

# Amherst Village Strategic Plan Outreach Summaries



# Outreach Findings

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## Sources

- Survey Monkey Results as of 2/2/2015
- Patnaude House Party, 10/22/2014
- Moore House Party, 11/21/2014
- Public Forum Notes, 12/2/2014
- Moore MOMS Club and Preschool, 2014
- S. Yurish, Amherst Village Business Owners, 12/2/2014
- E. Larson, House Party, 12/16/2014
- Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce, 1/8/2015
- Miller Residence Neighborhood Meeting, 1/17/2015
- Safe Routes to School Committee, 1/21/2015
- Conservation Commission, 1/2015
- Amherst Heritage Commission, 2/2015
- Amherst School Board, 2/17/2015
- Danzinger Residence, 3/17/2015

## Main Themes

- People love the sense of community, scenic charm and history
- Enhance, don't change, the Village
- Improve walkability
- Control speed, traffic and noise through law enforcement and police presence

## Vision

- A Village that is alive and thriving
- Preserve and enhance the Village
- A destination for visitors
- Maintain historic, but balance regulation and historic review so to not deter future homebuyers who are essential to maintaining investment in the Village

## Public Safety and Traffic

### Overarching Findings

**Walking:** Most walk through the Village despite it not being as conducive to walking as they would like – it's not a barrier. One participant noted "It is delightful to walk in the Village; it is peaceful. Lots of people come to the Village to walk the Jones Rd loop, just sit, or have lunch." However, nearly half of

residents feel some improvements are needed. Opinion is split on the pedestrian environment design with support for a sidewalk separate from the roadway with a green strip, something similar that also includes a bike lane, or to remain as is – current conditions. Interest in pedestrian improvements is fairly limited to painted crosswalks, Paver crosswalks and curb-cuts/ramps. There is little to no interest in bump-outs, bollards, signals or islands. Some survey respondents wrote in that they do not support any new features. Public opinion supports brick, pavers, or cobbles for sidewalks or crosswalks over other materials. The conclusion of the safe routes to school study found that if there were improvements, more students would walk or bike to school.

**Biking:** Opinion is fairly split over whether the biking experience needs improvement. Bike racks are well supported with some support for lanes and paths. It was noted there is already a bike rack at the library.

**Traffic:** Few think traffic is too heavy, slightly more than half of residents think it gets busy at times and some think there is minimal traffic. Generally residents agree that traffic problems are exacerbated by the bridge being out on Mack Hill. Opinion is split on driving speeds, about half think drivers are cautious and slow and half think too many speed.

**Parking:** The majority think no new parking is needed. That said there are some residents that like angled parking or would like to see it placed to the side and rear of structures. Parking can become difficult during events

## Issues and Challenges

### Walking and Biking:

- Connectivity with rest of town is one of greatest safe walking and biking issues
- Roads are perceived as unsafe for kids to cross or to walk with the exception of where new sidewalks have been completed. There is hope for the SRTS program.
- Making the Village safe for walkers
- You can walk in the Village but how do you get to the Village without driving?
- Lack of designated zones for bikers/pedestrians/motorists to safely coexist

### Traffic:

- Traffic and traffic related impacts such as trucks, noise, speeds – particularly during school pick up and drop off
- Traffic during peak hours makes it dangerous for kids and impedes walkability
- Boston Post Road – including Mt. Vernon Rd taking a left onto Boston Post Rd
- End of Courthouse Rd/Middle St coming on to intersection with Amherst St
- Intersection of Jones Rd and New Boston Rd
- Mack Hill and bridge area
- Middle and Amherst Street have a large tree that causes a blind left
- Continued free flow of traffic through the Village – past construction in the Village had a negative impact

- Business owners are concerned about loss of business if there are any changes that divert traffic away from the Village
- Law enforcement and police presence is needed.
- The bridge being out
- Courthouse Road has no thru truck sign
- Reduce traffic (spread it around instead of concentrated)
- Parking and loudspeakers at fields on Jones road can be problematic
- Difficult visibility when backing out of parking spaces at the library
- Character of the Village may be compromised if there are additional paved areas. Perhaps Library patrons could park farther away and walk.
- Bus ridership to schools has decreased and school related car traffic has increased
- People driving from the Christian Hill area are caught up in the Foundry, Davis Lane school-related traffic.

#### **Signage:**

- Too much signage in the Village, stop signs are needed, but perhaps reduce other signage

### **Recommended Improvements**

There is no clear consensus on desired road safety improvements. About a fifth of survey respondents skipped the question implying none of the safety improvements are needed. Another 20% wrote in comments that generally stated that no improvements were needed and, rather than add signage, current signage should be reduced. Residents did not support visual elements that would embody a more suburban or urban characteristic. Those improvements that had some support were yield and stop signs and speed bumps. More generally, there is a preference for improvements that you don't see – or are minimal – such as speed bumps instead of stop signs, traffic enforcement, reroute truck traffic, one way streets.

#### **Walking and Biking:**

- More sidewalks and improved walkability in the Village and around it, including:
  - Improve walking access from roads leading into the Village. Additional bike/pedestrian amenities along Boston Post Road, Merrimack Road, and Corduroy Road leading up to the village
  - Jones Road Loop
  - Designated sidewalks in winter separate from bike lanes
  - Around Brick School
  - In front of Tellanders (6 Main Street)
  - Walking loops – Mack Hill-Jones Rd-Boston Post-Village
  - Safe walking routes to schools
  - The areas around AMS and SHS are more in need of sidewalks than the Village.
  - Although Foundry St. has sidewalks, it seems that no one uses them due to their condition.

- Use old train tracks as a bike path
- Improve sight lines in the village and re-think parking areas since parked vehicles create obstructions and diminish safety
- Create connections between the village and existing trail networks

#### **Traffic:**

- Greater police presence to slow traffic through enforcement
- Utilize temporary speed bumps in non-winter months
- No thru trucks in Village
- Traffic light on 101 by K-9 Country
- Time the lights on 101A so it is faster to get to Route 3
- Reopen the bridge
- Study stop signs and their use
- Pave the island/part of the island between Carriage Lane and Main Street (although part of that area is "casually" maintained by the DPW in the winter).
- Use Moulton's parking area for the Library.

#### **Signage:**

- Add a stop sign at the base of bridge
- Reduce signage

## **Historic Character**

### **Overarching Findings**

People move to Amherst because of the beautiful, charming and quaint Village that should not be changed. Residents are split between concepts of evolution within the Village. There is some preference for subtle enhancements that also preserve the Village character. Such concepts are to attract a café, tavern or restaurant, protect historic properties and sites, provide sidewalks and preserve open space. This is contrasted by others who prefer to see the Village remain as is with no further commercial growth. Business development should instead be focused in other commercial centers in town. Preference is for no changes to the mix of housing in the Village, the next most supported option is for mixed use structures.

The village itself is a catalyst for the community. It is the reason people move to Amherst and has overcome the departure of the railroad, business moving outward with main roads routed around the village, and general decline. Through this, the Village has retained its historic “bones” from the buildings to the lack of sidewalks. Amherst is home to the largest historic district in the state.

Few residents are looking for change. This extends to the outward appearance of utilities and their impact on the town’s aesthetics. Those that would like to see changes to what utilities are available are looking for sewer, natural gas, and underground power lines – invisible changes. While buried power lines are viewed as a nice idea, residents don’t see it as worth the cost to pursue such initiatives.

Overall, residents highly value the village's historic district designation and wish to see the district maintained as such. There is an understanding however that there needs to be a balance between cordoning off the village as a museum and bringing in too much commercialization.

Best features of the Town cited by residents included:

- Sense of community, cohesive neighborhood, history, unique, activities
- Quaint, historic, beautiful, scenic charm, aesthetic
- Idyllic New England Community
- Heart of Amherst
- Not corrupted by development
- Good organic mix of structures and hometown atmosphere – historically preserved town with access to commercial areas, jobs
- Appearance matters – Amherst is pretty

## Issues and Challenges

### Lighting:

- There are some reports of existing street lights that are out.

### Historic District and Community Relations:

- Conflict developing between HDC and residents: concerns that over-regulation and inconsistent enforcement of regulations are detracting from desirability of purchasing a home or property in the Village, which in turn could result in disinvestment in the Village and decline. Need invested homeowners to maintain the historic character.
- Age of population is an issue – majority of newcomers choose Bedford over Amherst, younger home buyers are less willing to take on upkeep of older homes.

### Community Character:

- Residents from outside the Village were not interested in spending town funds on the Village.
- Concern over health of village trees – when a large tree is felled during a storm it creates a large visual impact

## Recommended Improvements

### Lighting:

- Lighting preference is overwhelmingly for lantern style lights. Write in comments focused on historical accuracy, minimizing light pollution, low cost, and energy efficient lighting.
- Survey existing lights to determine which are operational and which need replacement.

### Historic District and Community Relations:

- Develop a clear and consistent set of design guidelines and review criteria for the historic district to yield better results and help applicants come before HDC well prepared
- Clarify the role of the HDC and improve communications between the HDC and residents
- Develop a property maintenance code.

**Community Character:**

- Beautification of the Village – Amherst should be the “showplace” of Southern New Hampshire – take better care of what exists and make cosmetic improvements
- Replace vinyl siding
- Shield dumpsters and storage areas
- Preserve open space on 101 from Bedford through Amherst
- Create a living village with government, stores, schools and sports
- Adopt a noise ordinance
- Create a planting plan for pruning and maintenance of village trees and shrubs on town properties

## Community Development

### Overarching Findings

Most popular downtown destinations are Moulton’s, Library, and Village Green – these three sites were repeatedly referenced as top destinations through both the online survey and small group outreach events. 41% of survey respondents say there should be additional businesses in the Village and another 35% say maybe there should be additional businesses. Less than a quarter of survey respondents are opposed to seeing additional businesses. If there were to be additional businesses in the Village, residents would like to see a coffee shop, tavern, restaurant, bakery, or ice-cream stand. While only a small share of survey respondents wrote in comments, those that did said any business additions should be in scale with the Village’s architecture and provide opportunities for social gathering. Is there an opportunity to have ice cream or some of these other features available at Moulton’s?

There is wide ranging opinion on how business should evolve in the future. There are definite fears of becoming too commercialized or losing the town’s rural character. There are others who feel that, due to fears, restrictions have become too strict, not even permitting businesses that would have been allowed in the 1800’s and that the Village evolution should be tempered to allow new amenities to be located in the Village while still retaining historic character. Those new features or businesses residents are interested in all center on a theme of being community oriented and social activity. Any new business in the Village should enhance the existing quality of life, not detract from existing businesses.

Examples of existing businesses that demonstrate what residents have liked in past village evolution include Moulton’s, Mike & Mickey, Carriage House (where the post office was) and BMA Architects (offices).

### Issues and Challenges

**Community Development:**

- Needs a destination or draw to bring residents and visitors into the Village
- Concern that there are larger issues outside the Village that should take precedent.

**Business Development:**

- The Village is dying with the loss of the farmers market, post office, and Fox Brook B&B, for example.

#### **Local Institutions:**

- The Village has less commerce now than any time in its history due in part to the commercialization of Route 101A.

#### **Land Use Regulations:**

### **Recommended Improvements**

#### **Community Development:**

- Create a destination
- Need a gathering place to meet with friends – coffee or food
- Ensure the village can be the historic center of commerce
- Amherst needs an arts center/museum that may bring people in for small events

#### **Business Development:**

- Support existing businesses just down the road from the Village; for example, from the Village you can walk down Limbo Lane through the woods to the Black Forest.
- Support Moulton's to become a larger hub.
- Support or enable the establishment of an art studio.
- Support or enable the establishment of a Bed and Breakfast Inn. The former Purtell Residence at Amherst Street and Boston Post Road would make a good location.
- Support or enable the establishment of an event center. The former Purtell Residence at Amherst Street and Boston Post Road would make a good location.

#### **Local Institutions:**

- Relocate the post office back to the Village
- Create a Library Annex

#### **Land Use Regulations:**

- Adjust zoning to allow for the potential of future businesses in strategic locations. Suggested locations include the intersections of Boston Post Rd and Amherst Street and Main Street. There are concerns that this could lead to unintended consequences.
- Allow for professional offices

## **Recreation and Events**

### **Overarching Findings**

The Village is home to several community-wide events and recreation opportunities that are highly valued by residents and recognized as essential to sustaining a strong sense of community for both residents of the Village and of the larger community. Residents would like to see a farmers market, green space with benches, walking trails and playgrounds in the Village. Amherst is viewed as a great

place to live; people moved here because of the Village and appreciate it as a resource. The green space is viewed as a key community asset for picnic-ers on the green and holiday events. Recreation opportunities and events in and around the green contribute to the walkability, community aspect, and historic feel of the Village.

Residents are generally split between thinking there are already many recreation opportunities and events in the village and many that would like to see more or enhanced happenings.

## Issues and Challenges

### Recreation:

- Outdoor seating, gathering place is in short supply
- Amherst needs to attract young families

### Events:

- Sense of community could be deteriorating and an-us-versus-them atmosphere developing between those that live in and outside the Village

## Recommended Improvements

### Recreation:

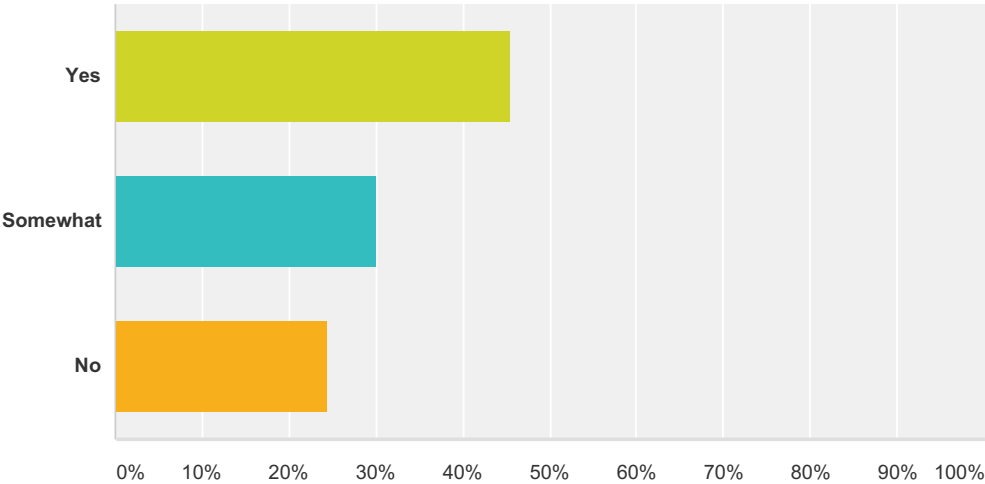
- Additional recreation and destinations in the Village
- Add more play structures in the Village and/or enhance the play structure at the Brick School.
- Create a Senior center
- Maintenance of tennis courts at the Clark School
- Expand Amherst Rec programs, like Yoga
- Host a 5k road race

### Events:

- Close Middle Street and enlarge the greens
- An email/text alert or notification system for events such as loss of power at town facilities
- More activities on the common bringing residents from across the town together
- Expand the Winter Carnival and flood the common for a larger rink
- Broaden the Cider Festival, Mass on the Grass or other similar events
- Open the Village Museums more frequently
- Bring back the farmers market
- Fall Festival, possibly in conjunction with the Lindabury Orchard event.
- Additional summer concerts; book bands that appeal to varying age groups including teenagers
- Haunted Green on Halloween
- Pancake Breakfast
- Fireman's muster

Q1 Should the walking experience be improved in the village?

Answered: 518 Skipped: 35

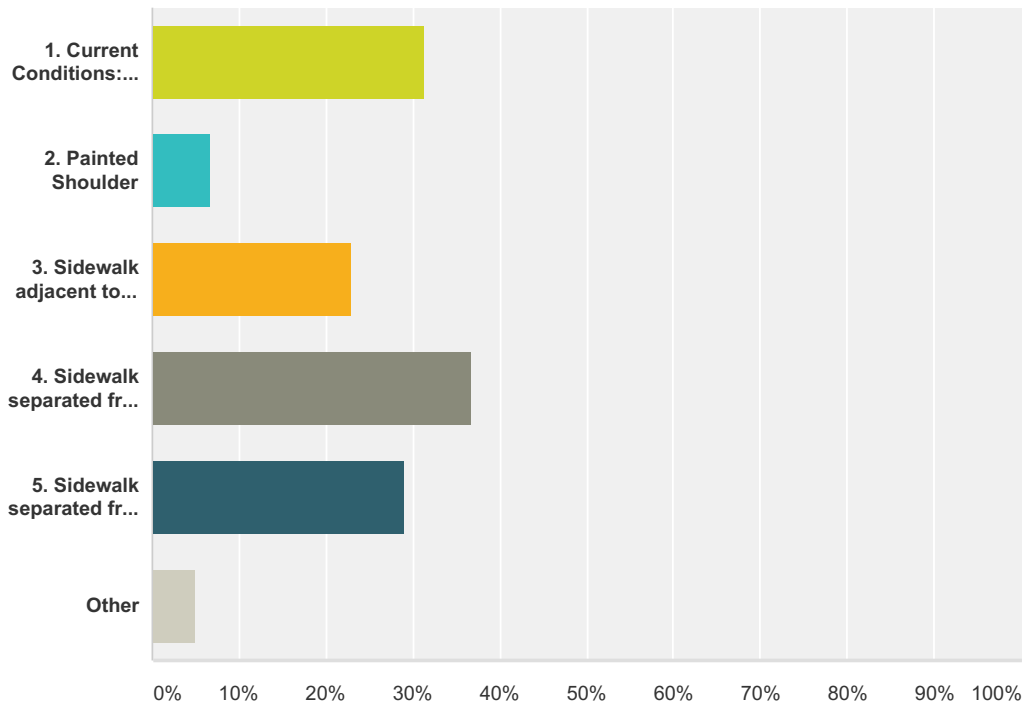


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	45.56%	236
Somewhat	30.12%	156
No	24.32%	126
Total		518

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

### Q2 What pedestrian environment do you prefer for the village? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)

Answered: 529 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses
1. Current Conditions: Church Street. No sidewalk, no painted shoulder	31.38% 166
2. Painted Shoulder	6.62% 35
3. Sidewalk adjacent to roadway	22.87% 121
4. Sidewalk separated from roadway by green strip	36.67% 194
5. Sidewalk separated from roadway by green strip, bike lane	28.92% 153
Other	4.91% 26
Total Respondents: 529	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Pedestrian environment could be most improved by ENFORCING VILLAGE SPEED LIMITS AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL STOP SIGNS TO SLOW TRAFFIC. INTERSECTION OF BOSTON POST AND FOUNDRY NEEDS A STOP SIGN ON BOSTON POST. DANGEROUS!	1/28/2015 2:53 PM
2	Bike Lanes	1/26/2015 10:55 AM
3	Sidewalk that is NOT asphalt, one side of the roadway, with granite curb	1/10/2015 9:03 PM
4	fix the fucking bridge	1/6/2015 6:28 PM
5	If it's not broke, don't break it.	1/6/2015 2:18 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

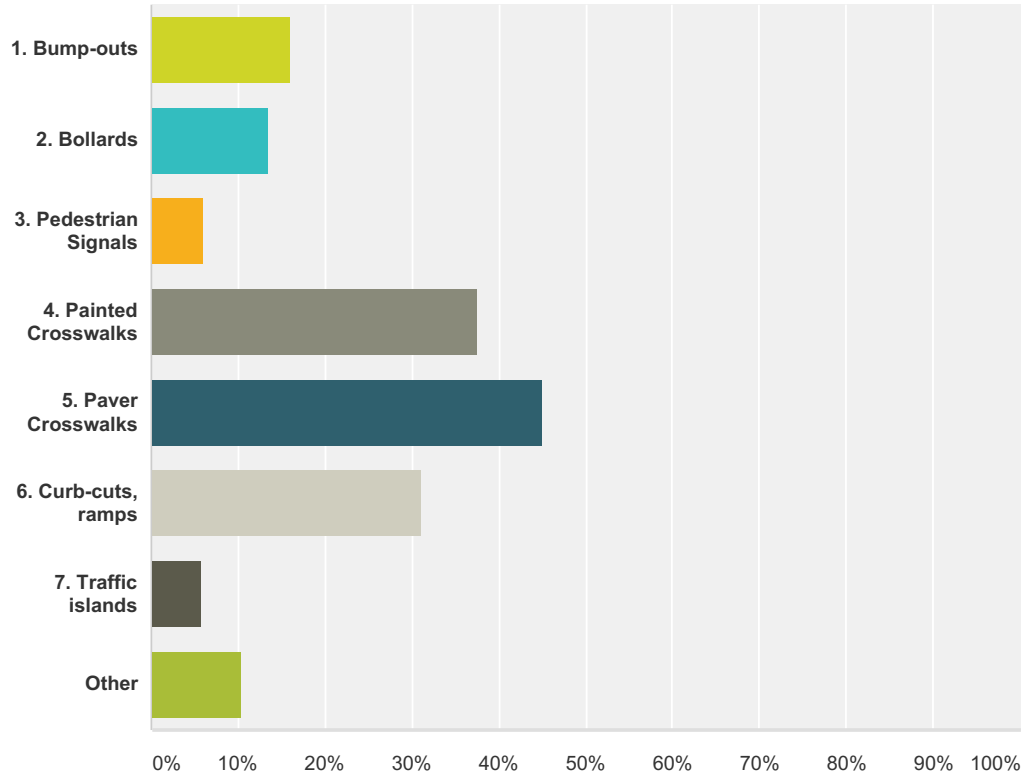
6	LEAVE IT ALONE !	1/6/2015 2:03 PM
7	Sidewalk, bike lane ...NO green strip	12/29/2014 10:00 AM
8	need cost estimate before voting	12/26/2014 6:00 PM
9	any design that limits extravagance, plow damage, increases safety	12/20/2014 10:36 PM
10	This survey is poorly written and has preconceived outcome.	12/13/2014 1:48 PM
11	Sidewalk allowing safe access to Wilkins/village from both New Boston Rd	12/9/2014 2:55 PM
12	Sidewalk adjacent to roadway with bike lane between road and sidewalk	12/7/2014 8:19 PM
13	replace metal signposts with wood	12/6/2014 7:19 AM
14	The village looks a damn interstate junction now!	12/2/2014 3:17 PM
15	where practical and cost-effective	11/30/2014 2:54 PM
16	There isn't room in the village to have sidewalks every where and even if we did people wouldn't use them on the smaller town roads. Boston Post and Main Street need sidewalks that they have. With the added stop signs I think it is safer walking around the village now.	11/26/2014 2:44 PM
17	I don't care	11/25/2014 10:40 AM
18	Limit motor vehicle	11/21/2014 2:38 PM
19	European village models	11/19/2014 10:43 PM
20	all of these are bad	11/19/2014 10:34 PM
21	No one really goes to the village other the folks who live	11/19/2014 11:15 AM
22	green strip doesn't need to be huge, even just a foot or two	11/18/2014 10:20 PM
23	Seems to me there should be some "cost" data for each option, other wise its a set up for a spending spree!	11/18/2014 1:00 PM
24	This would match the rest of Church street further up	11/18/2014 11:09 AM
25	I don't like these suggestions.	11/17/2014 7:57 PM
26	The current arrangement is poor, these solutions don't seem very good.	11/17/2014 7:38 PM
27	We spend too much on the village already.	11/15/2014 10:17 AM
28	No more/increase of pavement marking.	11/14/2014 7:10 PM
29	Leave well enough alone.	11/14/2014 6:07 PM
30	Less asphalt, more people	11/13/2014 9:18 AM
31	There is not enough room to add sidewalks or green strips. And let's not mark up all the roads with paint! This is a small quaint village setting, not suburbia.anything- let's not	11/13/2014 8:54 AM
32	Speeding cars biggest concern to walkers	11/13/2014 5:03 AM
33	Not sure where you want to change, but keep it rural!! And historic!	11/12/2014 10:40 PM
34	I like none of these options.	11/12/2014 4:25 PM
35	No paint.	11/12/2014 4:05 PM
36	Not a fan of these ideas really	11/12/2014 11:22 AM
37	I don't think these ideas are working. They've been trying to improve things in the village for people walking for years and it has only gotten worse.	11/11/2014 2:48 PM
38	Don't separate cars from people in a small town, it's not a good idea.	11/11/2014 12:32 PM
39	I used to live in a small town in Belgium. It was much better without sidewalks and lines. Cars and people and bikes share space together.	11/2/2014 1:29 PM
40	None. Only the people in the Village use it. Do not inflict the cost on the majority of Amherst.	11/1/2014 9:45 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

41	Leave it alone. It is only the people in the Village who use it. Why should the whole town pay for it when we don't use it. If they want to pay for implementation AND maintenance, OK, otherwise NO.	11/1/2014 9:40 AM
42	A combination of 2, 3, and 4	10/28/2014 9:21 PM

**Q3 What features do you believe would improve the walking experience? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)**

Answered: 464 Skipped: 89



Answer Choices	Responses
1. Bump-outs	16.16% 75
2. Bollards	13.58% 63
3. Pedestrian Signals	6.03% 28
4. Painted Crosswalks	37.50% 174
5. Paver Crosswalks	45.04% 209
6. Curb-cuts, ramps	31.03% 144
7. Traffic islands	5.82% 27
Other	10.34% 48
Total Respondents: 464	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	ENFORCEMENT OF AUTOMOBILE SPEED LIMITS AND STOP SIGNS	1/28/2015 2:53 PM
2	none	1/16/2015 3:13 PM

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3	Sharp turns and other speed reducing features like the old rework of street directly in front of town hall.	1/13/2015 10:35 PM
4	Stop signs	1/10/2015 1:42 PM
5	None	1/6/2015 2:41 PM
6	None	1/6/2015 2:34 PM
7	There is usually minimal traffic and is perfect as is. These ideas would benefit few and only increase the burden on the taxpayers.	1/6/2015 2:24 PM
8	None	1/6/2015 2:18 PM
9	None	1/6/2015 2:09 PM
10	Stay off the road. Walk at PMEC	1/6/2015 2:03 PM
11	Not to damage the current feel	1/6/2015 1:58 PM
12	No change	1/2/2015 8:14 AM
13	none needed	1/2/2015 12:35 AM
14	none of these- people of Amherst in cars graciously stop for pedestrians and these options would get in the way	1/1/2015 11:10 AM
15	Better lighting at night	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
16	see 2 above	12/26/2014 6:00 PM
17	limit extravagance, keep maintenance inexpensive	12/20/2014 10:36 PM
18	None of the above - the experience of the village has been "safe"	12/20/2014 7:12 AM
19	walks	12/18/2014 3:55 PM
20	Keep traffic to 25mph limit	12/15/2014 9:37 PM
21	Nothing	12/15/2014 4:49 PM
22	Fix the existing walkways and leave the rest alone	12/14/2014 8:31 PM
23	More commercial establishments as the town was designed to be a commerce center.	12/13/2014 1:48 PM
24	It is good today.	12/12/2014 12:18 PM
25	walking experience is fine the way it is...leave it alone	12/12/2014 9:55 AM
26	not necessary	12/11/2014 1:33 PM
27	none	12/8/2014 10:46 AM
28	Get rid of this garbage!	12/2/2014 3:17 PM
29	none	12/2/2014 1:21 PM
30	none	11/25/2014 6:27 PM
31	see above	11/25/2014 10:40 AM
32	5 Painted Crosswalks	11/24/2014 11:20 PM
33	None Required or Bollards	11/24/2014 8:01 PM
34	Restrictions on car traffic through the village, and car parking	11/23/2014 2:38 PM
35	sidewalks	11/22/2014 9:46 PM
36	Speed bumps on Boston post and other village areas with faster traffic.	11/22/2014 7:56 PM
37	Mo changes needed	11/22/2014 8:32 AM
38	Less traffic, higher level of enforcement	11/21/2014 2:38 PM
39	None needed	11/21/2014 1:38 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

