Figure 20, visually represents the desired land use modifications based on the findings of the comprehensive plan process. Interlaken is a compact village that is primarily “built out” – meaning that there is very little open land, and the opportunities for development or change are concentrated in the existing residential and commercial districts. The limitations of Interlaken’s infrastructure as well as existing regional market conditions were considered, resulting in changes that are relatively minimal.

The Village Board should evaluate any future land use laws and policy in the context of the entire Comprehensive Plan, including the Future Land Use Plan. The Future Land Use Plan should serve as the basis for a future zoning ordinance should the Village decide to enact zoning at a later date. It is important to point out that the Future Land Use Plan is not a zoning document or land use regulation. Whereas a zoning code is a regulatory mechanism, a Future Land Use Plan should guide development over a longer period of time while indicating the particular types of uses the Village desires and expects to see in future development. Like this entire document, *it is the basis for new land use regulations, but it is not a law.*

## 4.2 Community Survey

The CPC conducted a Village-wide Community Survey at the outset of the comprehensive plan process, the results of which helped to bring focus to the group’s goal-setting. In terms of land use, survey respondents were in favor of preserving existing agricultural lands and natural resources, attracting new local businesses, and improving the quality of housing options. Only a fraction of the land within Interlaken’s boundary is agricultural, however, all land surrounding the Village is included in New York State Agricultural District Number 12. Community Survey respondents were concerned about the number of condemned properties in the Village. Owing to the compact layout of Interlaken, future development is likely to occur as infill on existing parcels and vacant land.

## 4.3 Future Land Use

The Future Land Use map shown in Figure 20 shows the changes in land use that will help Interlaken to achieve its vision in the coming years. After the Comprehensive Plan is adopted, the Village should refer to this map before making any changes to land use to ensure that changes are aligned with the community’s vision. Note that the Future Land Use map is not meant to convey the specific boundaries of future zoning districts or changes but shows the general areas for any modifications. The Future Land Use Plan reflects the Village Board’s desire to retain the land uses present at the time of writing, with the exception of the railway right of way. In the future, this area could be converted into a recreational trail. The Board would also welcome the return of rail access in the future.

