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Campton Hills could vote to establish its objectives

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CAMPTON HILLS – For the past year, Campton Hills has sought the community's input about its values and goals for the future, and tonight village leaders could vote on the document that reflects these priorities – the comprehensive plan.

"We feel this is a very progressive plan," said Jason Navota, a senior planner with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. "It goes a long way to protecting the resources and values of the community.

"In my opinion, it goes beyond what other plans have done to set up the right policies and strategies. We're very proud of it. I think the village is very proud of it."

CMAP helped the village with the comprehensive plan process through its local technical assistance program. It was the village's first experience working with the agency, Village President Patsy Smith said.

"I think CMAP's done a great job in assisting the village with this process," she said.

The comprehensive plan should be approved in August if it is not approved tonight, she said.

Described as "the work plan for the community," the comprehensive plan establishes guiding principles, policies and strategies for achieving the goals in each topic area, Navota said.

The first three topics are open space, natural resources and community character – themes mentioned most during community input sessions, Navota said.

The plan is proactive.

"That is, it's not simply for the community to react to decisions or suggestions, but it's a way to move forward and set in place structures or regulations to help protect the community's assets," he said.

CMAP will meet with the village regularly throughout the next year to discuss implementation of the plan, Navota said. CMAP could help the village prioritize different strategies and put Campton Hills in contact with other communities and organizations.

"Sometimes communities don't know where to begin," he said.

Smith said the village plans to apply for another CMAP technical assistance grant to update its zoning and subdivision ordinances.