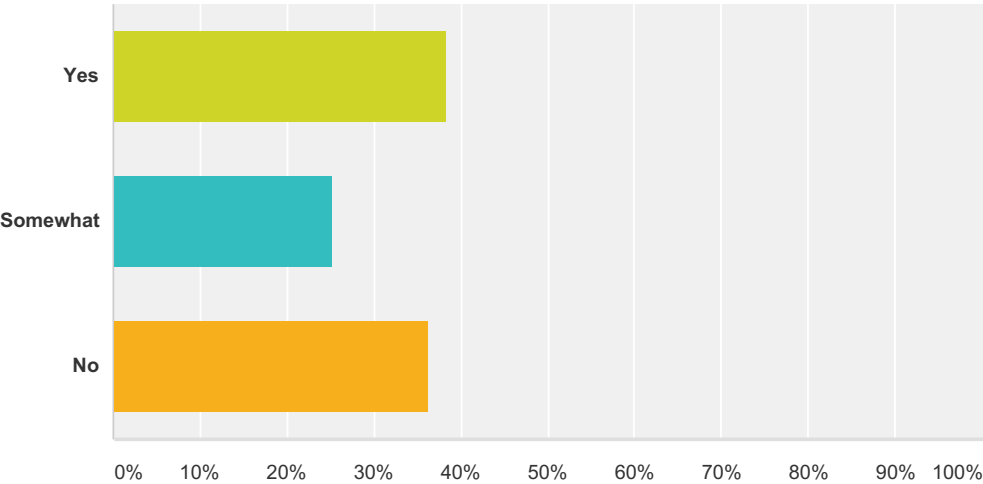
40	the walking experience is fine. we don't need to add more visual disturbances. if people had their kids take the bus there would be much less traffic. that would improve the walking experinece	11/20/2014 6:28 PM
41	No change	11/20/2014 5:54 PM
42	Less is more	11/19/2014 10:43 PM
43	yep, these are bad too	11/19/2014 10:34 PM
44	leave it alone	11/19/2014 8:43 AM
45	none	11/18/2014 2:37 PM
46	PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ONLY ZONE	11/18/2014 1:03 PM
47	Make no changes...all the "improvements" destroy the Village appearance	11/18/2014 1:00 PM
48	No more paint on the roads! If additional crosswalk are needed a gray cobblestone might be nicer than paint.	11/18/2014 11:09 AM
49	OK as is.	11/18/2014 7:59 AM
50	None. There is no impediment to walking in the village	11/18/2014 7:13 AM
51	none of the above	11/18/2014 6:47 AM
52	IDK about walking, but I think bump outs would make parking safer	11/17/2014 11:21 PM
53	None.	11/17/2014 9:46 PM
54	none	11/17/2014 8:14 PM
55	I dont think we should be separating cars from people like we do on major roads.	11/17/2014 7:57 PM
56	None of the above	11/17/2014 7:38 PM
57	This is a Historic village - please make sure to preserve a historic appearance	11/16/2014 9:14 PM
58	More sidewalks throughout the village including up Mack hill road and down past upper wilkins and past wilkins since many pedestrians walk and run this route	11/16/2014 7:46 PM
59	Slow down traffic.	11/16/2014 12:37 PM
60	Nothing.	11/15/2014 10:17 AM
61	None of the pictures/suggestions are appropriate to the Historic District.	11/14/2014 7:10 PM
62	Everything is fine.	11/14/2014 6:07 PM
63	None	11/13/2014 4:56 PM
64	None!	11/13/2014 4:31 PM
65	leave it as it is	11/13/2014 11:38 AM
66	Most of hese sorts of things are making the town look and feel like a more urban environment. That's not right.	11/13/2014 9:18 AM
67	The sidewalks that have been added are enough.	11/13/2014 8:54 AM
68	none of the above	11/13/2014 8:50 AM
69	monitering the speed of cars - keeping the speed to 25 miles per hour.	11/13/2014 8:21 AM
70	none	11/13/2014 6:25 AM
71	None of this! I'd rather have Middle Street closed to traffic and preserve the character of the village!	11/12/2014 10:40 PM
72	NO signs or lines. People are not stupid	11/12/2014 10:26 PM
73	These options do not seem appropriate for a historic rural village. These options are out of place in Amherst.	11/12/2014 10:20 PM
74	I do not like these ideas. I believe the European system is better	11/12/2014 4:41 PM
75	I don't want more features, like any of the 7 listed below. I want fewer features.	11/12/2014 4:25 PM
76	Not a fan of these ideas either	11/12/2014 11:22 AM

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77	Again i don't think these things have been working	11/11/2014 2:48 PM
78	None of these things would help.	11/11/2014 12:32 PM
79	Any measure to improve pedestrian access including perceived & actual improvements	11/6/2014 11:24 AM
80	closed roads through the center of the village	11/3/2014 8:06 PM
81	No paint and no signals. Don't distract from the people with warning signs.	11/2/2014 1:29 PM
82	None. These changes would change the nature of the Historic District and jepordize our standing in the Registry.	11/1/2014 9:45 AM
83	Leave it alone. With all these changes you will ruin the historic look and certainly jepordize our listing in the registry.	11/1/2014 9:40 AM
84	Leave as is.	10/28/2014 3:11 PM

Q4 Should the biking experience be improved in the village?

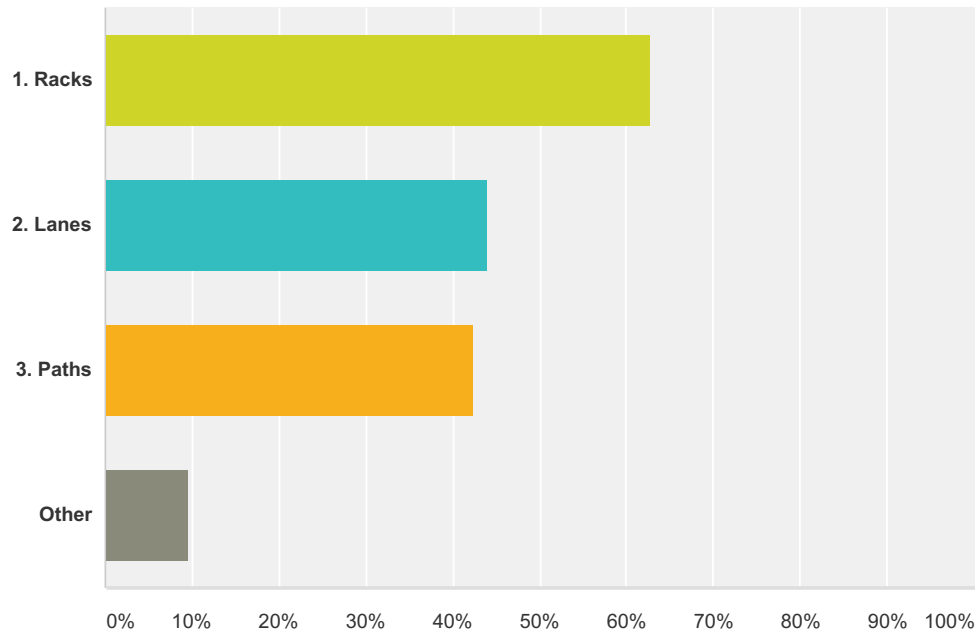
Answered: 529 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	38.37%	203
Somewhat	25.33%	134
No	36.29%	192
Total		529

**Q5 What bike amenities are appropriate for the village? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)**

Answered: 445 Skipped: 108



Answer Choices	Responses
1. Racks	62.92% 280
2. Lanes	44.04% 196
3. Paths	42.47% 189
Other	9.66% 43
Total Respondents: 445	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	ENFORCE EXISTING TRAFFIC LAWS ON BOSTON POST ROAD. SINGLE BIGGEST THING YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE THE BIKING EXPERIENCE	1/28/2015 2:53 PM
2	Let Village Residents buy their own racks	1/26/2015 10:55 AM
3	But where and on whose land?	1/10/2015 1:42 PM
4	none	1/6/2015 8:05 PM
5	None	1/6/2015 2:41 PM
6	None	1/6/2015 2:34 PM
7	A rack near the library would be reasonable.	1/6/2015 2:24 PM
8	None	1/6/2015 2:09 PM
9	NONE	1/6/2015 2:03 PM
10	If possible	1/4/2015 8:48 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

11	Nothing needs to be changed	1/2/2015 8:14 AM
12	None	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
13	none	12/26/2014 6:00 PM
14	limit installation and maintenance costs. Many bike racks were removed from Brick School years ago	12/20/2014 10:36 PM
15	none	12/20/2014 7:12 AM
16	Can't get to village by bike because to Rt 122 - State needs to add bike lanes - extending to the schools	12/18/2014 3:55 PM
17	nothing	12/15/2014 4:49 PM
18	none	12/14/2014 8:31 PM
19	Better access for Teens maybe a teen center this is not a park.	12/13/2014 1:48 PM
20	It is goid today.	12/12/2014 12:18 PM
21	experience is fine the way it is...leave it alone	12/12/2014 9:55 AM
22	none its fine	12/11/2014 4:52 PM
23	fine as is	12/11/2014 1:33 PM
24	none	12/8/2014 10:46 AM
25	No biking allowed	12/7/2014 8:12 AM
26	I don't think that the village needs specific bike support, but curb cut, posted right of way and limited bike rake would be kind.	12/6/2014 7:19 AM
27	None	12/5/2014 2:08 PM
28	None	12/5/2014 12:14 PM
29	improved shoulders where practical	11/30/2014 2:54 PM
30	none of above	11/27/2014 11:59 AM
31	Lanes on Boston Post Rd.	11/26/2014 2:44 PM
32	None required	11/24/2014 8:01 PM
33	Restrictions on car traffic though the village and car parking	11/23/2014 2:38 PM
34	Nothing new, please.	11/22/2014 12:04 PM
35	Nonen	11/21/2014 2:38 PM
36	If not in village, in town!	11/21/2014 1:38 PM
37	I hate bike lanes	11/20/2014 11:40 PM
38	decrease bikes in the village, it is historic	11/20/2014 6:36 PM
39	none. there are plenty of places for people to ride their bikes	11/20/2014 6:28 PM
40	No change	11/20/2014 5:54 PM
41	leave it as is	11/20/2014 1:55 PM
42	None	11/18/2014 9:27 PM
43	none	11/18/2014 8:36 PM
44	None	11/18/2014 4:52 PM
45	none	11/18/2014 2:37 PM
46	Leave amenities as is where there are racks at the library	11/18/2014 1:00 PM

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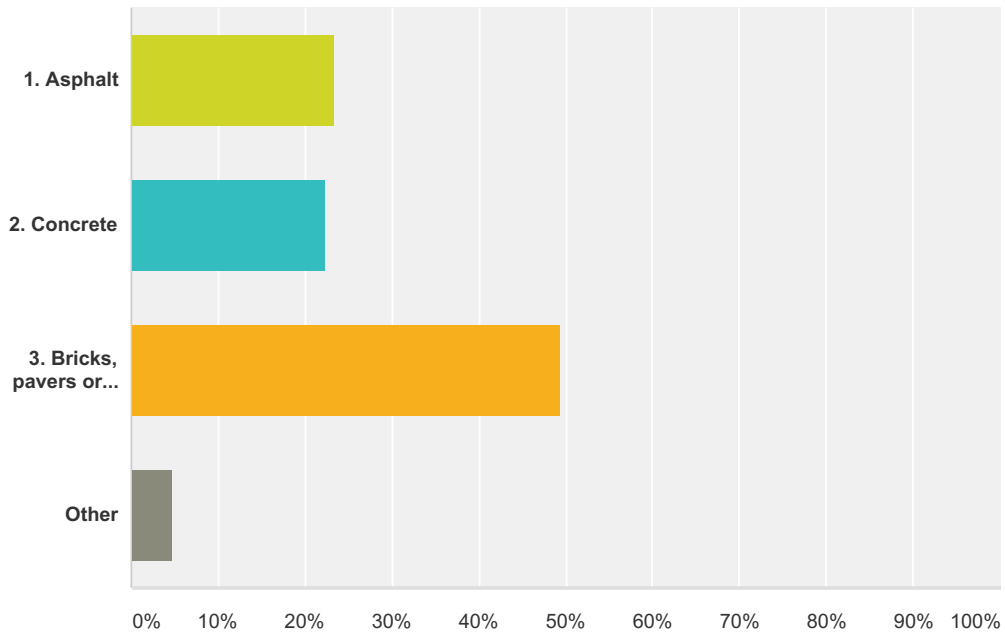
47	None	11/18/2014 8:19 AM
48	Better connectivity between the village and other parts of town for pedestrians and bikes. A "rail trail" or bike lane from the village to Milford or the high school and middle school would be ideal.	11/18/2014 7:31 AM
49	None	11/18/2014 7:13 AM
50	Fine as is	11/18/2014 7:05 AM
51	I've never seen riders in the village personally, but on other main roads they would be welcome.	11/17/2014 11:21 PM
52	None necessary -- the village is already very bike friendly	11/17/2014 10:54 PM
53	Sidewalks	11/17/2014 8:35 PM
54	none	11/17/2014 8:14 PM
55	Just more sidewalks for kids to ride safely	11/16/2014 7:46 PM
56	I don't bike.	11/16/2014 12:37 PM
57	Do nothing.	11/16/2014 11:47 AM
58	We don't need to spend money for biking.	11/15/2014 10:17 AM
59	none	11/15/2014 9:03 AM
60	Bike lanes are innappropriate and other/more pavement marking is ruining look of the village.	11/14/2014 7:10 PM
61	Everything is fine as is.	11/14/2014 6:07 PM
62	Fine as is	11/13/2014 4:56 PM
63	None!	11/13/2014 4:31 PM
64	Make the B.O rail trail suitable for biking and connect it to the village	11/13/2014 3:42 PM
65	leave as is	11/13/2014 11:38 AM
66	none of the above	11/13/2014 8:50 AM
67	automotive speed kept low	11/13/2014 8:21 AM
68	Too much traffic for biking	11/13/2014 5:03 AM
69	None of this! It is an Historic Village, not a recreation destination!	11/12/2014 10:40 PM
70	None	11/12/2014 10:26 PM
71	There are plenty of racks at schools and the library. The lanes and paths are out of place in our village.	11/12/2014 10:20 PM
72	Absolutely no bike lanes! UGLY!	11/12/2014 9:27 PM
73	Does not interest me.	11/12/2014 4:25 PM
74	None	11/12/2014 2:53 PM
75	Don't separate bikes from cars in the village. We should have bike paths though, we don't have much for bike options in town. Our trails aren't bike-friendly and my kids can't get around much on bikes, since major roads like boston post and 122 aren't bike-friendly.	11/11/2014 12:32 PM
76	close some roads to cars	11/3/2014 8:06 PM
77	There are so few bike paths in Amherst. Why is this? We have old railroads and many walking paths in woods but no place for my children to ride their bikes to friends house. This is silly. We need bike paths to have community, rail trail is a great model for this..	11/2/2014 1:29 PM
78	Bikes are vehicles. They should use the smae roads as the cars.	11/1/2014 9:45 AM
79	What part of No don't you understand.	11/1/2014 9:40 AM
80	At property owners desire and expense	10/31/2014 11:44 AM
81	None of the above	10/28/2014 9:21 PM

Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

82	If you put up racks, they should be ornamental and look as "colonial" as possible	10/28/2014 8:20 PM
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**Q6 What should crosswalks/sidewalks look like? (choose using the corresponding pictures below)**

Answered: 510 Skipped: 43



Answer Choices	Responses
1. Asphalt	23.33% 119
2. Concrete	22.35% 114
3. Bricks, pavers or cobbles	49.41% 252
Other	4.90% 25
<b>Total</b>	<b>510</b>

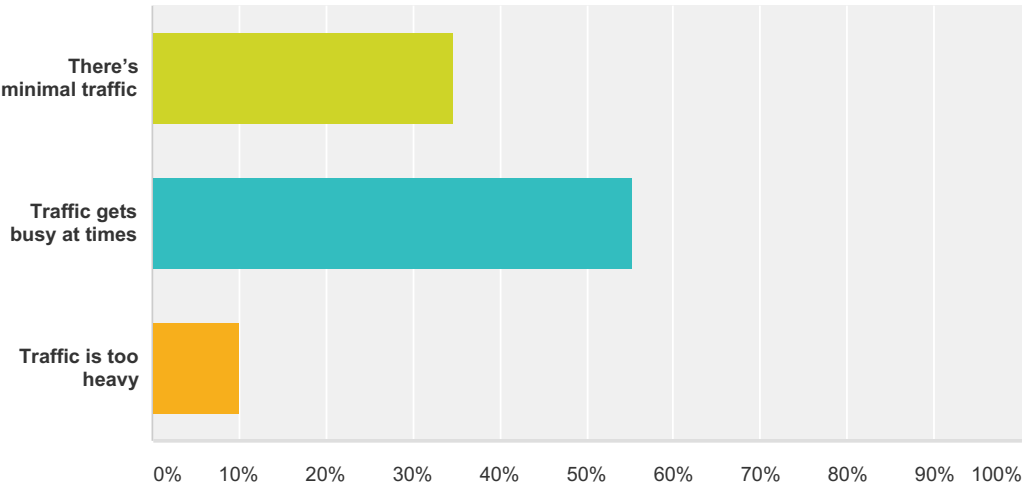
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	None of the above options preserve the history of what the village should rroresent	1/22/2015 7:00 PM
2	asphalt lined with pavers consistent with historic existing appearance	1/17/2015 10:10 PM
3	if any. not really necessary as people drive slow enough	1/16/2015 3:13 PM
4	Already has been done as park of the road improvements	1/6/2015 2:34 PM
5	We have plenty of NEW sidewalks already.	1/6/2015 2:24 PM
6	As is.	1/6/2015 2:09 PM
7	NONE	1/6/2015 2:03 PM
8	Nothing needs to be changed	1/2/2015 8:14 AM
9	Keep as is	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
10	see 2 above	12/26/2014 6:00 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

11	None needed. Leave it alone.	12/20/2014 10:36 PM
12	None - leave it alone	12/20/2014 7:12 AM
13	why did we just put down asphalt walks along boston Post Rd - UGH!	12/18/2014 3:55 PM
14	nothing	12/15/2014 4:00 PM
15	leave them as is	12/14/2014 8:31 PM
16	Don't make it look like Bedford there sidewalks are a joke.	12/13/2014 1:48 PM
17	experience is fine the way it is...leave it alone	12/12/2014 9:55 AM
18	they should be maintained as they are	12/11/2014 1:33 PM
19	sidewalks can match the paved road. Cross walks should look different - bricks or pavers	12/2/2014 2:08 PM
20	leave it as is	12/2/2014 1:21 PM
21	Least expensive	11/29/2014 10:47 AM
22	shared space like a colonial village	11/20/2014 11:40 PM
23	no sidewalks	11/20/2014 5:54 PM
24	The most cost effective material.	11/20/2014 10:48 AM
25	none	11/18/2014 8:36 PM
26	asphalt with a grass strip as in pic. #3	11/18/2014 5:56 PM
27	no changes, again no "cost data" make these "false" choices due to incomplete relevant data.	11/18/2014 1:00 PM
28	A little late for this isn't it? Asphalt has already been done.	11/18/2014 11:09 AM
29	option 3 but with an historic look	11/18/2014 8:39 AM
30	None	11/18/2014 7:13 AM
31	bricks would look nicest, but I actually think it should be whatever is easiest to build/maintain	11/17/2014 11:21 PM
32	Brick is most expensive although looks the best. Stamped concrete is less expensive and still looks nice	11/17/2014 11:04 PM
33	which ever lasts longer and is cheaper in the long run	11/17/2014 8:35 PM
34	painted lines	11/17/2014 8:14 PM
35	Anything is fine	11/17/2014 7:54 PM
36	Brick would be great or cobblestones but then it wouldn't match other ones in existence in then village	11/16/2014 7:46 PM
37	Given choices, asphalt is the better of bad options.	11/14/2014 7:10 PM
38	as is	11/13/2014 11:38 AM
39	Historically accurate if any changes	11/12/2014 10:40 PM
40	The new sidewalks don't look appealing.	11/12/2014 10:20 PM
41	Asphalt is so ugly. When I lived in Belgium we never had asphalt in historic city centers. It looks cheap and ugly. We should spend the extra money when roads and sidewalks are rebuilt to have stone brick roads and sidewalks.	11/2/2014 1:29 PM
42	No. Apparently dirt is not an option as it was when Amherst was founded.	11/1/2014 9:45 AM
43	NO.	11/1/2014 9:40 AM
44	1 and 3	10/28/2014 9:21 PM
45	Asphalt belongs on highways, not in the historic village	10/28/2014 8:20 PM
46	crosswalk lines on current pavement	10/28/2014 3:11 PM

Q7 How is traffic through the village?

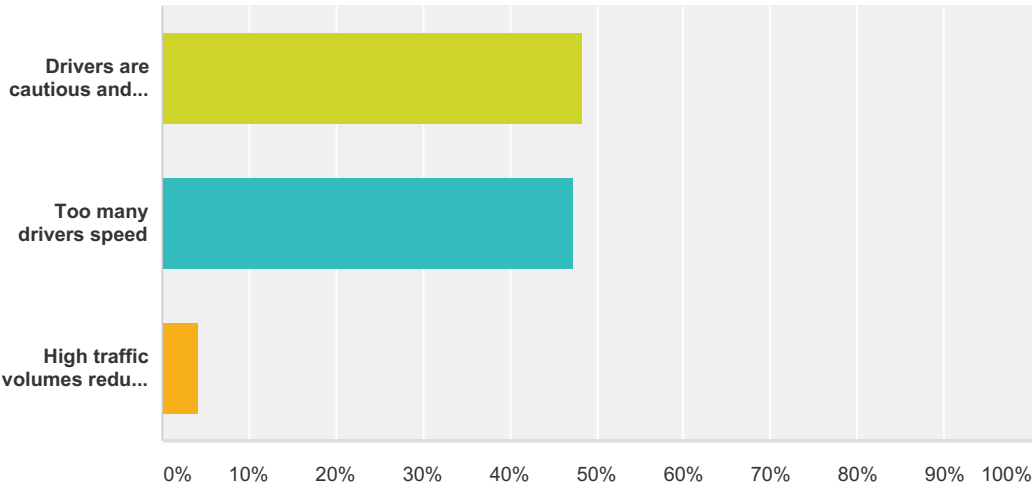
Answered: 529 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses	
There's minimal traffic	34.59%	183
Traffic gets busy at times	55.39%	293
Traffic is too heavy	10.02%	53
Total		529

Q8 How are traffic speeds?

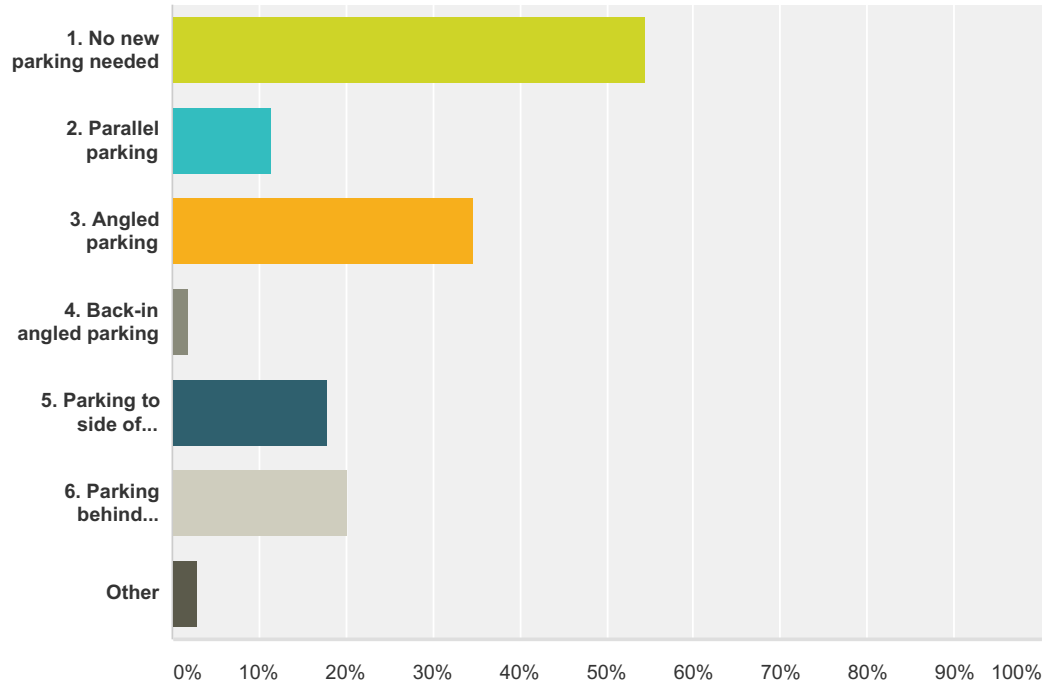
Answered: 521 Skipped: 32



Answer Choices	Responses	
Drivers are cautious and go slow	48.37%	252
Too many drivers speed	47.41%	247
High traffic volumes reduce speeds	4.22%	22
Total		521

**Q9 What is your preferred mode of parking in the village? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)**

Answered: 515 Skipped: 38



Answer Choices	Responses
1. No new parking needed	54.56% 281
2. Parallel parking	11.46% 59
3. Angled parking	34.56% 178
4. Back-in angled parking	1.94% 10
5. Parking to side of structures	17.86% 92
6. Parking behind structures	20.19% 104
Other	2.91% 15
Total Respondents: 515	

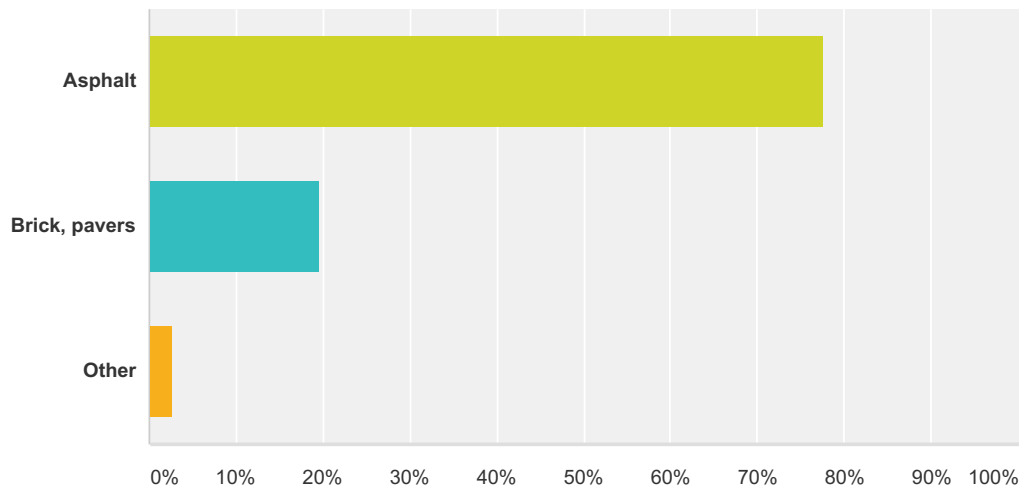
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Bring back the parking in front of the Town Hall so the elderly don't have to walk a few hundred feet to get in the building !	1/6/2015 2:36 PM
2	There is plenty of available parking	1/6/2015 2:27 PM
3	I liked when there was parking in front of town hall.	1/6/2015 2:19 PM
4	Nothing needs to be changed	1/2/2015 8:15 AM
5	Everyone parks on the side of the road during events. Very few events held.	12/20/2014 10:38 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

6	No indication of parking necessary	12/20/2014 7:14 AM
7	Head in Parking	12/19/2014 8:16 AM
8	Gravel trucks should not be allowed to go through Village of pass by any schools on Rt 122	12/18/2014 3:57 PM
9	Painted Parking spots at the green, angled or back in	12/15/2014 7:19 PM
10	no parking on greens - people wrecking the greens	12/14/2014 8:33 PM
11	This survey is a self fulling and poorly done.	12/13/2014 1:49 PM
12	definitely no parking lots	11/25/2014 6:30 PM
13	I don't care	11/25/2014 10:41 AM
14	DON'T ENCOURAGE MORE CARS BY ADDING PARKING!!!	11/23/2014 2:40 PM
15	No traffic in the center of town. Pedestrian traffic only. Parking should be restricted in the common to deliveries only.	11/20/2014 8:50 AM
16	leave it alone	11/19/2014 8:44 AM
17	Again...no cost data means its a false choice without all relevant data	11/18/2014 1:04 PM
18	Though I think it mainly applies to the library area, particularly in winter when the "extra" parallel parking is disallowed.	11/17/2014 11:26 PM
19	Additional parking would be nice and whatever method fits best in the environment is good.	11/17/2014 11:07 PM
20	Unregimented	11/17/2014 7:39 PM
21	Milford's Angled parking is awful to back out of	11/17/2014 6:04 PM
22	Depends on parking site.	11/13/2014 9:44 AM
23	Casual traffic in the town would be the most appropriate.	11/13/2014 9:19 AM
24	The town is going pavement crazy, time to move on!	11/12/2014 10:46 PM
25	Casual	11/12/2014 11:23 AM
26	Parking in little villages should be informal.	11/11/2014 12:35 PM
27	Not sure would need to be sensitive to the village	11/6/2014 11:27 AM
28	Eliminate the grass strip between Carriage Lane and Main St and turn it into diagonal parking for the library.	11/1/2014 9:47 AM
29	more parking in front of town hall	10/31/2014 11:46 AM