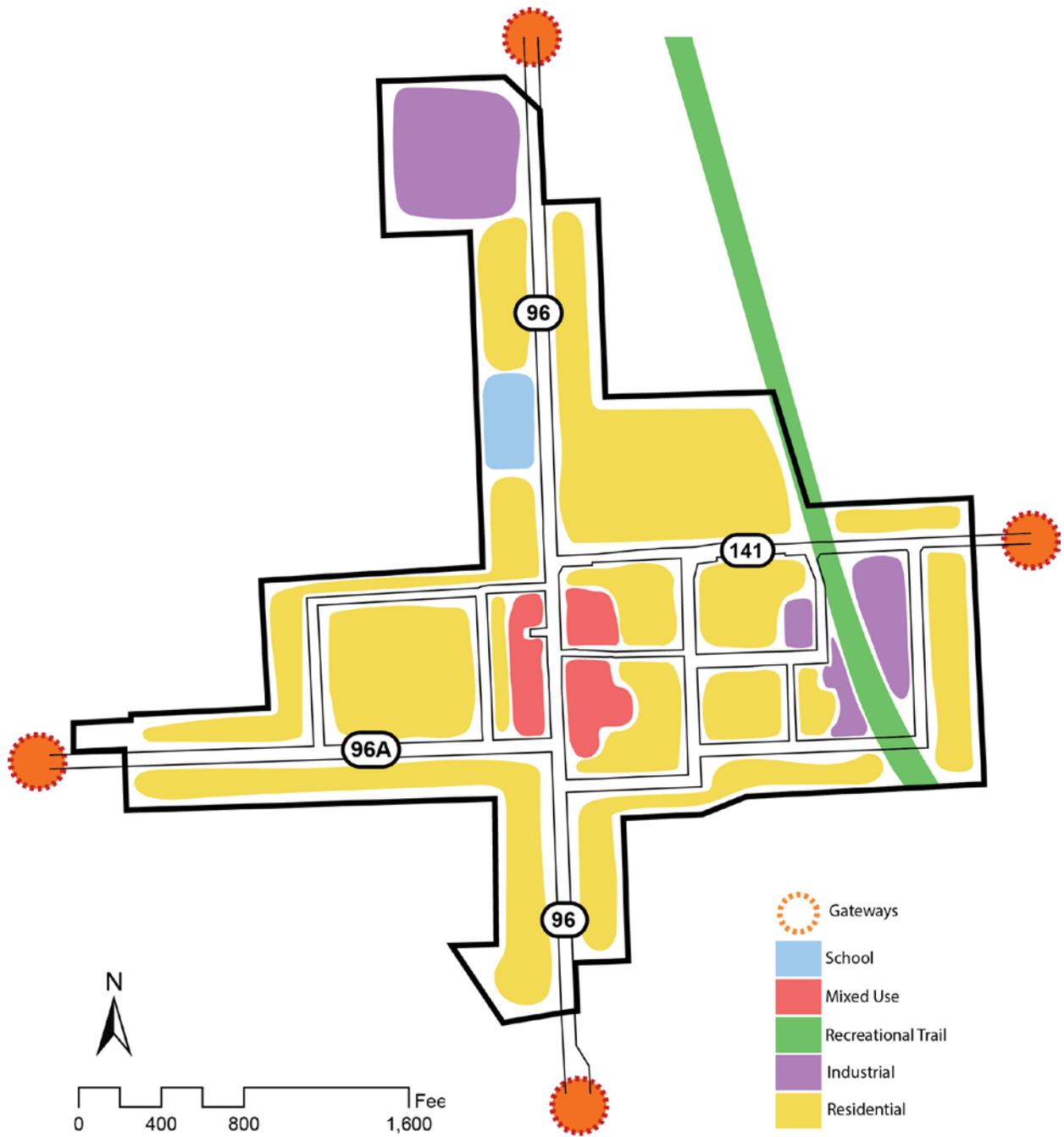


Figure 20. Village of Interlaken Future Land Use Plan.

# Chapter 5 / IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the Comprehensive Plan will be an ongoing process. While some recommendations can be carried out in a relatively short period of time, others may only be realized by the end of a ten-year planning period or beyond. For Interlaken, creating an implementation table, assigning responsibilities and developing priorities is the first step towards successful plan implementation.

Many of the relevant funding sources are provided by various New York State agencies, through annual grant programs or other sources. These potential sources are subject to change, as the State’s programs and levels of dedicated funding change from year to year. The Village of Interlaken should work with the various State agencies and Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council to remain aware of these changes as well as additions to the potential funding sources.

Please refer to the List of Acronyms in the Table of Contents for the full names of the potential partner agencies and funding sources.

## 5.1 High-Priority Actions

The Plan recommends that the Village embark on these actions in the next year.

	Action	Responsible Party(ies)	Potential Partner(s)	Potential Funding Sources
1	Create a Village presence on social media to engage residents.	Village Board	Volunteers	N/A
2	Establish Village representation on the School Board.	Village Board	Interlaken Community Action Group (ICAG)	N/A
3	Adopt the Climate Smart Communities Pledge.	Village Board	n/a	N/A
4	Create an implementation committee responsible for taking forward the action items outlined in the Comprehensive Plan and documenting progress.	Village Board	ICAG	N/A

## 5.2 SHORT-TERM

The Plan recommends that the Village and its potential partners embark on these actions in the next one to two years.

