

# APPENDIX



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Accessibility/accessible:** Capable of being used or accessed by people of different abilities and backgrounds. Accessibility is often used within the context and definitions determined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Accessible is not the same as inclusive, however, accessibility of public spaces is an important first step and is often followed by looking at how to make those spaces more equitable and inclusive.

**Blueway:** A designated water trail designed with launch points – and occasionally camp sites and other points of interest along the route – for recreational use with canoes, kayaks and paddle boards.

**Community Engagement:** The process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest, or similar situations to address issues affecting the well-being of those people. It is a powerful vehicle for bringing about environmental and behavioral changes that will improve the health of the community and its members. It often involves partnerships and coalitions that help mobilize resources and influence systems, change relationships among partners, and serve as catalysts for changing policies, programs, and practices. (The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], NRPA)

**Connectivity:** The state of being connected or interconnected, and enables movement among otherwise disparate elements. Connectivity, in the context of this comprehensive plan, relates to transportation, ecology, culture, and community. From an ecological standpoint, connected landscapes are better able to protect biodiversity and accommodate species and ecosystem adaptation to threats. From a transportation and community standpoint, connectivity refers to how easily people can travel by way of a system of greenways, blueways, sidewalks, and roads. Generally speaking, the better connected the built and natural landscape, the more responsive it is to human and ecological needs and functions.

**Conservation Development:** Communities or subdivisions designed and managed to preserve landscapes with some combination of environmental, cultural, agricultural, historical or aesthetic values. Conservation development begins with the delineation of conservation land – ideally 30 to 70 percent of a site's buildable area – that is set aside for permanent protection under a conservation easement. This open space should be connected and typically occurs along drainage ways. In the land area beyond the conservation areas, new development is often tightly clustered, resulting in a development that accommodates growth while strategically preserving open space.

**Conservation Easement:** A restrictive easement that is specific to the property and describes how the land must be protected and managed over time. Private landowners can donate conservation easements to a land trust or similar organization, guaranteeing specific land protections in return for individual tax benefits. The land continues to be owned and managed by the private landowners, and the land is permanently protected. Easements can allow for public access and for limited development – for example, so that future generations can continue to live on the property.

**Cultural Landscape:** Historically and culturally significant places that are the result of human interaction with the physical environment.

**Diversity:** Differences in racial and ethnic, socioeconomic, geographic and academic/professional backgrounds; people with different opinions, backgrounds (degrees and social experience), religious beliefs, political beliefs, sexual orientations, heritage, mental or physical ability, learning style, gender identity and life experience. (NRPA)

**Equity:** The absence of avoidable, unfair or remediable differences among groups of people, whether those groups are defined socially, economically, demographically or geographically, or by other means of stratification. Equity = Fairness and Justice. (The World Health Organization)

**FlexCode:** A form-based code written and adopted to implement the 2009 Master Plan. The Gateway District was rezoned to the FlexCode in 2013 and FlexCode zoning is an option for other areas of Leland at the discretion of the landowner.

**Floodplain:** Any land area susceptible to being inundated by floodwaters.

**Flood Zone:** Special Flood Hazard Areas as defined by the most recently adopted FEMA maps. The 100-year flood zone is defined as an area that has a 1% or greater chance of being inundated in any given year.

**Gateway District:** The area west of the Village Road interchange with US 74/76 that includes much of the historic origins of Leland. This area has been referred to as the gateway to Leland, and was identified as the Gateway District in the 2013 Gateway Infill Plan which is a direct implementation of the 2009 Master Plan. The area forms the nucleus of the community's vision of a town center and a discernible "downtown."

**Green Stormwater Infrastructure:** Measures that use plant or soil systems; landscaping; stormwater harvest and reuse; or permeable surfaces to store, infiltrate or evapotranspire stormwater and reduce flows to sewer systems and surface waters. Green infrastructure reduces and treats stormwater at its source, reducing the chance of local flooding, while delivering environmental, social and economic benefits.

**Greenway:** Typically a shared-use path set aside for recreational use and environmental protection, often along stream and river corridors.

**Green Network:** A holistic system that connects parks and natural resources with safe, accessible routes for both people and wildlife.