## Q10 What road surface material do you prefer in the village?

Answered: 511 Skipped: 42



Answer Choices	Responses
Asphalt	77.69% 397
Brick, pavers	19.57% 100
Other	2.74% 14
<b>Total</b>	<b>511</b>

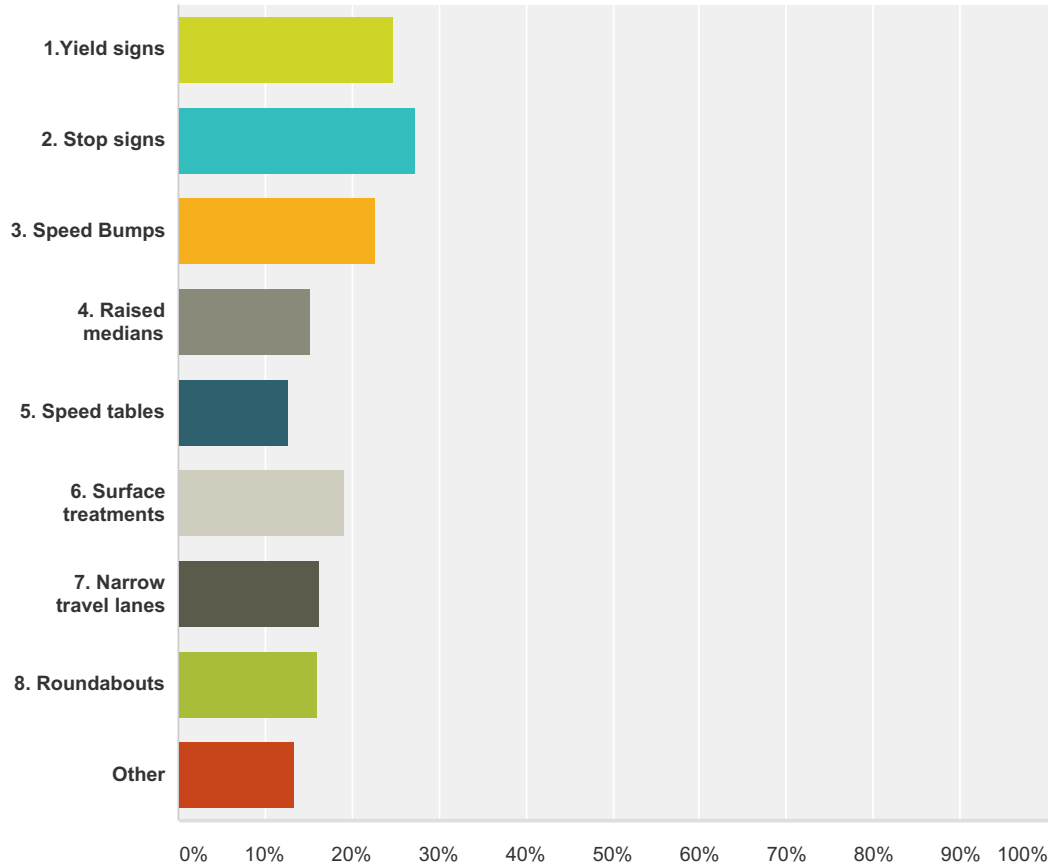
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	As is	1/22/2015 7:02 PM
2	recycled material asphalt	1/14/2015 3:46 PM
3	Depends where	1/10/2015 1:44 PM
4	Just spent a lot of money paving and adding unnecessary drainage to an already well drained area. Please leave it alone !	1/6/2015 2:27 PM
5	if done on appropriate base	1/2/2015 12:07 PM
6	Fine as is	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
7	see 2 above	12/26/2014 6:02 PM
8	Pavers cost tons of money and are subject to frost heaving.	12/20/2014 10:38 PM
9	with some restrictions to its placement	12/20/2014 7:14 AM
10	for roads, gravel parking is OK	12/18/2014 3:57 PM
11	Again this is supposed to be a commerce center.	12/13/2014 1:49 PM
12	sand and gravel	12/2/2014 1:23 PM
13	Least expensive	11/29/2014 10:49 AM
14	see above	11/25/2014 10:41 AM
15	It is a special colonial village not Newark NJ	11/20/2014 11:46 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

16	cobblestones, brick	11/20/2014 6:28 PM
17	Keep it cost effective	11/20/2014 10:52 AM
18	What is best for long term summer and winter maintenance (plowing)?e	11/18/2014 1:04 PM
19	Again, too late for this question.	11/18/2014 11:10 AM
20	historic cobblestones would be far too costly	11/18/2014 8:53 AM
21	easiest to maintain	11/17/2014 11:26 PM
22	Brick is nicest, but again stamped concrete may do the trick with less \$	11/17/2014 11:07 PM
23	We should put the money into a better road surface. Asphalt isn't appropriate for the Amherst historic district.	11/17/2014 7:59 PM
24	Indifferent	11/17/2014 7:56 PM
25	Note- per all choices. Cost will be a factor	11/17/2014 7:18 PM
26	A little late for this question- roads are already asphalt	11/13/2014 8:56 AM
27	The village has been asphalted for the past three years, what is done is done. Move on. Add nothing to further disturb the character	11/12/2014 10:46 PM
28	Brick or pavers are too fussy for road surface.	11/12/2014 10:27 PM
29	Belgian pavers. While it's not what they used back in the day, we're stuck with using some sort of surface. We should use something that at least looks nice. Asphalt looks out of place.	11/12/2014 11:23 AM
30	There is too much black top in town	11/11/2014 2:49 PM
31	Pavers would make the traffic noise worse	11/6/2014 11:27 AM
32	Why is there asphalt in this village? It is ugly and embarrassing. No village in Belgium would be caught putting this cheap ugly material in historic centres.	11/2/2014 1:32 PM
33	Asphalt belongs on highways and not in the village. Cobbles or bricks would be very nice and also make people drive slowly	10/28/2014 8:23 PM

**Q11 What road improvements might help improve safety? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)**

Answered: 432 Skipped: 121



Answer Choices	Responses	
1. Yield signs	24.77%	107
2. Stop signs	27.31%	118
3. Speed Bumps	22.69%	98
4. Raised medians	15.28%	66
5. Speed tables	12.73%	55
6. Surface treatments	19.21%	83
7. Narrow travel lanes	16.20%	70
8. Roundabouts	15.97%	69
Other	13.43%	58
Total Respondents: 432		

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	TRAFFIC IS TOO FAST THROUGH THE VILLAGE. EXISTING TRAFFIC LAWS ARE NOT ENFORCE BY LOCAL POLICE. MORE STOP SIGNS AND/OR SPEED BUMPS ARE NEEDED ESPECIALLY ON BOSTON POST ROAD	1/28/2015 2:55 PM
2	None	1/16/2015 5:30 PM
3	nothing needed	1/16/2015 3:14 PM
4	4 way stop signs at intersections are silly. Sit on one of the common benches and you will see how little traffic there is and how good people are about speed	1/10/2015 9:06 PM
5	Too many stop signs already	1/6/2015 2:42 PM
6	Way too many stop signs. People ignore them.	1/6/2015 2:36 PM
7	None	1/6/2015 2:09 PM
8	NONE	1/6/2015 2:04 PM
9	Keep roads maintained not just a few	1/4/2015 8:53 PM
10	No changes	1/2/2015 8:15 AM
11	none needed	1/2/2015 12:38 AM
12	Nothing	1/1/2015 11:12 AM
13	None	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
14	give out tickets and the careless drivers will disappear	12/26/2014 6:02 PM
15	more police/police cars present	12/26/2014 4:09 PM
16	fix the Bridge!!!!	12/21/2014 6:31 PM
17	Speed bumps wreck plows. How about a police presence?	12/20/2014 10:38 PM
18	Not aware of a safety issue - that is different from any other place; NO MORE SIGNS!!!!	12/18/2014 3:57 PM
19	No changes	12/18/2014 9:24 AM
20	Strict speed enforcement, 24x7	12/15/2014 9:38 PM
21	Pedestrians, vehicle drivers and police officers own the responsibility to keep keep village streets acceptably safe.	12/15/2014 5:03 PM
22	the village roads are not unsafe to the point where the suggestions are necessary	12/15/2014 4:07 PM
23	raise cross walks in form of speed bumps	12/15/2014 11:59 AM
24	There is no safety problem to improve upon.	12/13/2014 1:49 PM
25	yield to crosswalk signs	12/13/2014 10:13 AM
26	experience is fine the way it is...leave it alone	12/12/2014 9:56 AM
27	Nothing needed	12/11/2014 10:35 PM
28	safety provisions are currently fine	12/11/2014 1:35 PM
29	None	12/10/2014 9:56 AM
30	N/A	12/9/2014 2:57 PM
31	none of the above, and especially not roundabouts. Quickest way to find stupid drivers...	12/8/2014 8:31 AM
32	Leave it the way it is	12/7/2014 8:31 PM
33	NO roudabouts	12/7/2014 8:21 PM
34	Narrow travel lanes in certain areas	12/7/2014 2:18 PM
35	don't believe safety is a problem	12/6/2014 7:22 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

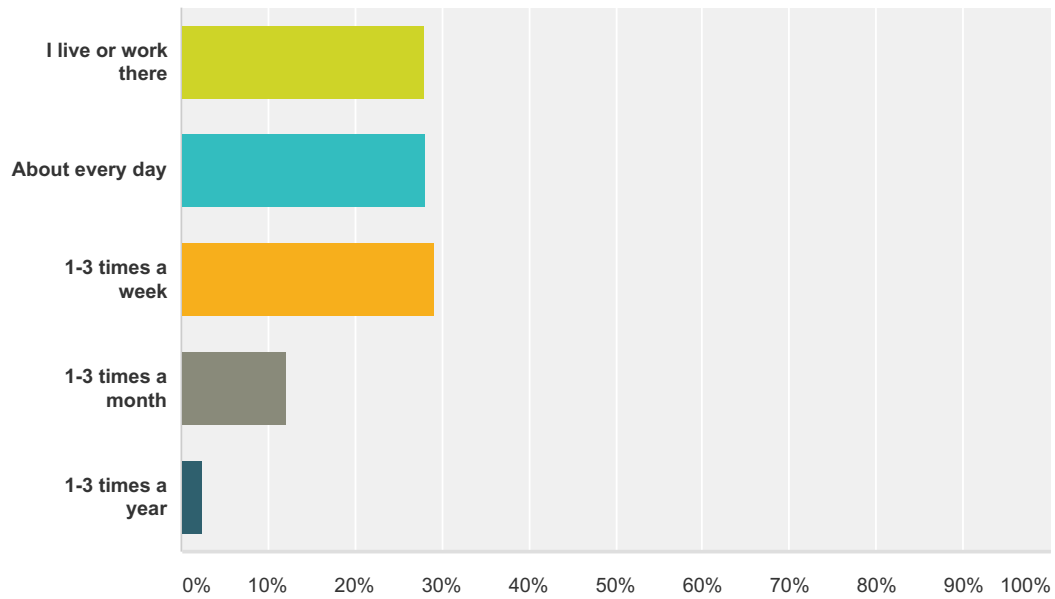
36	The recent addition of Stop Signs was Not an improvement. Not needed/	12/5/2014 2:09 PM
37	Enough with the signs! Make Amherst look like a village again, not some ugly city.	12/2/2014 3:17 PM
38	none, low number of issues currently	12/2/2014 1:23 PM
39	Slow and speed limit signs	12/1/2014 2:41 PM
40	Enforce existing speed limits through writing tickets.	11/30/2014 2:49 PM
41	The streets should be made narrower to slow traffic.	11/28/2014 7:04 AM
42	LESS stop signs	11/25/2014 6:30 PM
43	There are too many stop signs	11/25/2014 5:46 PM
44	absolutely no bumps of any kind	11/25/2014 10:41 AM
45	Eliminate intersections, especially on middle and school streets. Close the portions of those streets that are not necessary to access the homes or destination buildings.	11/24/2014 11:21 PM
46	None, TOO many stop signs already!!!!	11/24/2014 8:02 PM
47	none needed	11/23/2014 6:16 AM
48	Raised cross walks as speed bumps	11/22/2014 11:25 PM
49	None needed	11/22/2014 6:35 PM
50	No safety issues	11/22/2014 8:35 AM
51	Police write tickets	11/21/2014 2:39 PM
52	Most of these options do not apply	11/21/2014 1:39 PM
53	Remover stop signs, traffic lines and traffic sign clutter	11/20/2014 11:46 PM
54	Too many signs already.	11/20/2014 9:24 PM
55	keep signs and painting to a minimum, except I liked the stars for 4th of July	11/20/2014 6:37 PM
56	Safety is not a problem	11/20/2014 5:55 PM
57	None. There is no need to further impede travel through the village. There are enough stop signs as is.	11/20/2014 1:43 PM
58	Speed limits signs AND enforcement of the posted limits	11/20/2014 10:52 AM
59	Make the village a village square , not a superhighway	11/19/2014 10:44 PM
60	remove these from the village.	11/19/2014 10:35 PM
61	leave it alone	11/19/2014 8:44 AM
62	Kids using the bus vs. the parents picking up 8	11/18/2014 4:54 PM
63	None needed	11/18/2014 3:35 PM
64	none	11/18/2014 2:38 PM
65	NO painted double line!!!!	11/18/2014 2:19 PM
66	Its so frustratring to have no cost data!	11/18/2014 1:04 PM
67	More traffic lights	11/18/2014 11:52 AM
68	Removal of features which encourage speeding, such as double yellow lines, etc. When people feel unsafe, they slow down. See the Tom Vanderbilt's book "Traffic" as a starting point for discussions.	11/18/2014 9:35 AM
69	No lines painted on roads. This causes people to drive faster.	11/18/2014 9:14 AM
70	none necessary	11/18/2014 8:31 AM
71	Area is currently safe - maintain police patrols is all that is needed	11/18/2014 8:00 AM
72	Get rid of the signs we are not stupid	11/18/2014 7:14 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

73	Too many signs already,	11/18/2014 12:47 AM
74	the people who are currently driving dangersouly/thoughtlessly will continue to do so	11/17/2014 11:26 PM
75	None needed	11/17/2014 10:55 PM
76	None of these things belong in the village. We don't live in LA.	11/17/2014 7:59 PM
77	The village should consider adopting a european open place model and remove the signs and lines. They only make the place more of a traffic center instead of a community, which endangers pedestrians.	11/17/2014 7:39 PM
78	Imo there is no problem. Signs need to be kept to the bare minimum	11/17/2014 7:18 PM
79	No big signs in the road saying bump though	11/16/2014 7:47 PM
80	Other roads in town need attention more.	11/15/2014 10:18 AM
81	Fine as is	11/13/2014 4:56 PM
82	Historic-looking signs sim. to other Hist. Districts	11/13/2014 4:33 PM
83	as is	11/13/2014 11:39 AM
84	Get rid of all of these things. They don't help anybody.	11/13/2014 9:19 AM
85	Please, nothing listed above. Maybe if everything were cobbles but that's not going to happen now.	11/13/2014 8:56 AM
86	NONE!	11/13/2014 8:14 AM
87	roundabout? oh, a rotary, but no. reduce stop signs, use yield signs.	11/13/2014 6:29 AM
88	Cobblestone or closing Middle Street around the Green	11/12/2014 10:46 PM
89	Removing most signs and letting people use common sense	11/12/2014 10:28 PM
90	# 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are ugly. If the Mack Hill bridge were opened the congestion in the center will lessen and these unattractive options would not be needed.	11/12/2014 10:27 PM
91	Narrowing the streets would slow traffic down.	11/12/2014 9:30 PM
92	Less signs.	11/12/2014 6:10 PM
93	I do not like these ideas. I believe the European system is better	11/12/2014 4:41 PM
94	All of the first seven options are not going to improve safety.	11/12/2014 4:27 PM
95	none of the above	11/12/2014 4:06 PM
96	None of these.	11/12/2014 11:23 AM
97	Again none of these things have been helping. They've already tried these. Maybe a roundabout though.	11/11/2014 2:49 PM
98	None of those "safety" measures do anything. The the roads have to be built in a safe manner that looks like a small town, they look like small interstates, it's ridiculous.	11/11/2014 12:35 PM
99	all traffic calming measures should be investigated	11/6/2014 11:27 AM
100	close certain roads to cars	11/3/2014 8:07 PM
101	Another crazy thing here. Why so many lines and signs? They make drivers absent-minded and drive fast. In Belgium, we don't have signs or lines in city centres. It is much safer when these drivers look for people instead of police while they run the useless stop signs.	11/2/2014 1:32 PM
102	Leave it alone. Traffic study showed drivers were observing the speed limits and driving appropriately.	11/1/2014 9:47 AM
103	none	10/31/2014 11:46 AM
104	No thru trucking in the village	10/28/2014 9:22 PM
105	Enough with the stop signs already, there are so many ugly signs in the village. Nobody even listens to them	10/28/2014 8:23 PM
106	none of the above would look good in the village	10/28/2014 6:35 PM
107	Nothing	10/28/2014 3:12 PM

## Q12 How often do you visit the village?

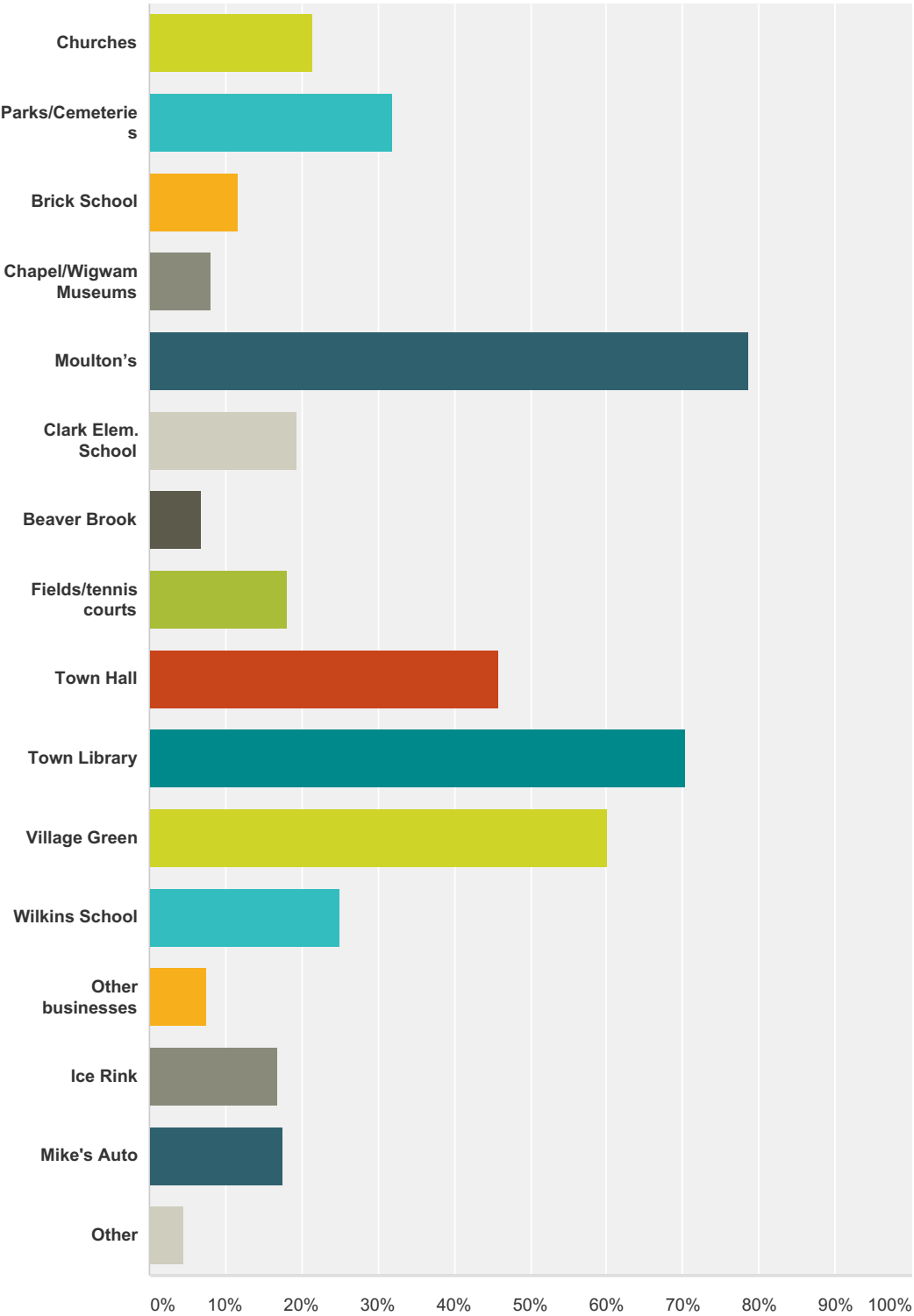
Answered: 528 Skipped: 25



Answer Choices	Responses	
I live or work there	28.03%	148
About every day	28.22%	149
1-3 times a week	29.17%	154
1-3 times a month	12.12%	64
1-3 times a year	2.46%	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>528</b>

Q13 What destinations do you regularly visit?

Answered: 528 Skipped: 25



Answer Choices	Responses
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## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

Churches	21.59%	114
Parks/Cemeteries	32.01%	169
Brick School	11.74%	62
Chapel/Wigwam Museums	8.14%	43
Moulton's	78.79%	416
Clark Elem. School	19.32%	102
Beaver Brook	6.82%	36
Fields/tennis courts	18.18%	96
Town Hall	45.83%	242
Town Library	70.45%	372
Village Green	60.23%	318
Wilkins School	25.00%	132
Other businesses	7.58%	40
Ice Rink	16.86%	89
Mike's Auto	17.61%	93
Other	4.55%	24
<b>Total Respondents: 528</b>		

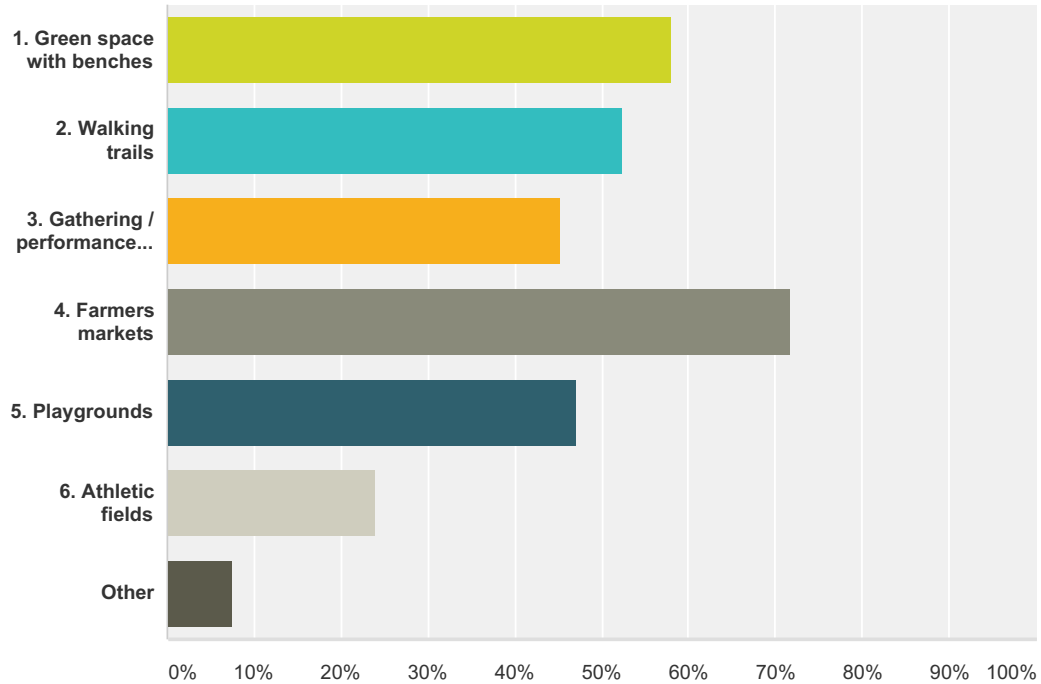
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	I walk my dog, run, and cycle through the village	1/28/2015 2:57 PM
2	Head to Crotched Mtn.	1/26/2015 10:57 AM
3	Friends homes	1/22/2015 7:05 PM
4	being able to walk safely is the highest importance	1/17/2015 10:14 PM
5	visit broker open houses nearly every week	1/5/2015 10:42 AM
6	Passing through	1/2/2015 8:16 AM
7	I mostly go there to run with my friends	1/1/2015 11:14 AM
8	walk the whole village	12/26/2014 4:12 PM
9	The cemeteries feature beautiful stone carvings, and a rare table stone in need of preservation!	12/20/2014 10:45 PM
10	Library	12/15/2014 7:21 PM
11	There are no restriction from State or Federal for changes to the historic district only local zoning so we can do what we want. This was recently confirmed with Feds and State,	12/13/2014 1:53 PM
12	Walt's	12/9/2014 6:44 PM
13	always pass through village on way home from work	12/6/2014 7:25 AM
14	library	12/3/2014 11:55 AM
15	Carriage House 12 Middle Street	12/3/2014 7:40 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

16	would visit more and regularly if the Mack Hill bridge would be repaired...ridiculous the closure and the time...has destroyed our experience of living near the village totally...very very very very poor planning	11/29/2014 11:37 AM
17	I drive through the village every day on my way to work.	11/25/2014 12:45 PM
18	Town Hall	11/24/2014 11:24 PM
19	Friends who live in the village	11/22/2014 11:51 AM
20	Varies in destination and travel through to other places	11/20/2014 11:53 PM
21	Gas station	11/20/2014 5:49 PM
22	To park my car and go walking	11/20/2014 10:59 AM
23	I jog from Thornton's Ferry 2, up Middle st around the green 4-6 x per week	11/18/2014 10:28 PM
24	friends	11/18/2014 9:50 AM
25	Friends	11/18/2014 8:38 AM
26	Amherst Rec Dept running group which meets in the village.	11/18/2014 6:51 AM
27	My children love to have picnics and take walks within and around village area	11/17/2014 11:14 PM
28	Preschool in the village	11/17/2014 7:59 PM
29	All of the above	11/13/2014 8:53 AM
30	Drive through several times EVERY day.	11/12/2014 10:32 PM
31	I need to drive through town every day. I live near the village and visit often.	11/2/2014 1:35 PM
32	walk	10/28/2014 3:14 PM

## Q14 What would you like to see for fun or recreation in the village? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)

Answered: 499 Skipped: 54



Answer Choices	Responses
1. Green space with benches	58.12% 290
2. Walking trails	52.30% 261
3. Gathering / performance areas	45.29% 226
4. Farmers markets	71.74% 358
5. Playgrounds	47.09% 235
6. Athletic fields	24.05% 120
Other	7.62% 38
Total Respondents: 499	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Tavern/Restaurant...	1/26/2015 10:57 AM
2	Raised Bandstand and viewing platform with roof. 20x40 feet.	1/10/2015 8:18 PM
3	A couple of bars and a cigar shop	1/9/2015 1:48 PM
4	Restaurant or coffee shop	1/8/2015 5:56 PM
5	Replace the benches in the common with better one's, without cheesy advertising on them.	1/6/2015 2:44 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

