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PROPOSED FRANKLIN VISION STATEMENT

FRANKLIN BOROUGH, IN THE YEAR 2030, WILL HAVE ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS THE CORE OF A REGIONAL CENTER, WHICH WILL ALSO INCLUDE HAMBURG AND PARTS OF HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP AND WHICH WILL BE THE FOCAL POINT OF A LARGE PORTION OF THE EASTERN SUSSEX COUNTY AREA.

THE BOROUGH WILL ATTRACT VISITORS FROM THROUGHOUT SUSSEX COUNTY AND OTHER AREAS AS WELL. THE RESIDENT POPULATION WILL HAVE INCREASED TO 8,000 PEOPLE, WITH MANY OF THE NEW RESIDENTS CLUSTERED IN THE VICINITY OF MAIN STREET.

THE ROUTE 23 CORRIDOR WILL HAVE ACHIEVED A BALANCE BETWEEN BEING A REGIONAL ARTERIAL ROADWAY, CARRYING TRAVELERS THROUGH FRANKLIN TO OTHER DESTINATIONS, AND SERVING ITS OTHER FUNCTION AS A SECOND "MAIN STREET", BY BEING THE PRIMARY ACCESS TO THE MANY BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THIS TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR. THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED BY APPROPRIATE IMPROVEMENTS TO ROUTE 23 ITSELF, AS WELL AS VIA AN INTERCONNECTED NETWORK OF BYPASS AND CONNECTOR ROADS, SUPPLEMENTED BY AN EXTENSIVE PEDESTRIAN / BICYCLE NETWORK. THE VIBRANT "MIXED USE" ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL BE CREATED IN THIS AREA WILL MAKE THE ROUTE 23 CORRIDOR A MORE DIVERSE, DYNAMIC AND INTERESTING PART OF THE BOROUGH THAN IT WAS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 21ST CENTURY

THE BOROUGH'S "ORIGINAL" MAIN STREET, BY 2030, WILL HAVE UNDERGONE A TRANSFORMATION MAKING IT AGAIN A FOCAL POINT OF THE COMMUNITY, ALBEIT A DIFFERENT TYPE OF FOCAL POINT THAN IT WAS ORIGINALLY. NEW RESIDENTS AND COMMERCIAL USES WILL INCREASE THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IN THIS PART OF THE BOROUGH, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE COMPACT, WALKABLE ENVIRONMENT THAT BY 2030 WILL BE ENHANCED AND EXPANDED. THE NEW COMMERCIAL USES WILL SERVE THE RESIDENTS IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA BUT WILL ALSO INCLUDE NICHE, SPECIALITY USES THAT WILL DRAW CUSTOMERS FROM OTHER AREAS AS WELL. THE HISTORICAL CHARACTER AND RESOURCES OF THIS AREA WILL BE ENHANCED AND WILL ALSO BE COMPLEMENTED BY ANY NEW DEVELOPMENT.

SPRAWL WILL HAVE BEEN CONTAINED, BY ENCOURAGING CLUSTER AND INFILL DEVELOPMENT OF SUFFICIENT DENSITIES, BOTH IN THE MAIN STREET AREA, AS WELL AS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COMMUNITY, IN ORDER TO SUPPORT AND JUSTIFY THE COMMERCIAL USES AND THE EXTENSIVE PEDSTRIAN NETWORK THAT WILL EXIST. THE CONTAINMENT OF SPRAWL WILL MEAN THAT THE BOROUGH'S REMAINING ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES WILL BE PROTECTED AND PRESERVED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, THEREBY ACHIEVING THE ECOLOGICAL BALANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE FOR BOROUGH RESIDENTS.

IN SUMMARY, FRANKLIN BOROUGH, IN THE YEAR 2030, WILL HAVE EVOLVED INTO A COMMUNITY, SIMILAR IN MANY RESPECTS TO THE FRANKLIN BOROUGH OF THE FIRST DECADE OF THE 21ST CENTURY, BUT BETTER POSITIONED TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF THE MIDDLE PART OF THE 21ST CENTURY AND BEYOND.