



NEW PALTZ CONSOLIDATION: PROCESS AND TIMELINE

This document describes the process that the Town of New Paltz and Village of New Paltz will follow as they consider consolidation. The final decision on whether to consolidate will be up to the voters on Election Day 2026.

Critical Context: From Dissolution to Consolidation

In 2024, the Village Board began exploring whether to dissolve the Village of New Paltz. Over the course of that process, Village and Town leadership determined that *consolidation* — rather than dissolution — better served the interests of the community. Unlike dissolution, which is decided by Village voters alone, consolidation requires separate majority approval from both Village and Town-Outside-Village (TOV) voters. A joint consolidation agreement also allows both boards to negotiate and lock in specific commitments in advance, including (but not limited to) the continuation of key services, protections for Town and Village employees, and provisions to ensure former Village residents maintain representation on Town boards and committees. In February 2026, both boards voted to move forward under a consolidation framework.

The Consolidation Process

The proposed agreement was developed through a locally driven process facilitated by the Laberge Group who were commissioned to draft the agreement that will be made public in May. From there, the process will follow a state-mandated timeline, including public hearings and information sessions.¹ The Benjamin Center will also be facilitating public forums and providing additional informational resources for residents to learn about the draft consolidation agreement. If both boards approve the agreement on August 5, 2026, the question will go to a public referendum on November 3, 2026 (Election Day). In order for the consolidation agreement to pass, a majority of Village residents *and* a majority of TOV residents must support it.

Key Dates	
In addition to the key dates listed below, the Benjamin Center will be providing ongoing informational resources for residents, including fact sheets and other materials. Dates and details will be announced as they become available.	
May, 2026	A <i>draft</i> consolidation agreement will be released. This document outlines the proposed terms of consolidation, including governance, services, and finances.
June 1, 2026	The Town Board and Village Board of Trustees will vote to support or reject a joint resolution formally endorsing the <i>draft</i> consolidation agreement and officially kicking off the process.
July 7, 2026	If supported, at least one official public hearing will be held on the proposed agreement, including one on July 7. Residents will be able to ask questions and provide comments on the proposal. The Boards will have the opportunity to change the agreement based on feedback.
August 5, 2026	The Town Board and Village Board of Trustees will vote on the final consolidation agreement. If both boards approve, the proposal goes to the voters.
November 3, 2026	Voters in the Village and the Town-Outside-Village will vote on whether to consolidate. In order for the consolidation agreement to pass, a majority of Village residents and a majority of TOV residents must support it.

¹ See New York General Municipal Law Article 17-A.