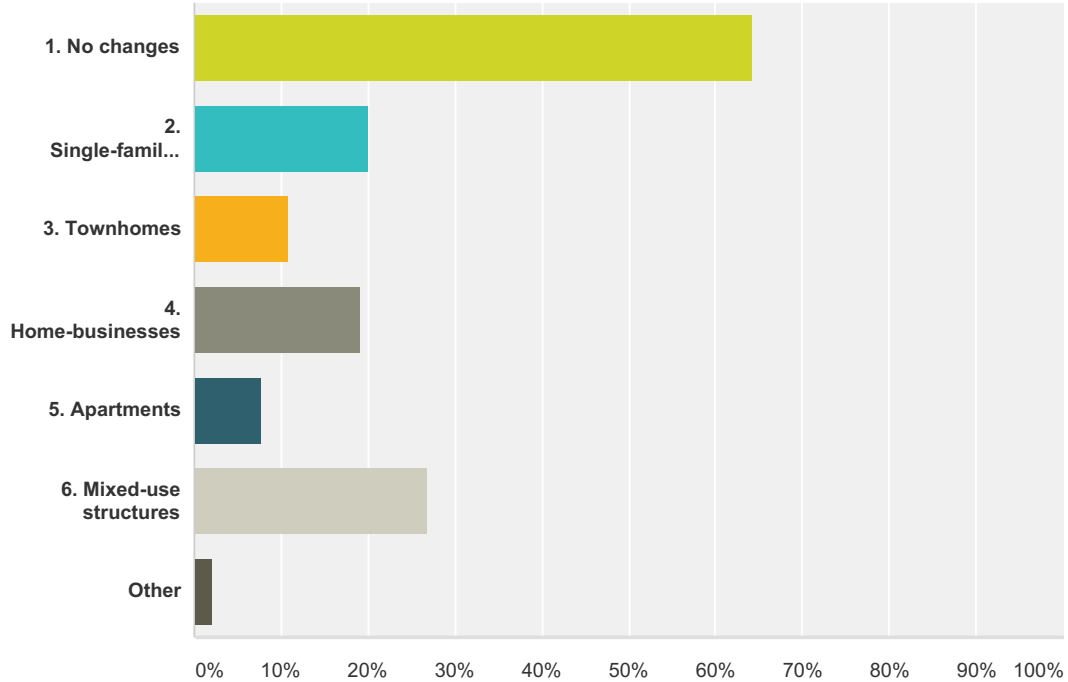
6	No	1/6/2015 2:20 PM
7	Bring back the farmers market	1/4/2015 8:57 PM
8	No changes needed	1/2/2015 8:16 AM
9	no changes needed to provide my choices	1/2/2015 12:42 AM
10	it is fine as is	12/26/2014 6:05 PM
11	tavern or ice cream shop	12/26/2014 4:12 PM
12	Seasonal events are great (parades/fairs/shows).	12/20/2014 10:45 PM
13	FINE THE WAY IT IS NOW!!!	12/18/2014 3:59 PM
14	Looking at the area identified as "the village" there is little or no space available for more. These activities when desired should be located outside the village where space is available for construction of new housing.	12/15/2014 5:19 PM
15	Teen center. We have the green. We have green space this is not a park.	12/13/2014 1:53 PM
16	experience is fine the way it is...leave it alone	12/12/2014 9:57 AM
17	no commerce needed, we have 101 adn 101A to keep commerce, this is a residential area and should stay that way!!!	12/12/2014 9:26 AM
18	Leave it as it is	12/11/2014 4:56 PM
19	We already have all of the choices listed above	12/8/2014 10:49 AM
20	Village is great the way it is.	12/5/2014 2:12 PM
21	Bring back Farmer's Market	12/3/2014 7:40 AM
22	playgrounds, playgrounds, playgrounds!	12/2/2014 12:19 PM
23	Town needs athletic fields but not in village	11/30/2014 11:46 AM
24	more cafes	11/29/2014 11:37 AM
25	we need athletic fields but not feasible for small village area	11/26/2014 9:15 PM
26	bike paths	11/26/2014 4:47 PM
27	businesses/restaurants	11/22/2014 7:18 PM
28	Community events and activities for young people	11/20/2014 11:53 PM
29	we have playgrounds, and we have events throughout the year. do we truly need more?	11/20/2014 6:33 PM
30	Fine arts and craft shows, historical reenactments	11/20/2014 6:31 PM
31	No Change	11/20/2014 5:57 PM
32	Indoor athletic complex in a barn look alike	11/20/2014 5:49 PM
33	The village Green is already a gathering place for events.	11/20/2014 10:59 AM
34	Bocce Ball courts, fountain, improved tennis courts	11/19/2014 12:18 PM
35	Swimming Pool	11/19/2014 10:28 AM
36	Bring back the farmers market!!!!	11/19/2014 9:03 AM
37	bike paths	11/18/2014 10:28 PM
38	Keep it simple. It's a beautiful place right now	11/18/2014 7:17 PM
39	Nothing leave it be	11/18/2014 4:55 PM
40	more dining options/tavern	11/18/2014 3:12 PM
41	Leave as is....making the Village a bigger destination means more cars with all the traffic/parking issues that entails at what cost?	11/18/2014 1:23 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

42	we already have many of these things. I would not want to lose what we have, but do not make what we have more formal/fancy. It is the authentic charm that is appreciated.	11/18/2014 11:15 AM
43	Anything to encourage people coming together. Also, more of a family friendly environment. The vitality of a community is best defined by the family friendly atmosphere and a desire for people to want to live here. We've lost that and it's shameful. For someone who has lived here for many, many years it has been sad to see the town wither as a place for young people and families to come and raise their children. When all of us old people pass on, who will be left. Very myopic view in my opinion.	11/18/2014 7:39 AM
44	A local restaurant pub	11/18/2014 7:18 AM
45	Tavern or restaurant	11/17/2014 10:57 PM
46	Tennis courts, basketball courts	11/17/2014 10:15 PM
47	none. we already have, or had, all these	11/17/2014 9:41 PM
48	Definitely farmers markets	11/17/2014 8:52 PM
49	existing venues	11/17/2014 8:20 PM
50	Bar/restaurant	11/17/2014 7:43 PM
51	we have green space with benches on Common, we have a field (Spalding), we have a playground at Brick School...also Clark and Wilkins, had farmers market...too few came and it moved out	11/17/2014 6:18 PM
52	Fine the way it is. Adding anything will take away from the historic view	11/17/2014 10:15 AM
53	It is quite nice as it is.	11/15/2014 12:18 PM
54	Dont spend any more.	11/15/2014 10:20 AM
55	keep it the same	11/15/2014 9:06 AM
56	Leave it as it is.	11/13/2014 9:55 PM
57	Outdoor Cafe	11/13/2014 5:08 PM
58	Frisbee area	11/13/2014 4:59 PM
59	Tavern!!!!!!	11/13/2014 4:53 PM
60	No more needed- have green space, trails, playgrounds	11/13/2014 4:37 PM
61	as is	11/13/2014 11:40 AM
62	No additional activity	11/13/2014 9:45 AM
63	Leave it alone. It is not an amusement park nor should it be.	11/13/2014 8:53 AM
64	The Green is green space with benches already. The newly paved roads and sidewalks are safe for my children	11/12/2014 10:52 PM
65	Seems okay as it is. The town hosts 4th of July, other parades, concerts, etc. No need to change things.	11/12/2014 10:32 PM
66	The village needs more stuff going on. In the 1800s it was a big city, now there's nothing to do.	11/11/2014 12:37 PM
67	Why no bike paths through woods??	11/2/2014 1:35 PM
68	Flood the Green in winter and make it a hockey rink.	11/1/2014 9:49 AM
69	We already have all this	10/28/2014 9:26 PM
70	Small restaurant/bar or small boutique	10/28/2014 6:52 PM

**Q15 What future housing options would be appropriate for the village? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)**

Answered: 519 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses	
1. No changes	64.35%	334
2. Single-family homes	20.04%	104
3. Townhomes	10.79%	56
4. Home-businesses	19.27%	100
5. Apartments	7.71%	40
6. Mixed-use structures	26.97%	140
Other	2.12%	11
Total Respondents: 519		

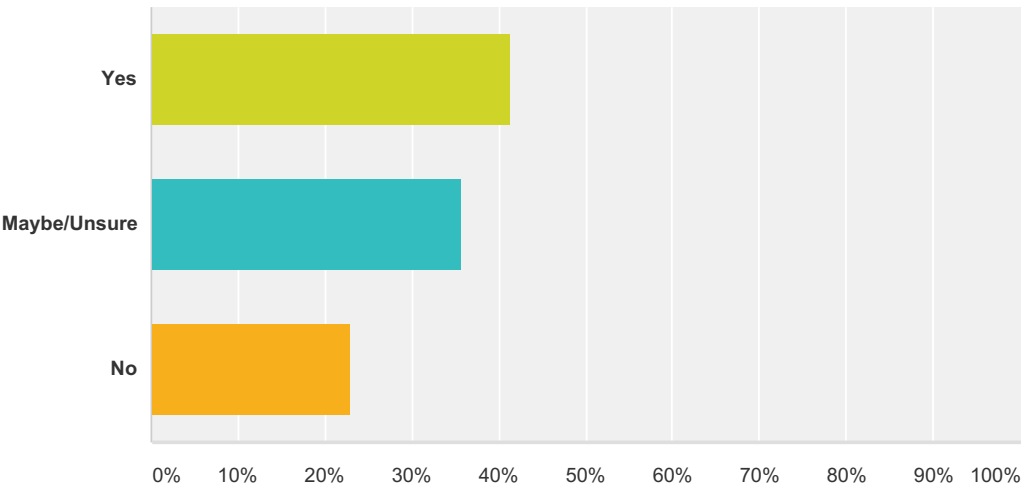
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	If had sufficient parking	1/10/2015 1:48 PM
2	low income housing	1/9/2015 1:48 PM
3	government subsidized housing	1/6/2015 6:34 PM
4	It is beautiful now. Please do not ruin the current character.	1/6/2015 2:29 PM
5	accessory apartments for single occupancies rentals	1/5/2015 10:42 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

6	Let's be more business friendly	1/4/2015 8:57 PM
7	Apartment in existing homes	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
8	this is market driven	12/26/2014 6:05 PM
9	Nobody paying to live there wants changes, but property rights should prevail.	12/20/2014 10:45 PM
10	There appears to be confusion around "the village" and "the town of Amherst".	12/15/2014 5:19 PM
11	Bring commerce back to the village. At least retail	12/13/2014 1:53 PM
12	Create ordinances prohibiting any and all multi-family dwellings. Otherwise NO CHANGES	11/30/2014 2:51 PM
13	Need to keep the historic designation for our town.	11/29/2014 12:59 PM
14	Senior housing	11/25/2014 5:31 PM
15	DON'T CLUTTER UP THE VILLAGE WITH MORE HOUSING!!!	11/23/2014 2:43 PM
16	bed and breakfast, inn- would be great for visitors- cafes, tavern, restaurants done well	11/23/2014 6:19 AM
17	Historic character is part of what makes the village so special. No new housing!	11/21/2014 1:40 PM
18	Coffee shops and similar businesses to attract activity and people	11/20/2014 11:53 PM
19	A cafe or pub	11/20/2014 6:31 PM
20	No more apartment complexes/multifamily units/workforce housing anywhere in town. Loses rural focus and creates too much congestion. Need to preserve land and retain our identity.	11/19/2014 12:18 PM
21	town tavern or pub in the village center	11/18/2014 7:07 PM
22	The mix of large and small personal residential keeps commercial traffic down, making the village a good walking venue	11/18/2014 1:23 PM
23	do not alter the historic nature of the village with development. There are plenty of other areas in Amherst that have been developed.	11/18/2014 11:15 AM
24	a sports pub would be nice. One that is family friendly	11/17/2014 8:39 PM
25	Senior citizen apartments	11/17/2014 8:04 PM
26	Where would the housing be built? the Village Proper is filled! We used to have a home business on Foundry St...the Woolly Mouse 2 doors down from Clark School...and a few others...	11/17/2014 6:18 PM
27	The villag is beautiful because of the historic homes in it. Adding anything to this would take away from the beauty. The only thing that I would add would be a cool tavern and nice coffee shop in an existing building	11/16/2014 7:50 PM
28	Housing in the village has evolved naturally. It meets the needs of residents today and in the future.	11/15/2014 12:18 PM
29	Accessory apartments are permissible within Zoning Ordinance by application.	11/14/2014 7:17 PM
30	Are you seriously asking this?	11/13/2014 4:37 PM
31	Coffee shop or breakfast cafe, above and beyond Molton's	11/13/2014 3:45 PM
32	Our 18th century village will lose our place on the National Register of Historic Places if this setting is altered.	11/12/2014 10:32 PM
33	Historic town is best kept preserved.	11/2/2014 1:35 PM
34	more commercial space	11/1/2014 9:49 AM
35	more commercial space downtown	10/31/2014 11:48 AM

Q16 Should there be additional businesses in the village?

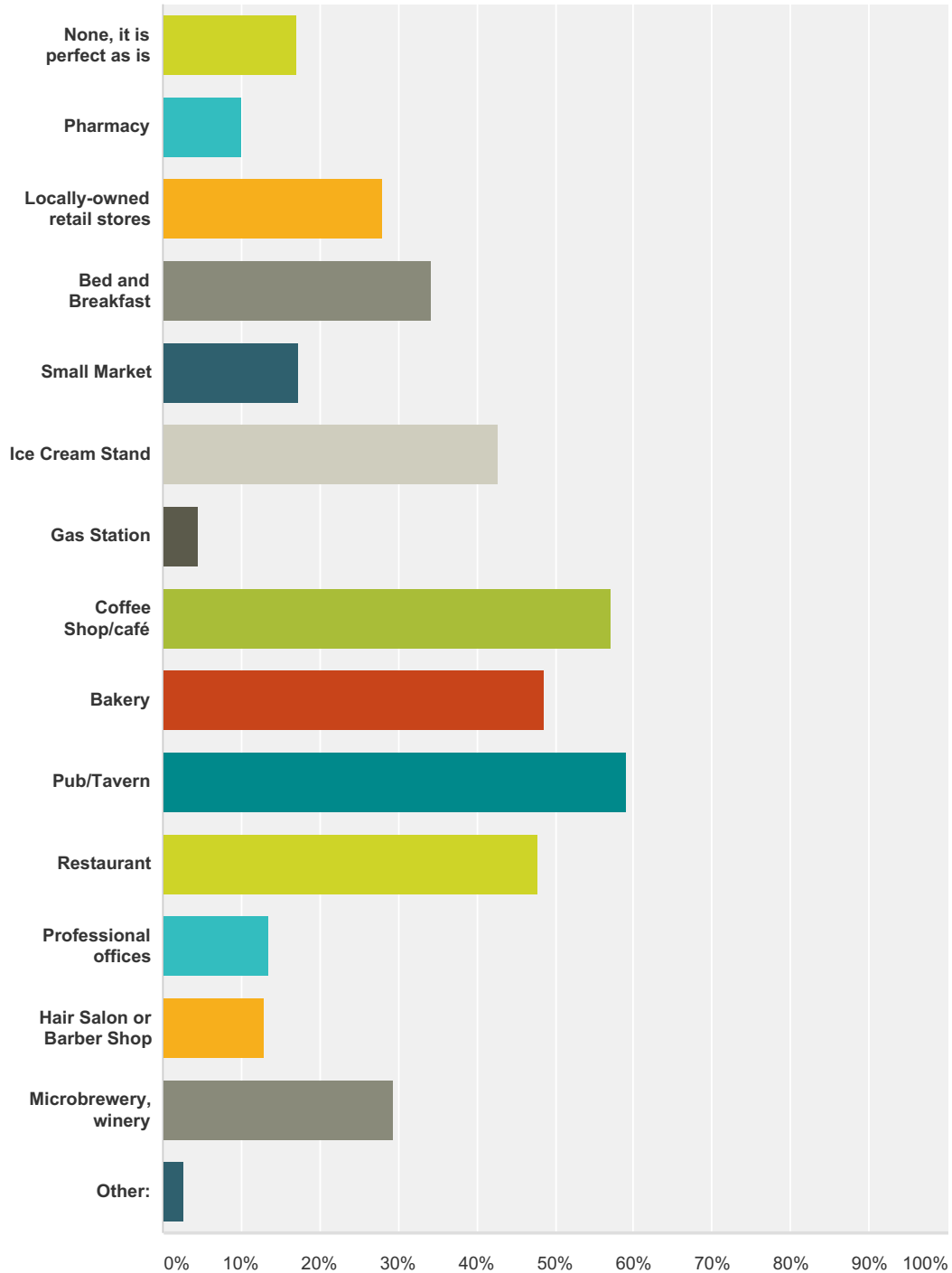
Answered: 528 Skipped: 25



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	41.29%	218
Maybe/Unsure	35.80%	189
No	22.92%	121
Total		528

**Q17 If yes or maybe, what types of businesses would you like to see? (choose all that apply)**

Answered: 471 Skipped: 82



Answer Choices	Responses
None, it is perfect as is	17.20% 81

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

Pharmacy	9.98%	47
Locally-owned retail stores	28.03%	132
Bed and Breakfast	34.18%	161
Small Market	17.41%	82
Ice Cream Stand	42.89%	202
Gas Station	4.67%	22
Coffee Shop/café	57.11%	269
Bakery	48.62%	229
Pub/Tavern	59.02%	278
Restaurant	47.77%	225
Professional offices	13.59%	64
Hair Salon or Barber Shop	12.95%	61
Microbrewery, winery	29.51%	139
Other:	2.76%	13
<b>Total Respondents: 471</b>		

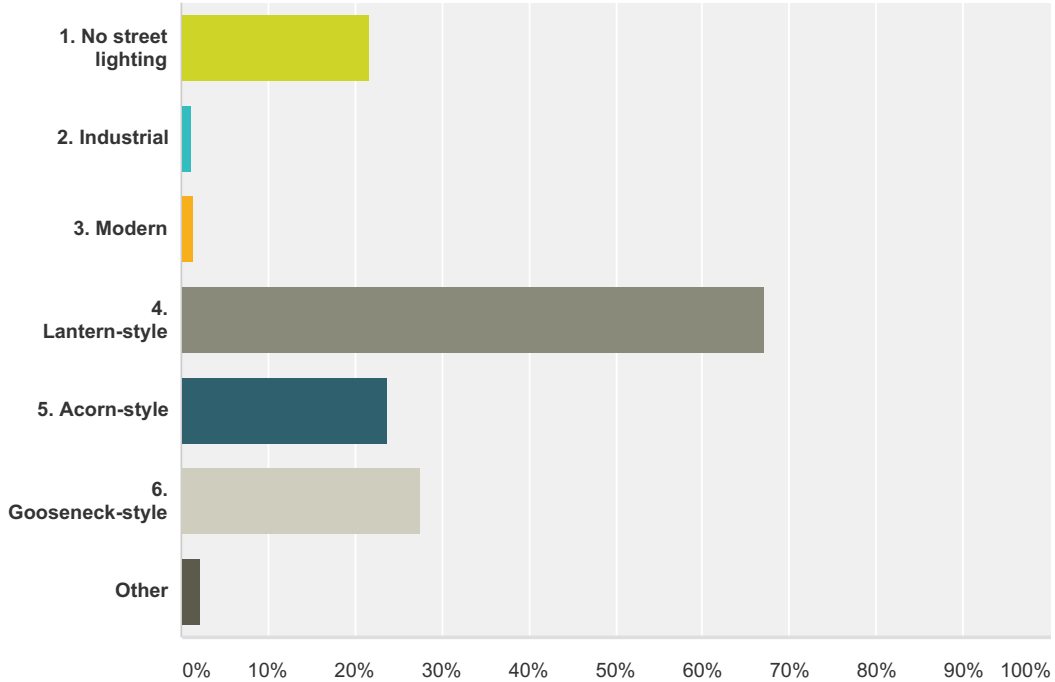
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Moulton's supplies most of the things listed above	1/27/2015 4:48 PM
2	Not enough parking for most businesses	1/10/2015 1:48 PM
3	large market	1/9/2015 1:48 PM
4	methadone clinic/ needle exchange	1/6/2015 6:34 PM
5	Flexible, all of the above.	1/6/2015 2:10 PM
6	see 16 above	12/26/2014 6:05 PM
7	Private business makes their own decisions. If nobody goes there, why invest?	12/20/2014 10:45 PM
8	Moultons should have nice outdoor seating, better cafe' and ice-cream and fresh flowers	12/15/2014 7:21 PM
9	no additional business	12/14/2014 8:34 PM
10	Teen center	12/13/2014 1:53 PM
11	experience is fine the way it is...leave it alone	12/12/2014 9:57 AM
12	No chains	12/11/2014 10:37 PM
13	The culture of this town is protected by a local village with no businesses, it defines this town..	12/7/2014 2:22 PM
14	No businesses. It is perfect as is.	12/7/2014 8:15 AM
15	must be architecture and size appropriate	12/6/2014 7:25 AM
16	Antiques	11/25/2014 11:58 AM
17	But would be greatly opposed to a tavern!	11/22/2014 8:01 PM
18	Small shops as found in tourist destinations	11/20/2014 11:53 PM
19	small country store	11/20/2014 1:18 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

20	Businesses have to make a profit to continue to exist small retail is unlikely to have enough business -- witness failed businesses in The Meeting Place. Also, more retail/commercial means more parking/traffic issues.	11/20/2014 10:59 AM
21	Old school pharmacy, not a RiteAid	11/19/2014 12:18 PM
22	love Moultons!!	11/18/2014 11:02 PM
23	None that draw traffic	11/18/2014 1:23 PM
24	small bicycle shop	11/18/2014 11:13 AM
25	Arts/crafts store	11/18/2014 9:37 AM
26	for families and seniors by having more basic shol love the village as it is, but it would be great to have basic services for families and seniors close without having to pile into my car everyday.	11/18/2014 7:39 AM
27	Slough it isn't the village both Salisbury Square and Meeting House retail space are looking quiet empty	11/18/2014 6:25 AM
28	we have Moulton's and it has all these dining things	11/17/2014 9:41 PM
29	kids indoor place place	11/17/2014 8:39 PM
30	Moultans type small market or small farm type as lull with veges, fruits, specialty items Hans, species, pies	11/17/2014 8:04 PM
31	Consider this checking "Restaurant" twice.	11/17/2014 7:53 PM
32	Over the years we have had a video shop, a salon, and a gift shop, a B&B, we already have a gas station at the lights, a small market, Moulton's! and they already offer baked goods, coffee, lunch etc...so we already have a lot of the above	11/17/2014 6:18 PM
33	Only in existing buildings though	11/16/2014 7:50 PM
34	Additional businesses would result in additional traffic and green space devoted to parking. It may also affect the free movement of children in the village.	11/15/2014 12:18 PM
35	I like the niche that Moulton's provides and ask suggestions here are above and beyond that	11/13/2014 10:53 PM
36	Amherst Village is a neighborhood, not a business center. All of the businesses you've listed are available on 101A.	11/13/2014 9:55 PM
37	small bike shop	11/13/2014 8:59 AM
38	Maybe a Starbucks.	11/13/2014 8:53 AM
39	Definitely no taverns; it would attract drunk drivers.	11/12/2014 9:34 PM
40	The center should be more than an old place with old buildings. It should be a beautiful historic district with commerce that brings together a community.	11/12/2014 6:14 PM
41	Again, there's nothing to do in town. Business and places to eat/drink would give it some life. It's a nice place, but it's pretty boring as is.	11/11/2014 12:37 PM
42	Something that make the village more of a destination than a cut-through - but needs to be sensitive to the village	11/6/2014 11:31 AM
43	There is nothing to do in village except for moultons. No restaurant, no pub. Except for walking around or sitting on a bench, there is nothing to do there. Town needs to have more places of purpose and gathering without changing historic atmosphere.	11/2/2014 1:35 PM
44	Business additions should be limited	10/28/2014 9:26 PM
45	A pub would be awesome! The village NEEDS more activity. There isn't anything to do there but walk around. It should be a destination where people can go to dinner and grab a pint.	10/28/2014 8:25 PM

**Q18 What type of street-lighting would you like in the village? (choose all that apply from the pictures below)**

Answered: 514 Skipped: 39



Answer Choices	Responses
1. No street lighting	21.79% 112
2. Industrial	1.17% 6
3. Modern	1.56% 8
4. Lantern-style	67.12% 345
5. Acorn-style	23.74% 122
6. Gooseneck-style	27.63% 142
Other	2.33% 12
Total Respondents: 514	

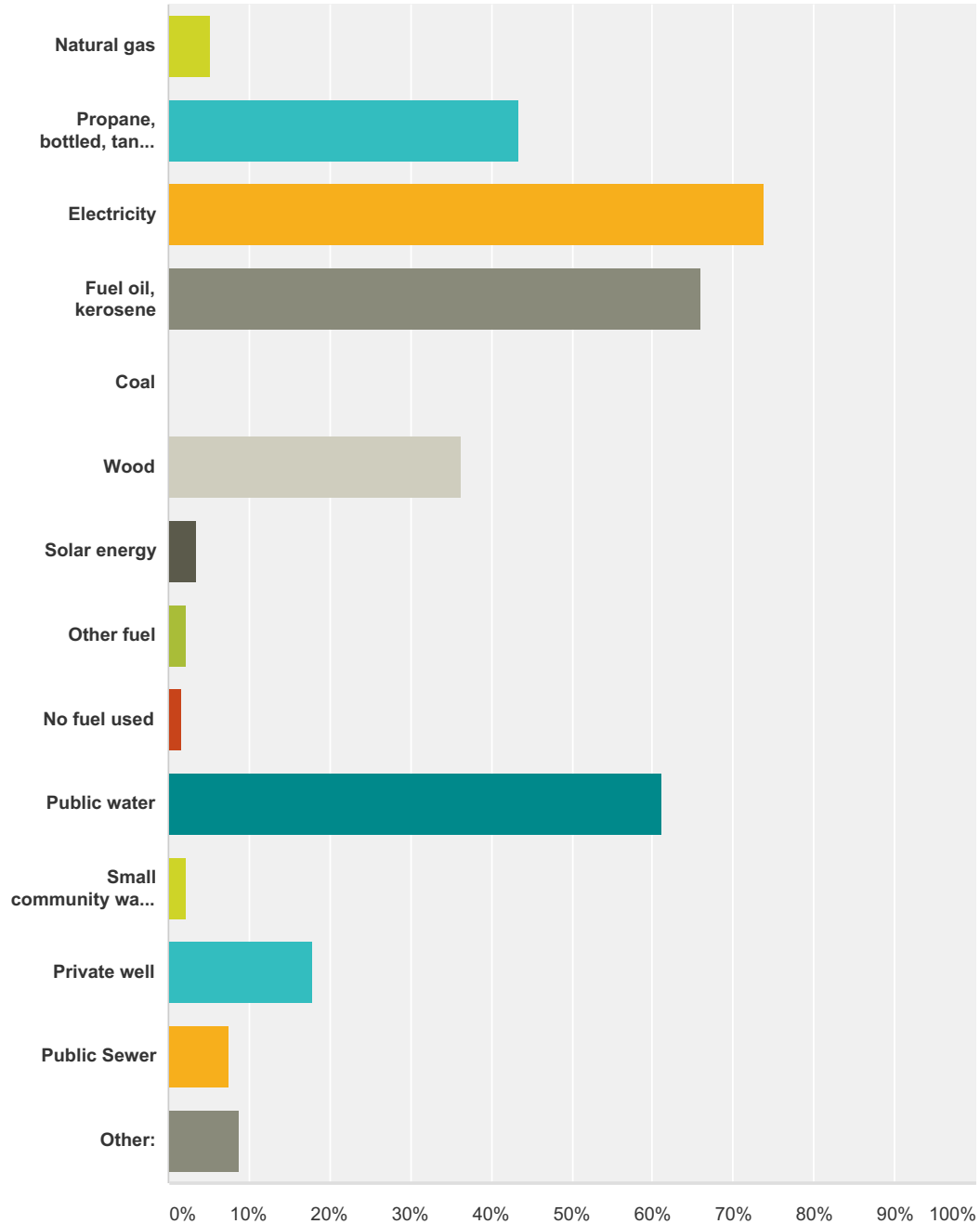
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Any lighting should focus on dark sky and have appropriate angling and shielding to force light down where wanted.	1/13/2015 10:39 PM
2	Current lighting is fine.	1/6/2015 2:30 PM
3	NONE	1/6/2015 2:06 PM
4	No change	1/2/2015 8:17 AM
5	present lighting works very well	1/2/2015 12:43 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