	Action	Responsible Party(ies)	Potential Partner(s)	Potential Funding Sources
1	Create a Main Street Association.	Village Board	ICAG, local businesses	N/A
2	Create a committee to work with the South Seneca School District to plan for the future of South Seneca Elementary.	Village Board	South Seneca School District	N/A
3	Leverage the Safe Routes to School sidewalks project.	Village Board	ICAG, Parents, School Board	NYS DOT, Finger Lakes

				REDC
4	Overhaul the Village website and keep it up-to-date.	Village Board	Volunteers	General Fund
5	Work with local realtors to ensure housing opportunities in Interlaken are well-advertised and easy to find. Also encourage them to market empty storefronts.	Village Board	Local realtors, Volunteers	N/A
6	Encourage local business owners to expand their web presence.	Village Board	Local businesses, Main Street Association	N/A
7	Utilize SeeClickFix and Snowcrew to make more efficient use of Town/County DPW.	Interlaken DPW	Village Board	N/A
8	Work with the County and nearby municipalities to institute an effective policy/strategy for demolition of condemned property.	Village Board	Seneca Co., Town/Village of Lodi and Ovid	DOS Shared Services funding
9	Continue the Cemetery tour program.	Interlaken Historical Society	Volunteers	N/A
10	Work with realtors to market empty stores.	Village Board	Local realtors	N/A
11	Adopt a local law to encourage/incentivize homeowners to install renewable energy on their property.	Village Board Village Attorney	Seneca County	N/A
12	Advocate for sales tax distribution at the local level.	Village Board	Town/Village of Lodi and Ovid, Local business owners	N/A

### 5.3 MEDIUM-TERM

The Village should consider moving forward on these actions in the next two to five years.

	Action	Responsible Party(ies)	Potential Partner(s)	Potential Funding Sources
1	Create a Main Street Historic District.	Village Board	Interlaken Historical Society	Preserve New York Grant Program (NYSCA)
2	Re-establish the welcome pack for new residents.	ICAG	Main Street Association, Village Board	In-kind donations
3	Build upon the Village's events to market Interlaken at a regional level.	Village Board	Seneca Co. Chamber, Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance	General fund
4	Set up a local shared resources program to assist local home owners and renters with maintenance.	Village Board	ICAG	General fund
5	Provide tax incentives for homeowners	Village Board	n/a	N/A

	or developers to invest in Interlaken.			
6	Strengthen local ordinance relating to condemned properties/property maintenance.	Village Board	Seneca Co. Planning Dept.	General fund
7	Work with Main Street business owners and local farms to install a farm stand.	Village Board	ICAG, Main Street Assoc.	Local businesses
8	Work with nearby CSAs to explore the feasibility of bringing fresh produce to residents.	Village Board	ICAG, Church groups	N/A
9	Create a public information program to encourage composting of household waste and monitor progress.	Village Board	ICAG	N/A
10	Leverage the I&I study, research funding opportunities and apply for grants to carry out essential upgrades on Village water infrastructure.	Village Board	ICAG	USDA Rural Development, EFC zero interest loans, Clean Water State Revolving Fund
11	Research alternative ways to fund infrastructure improvement programs.	Village Board	Town/Village of Lodi and Ovid	N/A
12	Work with Conifer to explore options for future expansion to meet demand.	Village Board	Volunteers	N/A

#### 5.4 LONG-TERM

The list of long-term actions should be considered in the next six to ten years.

	Action	Responsible Party(ies)	Potential Partner(s)	Potential Funding Sources
1	Make better use of existing vacant land for recreation.	Village Board	Cornell Design Connect	OPRHP funding, General fund
2	Increase the number of properties on the tax rolls.	Village Board	Local businesses	NYMS funding

#### 5.5 ONGOING

The Village should continue the following actions on an ongoing basis.

	Action	Responsible Party(ies)	Potential Partner(s)	Potential Funding Sources
1	Promote walking to school on an ongoing basis	School Board Committee	Parents, Volunteers, DPW	n/a
2	Engage the Amish community.	Village Board	ICAG	n/a
3	Periodically remind residents of the benefits of recycling (newsletter)	Village Board	DPW	General Fund