**Habitat:** Land and water that provides food, shelter, nesting grounds and migration corridors for local wildlife.

**Health Equity:** Fair and just opportunities afforded to everyone, so that all people can attain their highest level of health; valuing everyone equally with sustained efforts and resources heavily focused on addressing unjust, unfair and avoidable historical, social and political injustices, and eliminating health disparities. Allocating resources on the basis of need. (The Root Cause Coalition, NRPA)

**Impaired Waters:** An impaired waterbody is one that does not meet water quality uses, such as water supply, fishing or propagation of aquatic life. Results from state water quality monitoring determine whether waterbodies meet standards or are impaired. If impaired, the sections of waterway are placed on a 303(d) list and will have requirements placed on the governing jurisdiction for improving the water quality. (EPA)

**Inclusion:** Authentically bringing traditionally excluded individuals and/or groups into the processes, activities and decisions/policymaking in a way that shares power, recognizes and celebrates differences, ensures people feel welcome, and makes sure everyone has equitable access to opportunities. (Racial Equity Tools)

**Land Trust:** Private non-profit organizations working to conserve land with open space value by securing conservation easements, advocating for strategic land conservation and overseeing or supporting long-term land stewardship.

**Low Impact Development (LID):** Systems and practices that use or mimic natural processes that result in the infiltration, evapotranspiration or use of stormwater in order to protect water quality and associated aquatic habitat. EPA currently uses the term green infrastructure (GI) to refer to the management of wet weather flows that use these processes, and to refer to the patchwork of natural areas that provide habitat, flood protection, cleaner air and cleaner water. (EPA)

**NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System):** The NPDES permit program addresses water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States. Created in 1972 by the Clean Water Act, the NPDES permit program is authorized to state governments by EPA to perform many permitting, administrative, and enforcement aspects of the program. The Clean Water Act prohibits anybody from discharging "pollutants" through a "point source" into a "water of the United States" unless they have an NPDES permit. The permit will contain limits on what you can discharge, monitoring and reporting requirements, and other provisions to ensure that the discharge does not hurt water quality or people's health. In essence, the permit translates general requirements of the Clean Water Act into specific provisions tailored to the operations of each person discharging pollutants. (EPA)

**Open Space:** Undeveloped land that is designated and is suitable for environmental, scenic, recreation, cultural or conservation uses.

**Park Access:** The just and fair quantity, proximity and connections to quality parks and green spaces, recreation facilities, as well as programs that are safe, inclusive, culturally relevant and welcoming to everyone. When people have just and fair access, our health and social well-being improve, and our communities can protect and better recover from environmental, social and economic challenges. (NRPA)

**Passive Recreation:** Recreational programming – such as hiking trails and wildlife overlooks – that is relatively light on the land. This protects the habitat and stormwater functions of open space while allowing for public access and benefit.

**Pedestrian Shed:** An area that defines the limits of a mixed use neighborhood. Its size is related to a five minute walk at a leisurely pace. This is roughly a 1/4 mile radius or 1,320 feet. The walkability of an area including infrastructure such as sidewalks will impact whether this radius is actually a five minute walk.

**Planning Area:** The area considered within the Future Land Use Map (FLUM). This includes areas outside the Town limits that could be considered for annexation. Providing future policies for these areas may encourage landowners to consider annexation.

**Planning Transect:** An urban-to-rural transect that allows planners to define different development patterns for different parts of the jurisdiction, with the highest development density expected in the urban core, progressively lower densities in suburban and rural areas, and very limited to no development in surrounding natural areas.

**Point Source:** Any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, such as a pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, discrete fissure, or container. It also includes vessels or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. By law, the term "point source" also includes concentrated animal feeding operations, which are places where animals are confined and fed. By law, agricultural stormwater discharges and return flows from irrigated agriculture are not "point sources." (EPA)

**Purchase of Development Rights:** The owner of land in a priority conservation area can sell their land's development rights, maintaining ownership while guaranteeing some permanent level of protection for the land.

**Resiliency:** The ability of a landscape to recover, adapt and thrive in the face of extreme weather events, climate change and other disruptions.

**Riparian Buffer:** A protected, vegetated area near a stream that promotes water quality by helping to protect the stream from the impacts of adjacent land uses.

**Transfer of Development Rights:** A market is created whereby the owner of land in a priority conservation area can transfer their land's development rights to someone with land in a non-priority area. Establishing this type of program begins with careful analysis of a development market to define "sending" and "receiving" areas and gauge whether such a program could be supported.

**Watershed:** The total land area that drains to a specific waterbody.

**Zoning:** A planning method whereby governments divide land into areas called zones, each of which has its own set of regulations for new development.