6	None	12/26/2014 6:06 PM
7	let's keep this place rural and not an extension of a large town/city	12/21/2014 9:31 AM
8	Light town green for events. portable	12/13/2014 1:56 PM
9	no change	12/11/2014 1:40 PM
10	Minimal lighting is ideal.	12/8/2014 12:32 PM
11	Type compatible with a historical village image	11/20/2014 11:59 PM
12	Historical lighting if any is necessary	11/20/2014 6:33 PM
13	Sufficient for safety but not intrusive for the residents of the village. Also, must be cost effective to purchase and maintain.	11/20/2014 11:02 AM
14	Gas street lights.	11/20/2014 8:53 AM
15	limited to where needed	11/19/2014 5:08 PM
16	No cost data makes this and the whole survey invalid in my opinion	11/18/2014 1:25 PM
17	Something that looks historically accurate	11/18/2014 11:14 AM
18	Solar	11/18/2014 7:57 AM
19	Solar	11/18/2014 7:40 AM
20	Night sky friendly	11/17/2014 8:39 PM
21	Whats the deal with the ugly stuff we have now? Why does the HDC permit that stuff to happen?	11/17/2014 8:00 PM
22	In the early 19 century we had lantern style lighting. Amherst is a rural village, simple and historic. The lighting is quite adequate as it is.	11/15/2014 12:26 PM
23	Don't spend any more.	11/15/2014 10:20 AM
24	if there has to be lighting, keep it old fashioned looking	11/13/2014 9:01 AM
25	If you need to do something #4 is the best	11/12/2014 10:34 PM
26	In Belgium we have historic accurate lighting for my historic village. Why do we have ugly industrial lighting right now? Sometimes I think people forget the why the town centre is so special when they allow these ugly things to happen.	11/2/2014 1:38 PM
27	There is already plenty of light in the Village.	11/1/2014 9:51 AM
28	Street lighting should be colonial. As similar to the gas lamps of boston/portsmouth as possible. Modern wouldn't make sence. Industrial, like what we currently have is embarassing, and the "acorn" or "gooseneck" are tacky fake versions of colonial lighting	10/28/2014 8:27 PM

**Q19 If you live or own a business in the Village, what do you use for utilities?  
(choose all that apply)**

Answered: 173 Skipped: 380



Answer Choices	Responses	
Natural gas	5.20%	9
Propane, bottled, tank or LP gas	43.35%	75
Electricity	73.99%	128

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

Fuel oil, kerosene	65.90%	114
Coal	0.00%	0
Wood	36.42%	63
Solar energy	3.47%	6
Other fuel	2.31%	4
No fuel used	1.73%	3
Public water	61.27%	106
Small community water system	2.31%	4
Private well	17.92%	31
Public Sewer	7.51%	13
Other:	8.67%	15
<b>Total Respondents: 173</b>		

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	We don't live in the village	1/6/2015 2:50 PM
2	I don't live in the village district	1/6/2015 2:45 PM
3	N/A	1/6/2015 2:38 PM
4	N/A	1/6/2015 2:11 PM
5	Septic	12/31/2014 10:04 AM
6	N/A	12/26/2014 6:06 PM
7	We're part of the 11,000 other people in town that don't live in the village, but also require services.	12/20/2014 10:52 PM
8	Pellet Stove	12/18/2014 9:28 AM
9	pellet stove	12/15/2014 7:24 PM
10	This is not at park	12/13/2014 1:56 PM
11	When I stay with family we burn wood!!!!	12/7/2014 2:25 PM
12	Live outside the village on the Bedford side.	11/25/2014 5:49 PM
13	Does not apply to me	11/24/2014 8:05 PM
14	pellets (wood)	11/23/2014 8:17 PM
15	pellets	11/21/2014 9:53 AM
16	N/A	11/20/2014 1:45 PM
17	Not living in village	11/18/2014 7:18 PM
18	Windmill	11/18/2014 9:38 AM
19	I do not live or own a business in the village	11/18/2014 8:39 AM
20	Wood pellets	11/17/2014 10:04 PM
21	N/a	11/17/2014 9:51 PM
22	na	11/17/2014 8:22 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

23	n/a	11/17/2014 6:19 PM
24	N/a	11/17/2014 12:17 PM
25	Private sewer, cable	11/16/2014 9:23 PM
26	biomass for the community would be neat.	11/13/2014 10:56 PM
27	Septic	11/12/2014 10:54 PM
28	I don't care about utilities. We have many now.	11/2/2014 1:38 PM
29	Septic	10/28/2014 9:29 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

### Q20 Are there any additional utility options you would like to see in the Village? Please explain.

Answered: 91   Skipped: 462

#	Responses	Date
1	Natural Gas	1/16/2015 5:37 PM
2	geothermal and wind power and solar	1/14/2015 3:57 PM
3	natural gas	1/13/2015 9:56 AM
4	If there are unbuildable, or unhikeable public lands or even wetlands, build acre sized solar panel arrays which do not interfere with rain water percolation.	1/10/2015 8:25 PM
5	solar	1/7/2015 3:11 PM
6	No.	1/6/2015 2:45 PM
7	I think the village as it stands today has a charm and natural feel to it. I am not sure this natural setting needs a lot of human intervention. Unlike a technology that can pass you buy if you don't keep up that is not the case with natures beauty. The village has stood the test of time. The problem with permanent "new" ideas that would materially change the landscape of the village is that they may seem relevant at the time but may become unfavorable over time. I am concerned that we risk damaging the simple beauty and setting of the village for a trendy/temporary idea.	1/5/2015 12:00 PM
8	Bury the power lines in the green an village areas.	1/2/2015 8:43 AM
9	Public sewer	1/1/2015 8:01 PM
10	Sewer and access to natural gas for heating	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
11	underground cables would be nice	12/26/2014 4:12 PM
12	Amherst should have it's own methane power plant with all the doggie poo folks leave behind in town...	12/20/2014 10:52 PM
13	The common could use a lantern or two to light the way for late afternoon winter strolls	12/20/2014 7:17 AM
14	Natural gas, public sewer, solar energy	12/19/2014 12:20 PM
15	BURY THE ELECTRIC LINES!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Get rid of the ugly overhead utility lines - PSNH always cites ridiculous costs,but obviously it is done in other towns.....	12/18/2014 4:03 PM
16	No	12/18/2014 9:28 AM
17	Puvlic Sewer	12/15/2014 4:50 PM
18	Public Sewer underground utilities	12/15/2014 12:01 PM
19	Amherst Village needs to remember its heritage and become a regional center for commerce again. Secondly, it needs to be more welcoming to young people. Finally there is nothing sacrosinc in the historic district that can't be changed by zoning. The village is beautiful, safe with no traffic or pedestrian problems because it is mostly used by the residents of the village not the town or the area as it was originally developed to serve.	12/13/2014 1:56 PM
20	natural gas would be nice.	12/13/2014 10:17 AM
21	Public sewer	12/8/2014 12:32 PM
22	NONE	12/8/2014 11:52 AM
23	Public sewer	12/7/2014 8:34 PM
24	Bike trails, athletic fields, outdoor congregating spaces for local arts shows can all be run with solar applications.	12/7/2014 2:25 PM
25	Place all utility and power lines underground and out of sight.	12/7/2014 8:16 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

26	I would like to see the metal signage (stops, etc) replaced with wooden post signs. Love to see a couple more retail businesses - a tea room, ice cream, restaurant. limited.	12/6/2014 7:27 AM
27	win power energy generation	12/4/2014 3:43 PM
28	Natural Gas Buried Electrical (no poles)	12/4/2014 3:34 PM
29	Get rid of those ugly power lines. This storm left me without power for days, burying these things will help with it, and they don't be long in a colonial town anyways. Bury it.	12/2/2014 3:19 PM
30	Events to draw the community in	12/2/2014 2:11 PM
31	If you like these type of changes, please visit Route 101A to see what goes wrong. Leave it untouched as it has been created already, just enjoy the simplistic design. We don't need all the hoop la, and growth within this historical area. Route 101A could use some help....	12/2/2014 1:31 PM
32	I would love public sewer.	12/1/2014 4:39 PM
33	FIOS from Verizon or any other entity that competes with Comcast.	11/30/2014 2:53 PM
34	Natural gas, solar	11/26/2014 9:16 PM
35	Fix the bridge. We don't go to the village as much as we used to because it is a pain to get there since the bridge is out.	11/25/2014 6:52 PM
36	Get rid of some of the stop signs. There are far too many	11/25/2014 5:49 PM
37	Power lines buried	11/25/2014 1:06 PM
38	I really want to specify that I care most about a public playground being built. There's nowhere to go during the day now that the Cemetary Fields playground is gone.	11/25/2014 12:53 PM
39	Natural gas	11/25/2014 12:41 PM
40	I'd like to see the Village become a true town center not only for the town offices, but a gathering place with lively shops, restaurants and services. It's sad to see how little Amherst has to offer in this regard.	11/25/2014 12:39 PM
41	Please consider the option of closing some streets and intersections and converting them to open space or walk / bike paths. Carriage Lane should not have entrances at the East and West Ends, but should be a public driveway for the homes that are located on it (two intersections and stop signs eliminated). School Street is unnecessary as an East West Road and should be closed except for access to the Brick School and the one house that is on it; again, it would be come a public driveway. Several more stop signs and intersections can be eliminated and the Village Green and associated walk / bike paths can be expanded.	11/24/2014 11:28 PM
42	Underground lines	11/24/2014 11:31 AM
43	I view this whole survey with trepidation. It looks like you are tying to get buy-in from the community to move forward with more development. Why not try just leaving things alone for a change?	11/23/2014 2:44 PM
44	Public sewer	11/22/2014 8:04 PM
45	Natural gas for heating	11/22/2014 6:39 PM
46	Bury under ground or hide all utilities to transform unsightly Village into a place of community pride.	11/20/2014 11:59 PM
47	Bury the lines. Utility poles are an eye-sore.	11/20/2014 9:27 PM
48	underground wires	11/20/2014 6:34 PM
49	Underground power lines would look better; more historically accurate, and decrease power outages	11/20/2014 6:33 PM
50	Bury the power lines.	11/19/2014 10:45 PM
51	No aboveground power lines.	11/18/2014 3:11 PM
52	Public wifi	11/18/2014 2:21 PM
53	Repair the Mack Hill Road bridge over Beaver Brook	11/18/2014 1:25 PM
54	Local ISP (any alternative to Comcast)	11/18/2014 9:47 AM
55	Burying the unsightly power lines would increase the attractiveness of the village immeasurably.	11/18/2014 9:38 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

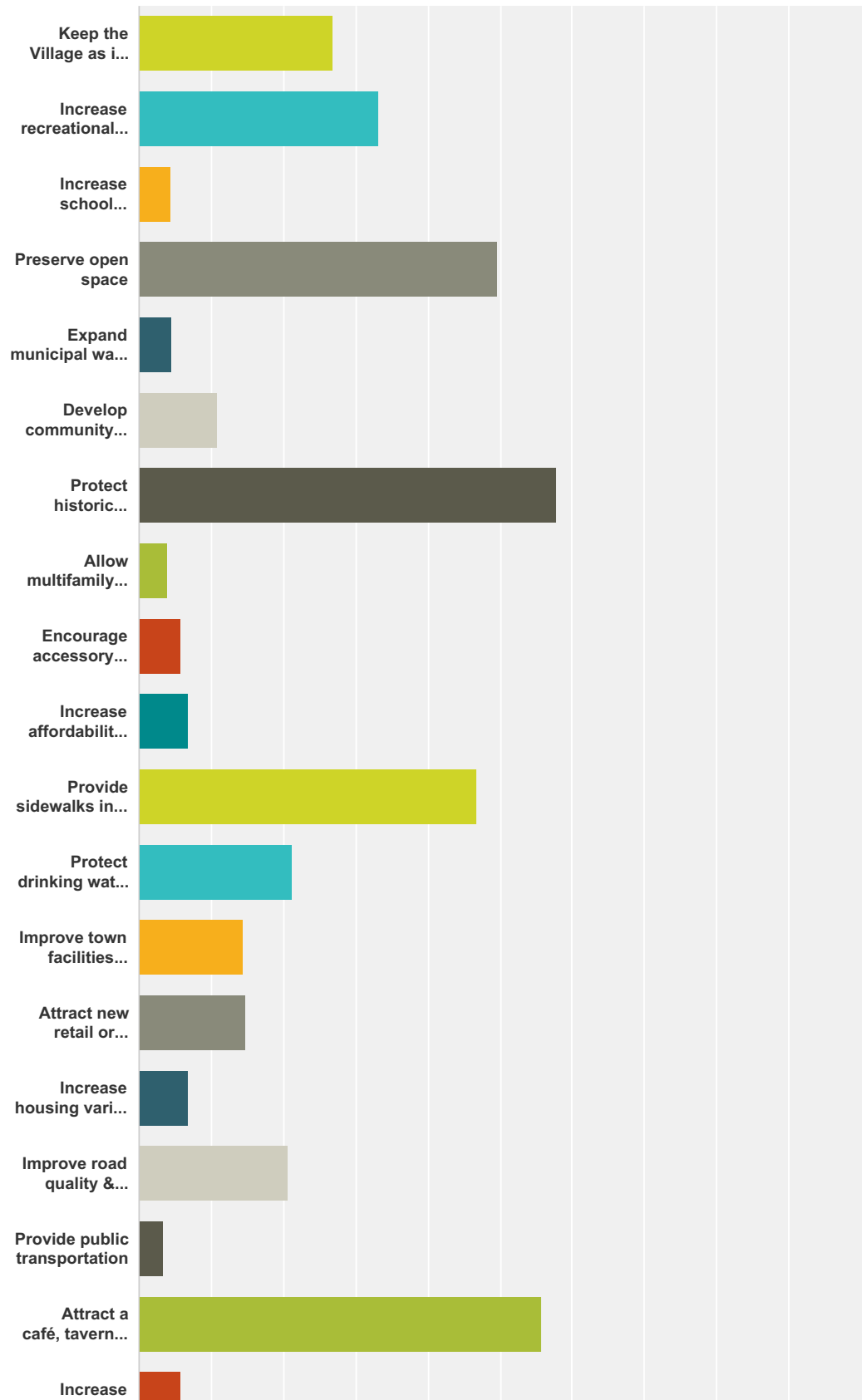
56	Buried cables!	11/18/2014 8:44 AM
57	i think we should utilize solar lighting to save on energy costs for the town.	11/18/2014 4:11 AM
58	More green space, and some business that bring people and community together. As it is I am never in the village except to return a library book or register my car. Would love a coffee shop or neighborhood brewhouse. Historically there were taverns in Amherst. Would be nice to actually meet my neighbors somewhere!	11/18/2014 12:51 AM
59	I do not live in the village, I'd like to see additional utilities in the other parts of town. Public water would mean water service even in power outage, natural gas would add a competitive element to fuel pricing structures. I suppose it will never be as cheap here, but in the south natural gas is usually under \$1 per therm if signed up in off season.	11/17/2014 11:34 PM
60	Natural gas run from 101A to village and to public buildings and schools. Save a ton of money and reduce pollution.	11/17/2014 10:17 PM
61	Natural gas, public sewer, expanded public water	11/17/2014 10:04 PM
62	We need a playground!	11/17/2014 10:04 PM
63	gas!	11/17/2014 9:53 PM
64	underground wiring Upgrade the hydrant pressure	11/17/2014 9:40 PM
65	Public water and sewer	11/17/2014 8:54 PM
66	Natural gas in all of Amherst!	11/17/2014 8:48 PM
67	Nothing above ground.	11/17/2014 8:00 PM
68	Remove existing above ground utilities.	11/17/2014 7:41 PM
69	NATURAL GAS!	11/17/2014 7:33 PM
70	Public sewer Natural gas	11/17/2014 6:57 PM
71	n/a	11/17/2014 6:19 PM
72	None	11/17/2014 10:16 AM
73	Underground utilities, wireless hotspots	11/16/2014 9:23 PM
74	Amherst village has evolved naturally over the past two plus centuries. It is highly regarded by history scholars as being one of the best preserved sites in New Hampshire. I have lived in the village since 1970 and strongly feel that future uses in the village can be made through the ZBA zoning process. It might be helpful to read my books Colonial Amherst Village and Amherst Historical Moments in order to obtain a understanding of the Village and its history.	11/15/2014 12:26 PM
75	no more utilities! enough ugly electric wires already!	11/15/2014 9:07 AM
76	A community based utility would be great. Like a biomass or other alternative energy for powering the town needs.	11/13/2014 10:56 PM
77	No. Run overhead electric lines below ground.	11/13/2014 4:38 PM
78	no	11/13/2014 11:41 AM
79	Natural gas	11/13/2014 10:27 AM
80	Would love it if piped natural gas were an option.	11/13/2014 9:47 AM
81	I would like public sewer	11/13/2014 7:36 AM
82	Underground wires	11/12/2014 10:54 PM
83	Everything is fine.	11/12/2014 9:47 PM
84	Bury the utility lines.	11/12/2014 9:35 PM
85	The wires go underground. The current wires are ugly and look like a mess.	11/12/2014 6:15 PM
86	Too many power lines. Pretty ugly.	11/11/2014 12:38 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

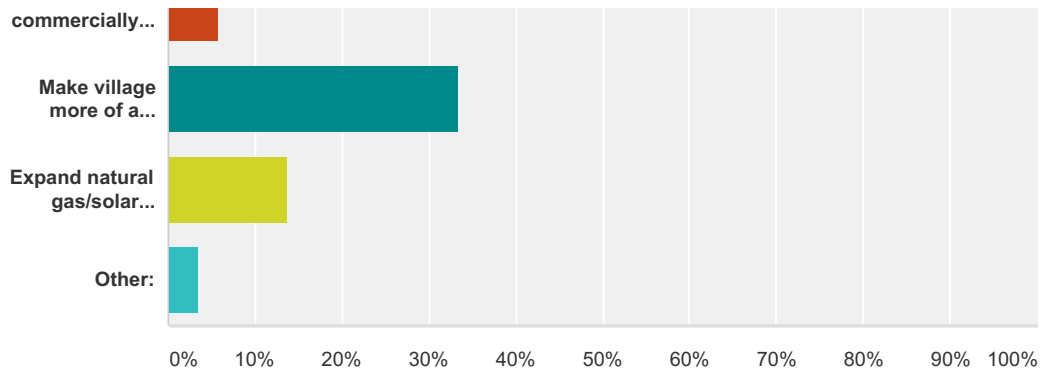
87	Public gas might be nice - it would save on all those propane tanks in the village. Plus it is cleaner.	11/6/2014 11:38 AM
88	I would like to see the electric lines buried underground.	11/3/2014 8:11 PM
89	Why do we have the electricity lines and the wooden poles? This is the most embarrassing part of the village. When my family visits from Belgium they are so surprised why these things are here. In Belgium no village has these wires. In France they put these in the ground for the whole country 40 years ago. I don't understand this.	11/2/2014 1:38 PM
90	Natural gas	10/28/2014 9:29 PM
91	Bury those ugly lines!!!!!!	10/28/2014 8:27 PM

Q21 How would you like to see Amherst Village evolve? Choose up to five.

Answered: 517 Skipped: 36



## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey



Answer Choices	Responses	
Keep the Village as is with no changes	26.89%	139
Increase recreational opportunities	33.27%	172
Increase school capacity/facilities	4.45%	23
Preserve open space	49.71%	257
Expand municipal water service	4.64%	24
Develop community septic/town sewer system	10.83%	56
Protect historic properties and sites	57.83%	299
Allow multifamily housing development	4.06%	21
Encourage accessory apartments	5.80%	30
Increase affordability of housing	6.96%	36
Provide sidewalks in key areas	46.81%	242
Protect drinking water supply and quality	21.28%	110
Improve town facilities (town hall, library, etc.)	14.51%	75
Attract new retail or office space	14.89%	77
Increase housing variety (elderly, workforce housing, etc.)	6.96%	36
Improve road quality & traffic control	20.70%	107
Provide public transportation	3.29%	17
Attract a café, tavern or restaurant	55.71%	288
Increase commercially-zoned areas	5.80%	30
Make village more of a destination	33.46%	173
Expand natural gas/solar options	13.73%	71
Other:	3.48%	18
Total Respondents: 517		

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Figt proposed Kinder Morgan Pipeline.	1/26/2015 11:00 AM
2	Transition library from library only to a community multi-use center of which library is a part.	1/10/2015 9:33 PM
3	20x40 foot Rectangular Bandstad & Viewing platform with roof. Used for concerts on the green and parade VIP viewing/speeches.	1/10/2015 8:28 PM
4	Bring back the parking in front of Town Hall.	1/6/2015 2:40 PM
5	Open the bridge for heaven's sake- you are cutting half of Amherst off from the village- therefore preventing paying costumers from accessing business in our village	1/1/2015 11:26 AM
6	Naturally, as it has done for the last 200 years with no help from the Central Committee.	12/8/2014 11:22 AM
7	Buried Electrical Lines	12/4/2014 3:38 PM
8	one tasteful dining/tavern option to make the village more of a destination	11/26/2014 9:36 PM
9	Replace bridge ASAP	11/22/2014 6:52 PM
10	Emphasize Amherst 's historical past rather than another ugly town.	11/21/2014 12:31 AM
11	add more small commercial stores besides Moultons	11/20/2014 9:03 PM
12	Make it like a Norman Rockwell painting experience	11/20/2014 6:37 PM
13	add bike paths	11/20/2014 1:47 PM
14	Allow (but not necessarily encourage) accessory apartments	11/20/2014 11:16 AM
15	ban trucks	11/19/2014 8:49 AM
16	Keep the illegal uturns from Wilkins school pick up !	11/18/2014 5:03 PM
17	Most of your suggested "improvements" actually would have the effect of destroying the village at increased tax payer expense	11/18/2014 1:31 PM
18	Coffee tea shop bakery store.Small diner. A small theater	11/18/2014 12:01 PM
19	Playing fields	11/18/2014 7:59 AM
20	Make the village and the town MORE family freindly. I cannot believe a town like this does not have atown park, with concert facilities, bike paths, athletic fields, a playground, etc. Connect the village with other parts of the town via walking and bike paths. Connect the schools with recreation and town events for everyone.	11/18/2014 7:52 AM
21	Bike paths into and through town.	11/18/2014 12:53 AM
22	We need a village playground off of school property.	11/17/2014 10:33 PM
23	Playgrounds and athletic facilities!	11/17/2014 9:01 PM
24	Sidewalks along Christian Hill to Bloody Brook Road	11/17/2014 8:58 PM
25	Is fine as it is...preserve and protect what we have	11/17/2014 6:59 PM
26	Lower taxes	11/17/2014 6:59 PM
27	Changes in the Village can now be made by the ZBA . Little change es	11/15/2014 12:45 PM
28	make hdc enforce the rules	11/14/2014 7:11 PM
29	Do not "Disneyfy" the village. Keep it historic.	11/13/2014 8:57 AM
30	Sidewalks should be for safety of pedestrians.	11/13/2014 8:33 AM
31	Fix the bridge!	11/13/2014 7:40 AM
32	bury utility lines underground	11/3/2014 8:13 PM
33	Put better playground at the small school in village, it only is swings right now and my nephew has nowhere to play in the village.	11/2/2014 1:42 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

34	The congregational church is lit up by an ugly blue light that is across the street on a pole, I think we can do better. Make the village a destination, a place where people can go spend time for a reason and not just to walk around. Also the brick school should probably have a real playground like it once did.	10/28/2014 8:33 PM
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## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

### Q22 How would you like to see existing businesses in Amherst Village evolve?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 373

#	Responses	Date
1	Businesses as well as activities should be welcomed by those living in the village	1/22/2015 7:15 PM
2	The Village is perfect as is. I don't want more traffic and it is important to preserve it's history. I would only want more sidewalks or connected walking trail and to keep traffic slow.	1/17/2015 10:22 PM
3	New Gas Station by the Post Office on Route 101	1/15/2015 12:34 PM
4	small locally owned, restricted in individual square footage per business to less than or equal to current Moulton's Market footprint. More elder housing with accessibility by foot and buses.	1/14/2015 4:05 PM
5	1. Small, locally (NH) owned businesses. 2. More community-based activities that are "contemporary" and of interest to young(er) families. The village is increasingly viewed as a place that caters to older residents with limited interest/consideration of the value/importance of having people of all ages (from neighborhoods throughout Amherst) using common spaces. In fact, it is not a "village" in the truest sense of the word; certainly not for Amherst families whose homes are dispersed across the town. There is very little reason for the 10,000+ residents of Amherst to gather/make use of/enjoy the village area. In fact, two residents of the village recently shared with me that they wish people would stay away from the village.	1/10/2015 9:33 PM
6	quickly	1/9/2015 1:50 PM
7	Renovate and restore current buildings where needed to 'dress' up the facility. Expand offerings. Find more parking solutions	1/8/2015 6:03 PM
8	For the convenience of the village population .	1/8/2015 2:23 PM
9	The entire historic district should be preserved with minimal changes such as accessory apartments and home business. It is considered an architectural gem in NH and should stay that way.	1/7/2015 3:14 PM
10	As they wish to evolve.	1/6/2015 2:51 PM
11	They should be allowed to expand or change use if they want to or need to in order to make money. We need to help them be able to stay there.	1/6/2015 2:47 PM
12	Ice cream window at Moulton's.	1/6/2015 2:40 PM
13	No room for anything without changing the wonderful character of the town as it is.	1/6/2015 2:32 PM
14	As they wish	1/6/2015 2:12 PM
15	LET THEM IN !	1/6/2015 2:07 PM
16	Develop business zoning in sensible way.	1/6/2015 2:01 PM
17	Go back to the original idea of Amherst Village: mixed use with businesses on the first floor & living quarters to the rear or upstairs to create varying classes of people living and working in the area.	1/5/2015 10:47 AM
18	Would like to keep the charm while allowing changes to take place	1/4/2015 9:37 PM
19	I think the relatively small amount of business in the village is just right to maintain the charm and attractiveness of the village.	1/2/2015 12:49 AM
20	I would like to have one or two casual dining options like a pub.	12/31/2014 10:10 AM
21	Provide small business opportunity...more mixed use zoning	12/29/2014 10:15 AM
22	Use of the Congregational Church for concert series (preferably chamber music or choral music), lecture series (lyceum concept), viewing of films perhaps...	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
23	Fit into existing historical nature of village	12/27/2014 12:44 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

24	i would like to see the village atmosphere and rural setting maintained. that is why i live here. if you start modernizing and developing, that will be lost and it will turn more into the suburbs of boston. please just protect the open space as much as possible. there is already too much building going on. let's limit that. thanks for listening	12/21/2014 9:34 AM
25	Businesses make their own decisions. If something is a success it is permitted to grow, they have to fold, or to just move out. Taxing residents and business to the bone over frivolous nonsense could be considered a strategy or a death knell. Depends on your goals and perspective.	12/20/2014 11:38 PM
26	Grow laRGER	12/20/2014 11:05 PM
27	There is no need for this; there is way too many businesses already within easy driving distance.	12/20/2014 7:26 AM
28	be more upper scale	12/19/2014 2:21 PM
29	Prefer to see businesses outside of the village	12/19/2014 12:35 PM
30	Id like to see Moulton's become more of a coffee house/bistro while still keeping the take out. Also, I'd like to see them serve ice cream. It would be awesome to sit out on the green with the kids having some!	12/19/2014 8:25 AM
31	Why are yo asking these irrelevant questions. Amherst had moved its commercial zone to 101A - it is OVER for the Village for commertial.	12/18/2014 4:11 PM
32	Not encourage more business.	12/18/2014 9:31 AM
33	I would like to see Moulton's add nice, wrought iron tables for outside seating possibly in front of the store and clean up that side area. I would like to see them upgrade their coffee bar, add real ice cream. I would like to see the Boston Post Rd side even possibly turned into seating and get rid of the ugly dumpster or camouflaging it somehow.	12/15/2014 7:30 PM
34	NONE	12/15/2014 12:02 PM
35	allow Moultons to expand	12/14/2014 8:38 PM
36	More business and a teen center.	12/13/2014 1:59 PM
37	No more business!	12/12/2014 12:22 PM
38	experience is fine the way it is...leave it alone	12/12/2014 10:03 AM
39	There are enough business in the village....keep commerce in the 101@ and 101 area where there are Plenty of vacant building and lots of available commercial space!!	12/12/2014 9:31 AM
40	I don't want to see them evolve. This is a residential area with "some" businesses. We should be preserving exactly what is "The Village".	12/11/2014 5:02 PM
41	Have Moulton's add an ice cream stand	12/11/2014 2:11 PM
42	Retain character of Amherst	12/10/2014 10:11 AM
43	the historic value needs to be protected and chains need to be held out. Allowing commercial opens the door to Dunkin Donuts and other fast food businesses.	12/10/2014 8:57 AM
44	That's not my business.	12/9/2014 9:30 AM
45	I don't exactly understand why the businesses that are in the old post office building were allowed to go in, but people are resisting new businesses from coming in. I'm not looking for a lot of change, but it seems there is some inequity of opportunity. Insurance agency allowed next to Moulton's, but nowhere else. Historically, the village was more diverse in businesses and the green was used much more for multiple purposes. We aren't exactly being historically accurate if we keep it only residential with the preferred few businesses that currently exist. I'm not interested in seeing Dunkin's in the village, but we do need to be willing to examine what will continue the life of the village.	12/8/2014 4:01 PM
46	Residential/business in same building	12/8/2014 1:00 PM
47	I would like to be able to buy food at Moulton's and eat it outside on tables on the green.	12/8/2014 12:33 PM
48	I see no need for any changes at this time	12/8/2014 12:04 PM
49	Naturally as most businesses evolve.	12/8/2014 11:22 AM
50	Keep both gas stations Moultons should stay the same Increase home businesses	12/7/2014 8:40 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

51	I would like to continue to see family run organizations well supported and blended into the fabric of the town and its people. No upgrades or additions are needed and none should be offered. National chains should be warned that they are wasting their time and money when trying to enter the village. Money talks and the costs incurred will be too great for no return and a guaranteed response "get out of town" return on their time/money investment.	12/7/2014 2:40 PM
52	What we have is great as it is. People move here because it's RURAL. That is why everyone moved here. Now you want to change it? Leave it as it is.	12/7/2014 5:04 AM
53	more low impact retail	12/6/2014 7:30 AM
54	More commercial activities.	12/3/2014 9:12 AM
55	Move them to Route 101A	12/2/2014 1:35 PM
56	If moulton's is to be the only business (I wish it wasn't) would real like to see it turned into a high-end convenience store w/ much greater selection of products and produce. Also, ice cream window in the summer. For example a blend of what it is, plus Lull Farm, plus Hayward's.	12/2/2014 12:22 PM
57	More and varied	12/1/2014 2:49 PM
58	Bring in business that promotes social gathering -- such as a pub/tavern, small restaurant, cafe, or bakery.	12/1/2014 11:20 AM
59	Use of larger homes for tavern or B & B, restaurant	11/30/2014 4:44 PM
60	Continue to provide high-quality services and necessities, with increased professional offices and service businesses	11/30/2014 3:08 PM
61	I think they should stay the same.	11/30/2014 2:57 PM
62	Keep existing and evolve to include a tavern/ restaurant in town center	11/29/2014 6:14 PM
63	If you add businesses, it will start to look like Milford.	11/28/2014 7:11 AM
64	The village is a residential neighborhood and should not be commercialized.	11/27/2014 12:05 PM
65	if a small cafe or restaurant could be added to moultons, that could help make the village more of a destination. Everyone in Amherst goes out to dinner in Bedford, Manchester, Nashua, or Milford. All the options in Amherst are 101a chains, so nothing of character. One quality restaurant in the village would attract plenty of visitors.	11/26/2014 9:36 PM
66	Keep them local. No chains.	11/26/2014 5:01 PM
67	I think parking is an issue for any businesses in the village. No one wants to lose green space to a parking lot, so cars need to park along the green area. I would not want to expand their services and invite more parking.	11/26/2014 3:30 PM
68	I so not want to see school facilities expand if the student population continues to drop.	11/25/2014 5:53 PM
69	Maybe a small coffee shop	11/25/2014 5:50 PM
70	ensure they maintain the integrity of the village, with respect to the outward appearance.	11/25/2014 4:26 PM
71	Community-oriented	11/25/2014 1:13 PM
72	More things todo, like a bar/restaurant	11/25/2014 12:43 PM
73	Any business that would have existed in the village in the 1800's should be considered as an option. If there are reasons to rule it out, please do so AFTER that consideration.	11/24/2014 11:31 PM
74	Support Moultons, Mike's and Beard Insurance.	11/24/2014 4:51 PM
75	provide limited expansion of small business (cafe, tavern, retail)	11/23/2014 8:22 PM
76	The village can still retain its historic nature yet at the same time become more of a community gathering spot- tastefully done- with addition of a few nice amenities! There is a loss of community in our country and we need to create opportunities for people to gather in a social way. The village would be a great place to walk to get an ice cream for example- or sit with fellow citizens over a glass of wine. Currently , the rules imposed by the historic district commission are way to restrictive and not based on history- Historically, the Village had stores, a tavern, an inn. These would be lovely additions that would enhance the quality of life for our citizens.	11/23/2014 6:26 AM
77	Have as little change as possible.	11/22/2014 11:35 PM
78	Stay the same.	11/22/2014 8:17 PM
79	No further expansion in Village	11/22/2014 6:52 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

80	Fit architecture, signage and business type to fit historic Amherst	11/22/2014 5:38 PM
81	Adopt a facade more historic to the village	11/22/2014 8:42 AM
82	I would like to see existing businesses survive and thrive; don't want to see more commercial entities. A major concern with modifying zoning to allow a new business to occupy an existing property is what happens if the business fails. The successor business could be a problem. For example, the village of Hollis now has a tattoo parlor!	11/22/2014 8:27 AM
83	I would like to keep the businesses the way they are and not add any additional businesses or companies.	11/21/2014 6:12 PM
84	Would be great if Moultons could expand offerings - especially if they had ice cream!!	11/21/2014 1:43 PM
85	I am not really sure what businesses exist in the village other than Moultons Market. When I think of business, I don't consider the service oriented places (accountants, gas station, financial advisor) something that has personal appeal to me.	11/21/2014 10:06 AM
86	attract many small shops, taverns, restaurants and coffee shops to make the Village a place of pedestrians, tourists and attractive views.	11/21/2014 12:31 AM
87	Would love to see a return to the historic business / residence combination. Small businesses run out of the homes people live in. Perhaps a cafe / restaurant / bar / ice cream shop...etc.	11/20/2014 9:03 PM
88	i don't want to see them evolve. this is a neighborhood not a commercial distict	11/20/2014 6:39 PM
89	A small amount of businesses, like a cafe, pub, Inn, and a shop or two would be nice to drawn in activity.	11/20/2014 6:37 PM
90	not at all	11/20/2014 6:05 PM
91	Cafe or coffee shop	11/20/2014 5:53 PM
92	If properties located near the Moulton's intersection become available - consider them for retail businesses.	11/20/2014 1:22 PM
93	I really would like to see some type of pub/tavern and a coffee shop.	11/20/2014 1:05 PM
94	Not more than what's there already. And businesses come and go. The existing commercial/retail spaces should be allowed to continue as commercial/retail. A little mix makes it interesting.	11/20/2014 11:16 AM
95	Keep them local only.	11/19/2014 12:18 PM
96	A Wayside Inn type of Pub would be great.	11/19/2014 11:42 AM
97	I would like them to remain as is.	11/19/2014 11:37 AM
98	I'd like to see maybe one or two other businesses, like a loungy bookstore or coffee shop. I don't want it to become too precious but if like to see it a little more useful. And bring back the farmers market!!!! If it's not getting enough business, maybe buy a few signs? I could also go for a hardware store. I think it should stay functional.	11/19/2014 9:07 AM
99	Let multons have their ice cream window	11/19/2014 8:49 AM
100	Perhaps a restaurant in a historical setting.	11/18/2014 7:24 PM
101	increased small business + retail	11/18/2014 6:49 PM
102	Small privately owned businesses only	11/18/2014 3:56 PM
103	Would be great to have more business in downtown area to create that true small-village feel as you walk down the street. Bakery, tavern, salon, grocery, all the things you would expect to see in a truly developed neighborhood. No chains! Locally Owned only!	11/18/2014 3:16 PM
104	No more business/traffic issues	11/18/2014 1:31 PM
105	I would like to see practical small businesses (versus luxury retail stores) in the village. Some of the examples listed earlier were key (drugstore/pharmacy, barber shop/hair salon...stores that do not compete with existing businesses). Adding a restaurant, tavern or ice cream stand might encourage people to linger as well.	11/18/2014 1:26 PM
106	Maintain Historic and authentic structures and look of the village. Maintain cemetery behind town hall. Meeting space is at a premium in the village. I would like to see options for community meeting space expanded if possible.	11/18/2014 1:10 PM
107	it would be nice to have a real coffee shop/small restaurant in town	11/18/2014 1:09 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

108	I would only be interested in a small coffee shop/café with tables out of doors.	11/18/2014 12:12 PM
109	More businesses to shop in- small retail, ice cream, bicycle, etc.	11/18/2014 11:17 AM
110	The should stay the same	11/18/2014 10:55 AM
111	Small businesses without corporate chain character	11/18/2014 9:55 AM
112	Attract artists and musicians, make the village a viable datenight destination.	11/18/2014 9:20 AM
113	I would like to see more businesses that encourage people and families to enjoy the space.	11/18/2014 9:15 AM
114	The village is currently the residential village for people who can afford to own and maintain the historic homes. The vibrancy of a small town's village center is lost when business is discouraged. In home business, professional offices, small stores, all would revive the village center.	11/18/2014 9:09 AM
115	I have lived in town for over 20 years and amongst other town folk we have always said it would be nice to have a restaurant, bar, coffee shop; some place for residents to go without having to drive to Nashua and Milford. All those extra tax dollars would go to Amherst instead of other towns.	11/18/2014 9:05 AM
116	Not by much! Increased business would increase traffic, decrease pedestrian and biker safety. Be cautious with this one! Would hate too lose the "charm" by going commercial.	11/18/2014 8:50 AM
117	Options - tavern, coffee shop, small businesses	11/18/2014 8:47 AM
118	Convert office space locations to village appropriate unique retail/restaurant/pub/etc... Although I like Moulton's, the community might be better served if they re-modeled to a more on-trend slightly more upscale café. Perhaps they could even consider a Friday/Saturday night dinner option by leasing out the location to an aspiring certified young chef, re-arrange the seating area, spruce it up for the evening and make it a hidden gem for the town and at the same time allow for a news chefs to experiment.	11/18/2014 8:33 AM
119	More reasons to bring people into the village (retail, food etc.)	11/18/2014 8:11 AM
120	A few more bakeries, coffee shops and cafe's would be nice.	11/18/2014 7:52 AM
121	It would be lovely to preserve some of the historic features of the village as business expand into our community.	11/18/2014 7:31 AM
122	I wouldn't. Expanding businesses brings more people. More people = more crowding, more problems. Amherst is a really special town unlike others. A large degree of that charm comes from the fact that the village feels like a living Strawberry Banke. Let's not lose that in the attempt to evolve.	11/18/2014 6:56 AM
123	Retail space is a lost cause, look at Salisbury Square and Meeting House commercial spaces they have a lot of empty units. A bakery or a paint/wine bar would be awesome in the village.	11/18/2014 6:39 AM
124	Restaurant or pub in the village	11/18/2014 5:59 AM
125	Tavern, ice cream stand and bakery. Gathering places to meet neighbors.	11/18/2014 5:56 AM
126	No change!	11/18/2014 1:36 AM
127	I like the existing businesses, I would just like to see a few additional businesses to make it feel more like an actual town rather than a "bedroom community"	11/17/2014 11:41 PM
128	I think the Village could use a few more businesses however too many would I believe take away from it. I use Mike's, Moulton, and the Library often. Those "businesses" work great for me in the current condition. I think the town would enjoy a few more (few is the key) business that could encourage gathering and the community feel that many residents love: ice cream shop, coffee, tavern, etc	11/17/2014 11:20 PM
129	Hardly any to evolve....Guessing it would be difficult to get businesses into the village at this point.	11/17/2014 10:33 PM
130	I'd like to see an attractive outdoor eating space at Moultons (not the side of the building). Live entertainment to encourage me to stay and eat at Moultons rather than grab food and eat it at home. Even a seating area on the green would be nice.	11/17/2014 10:17 PM
131	I would like to see a few locally owned cafes, restaurant, bakery,...in the village	11/17/2014 10:08 PM
132	Keep Moultons going strong	11/17/2014 9:49 PM
133	fine as they are; few seem to use the village for business, just as well, there's not a lot of parking anyway	11/17/2014 9:45 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

134	More business. A restaurant or cafe or tavern would bring the Amherst residents outside the village to come visit more often. Right now, there is very little reason for empty nesters to come into the village.	11/17/2014 9:43 PM
135	A pub/tavern would be a welcome addition to the Village.	11/17/2014 9:25 PM
136	Offer more to residents ie stores, cafe, restaurant	11/17/2014 9:25 PM
137	Only businesses I know of currently are Moulton's, gas station & auto repair. Would like to see a few more businesses. Would like to see Moulton's have an ice cream stand or something at a minimum.	11/17/2014 9:03 PM
138	Moultons & Mikes are staples to Amherst Village & they are just a part of what makes the Village so special.	11/17/2014 9:00 PM
139	Moulton's does an excellent job meeting many needs, however some variety and specialty would be nice.	11/17/2014 8:58 PM
140	Keep the same feel but add a few modern touches ie a pub and some restaurants. There needs to be a playground. We moved here for the great schools and family feel however there is no where to hang out as a family in the village	11/17/2014 8:42 PM
141	To enhance the historic value.	11/17/2014 8:29 PM
142	keep businesses and maybe have a coffee shop or small restaurant/tavern (no chain)	11/17/2014 7:45 PM
143	The town needs more character, more to do, and needs to be made more attractive.	11/17/2014 7:42 PM
144	Existing businesses already have a good presence in the village.	11/17/2014 7:36 PM
145	In my view, the only way the village could be come a destination is to turn it into the Milford Oval, with plenty of parking and shopping...but where would you find the space? It's already residential and no big parking areas exist....and the HDC protects the area anyway....Further who would go to shop there? We already have all the shopping one could want on 101-A ! ...and in Milford too! As to a coffee shop etc, Moulton's provides refreshments and seating for those who want to visit the village, the Brick School offers a small playground, and what with today's 2 working - parent families, how many have time to go to playgrounds...Clark and Wilkins are available after school hours, but who goes there?	11/17/2014 6:59 PM
146	Fine as they are	11/17/2014 10:20 AM
147	Businesses in the village should have an old country charm curb appeal - nothing modern or new - franchisees like Starbucks or Ben and Jerrys are welcome provided buildings and signage are in compliance with historic guidelines	11/16/2014 9:32 PM
148	Moultons could be more high end	11/16/2014 7:53 PM
149	Add more options. Allow for more business to move in	11/16/2014 6:54 PM
150	Don't let it become like the Milford oval!	11/16/2014 12:41 PM
151	More commercial development, considering the small size of the Village would very likely change it from being a safe, family friendly and usable area. .	11/15/2014 12:45 PM
152	More business means more parking that will cost more money.	11/15/2014 10:23 AM
153	Provide modern needs while preserving historic charm	11/15/2014 10:17 AM
154	keep residential	11/15/2014 9:11 AM
155	should not have any more business	11/14/2014 7:11 PM
156	There should be no new businesses.	11/14/2014 6:15 PM
157	More services should be available in the community. It's a great walkable community, so annoying that adds to that is perfect.	11/13/2014 11:00 PM
158	No more business in the village.	11/13/2014 4:42 PM
159	We need more small businesses..... greater in number and diversity. We used to have things like banks. taverns, the Post Office, and other destinations that fostered interaction for people in the entire Town, not just for those that happen to live around the Town Common. With the loss of businesses from the village it has become sterile.	11/13/2014 4:10 PM
160	Amherst is a pretty but boring place. I'd like it to more like a small Peterborough with some semblance of shops and cafes beyond Moultons.	11/13/2014 3:49 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

161	None	11/13/2014 10:28 AM
162	The Village is predominanatly a neighborhood. I don't think the current businesses need to "evolve".	11/13/2014 10:03 AM
163	We need to have more places that give the town some character. Amherst feels like a ghost town, and there isn't really much to do. We should be attracting places that make the town a destination, not just a "nice place"	11/13/2014 9:24 AM
164	I'd like to see existing businesses have more freedom to expand.	11/13/2014 6:38 AM
165	Keep historic appearance to businesses currently in village	11/13/2014 5:12 AM
166	Stay the same	11/12/2014 11:11 PM
167	We have a few existing businesses that have proven to be good partners to the town and feel strongly about maintaining the historic aspect of our village. If it is necessary to bring in new business, the Professional Building is already established as a business location.	11/12/2014 10:45 PM
168	Keep the same. No changes.	11/12/2014 9:48 PM
169	Do nothing that would take business away from Moulton's.	11/12/2014 9:37 PM
170	I've answered in previous question.	11/12/2014 2:58 PM
171	It would be great if there were places to go meet people for dinner, and for the village to be a nice place to walk around after your meal. It would be nice if it felt more like a living, breathing community instead of just a place where things used to happen hundreds of years ago.	11/11/2014 12:41 PM
172	Local business, ie:- craft store, tavern, locally grown veks and bakery.	11/7/2014 12:18 PM
173	With a purpose - what synergy does it have with the village? That question must be answered. Limited expansion to keep the residential feel.	11/6/2014 11:44 AM
174	I think the current businesses are fine. Residents should support Moultons and we do not need additional food service options (such a cafe, pub, or restaurant).	11/3/2014 9:12 AM
175	We need a pub or something for people to spend time. A restaurant and maybe cafe also.	11/2/2014 1:42 PM
176	Turn the old Post Office and adjacent green space into retail/commercial space.	11/1/2014 9:55 AM
177	Increase retail space!	10/31/2014 11:54 AM
178	Not sure I know what this question means	10/28/2014 9:39 PM
179	More businesses in the village.	10/28/2014 8:35 PM
180	More options for people to come eat/drink/meet/etc. They shoudn't forget that the colonial feel of the nature is important, so they should look like they fit in.	10/28/2014 8:33 PM

# Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

## Q23 What is best about Amherst Village?

Answered: 271 Skipped: 282

#	Responses	Date
1	it's small and NOT too many businesses, not too commercial, not a lot of traffic except for special events and early am/pm work traffic	1/27/2015 4:51 PM
2	The embodiment of a typically quaint New England village.	1/24/2015 2:45 AM
3	The concept of having a village in Amherst is very welcoming and makes it the perfect New England town	1/22/2015 7:15 PM
4	Open green spaces, that it is walking friendly, charming and stays true to it's Historic feel. I don't want it to change at all, it's perfect just as it is.	1/17/2015 10:22 PM
5	The amount of open area that is available to the public, the safety of the community, and the well-maintained historic homes.	1/16/2015 5:45 PM
6	Quaint	1/15/2015 12:34 PM
7	It's a happy place.	1/14/2015 4:05 PM
8	Much of the original architecture and character of the village has been preserved.	1/10/2015 9:33 PM
9	It's charm, antique quality, quaintness	1/10/2015 1:56 PM
10	Gives a center to the community. Sets tone for the historical place Amherst has in state history.	1/8/2015 6:03 PM
11	A charming historical enclave.	1/8/2015 2:23 PM
12	See 22	1/7/2015 3:14 PM
13	Looks the same as it did 200 years ago	1/6/2015 8:16 PM
14	Village green area	1/6/2015 2:51 PM
15	The common.	1/6/2015 2:40 PM
16	Amherst village.	1/6/2015 2:32 PM
17	Nice open space. Safe. Great for walking with family.	1/6/2015 2:12 PM
18	Mike's Auto & Moulton's	1/6/2015 2:07 PM
19	It's rural old world charm.	1/6/2015 2:01 PM
20	Concentrated activities, a center for the town.	1/5/2015 11:31 PM
21	See earlier comments	1/5/2015 12:02 PM
22	Visually it is stunning	1/5/2015 10:47 AM
23	The quaintness and community center. This has been truly enhanced with the decreased traffic since the bridge closure making it a safer gathering spot for families with young children. Living in the village, I love that it is walkable.	1/4/2015 10:17 PM
24	Beautiful common	1/4/2015 9:37 PM
25	....That it is a 'village.	1/4/2015 10:11 AM
26	It's historical character, the concentration of schools, town offices, museums and the historically maintained homes.	1/2/2015 12:49 AM
27	Nothing is good and the only thing I kinda like is Moultons	1/1/2015 11:26 AM
28	Its charm and history.	12/31/2014 10:10 AM
29	open , central location	12/29/2014 10:15 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

30	Historic architecture/landscape Use of the green for events (Fourth of July, etc) HDC that preserves the architecture Small town feeling Walkable and safe (although needs better illumination at night)	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
31	Historical value	12/27/2014 12:44 PM
32	It's charm and historical look. I chose to live here because the residents appreciate the history of this town and keeping it that way instead of trying to bring in modern buildings and businesses of convenience. We live 4 miles from 101a of all kinds of stores. I believe that is close enough, but a little tavern, pub, or such designed in a colonial fashion would be very nice to have so we can meet and greet others residents.	12/26/2014 4:18 PM
33	Its natural development over tme into its present primarily residential (historic) community with some small businesses. The common and other open spaces are additional "bests," as well as its walkability.	12/23/2014 6:31 AM
34	the rural and village feel	12/21/2014 9:34 AM
35	Nobody ever goes there. It's been a sterile environment since the bypass was constructed for sure, and maybe since Amherst stopped being a Shire town/seat of government in the 1800's. The residents of the village have always paid an awful lot to make sure things don't change and that it remain quiet. Amherst Village is best left alone.	12/20/2014 11:38 PM
36	Its historical charm. The charm would be greatly diminished if modern updates were made to its current state.	12/20/2014 7:26 AM
37	the architecture	12/19/2014 2:21 PM
38	Historic buildings and homes on the same basic format; quiet, family friendly; open spaces; safe environment	12/19/2014 12:35 PM
39	The historic charm, tree lighting & Halloween activities.	12/19/2014 8:25 AM
40	Historical zone	12/18/2014 4:11 PM
41	Blend of historic properties.	12/18/2014 9:31 AM
42	Remarkably preserved historic rural village	12/15/2014 9:45 PM
43	The Village is historic, picturesque and peaceful. It evolved to what it is today. Its evolution was the product of the families residing within the confines of the populated area that dated as far back as the colonial days. The Historical Society provided guidance and oversight. What is being asked is should this area now grow to be something different, something manufactured.	12/15/2014 7:57 PM
44	It small village feel, although it's old and tired.	12/15/2014 7:30 PM
45	Small town open space, places to congregate	12/15/2014 12:02 PM
46	its natural evolution	12/14/2014 8:38 PM
47	The village green and the congo church and steeple	12/13/2014 1:59 PM
48	The town green, period houses	12/13/2014 10:24 AM
49	It's not sold out to commercial activity.	12/12/2014 12:22 PM
50	It's peaceful quaintness, don't screw it up with "modern" concepts..	12/12/2014 10:03 AM
51	its a small residential neighborhood	12/12/2014 9:31 AM
52	Quiet living while enjoying a walkable village along with a great small store named Moultons. This is why I choose to move to the village 20 years ago from another area of Amherst to raise my two children.	12/11/2014 5:02 PM
53	The "Norman Rockwell" feel with all it's charm of a small town village. All the wonderful family events that take place - the 4th of July Parade, the Antique Show on the Green with the Library book sale, the Christmas tree lighting, etc.	12/11/2014 2:11 PM
54	traditional charm	12/11/2014 1:43 PM
55	Historic small town feel	12/10/2014 3:51 PM
56	Uniqueness -	12/10/2014 10:11 AM
57	Historic beauty	12/10/2014 8:57 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

58	We moved to Amherst 4 years ago because we like the small town feel and thought it would be a great place to raise our 3 children. If we had wanted to move to a busier place we would have. Amherst is quaint and charming and I don't want it busier, I don't want to attract traffic and congestion to Amherst. Recently we visited the downtown area of Concord MA, it had lots of shops and eateries and was great to visit, but it was also very busy and congested. A nice place to visit, not a nice place to live. Let's fix our bridges and take care of what we have instead of inventing new and unnecessary projects.	12/9/2014 7:31 PM
59	Quaint and quiet	12/9/2014 9:30 AM
60	historical homes preserved	12/8/2014 1:00 PM
61	- Gardens - Old houses - Ability to walk/bike/scooter around with children safely - Ability to walk to store, school, town-hall, and library	12/8/2014 12:33 PM
62	The walkability and closeness of municipal services such as library and town hall	12/8/2014 12:04 PM
63	It's historic presence that has evolved naturally over the years.	12/8/2014 11:22 AM
64	Historic charm Great location in southern NH (close to Nashua and Manchester) Having a town center Community events (4th of July, Treelighting)	12/7/2014 8:40 PM
65	The people and their self sufficient community lifestyle that begs people to visit and leave things as they were found. Bottom line the attitude of, be nice or leave, is what has helped maintain this quaint long lost way of life. This town is a shining example of what can exist when things are done properly.	12/7/2014 2:40 PM
66	The way it is, now. Please maintain the historic look and value and add none of the above.	12/7/2014 8:20 AM
67	traditional new england village setting	12/6/2014 7:30 AM
68	it is nice the way it is	12/4/2014 3:44 PM
69	There are few reasons to go to the Village. I think people who live there like it that way but as a resident who does not live there I seldom go because there is little there. Library. T own Hall. Moultons. The occasional event like Halloween fourth of July Tree lighting Tuesday evening in the summer. It would be nicer to have boutique shops and offices and restaurants so people would come for a vibrant cultural experience. A farmers market on Saturday mornings would be nice.	12/3/2014 9:12 AM
70	village green as a community gathering space; also the library as a community center	12/2/2014 3:52 PM
71	The quaint small community feel	12/2/2014 2:12 PM
72	Historical, not commercialized	12/2/2014 1:35 PM
73	The green and the library.	12/2/2014 12:22 PM
74	Quaintness	12/1/2014 2:49 PM
75	Well conserved.	12/1/2014 11:20 AM
76	Quaintness	12/1/2014 10:42 AM
77	Appearance, the ambiance and "feel"	11/30/2014 4:44 PM
78	It is the Town's center and it's gathering spot.	11/30/2014 3:08 PM
79	Exactly what is advertised on the town website, small, bucolic ..etc.	11/30/2014 2:57 PM
80	Rural and historical nature of village.	11/29/2014 6:14 PM
81	It's living history. People continue to live in the houses where people lived over the past 200 years. Walking through the village evokes the feeling of how it was to live in Amherst throughout its history.	11/29/2014 1:03 PM
82	a sense of preservation of the past...of community....accessibility on a daily basis to ride through town and remember what is good about Amherst..rather than the urban sprawl of 101 and the like	11/29/2014 11:41 AM
83	It is the anti-Milford.	11/28/2014 7:11 AM
84	It is a peaceful residential neighborhood.	11/27/2014 12:05 PM
85	The common green. No other town around here has that	11/26/2014 9:36 PM
86	Sense of community and preservation of history. Welcome feel. Recreation space (improve tennis courts!).	11/26/2014 5:01 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

87	For the most part it is a safe area for all ages to walk, play, run, or just hang out. Unfortunately with so many cars on the roads and people always in a hurry it doesn't always seem save. The gardens, trees circular walk around town make it a lovely place to bring company for a walk about. Having the library, Moutons, Mikes Auto, churches, large green areas bring activities (tree lighting, egg hunt, plant sale, 4th of July) and people in to enjoy.	11/26/2014 3:30 PM
88	A safe place to gather as a community.	11/26/2014 6:52 AM
89	The green and how it has been preserved.	11/25/2014 9:49 PM
90	beauty	11/25/2014 6:54 PM
91	the historic feel and the open green space	11/25/2014 6:34 PM
92	It is charming and non-commercial.	11/25/2014 5:53 PM
93	That it is small, quiet and quaint.	11/25/2014 5:50 PM
94	historical value	11/25/2014 4:26 PM
95	Open space.	11/25/2014 1:13 PM
96	The small village feeling - untouched by fast food and upscale stores.	11/25/2014 12:50 PM
97	school system	11/25/2014 12:43 PM
98	It's a pretty village.	11/25/2014 12:40 PM
99	Being able to gather as a community for town wide events like 4th of July or Christmas Tree Lighting. Families love to come to the green to picnic.	11/25/2014 12:25 PM
100	Very nice, but not great, village green.	11/24/2014 11:31 PM
101	Extremely limited commercial zoning...Look at what happened in Hollis with the tattoo parlor right in the center of the historic district!	11/24/2014 7:12 PM
102	Open Green Space. Historic Charm.	11/24/2014 4:51 PM
103	The walkability and community. Th	11/24/2014 11:32 AM
104	The people	11/23/2014 8:22 PM
105	It was relatively quiet and peaceful until the economy picked up again, i.e., in the past 2-3 years.	11/23/2014 3:29 PM
106	beautiful and charming	11/23/2014 6:26 AM
107	Historic area, the green and ability to walk	11/22/2014 11:35 PM
108	village green moultons library	11/22/2014 9:50 PM
109	Walkability.	11/22/2014 8:17 PM
110	Picturesque, quaint, unique, historical	11/22/2014 6:52 PM
111	Its unique history	11/22/2014 5:38 PM
112	Historic charm	11/22/2014 5:15 PM
113	Beautiful, traditional green that could not be created today.	11/22/2014 12:02 PM
114	Peace and quiet and stable	11/22/2014 8:42 AM
115	It's charm and historic fabric. Walkability. Enough institutional/commercial uses, i.e. Moultons, town office, library, churches, schools, to make it real while at the same time well balanced with predominantly residential properties.	11/22/2014 8:27 AM
116	It has beautiful preserved homes from past centuries. I love the character they bring to the village. I love the fact that it is a beautiful town and has a ton of history.	11/21/2014 6:12 PM
117	Quaint character, walkability.	11/21/2014 1:43 PM
118	Aesthetic	11/21/2014 1:33 PM
119	Charm, rich in history, tradition.	11/21/2014 10:06 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

120	unique history, popular community activities are there ( tree lighting, 4th of July, Halloween, Christmas decorations) Much potential that is over looked and neglected.	11/21/2014 12:31 AM
121	Its aesthetics. The green, town hall, library, Congo church tower, brick school.	11/20/2014 9:30 PM
122	Historical Value.	11/20/2014 9:03 PM
123	it is quaint and authentic	11/20/2014 6:40 PM
124	The historic character and charm, the sense of community, and the uniqueness and protection provided by being on the national register.	11/20/2014 6:39 PM
125	The historical quaint New England appearance and feeling.	11/20/2014 6:37 PM
126	don't change it	11/20/2014 6:05 PM
127	Quaint and there is a town center with the village green	11/20/2014 5:53 PM
128	Traditional appearance.	11/20/2014 2:23 PM
129	Present appearance.	11/20/2014 2:11 PM
130	Historical value, safe environment and gathering place for the community. And a huge shout out to the two existing Village businesses that strive to make Amherst Village a wonderful place to be - Moultons and Mike's Auto!	11/20/2014 2:10 PM
131	historical presence neighbors	11/20/2014 1:47 PM
132	quaint buildings, the green	11/20/2014 1:22 PM
133	It's quaintness and beauty - I just think it doesn't need to be a museum. It can be vibrant and still keep it's main qualities.	11/20/2014 1:05 PM
134	The charming, colonial character. The well-tended homes.	11/20/2014 11:16 AM
135	Historic quaintness	11/20/2014 6:50 AM
136	I like the ancient village model that European cities have. Our village doesn't look like a village anymore. Cars should be visitor, remove the traffic environment we have.	11/19/2014 10:46 PM
137	That it is has stayed close to it's origins	11/19/2014 3:58 PM
138	Events on the green. Have more of them. Host community dinner/cocktail events there. Use it as a place for community organizations to rent/use for fundraising events.	11/19/2014 12:18 PM
139	Moultons , parks etc.	11/19/2014 11:42 AM
140	It's quaint small town qualities.	11/19/2014 11:37 AM
141	Small, beautiful, friendly and walkable. Not over the top or previous.	11/19/2014 9:07 AM
142	It is beautiful	11/19/2014 8:49 AM
143	It ability to pull residents together into a familiar,cooperative, and supportive community.	11/19/2014 7:59 AM
144	the picturesque step back in time, just the ambiance	11/18/2014 10:32 PM
145	The preservation of the village	11/18/2014 9:46 PM
146	It's so New Englandish. So beautiful. Proud to show it off to outsiders.	11/18/2014 7:24 PM
147	small town aesthetics	11/18/2014 6:49 PM
148	It is nice the way it is. That is why folks choose to live here. There are plenty of businesses on 101A or in Milford. If taxes go any higher, people will be driven out of town.	11/18/2014 6:12 PM
149	Residential & quaint.	11/18/2014 5:03 PM
150	The community and available resources (Schools, libraries, etc)	11/18/2014 3:56 PM
151	We love to spend time in the village with our family for the sense of community.	11/18/2014 3:16 PM
152	It is a beautiful example of what a small New Hampshire town should be. It is what attracted us to buy here.	11/18/2014 2:23 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

153	It's current process is just fine except for the need for the Mack Hill, Beaver Brook bridge repair	11/18/2014 1:31 PM
154	It is a true Village -- it has a center, and a series of roadways that would seem to make appropriate development possible.	11/18/2014 1:26 PM
155	quiet, historic, authentic, picturesque. also the availability of the village store, library, historical society museums and Town Hall. less is more.....	11/18/2014 1:10 PM
156	The setting	11/18/2014 1:09 PM
157	That it is an historical village...picturesque, unstructured green spaces, and minimal commercial activity.	11/18/2014 12:12 PM
158	It's beauty and the fact that we value it. Coming from a town with no identifiable downtown or center, I can say this town is also closer as a community and has much greater pride. It's also easier to meet people within the community if you don't have children in the local school system/sports.	11/18/2014 12:03 PM
159	Charming, friendly, historic, family community feel	11/18/2014 12:01 PM
160	It has retained it's quaint historic look and feel. Let's not ruin that!	11/18/2014 11:17 AM
161	It's simplicity	11/18/2014 10:55 AM
162	It serves as a community center.	11/18/2014 10:14 AM
163	The friendly people and the nice pace of events. Halloween is a favorite!	11/18/2014 9:55 AM
164	That it's a safe place to live and walk without a lot of traffic. The historic beauty of the homes and church.	11/18/2014 9:21 AM
165	Historic charm, quiet natural spaces, community feel, safe, local quick-trip errand opportunities (Mike's, Moulton's).	11/18/2014 9:20 AM
166	It is a perfect size and a pleasant place to walk.	11/18/2014 9:15 AM
167	It has that New England charm but it is under utilized. I never see anyone on the common. Perhaps a playground so children could play in a nice safe area. My kids are grown but I would have loved to have been able to come into town for this.	11/18/2014 9:05 AM
168	Convenient, unique, overall well maintained	11/18/2014 8:47 AM
169	it is so quaint and lovely. Friends often say how lucky I am to live in such a pretty place.	11/18/2014 8:37 AM
170	Shear volume of antique homes and 'old New England' feel.	11/18/2014 8:33 AM
171	the historical nature of the area that can and should be maintained	11/18/2014 8:11 AM
172	Quaint, historical, quintessential New England, quiet, safe	11/18/2014 7:57 AM
173	It's a livable community unspoiled by developers and guady retail shops. We need to maintain the viaages historic appeal and increase the appeal for young families to relocate and move there. Continue to hold festivities that bring town's people together, like Halloween and the Tree Lighting.	11/18/2014 7:52 AM
174	Historic home preservation	11/18/2014 7:42 AM
175	It's quiet community feeling.	11/18/2014 7:31 AM
176	See prior comment.	11/18/2014 6:56 AM
177	Sitting on the green surrounded by the beautiful antique homes gives me a sense of where Amherst came from and is one of the reasons we chose to live here.	11/18/2014 6:54 AM
178	It's quiet and a beautiful area to walk around. It's also a great gathering place for holidays.	11/18/2014 6:48 AM
179	Quaint and visually striking.	11/18/2014 6:39 AM
180	Great place to live.	11/18/2014 5:59 AM
181	Charm, history	11/18/2014 5:56 AM
182	Historic, small-town New England feel	11/18/2014 1:36 AM
183	Beautiful, historic, community feel.	11/18/2014 1:01 AM
184	Historical quaintness.	11/18/2014 12:53 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

185	Not commercial	11/18/2014 12:15 AM
186	The library, except it has too little parking	11/17/2014 11:41 PM
187	The sense of community that is created when Amherst residents gather like the Summer Concert series, 4th of July, Xmas, etc. There was a child's concert this summer and I remember watching all the kids running around for hours laughing, making friends, and having a blast while parents connected and thinking THIS IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE	11/17/2014 11:20 PM
188	The village feel and look.... the great schools....the walking areas... the new sidewalks..... the village green.....the Green's use for events. How did we allow the movement of the farmer's market? The Post Office. Doctor's Offices.	11/17/2014 10:33 PM
189	The charm is nice, but there's nothing to do. The charm only lasts a few minutes and then I'm looking for something to do.	11/17/2014 10:17 PM
190	The green, Moulton's	11/17/2014 10:08 PM
191	the look and feel	11/17/2014 9:54 PM
192	The Common - when there's a reason to be there (Concert on the Green, Farmer's Market), otherwise it goes mainly unused.	11/17/2014 9:49 PM
193	that it exists just as it is; no need to fix what isn't broken	11/17/2014 9:45 PM
194	The village maintains it's colonial purity. I would like to see that preserved.	11/17/2014 9:43 PM
195	The small town feel.	11/17/2014 9:43 PM
196	I like the quaintness of the Village. Keeping it authentic and family friendly is key.	11/17/2014 9:28 PM
197	Quaint feel, love the green.	11/17/2014 9:25 PM
198	it's beautiful and historic	11/17/2014 9:25 PM
199	Quaintness	11/17/2014 9:12 PM
200	It's quaint during the day.	11/17/2014 9:03 PM
201	It's clean, beautiful & inviting. The sense of community is like none other. When we first moved to NH we drove through the village, stopped off at Moultons & ate our snacks under the shade of the trees. Our young children (two at the time) played while my husband and I commented that the town was something out of a Norman Rockwell print & we couldn't wait to come back. A year later we made Amherst our home. And on that first day of school or Halloween night or the 4th of July, the Village really is something quite spectacular and unique. We are truly blessed to call this town our home.	11/17/2014 9:00 PM
202	Community feel	11/17/2014 8:58 PM
203	It's quaint, quiet, and charming.	11/17/2014 8:54 PM
204	The people.	11/17/2014 8:51 PM
205	small town feel. PLEASE DO NOT LET APARTMENTS COME IN!!!	11/17/2014 8:42 PM
206	So quaint.	11/17/2014 8:31 PM
207	Quesential New England look.	11/17/2014 8:29 PM
208	It is beautiful	11/17/2014 8:13 PM
209	The beauty and historic significance	11/17/2014 8:00 PM
210	colonial feel, village green, openness, historic value	11/17/2014 7:59 PM
211	Quaint, Serene, Postcard-picture perfect.	11/17/2014 7:56 PM
212	It's historic, small town New England feel.	11/17/2014 7:50 PM
213	authenticity and community	11/17/2014 7:45 PM
214	The historic New England feel and its quaintness.	11/17/2014 7:42 PM
215	Quaint area, preserves small town New Hampshire.	11/17/2014 7:36 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

216	To me, it is the town jewel...I take it out of my pocket weekly for church, and a few other times a year, polish it up and enjoy whatever event is being held. Ask the folks who run events what kinds of turnouts they have...e.g. what happened to the Farmer's Market?...ask the Lions Club how well attended their summer concerts are....Ask Marie Grella how many show up for the Memorial Day Parade. Halloween gets a big turnout because so many residents OPEN THEIR HOMES to offer candy...but that does not happen on an everyday basis! July 4th gets a good turnout because so many have the day off and want to celebrate. I have run the Tree Lighting (ATLF) and already sent my info to Chris Buchanan... the ATLF like many of the aforementioned events, competes with Rte 101-A Shopping and Youth Sports..... So, because so many folks are SO busy, the village is a treat that some get to visit sporadically...and when I do, I relish it.	11/17/2014 6:59 PM
217	4th of July celebration	11/17/2014 6:59 PM
218	It's beauty and history!	11/17/2014 5:18 PM
219	The quiet nature of the village	11/17/2014 3:29 PM
220	It's quintessential New England feel.	11/17/2014 3:21 PM
221	It is visually quite attractive, filled with green spaces and lovely historic homes.	11/17/2014 12:21 PM
222	The historical nature and lack of modern amenities	11/17/2014 10:20 AM
223	Rural historic charm and preservation of a historic NH town	11/16/2014 9:32 PM
224	The homes and the people as well as the schools	11/16/2014 7:53 PM
225	Historic	11/16/2014 6:54 PM
226	The 4th of July parade.	11/16/2014 12:41 PM
227	The people in the village seem so patient with all the activities there. We really should thank them.	11/16/2014 12:01 PM
228	It's very pretty and not like other places that have become overrun.	11/16/2014 11:52 AM
229	The historic properties and village green. It is safe, accessible and visitor friendly village that has a strong history. It is what it has evolved to be following the industrial development era. Too many 18th and early 19 century towns have been destroyed as a result of commercial development. If changes are to be made we must move with caution. Any of the uses suggested in this survey can be made individually through the ZBA process.	11/15/2014 12:45 PM
230	Walkability Historic culture Open space Business	11/15/2014 10:17 AM
231	beauty and lack of commercialization	11/15/2014 9:11 AM
232	its history	11/14/2014 7:11 PM
233	It is very peaceful and serene. I love have a place to go that is quiet! It is so lovely and stress-free.	11/14/2014 6:15 PM
234	It's quiet and quaint. Also the historical natural of it is a real treat.	11/13/2014 11:00 PM
235	It's historic background and lack of commercial enterprises.	11/13/2014 10:01 PM
236	Take a walk and look around.	11/13/2014 4:42 PM
237	Village Green, Moulton's, Clark School, the Library. mixture of uses, wide range of age groups, and economic diversity of homes	11/13/2014 4:10 PM
238	Its historic charm, lack of over-commercialization, and large village green	11/13/2014 4:07 PM
239	Walking	11/13/2014 3:49 PM
240	It is the best and most intact example of a colonial village, in the state.	11/13/2014 10:28 AM
241	Its quaint, sometimes quiet atmosphere. The Historic District Commission has done a good job preserving that atmosphere.	11/13/2014 10:03 AM
242	The buildings.	11/13/2014 9:24 AM
243	It's small, quaint, Moulton's is wonderful- a one stop shopping experience, it's historically preserved, the green is great for kids, it's not too cluttered.	11/13/2014 9:07 AM
244	The unspoiled historic character that has been guarded from do-gooders who are using Keene, NH as a model.	11/13/2014 8:57 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

245	The fact that it has evolved into a neighborhood where families can live and enjoy themselves. If it becomes more commercial or busier the would affect the lives of all who have invested money and time into restoring their properties. Whether people live in the village or not-it is what attracts many people to the Village. Those who live there are willing to pay the higher taxes to keep to keep the Village family friendly and maintain the value of their historic homes.	11/13/2014 8:33 AM
246	The beauty and peacefulness	11/13/2014 7:40 AM
247	Historic features, green space.	11/13/2014 6:38 AM
248	The homes, trees, green spaces, schools, residents	11/13/2014 5:12 AM
249	The people! Bruce and I moved here with our two young children in 1975 because there were a wide variety of ages, incomes, a post office, doctors office, fire station and who can forget Halloween , Memorial Day Parade , and the world famous 4th of July Parade. Today there is the same mix of elderly and young families, but time and progress have eliminated some of the small town quaintness. Amherst village used to be self contained, schools, library,police/fire,doctors,PO, churches, Moultons, kindergarten.playing fields and even our own cemetery.	11/12/2014 11:32 PM
250	Quaint historic place, like stepping back in time. Requires a commitment of the homeowners who pay a premium on taxes and home repairs with the understanding that this character is what we and others treasure most.	11/12/2014 11:11 PM
251	The history of Amherst Village. It is a tranquil place to visit and needs to be preserved. You can walk around on a quiet summer afternoon and actually envision what life was like in the 18th and 19th century.	11/12/2014 10:45 PM
252	It's history.	11/12/2014 9:48 PM
253	How well-preserved it is.	11/12/2014 9:37 PM
254	Its potential.	11/12/2014 6:17 PM
255	The library.	11/12/2014 4:50 PM
256	I like Moultons. We should have more things like moultons, like cafes or taverns for the community.	11/12/2014 4:34 PM
257	Green	11/12/2014 2:58 PM
258	I like its historic charm. It's why I moved to town. The town has become pretty lax in how it handles this though, It looks too much like the road department doesn't care about the village's historic nature. It's actually a sad thing.	11/12/2014 11:27 AM
259	The history and the historical buildings.	11/11/2014 12:41 PM
260	Sense of community. Elementary schools located close to walking environment and library.	11/7/2014 12:18 PM
261	Holiday events w/ kids.	11/6/2014 11:44 AM
262	The preserved town greens and the historic character.	11/3/2014 9:12 AM
263	Except for the roads, the signs, the wires, it is a beautiful place with special history.	11/2/2014 1:42 PM
264	It can be a meeting place for everyone from Town, but only if left alone. Too many changes will make it an undesirable and inhospitable place to go.	11/1/2014 9:55 AM
265	Safe for children	10/31/2014 11:54 AM
266	It's a great place to raise a family. It's a historic treasure. It's primary residential and should remain that way.	10/28/2014 9:39 PM
267	The quaintness, community feeling.	10/28/2014 8:35 PM
268	The historic site that it is, but for the signs and power lines, it's a beautiful place.	10/28/2014 8:33 PM
269	Peacefulness, breadth of historic environment, so much greenspace.	10/28/2014 6:37 PM
270	1. The Green 2. Current Structures	10/28/2014 4:41 PM
271	The sense of community with people walking, sitting on the benches on the village green, --the sense that people are enjoying being there.	10/27/2014 3:55 PM

# Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

## Q24 What could make Amherst Village even better?

Answered: 254 Skipped: 299

#	Responses	Date
1	a few more sidewalks, more events in the green	1/27/2015 4:51 PM
2	More welcoming, less complaining	1/22/2015 7:15 PM
3	A bike lane could make the village even better and keep traffic slow.	1/17/2015 10:22 PM
4	Repairing/replacing the Manchester St. bridge and adding street lighting.	1/16/2015 5:45 PM
5	Sidewalks	1/15/2015 12:34 PM
6	Fewer mandated historical rules. Clearer definition and delineation of any that are on or are added to the books. Remove 80% of trees on green. Making it fuller of light would make it a more hospitable location.	1/14/2015 4:05 PM
7	See my response to question 22.	1/10/2015 9:33 PM
8	More events on the Common such as Farmer's Market, antique shows, craft fairs, children's events, concerts, barbecues, etc. More events for the elderly also.	1/10/2015 1:56 PM
9	Restore some of the services that were once part of the history of the village to make it a destination. And more liveable/viable living.	1/8/2015 6:03 PM
10	NOTHING.	1/8/2015 2:23 PM
11	Increase stop signs, monitor speed, no thru trucking	1/7/2015 3:14 PM
12	Forced retirement for crossing guards	1/6/2015 6:37 PM
13	More parking by the town hall.	1/6/2015 2:51 PM
14	More activity like a true village center should have.	1/6/2015 2:47 PM
15	Bring back the parking in front of the Town Hall so the elderly don't have to walk a mile to get in to the building.	1/6/2015 2:40 PM
16	If all the snooty nosed people (hysterical committee) would just keep out of other peoples business.	1/6/2015 2:32 PM
17	Fewer busybodies tinkering with it.	1/6/2015 2:21 PM
18	More business's	1/6/2015 2:12 PM
19	ALLOW MORE OF THE SAME !	1/6/2015 2:07 PM
20	Maintain it's current feel and look.	1/6/2015 2:01 PM
21	More destination events ie farmers market, ice skating rink, monthly music series (perhaps in a church), winter festival, fall festival, 4th of July parade, politicians visiting in primary years, school stuff... etc.. all the stuff a town center already has and should have...	1/5/2015 11:31 PM
22	I would love to see improved sidewalks and traffic control including a police presence (I believe this is much more necessary here than on 101A where there is limited pedestrian traffic). I also think that there should be no through trucking in the village. Since we live in older homes in an historic district, we are asked to maintain our homes in keeping with the era they were built. As many homes are close to the road, it can be structurally damaging for large trucks to barrel by shaking the foundations.	1/4/2015 10:17 PM
23	Stop instituting so many restrictions instead of embracing the citizens	1/4/2015 9:37 PM
24	....leave it alone.	1/4/2015 10:11 AM
25	No historical society making our town boring Open the freaking bridge More liberals Less snobs	1/1/2015 11:26 AM
26	More recreational space for walking/strolling and bicycling.	12/31/2014 10:10 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

27	Move beyond it being reserved for the FEW village owners' with a "its my village ..get out " mentality and promote its use by the ENTIRE town.... which pays most of the bills for maintaining the "Currier and Ives" postcard for a relative few. This is a great step in the right direction...let the ENTIRE Town be heard...resist the same carping from the "Village people " who have for years worked to keep everyone OUT!	12/29/2014 10:15 AM
28	A restaurant with farm to table menu that serves alcohol...locally owned A charming coffee/tea/bakery cafe with a small, independent book store...locally owned A small store with upscale and locally grown produce, books, gifts, unique items Convert the Brick School to mixed use...small locally owned boutiques, offices, cafe, etc. An inn with a restaurant (the old brick bank?) A FARM TO TABLE, LOCALLY OWNED RESTAURANT THAT SERVES ALCOHOL!!!! A lifestyle shop (antiques, home accessories, gifts) An art and antique gallery Zoning for apartments in existing historic homes so owners can rent out part of their houses to defray high property taxes, provided HDC approves of exterior modifications and parking is discrete and adequate Small, independent film showings Local farm where people can buy produce More cultural events - See above More mixed use with zoning modifications to allow these changes....allow single family homes to have a small shop, an apartment or in-home office.	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
29	Add to historical nature of village and make it more reminiscent of a historical village	12/27/2014 12:44 PM
30	protect areas from further development	12/21/2014 9:34 AM
31	Creating an environment for more fairs, shows, and promoting actual free public use of the town common should come before installing sidewalks. Should charity sales, free music, art shows, or whatever become "too popular", it's likely these events would be technicalities and fined out of existence anyway. They like it quiet there.	12/20/2014 11:38 PM
32	Constant maintenance, one that will sustain its charm but not look as if it has been altered in any way.	12/20/2014 7:26 AM
33	opportunity for night life	12/19/2014 2:21 PM
34	After 37 yrs as an Amherst resident, I really don't see how or why we would want to introduce new business in the village. Ideally, it would be good to have all overhead utilities below ground and sewers extended throughout the village.	12/19/2014 12:35 PM
35	More destinations/activities to bring people together	12/19/2014 8:25 AM
36	To stop meddling with a presently lovely historic site. Town to finance adding heat to the museums so they could be open more -	12/18/2014 4:11 PM
37	Not make any changes.	12/18/2014 9:31 AM
38	Strictly enforce 25mph limit in entire village, 24x7. Consider 20mph limit. This would make the village more enjoyable, safer, and would naturally encourage those with a heavy foot to find an alternative route.	12/15/2014 9:45 PM
39	What is being asked is should this area now grow to be something different, something manufactured. Amherst's citizens are actually being asked if they want to be custodians of history in the in the spirit of Williamsburg, VA. Or is the choice to be fabricated as is Disneyworld. Do the village current residents whose predecessors built their houses and buildings that ring the common or line the side streets want to take erase "historic" from the signs that welcome folks from near and afar into a community where streets were converted to cobblestone roads and bike paths, and into lined streets creating marked walkways and erecting limitless stop/yield signs.	12/15/2014 7:57 PM
40	A quality summer concert series with quality music. Bring back the farmers market. Add the lighting and improve the sidewalks.	12/15/2014 7:30 PM
41	More socail events using the green, better announcements of events	12/15/2014 12:02 PM
42	leaving it alone	12/14/2014 8:38 PM
43	More commerce and teen center less rules and hiding under the "historic district" banner	12/13/2014 1:59 PM
44	Expanding the town green, eliminating the divide on Middle Street,	12/13/2014 10:24 AM
45	The DPW is the biggest threat to the beauty of the village. Get them under control!	12/12/2014 12:22 PM
46	reduce property taxes ... how about fixing the bridge,	12/12/2014 10:03 AM
47	keeping it small without commercial and/or multifamily structures	12/12/2014 9:31 AM
48	Not changing the village and creating less traffic in our neighborhoods NOT more.	12/11/2014 5:02 PM
49	Having sidewalks everywhere to make the walking experience safer.	12/11/2014 2:11 PM
50	refrain from overpopulating or adding multi-family units, apartments	12/11/2014 1:43 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

51	Leave Village alone!!!	12/10/2014 10:11 AM
52	More recreation and community gathering opportunities.	12/10/2014 8:57 AM
53	Nothing, besides people trying to turn Amherst into something it's not. If I want to shop I can visit Bedford, Manchester and Nashua.	12/9/2014 7:31 PM
54	Increase parking and utilize the village green spaces for more activities that citizens can take advantage of like a playground on Middle St., Farmer's Market on the village green, concerts, school activities on the village green, park benches on Knight St. green.	12/8/2014 4:01 PM
55	make it more accessable to people who do not live in the village. make it a destination like coffee shop, restaurant....	12/8/2014 1:00 PM
56	- better outdoor seating with tables on the green - merging the two greens into one - better management of the skating rink - measures to reduce traffic volume	12/8/2014 12:33 PM
57	Controlling amount of traffic coming thru the village. Eliminating or restricting loud vehicles, such as mortercycles	12/8/2014 12:04 PM
58	Leaving it alone to evolve as it has for 200 years without the aid of Central Planning.	12/8/2014 11:22 AM
59	Add public transportation Create an on ramp going east onto 101 (south of village) to reduce traffic through village Bury power linesin historic village district	12/7/2014 8:40 PM
60	More community recreation and gathering ammenities, no new businesses, traffic enforcement to ensure the safety and solitude of the town's family way of life. Police presence will help slow down the thoroughfare. The village could hire a cruiser to sit in town for six weeks twice a year.	12/7/2014 2:40 PM
61	Underground utilities, more attractive lighting fixtures	12/7/2014 8:20 AM
62	a couple other destination shops - restaurant, boutique, etc.	12/6/2014 7:30 AM
63	less commercial enterprises - eg. stores, offices	12/4/2014 3:44 PM
64	See 23.	12/3/2014 9:12 AM
65	Slow traffic down!	12/3/2014 7:42 AM
66	better parking for the library and a tavern or restaurant in the village center	12/2/2014 3:52 PM
67	Some fun attractions in keeping with the current feel	12/2/2014 2:12 PM
68	Close the books on any expansion.	12/2/2014 1:35 PM
69	Bring it to life a bit. Mike's and Moulton's demonstrate that businesses can fit in. See New Boston for some good examples.	12/1/2014 2:49 PM
70	More reason to go there and enjoy the setting.	12/1/2014 11:20 AM
71	Recreation ares,walking paths,bike paths, destinations	11/30/2014 4:44 PM
72	A café or pub. Right now Moulton's and the Library fulfill the need for social meeting spots, one or two more in that vein would be welcome.	11/30/2014 3:08 PM
73	Continue to maintain what we have, repair existing structures and edifices to their original state.	11/30/2014 2:57 PM
74	No to little change.	11/29/2014 6:14 PM
75	I like it the way it is. I use the library all of the time. The July 4th parade and Christmas Tree Lighting are both very special.	11/29/2014 1:03 PM
76	preserving the above #23	11/29/2014 11:41 AM
77	Establish an email/text/phone update/alert system to advise residents of rapidly changing conditions. Example. This morning, I loaded my truck and drove to the transfer station, only to discover that it was closed due to lack of power. A notification system could save a lot of time and energy. Additionally, obtain backup power for the transfer station to preclude the loss of this service when power fails. A military surplus generator or two could address this shortcoming.	11/29/2014 11:15 AM
78	It's pretty nice the way it is.	11/28/2014 7:11 AM
79	Reduce the amount of blacktop.	11/27/2014 12:05 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

80	greatly reduce the oversight of the historic district. The current interaction with residents is negative and keeps many young families who would have bought in the village if homes weren't so strictly regulated (and thus below modern day standards), choosing Bedford and other areas instead. I have not heard one positive interaction from anyone residing in the village.	11/26/2014 9:36 PM
81	No new housing developments. Need to retain rural, space feel, preservation. Need more recreation options. Something on the green like lawn croquet or something that fits the old feel. More community events in the green. Need much safer access for walkers to get to the village.	11/26/2014 5:01 PM
82	Bury the phone and electrical lines. Somehow make it not a short cut to 101 or 101A.	11/26/2014 3:30 PM
83	a cafe and small locally owned shops/studios/galleries	11/25/2014 6:54 PM
84	a small Cafe, coffee shop and pub/tavern	11/25/2014 6:34 PM
85	Keeping the "historic village" feel	11/25/2014 5:50 PM
86	Having more reasons to visit it - coffee shops, pubs, etc.	11/25/2014 1:13 PM
87	A small playground for children and more seating for adult on the green.	11/25/2014 12:50 PM
88	More attractions/events happening in the town.	11/25/2014 12:43 PM
89	It would be great if it became more of a destination for shopping, dining and commerce.	11/25/2014 12:40 PM
90	A playground and coffee shop	11/25/2014 12:25 PM
91	We have a stunningly beautiful village, and it is the very heart of our town. I would love to see it more of a 'destination'... which means more reasons for people to come to the village.	11/25/2014 12:06 PM
92	Anything that makes it more of a community area for the town, not just the residents or members of the town government.	11/24/2014 11:31 PM
93	Slower moving cars and more yielding to pedestrians.	11/24/2014 7:12 PM
94	Less Stop Signs. Narrow the road (eliminate center line) and put in sidewalks.	11/24/2014 4:51 PM
95	More sidewalks and decreased traffic	11/24/2014 11:32 AM
96	encourage upkeep/upgrading of residential homes - establish guidelines without having to get board approvals - set acceptable standards and hold residents accountable.	11/23/2014 8:22 PM
97	Preserve the traditional New England town commons feel that it already has - don't go trying to engineer it into something more "profitable" or "better".	11/23/2014 3:29 PM
98	see above	11/23/2014 6:26 AM
99	Street lights.	11/22/2014 11:35 PM
100	ice cream stand sidewalks more family activities farmers market should come back	11/22/2014 9:50 PM
101	Speed bumps on main roads to slow cars, maybe lower speed limits on Boston post in village and neighboring streets.	11/22/2014 8:17 PM
102	Underground utilities (too costly)	11/22/2014 6:52 PM
103	More attention to history	11/22/2014 5:38 PM
104	More local businesses and retail to attract younger residents -also bike trails	11/22/2014 5:15 PM
105	Nothing!	11/22/2014 12:11 PM
106	Get a place on the green where we could get a burger and a beer. It would attract people to the area and broaden the appeal. It would cost the village little, but would improve quality of life.	11/22/2014 12:02 PM
107	Less trafagic	11/22/2014 8:42 AM
108	It is wonderful as is. The only needed change is more rigorous enforcement of traffic issues to reduce speeding and make it safer.	11/22/2014 8:27 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

109	Raised sidewalks on roads leading to Village. We live off Amherst St. And cars drive down the hill towards village way to fast. Not very safe for people especially kids. Would love to see improvements to village but nobody would be able to access without driving and for kids under 16 would be much safer to get to the village. Its a shame a town with such money does not have sidewalks outside the village.	11/21/2014 8:14 PM
110	I feel that in order to make it better it needs more stop signs. Where Boston Post road and Foundry st. meet cars just fly by when I am trying to cross the street. Drivers ignore the crosswalks and so many times I have been almost hit trying to cross the street. So I feel like a four way stop sign in that area would benefit the walkers and bikers and slow down people speeding in that area.	11/21/2014 6:12 PM
111	Playground	11/21/2014 2:08 PM
112	LESS TRAFFIC! If not less, slower.	11/21/2014 1:43 PM
113	Become a destination with restaurants, sidewalks, shops.	11/21/2014 1:33 PM
114	Some culture and classy, refined entertainment. Look at what Portsmouth has done with its downtown. They have maintained the beauty of its historic period by allowing small businesses which features attractive shops, restaurants, cafes, places to gather. I could totally see transforming some of the older homes in the Village or empty space into a spot for artisans to sell their handmade crafts, play music and better yet, have a place to grab a beer or glass of wine by the fire, serving appetizers or light fare. All keeping the charm, history AND increasing the property value of the area.	11/21/2014 10:06 AM
115	Stop the clutter of traffic signs. Emphasize historical character and history. Remove ugly modern utility poles. Stop transforming Amherst into the usual ugly town that has no character, no planning. Use Amherst's uniqueness rather than become another boring town with sights of cluttering wires, signs, flashing lights and a stop light that operates 24 hrs a day usually stopping every car that approaches. Who is trying to make Amherst look like a New Jersey city?	11/21/2014 12:31 AM
116	More commercial endeavors, but keep to historical flavor.	11/20/2014 9:03 PM
117	keep it the same it is	11/20/2014 6:40 PM
118	respecting that the village is a neighborhood. If people don't like the way it is, they shouldn't have moved here.	11/20/2014 6:39 PM
119	More seasonal/holiday events, maybe a small pumpkin festival in the fall, or some sort of heritage fair in the summer, etc.	11/20/2014 6:37 PM
120	not changing it	11/20/2014 6:05 PM
121	Ordinances pertaining to paint color on houses and businesses.	11/20/2014 2:11 PM
122	A FEW small, locally owned businesses such as a cafe, ice cream shop, bakery etc that could provide a good gathering spot for the community. A place to sit and stay a while, so to speak, that would blend into the existing architecture and "vibe" of our historic town. The Green is great...but it's COLD in the winter! ;-)	11/20/2014 2:10 PM
123	community center	11/20/2014 1:47 PM
124	make the green available to more fun family activities throughout the year make it an evening destination - a small pub or during the day - a coffee shop	11/20/2014 1:22 PM
125	Small coffee shop, put/tavern, b&b, etc. All in the vein of how the Village looks.	11/20/2014 1:05 PM
126	Slow down traffic. Not much else. Let's not get carried away!!!	11/20/2014 11:16 AM
127	Improved walking conditions, a restaurant/tavern/pub, coffee shop, events	11/20/2014 6:50 AM
128	Make it look better. Less signs and junk. Pay attention to details	11/19/2014 10:36 PM
129	More recreation opportunity such as playgrounds	11/19/2014 3:58 PM
130	Need to have better walking access to the Village from the surrounding roads. Mack Hill, Rt. 122 coming from Hollis, Rt 122 coming down from the police station, Amherst St. coming down from Milford. Start expanding the sidewalks from the village out to these areas. Extremely unsafe for families to take advantage of the village. I walk/jog these streets and it's crazy how fast/aggressive people drive. Putting in place sidewalks that are raised would go a very long way to getting people to the village. If you put in place all these great amenities, nobody will be able to use them (kids, families) without having to get in a car that creates more congestion. Need sidewalks getting to to the village! Inside the village, I actually feel safe most of the times walking on the roads. It's getting there that is the problem.	11/19/2014 12:18 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

131	Farmers market. Farmers market. Farmers market. It was one of the best things about Amherst. Who the hell wants to stand in a parking lot on 101a?	11/19/2014 9:07 AM
132	Leave it alone	11/19/2014 8:49 AM
133	Increased opportunity for residents to interact with one another.	11/19/2014 7:59 AM
134	make it more walkable-- more sidewalks and bike paths, parks or walking trails or all	11/18/2014 10:32 PM
135	More sidewalks. Keep up the wonderful care the town does to the village green and nearby greens in front of library and the section opposite it.	11/18/2014 7:24 PM
136	There is nothing wrong with the village. People from out of town envy the quaintness of the village. The low volume of traffic around the green and the side streets is part of its' charm. Please do not turn this into the Milford oval.	11/18/2014 6:12 PM
137	Property values to be consistent.	11/18/2014 5:03 PM
138	A park or two, perhaps 3?	11/18/2014 3:56 PM
139	More dining options, more shopping options. Let's keep our dollars in Amherst!	11/18/2014 3:16 PM
140	Re-direct some of the overwhelming focus on youth facilities and programs to senior citizen activities. Student enrollment is on a downward spiral while the senior population is increasing, Move those outdated town hall offices into some of the under used school space and turn the town hall into a senior center. Seniors pay a lot in taxes with little demand on services. It's time seniors got their fair share of community expenditures.	11/18/2014 2:39 PM
141	Its fine the way it is...the vast number of possible improvements would mean more traffic and lots more cost with strains on septic and water usage as well.	11/18/2014 1:31 PM
142	Building something around that center, so that it becomes a destination for Amherst citizens. I would much rather run errands in downtown Amherst and support small businesses, rather than going to Bedford or the box stores and big retailers on 101A.	11/18/2014 1:26 PM
143	Town Maintenance of roads. fix the bridge at base of Mack Hill.	11/18/2014 1:10 PM
144	more businesses	11/18/2014 1:09 PM
145	A privately owned coffee shop/café with the ambience of a Starbucks.	11/18/2014 12:12 PM
146	We need a place to gather socially. Please, bring back the Farmer's Market! I would love to be able to have a few options where I can go to relax and meet people in a casual atmosphere. We could really use a coffee house-type place and a tavern of sorts.	11/18/2014 12:03 PM
147	Another playground A small cafe or old fashioned diner A small theater	11/18/2014 12:01 PM
148	A couple more retail shops, the return of the Farmer's Market, walking trails connecting some of the open space and creating loops around the town.	11/18/2014 11:17 AM
149	No improvements need to be made	11/18/2014 10:55 AM
150	What about the rest of the town?	11/18/2014 10:43 AM
151	If it was more of a community center and gathering place outside of holidays/special events.	11/18/2014 10:14 AM
152	Fewer political signs.	11/18/2014 9:55 AM
153	Perhaps a gazebo with electrical power similar to the one on Milford's Oval or the new one in Bedford Commons, as a focal point for performances, events, weddings, etc.	11/18/2014 9:43 AM
154	See above	11/18/2014 9:20 AM
155	I would love to see an old style tavern. Something to encourage people to hang out and get together.	11/18/2014 9:15 AM
156	More to do in town. If you look at Milford they have pubs, restaurants, small shops and the oval is always busy.	11/18/2014 9:05 AM
157	to actually have more reasons to go. Restaurant, café, tavern, farmers market everyday instead of 1 day week. need more than moultons and town hall. There is just nothing there to make it worth going to.	11/18/2014 8:57 AM
158	Playground, improved space for gatherings.	11/18/2014 8:50 AM
159	Improved walkways, bike paths, roadways, lighting	11/18/2014 8:47 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

160	more things to do - use the green for more things than just antique market and 4th of july.	11/18/2014 8:37 AM
161	A children's playground that is unique and appropriate to the colonial feel of the village. Handcrafted artisan Gazebo for the Town Green for music events.	11/18/2014 8:33 AM
162	Continue to push to integrate the village with the rest of Amherst, the schools, an as yet unplanned park and Milford center via bike and walking paths. Fix the bridge on Mack Road for Godsake. Would be great to work with benefactors to design and build a covered bridge there as a focal point for the town.	11/18/2014 7:52 AM
163	Attracting multi uses for the Green that spends a lot of time empty. Bring back the farmer's market, small playground, gardens to attract walkers.	11/18/2014 7:31 AM
164	We used to have bobs auto post office offices school town hall etc. it's was a busy alive place not a residential subdivision witness max covenants	11/18/2014 7:21 AM
165	Less attempts to change it.	11/18/2014 6:56 AM
166	I would have the decision maker visit other similar quaint towns to see what those areas have accomplished. Duxbury, MA and Bristol, RI both come to mind. Duxbury has a French bakery, fish market, Talbots, pizza shop, Dunkin donuts, chinese resultant, and several hair places in their village area. Bristol has its center lanes in the road painted red white and blue. Bristol has independent coffee shops, pubs, and antique stores. The village is beautiful, but currently there is a lot of empty commercial space on rt 101 that visitors have to drive by to access the village.	11/18/2014 6:39 AM
167	Bury the electrical lines.	11/18/2014 5:59 AM
168	Less residential, more use to ALL residents, not just exclusive village residents	11/18/2014 5:56 AM
169	i think preserving the historic aspect of the village, using old pavers as roads, lantern style lighting but with solar. so keeping it historic but with a modern twist.	11/18/2014 4:15 AM
170	Farmers market was great when it was in the village. Sidewalks to encourage walking instead of driving around village. More play spaces for children. A nice restaurant/tavern/pub in the village with outdoor dining space.	11/18/2014 1:01 AM
171	Bike paths, tavern or coffee shop, more green space.	11/18/2014 12:53 AM
172	A playground with parking so it can be used by people other than those in walking distance	11/17/2014 11:41 PM
173	A few more "gathering" options for the community as suggested: walking trails, local small business, maybe more kid friendly play areas	11/17/2014 11:20 PM
174	Pub/tavern, natural gas lines	11/17/2014 11:05 PM
175	Places for neighbors to meet, hang out, get to know each other and exercise. And not just Child exercise. Tennis and basketball for adults and a mixed age crowd. The Tennis courts are a mess and BB courts do not exist. Need outdoor informal meeting and eating places--picnic spots. Maybe use the Ice rink land to be an active village green with bocci ball, horseshoes, croquet, picnic tables and let Moulton's provide a cart on site with drinks, coffee, sandwiches, etc. Chairs to sit and read and talk while the kids play. A bandstand! Decisions at the Town level that make living in the Village more affordable.	11/17/2014 10:33 PM
176	The Village should be someplace to build a sense of community. Bocci courts, tables/chairs, chess tables, a gazebo/band stand, horseshoe pits...these are all things that would encourage citizens to interact with each other and spend time in the village. Current the village is more like a pass through. Not many people actually spend time there.	11/17/2014 10:17 PM
177	Make it more of a place where we could spend the day. Bike, walk, stop for ice cream,...	11/17/2014 10:08 PM
178	Playground	11/17/2014 10:05 PM
179	parks, play grounds and walking trails	11/17/2014 9:54 PM
180	Bring back the Farmers Market,	11/17/2014 9:49 PM
181	a reason to stay in the village - not just visit for the library. It should be a social destination to meet up with friends for a drink or a coffee	11/17/2014 9:46 PM
182	continual preservation	11/17/2014 9:45 PM
183	Improved walking safety, more activities/ shows on the green, maybe a playground and a small ice cream stand in the summer	11/17/2014 9:43 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

184	Making it more welcome by increasing walking/biking paths thru the village.	11/17/2014 9:43 PM
185	A good café or small restaurant would be awesome.	11/17/2014 9:28 PM
186	Certain areas are not safe to walk/bike. A few months ago a car went right through the stop sign at Middle St crossing Main just as we about to walk across the street. Possibly a speed table or bumps would help that area. Balancing the safety options with keeping the Village looking quaint is a difficult task, though safety should always trump appearance. Sidewalks on Amherst Street from the Police Station to Main Street would help neighbors walk more easily to the village.	11/17/2014 9:25 PM
187	offer more to do	11/17/2014 9:25 PM
188	A playground, outdoor cafe, safe bike paths in village and on at least major streets around rest of town so people can get to village safely. Maybe places to gather close to Moulton's or on village green to sit at cafe style chairs (not benches or picnic tables!) like they do in European towns with outdoor games (large chess set, horseshoes, etc.) Would like to see more people drawn to village green to hang out. It's often empty.	11/17/2014 9:03 PM
189	As our family has grown, we have seen the areas for them to exercise, socialize, and play diminish with the closing of Cemetary Fields. We were so dismayed by this, as this was just one feature that brought us to this community--a safe, inviting place for our family to grow. It is unfortunate that we now have to drive to other towns to enjoy their facilities--which are dirty, crowded, and completely out of the way. While we have taken advantage of the swings near the Brick School, the play space and structures are limited and unsafe for my youngest--a toddler who was just beginning to explore & climb on Cemetary Fields structures. And while it's great that the rec dept has utilized some of the equipment, the parking leaves much to be desired. It would be fantastic if to have a better equipped play area near the Village itself. The space naturally lends itself to a play area, and can be taken advantage of by all Amherst citizens. Having Moultons close by--what a great way to spend an afternoon. Would be even better if we could have the Farmers Market back! Moultons, the market & a play area--what a gem! I can dream...	11/17/2014 9:00 PM
190	Farmers market	11/17/2014 8:58 PM
191	More areas for children to play, there are so many young families in Amherst that we need to think of or they will look to move elsewhere.	11/17/2014 8:51 PM
192	A playground and a restaurant.	11/17/2014 8:31 PM
193	Maintain the current look and feel. No major improvements or makeovers.	11/17/2014 8:29 PM
194	Small microbrewery , bakery, cafe, small gift store, u like Milford center on a smaller scale, I would love to see the center as more of a destination	11/17/2014 8:13 PM
195	A playground! There is no place for children to go and play during school hours!	11/17/2014 8:11 PM
196	Making it more walkable. Lighting for festivities like halloween.	11/17/2014 8:00 PM
197	strcit regulation of speeding traffic and idiot drivers	11/17/2014 7:59 PM
198	More to do - playground, restaurant with outdoor seating, permanent performance venue on the green	11/17/2014 7:56 PM
199	Adding historic features such as cobble stone and lantern style street lights.	11/17/2014 7:50 PM
200	Make it a place to actually go to, not just go through	11/17/2014 7:49 PM
201	a nice playground and a place to gather like a coffee shop, safe sidewalks for residents to enjoy such a lovely village (and encourage walking and biking)	11/17/2014 7:45 PM
202	More things for young families to do.	11/17/2014 7:42 PM
203	Natural gas lines for village and surrounding neighborhoods, removal of stop signs for something more aesthetically pleasing (and makes better sense for traffic control), attract a restaurant or tavern that's willing to blend their business in with the village look.	11/17/2014 7:36 PM
204	I am grateful it exists as it is....a special place, cherished by its residents, and non-village folks like myself ...as a place to visit and enjoy as it is. I hope it is protected and preserved...and that its residents keep their homes up. In 1972 we came here and when I saw the village, I knew Amherst was a town that unlike some others, took pride in its village and cared to protect its beauty.....may that always be.	11/17/2014 6:59 PM
205	If the police would do something about the speeding and if the huge dumptrucks would stop coming through from Mont Vernon	11/17/2014 3:29 PM
206	More attractions like cafes, pubs, shops and restaurants.	11/17/2014 3:21 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

207	Add more flower beds in the green areas for visual appeal.	11/17/2014 12:21 PM
208	Keep the existing streetscape	11/17/2014 10:20 AM
209	More feature festivals and events on the common	11/16/2014 9:32 PM
210	Slower speeds, more safety features for pedestrians including children to run and walk, tavern and a coffee shop	11/16/2014 7:53 PM
211	Not sure. I like it now.	11/16/2014 12:41 PM
212	It's pretty good as is.	11/16/2014 11:52 AM
213	Even since we moved to the village in 1970 there have been changes that have improved the village. In 1970 the Brick School and Green were drug havens. Now they are safe and family Pickwick areas. I am not opposed to change. I organized and planned the benches in the Green. It is a much more citizen usable Green. Let the Village evolve as it has for over two hundred years. Do not make it a product of government bureaucracy.	11/15/2014 12:45 PM
214	Amherst Village becoming more of a destination with a few local shops/amenities immersed in the historic charm	11/15/2014 10:17 AM
215	reduce paving and narrow streets	11/15/2014 9:11 AM
216	keeping it from changing too much	11/14/2014 7:11 PM
217	It is starting to look suburban with recent road improvements. Be careful to keep it looking rural.	11/14/2014 6:15 PM
218	Increasing use and occupant diversity both socially and economically.	11/13/2014 11:00 PM
219	Leave it alone!	11/13/2014 10:01 PM
220	Doesn't need improvement.	11/13/2014 4:42 PM
221	Pub, Tavern, or Cafe..... we desperately need a gathering place where we can talk about the weather, sports, politics, the BOS, and just life in general.	11/13/2014 4:10 PM
222	Space for children to play making it attractive to families.	11/13/2014 4:07 PM
223	See #22. Creating trails and or bike rides might make the village more of a destination. Even a trail (on private land) along Beaver Brook might be in order.	11/13/2014 3:49 PM
224	less traffic on Boston Post road	11/13/2014 10:28 AM
225	Diminishing the amount of activity that goes on in the Village.	11/13/2014 10:03 AM
226	It needs to feel far less of a traffic place. The village used to be a place for people, now it's a place for cars, roads, signs, utilities, paint, etc. It's cold and urban and the traffic has become much worse. Whoever is putting in all of these new "amenities" seems to have no sense of design and has littered the village with these things. It's not just the village either, it's like this all over town. New ugly traffic signs, double-yellow lines, they're appearing left and right like hideous flowers. This needs to stop, and somebody needs to take these things down.	11/13/2014 9:24 AM
227	walking trails from the village up through nearby neighborhoods, small personal little businesses like ice cream, bicycles, etc. Maybe an inn.	11/13/2014 9:07 AM
228	Slow down speed of traffic through the village; improve walking experience; add small cafe in town	11/13/2014 7:40 AM
229	More accessibility, more options for retail, entertainment businesses, less of the "off limits" attitude.	11/13/2014 6:38 AM
230	Traffic issues need to be dealt with, police need to make more of an appearance, speeding huge problem. Over 6,000 cars a day travel along Boston Post Road, many have no clue what speed limits are!	11/13/2014 5:12 AM
231	Limit signs and do away with crosswalk lines, and street lines. People know you drive on the right. 30 years ago we never had a problem ( yes someone once walking with traffic with sunlight in drivers eyes). and everyone got out of the way when they saw Ester coming. We are a neighborhood. Aren't we glad we didn't use all recommendations from last "ten" studies? We'd have had more blacktop, instead, technology makes going to Town Hall almost a thing of the past.	11/12/2014 11:32 PM
232	Make it even more authentically colonial by burying the power lines and requiring strict adherence to the Historic District Commission guidelines.	11/12/2014 11:11 PM
233	Citizens respecting the living history museum we have in our Village.	11/12/2014 10:45 PM
234	The HDC should be more strict.	11/12/2014 9:48 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

235	Narrowing the streets to slow down traffic.	11/12/2014 9:37 PM
236	Creating activities and destinations that bring people together.	11/12/2014 6:17 PM
237	What could make the amherst village even better is getting rid of the powerlines. They are in the way of the beauty of the village, the scenery, the buildings. It would be much better if they were underground. They also wouldn't be knocked down by trees if they were underground.	11/12/2014 4:34 PM
238	Pay more attention to aesthetics. The town has a lot of potential but utilities and roads in town detract significantly from the village's charm.	11/12/2014 4:08 PM
239	More logical traffic	11/12/2014 2:58 PM
240	Fix what I mentioned before, make the place look nicer. You can tell the road department doesn't give a hoot about how anything looks. The history and culture of the town are what make Amherst special and unique, but they're doing whatever they can to change that it would seem.	11/12/2014 11:27 AM
241	The beautiful village has been hijacked by roads and lines. Something needs to be done about that, I'm surprised the historic district commission lets the town get away with that.	11/11/2014 12:41 PM
242	Slowing existing traffic. More sidewalks for kids and parents to feel safer.	11/7/2014 12:18 PM
243	Get the traffic under control.	11/6/2014 11:44 AM
244	SLOW DOWN TRAFFIC. Police presence. Redirect drivers around the village -- not through it. Make more pedestrian and biker friendly. Consider closing the little section of road on Middle Street and incorporating it into the existing green. Traffic would have to be re-directed around a giant town green. Consider a larger play space at the Brick School or on one of the greens.	11/3/2014 9:12 AM
245	Bike paths, no wires, stone road/sidewalks. Pub, cafe, restaurant. Keep historic place nice.	11/2/2014 1:42 PM
246	Have the people who live there pay for the improvements they desire.	11/1/2014 9:55 AM
247	Modernization	10/31/2014 11:54 AM
248	Less truck traffic - prohibit all thru trucks of a certain tonnage, fewer loud motorcycles - enforce the state laws regarding decibel level, slow down the traffic and provide safe ways for pedestrians to walk, bury the utility lines (power and cable)	10/28/2014 9:39 PM
249	A Tavern	10/28/2014 8:35 PM
250	Take down the power lines and all the ugly modern road features, those just aren't necessary.	10/28/2014 8:33 PM
251	Things that draw more people to use it as a destination.	10/28/2014 6:37 PM
252	Restaurant/Tavern	10/28/2014 4:41 PM
253	Have some sort of entertainment or retail.	10/28/2014 3:17 PM
254	Sidewalks, SAFE biking	10/28/2014 3:09 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

### Q25 Please use the space below to include any additional comments.

Answered: 118   Skipped: 435

#	Responses	Date
1	Be very careful.....too easy to spoil what is beautiful about the Village	1/27/2015 4:51 PM
2	Keep the historic feel to the village additional monies should be spent on updating the schools I. E heating systems,air quality, appearance, bathrooms, classrooms etc. this will impact many more individuals vs those few in the village	1/22/2015 7:15 PM
3	It would be nice to have a CSA pick up and.or farmers market at the green in the summer.	1/17/2015 10:22 PM
4	A surcharge should be added to the assessment of real estate in the village as they are going to feel the greatest benefit from it. Many people, especially on the south end of town, never step foot in the Village area.	1/14/2015 4:05 PM
5	This survey should be supplemented by small group meetings of people who are typical of Amherst's diverse neighborhoods. The planning team should use these group meetings to encourage/invite participation in the thought process about creating the vision for the village.	1/10/2015 9:33 PM
6	Survey focuses only the historic district and not the entire town. More concern should be given to the entire community as a whole.	1/10/2015 1:56 PM
7	I love the beauty of the village - but it is not preservation of what it once was - it is preservation of what exists today that has overshadowed any attempt to change. The village should be an active area for townspeople to gather, walk, play and enjoy. Not a dusty museum	1/8/2015 6:03 PM
8	Don't ask me to pay to improve their property value. If you want to improve your property value, pay for it yourself!	1/6/2015 2:32 PM
9	I live in the village (15 Carriage Road) and attended the last meeting at town hall. I was surprised that traffic speed was the #1 issue. I also agree cars drive too fast through the village (including on Carriage Road). Various proposals were put forth, including having cops "enforce" the speed limit , park a cruiser in the village, etc. Both not practical (and not permanent, in my opinion). My solution: rumble strips, or cobblestoning if more appropriate and keeping with the colonial character in a few key places: coming into the village by : Wilkens School, on Foundry St. coming off Christian Hill, on Main St. near Knight Field, on BPR in a couple of key places, coming down Mack Hill just before entering the village, and a probably a couple of other places. Permanent, easy 5-10 mph reduction of speed would result, with no ongoing costs. Cobblestoning across the road in some fashion could be done , to actually add to the antique character of the village. Also, many of the streets mentioned are going to be resurfaced anyway in 2015 so cost would not be that great. Signed, Joe Raczek	1/5/2015 11:31 PM
10	See earlier comments	1/5/2015 12:02 PM
11	Many people make up the town not just a few, let's try and bring the citizens together instead of alienating them.	1/4/2015 9:37 PM
12	I sincerely like the village just the way it is and think it functions well except for the use of some grassy shoulders for parking especially in the area of the library.	1/2/2015 12:49 AM
13	MORE MIXED USE and activities day and night Make the Village a vibrant, self-sustaining community and destination for others	12/28/2014 1:03 PM
14	Please don't turn it into a modern, over paved monstrosity	12/27/2014 12:44 PM
15	Don't rush to bring permanent changes to a lovely historic town that has evolved over time in a "natural" way.	12/23/2014 6:31 AM
16	Thank you to all of the folks serving on the team! It's great to see and hear about so many people caring about about our little piece of Heaven on earth. God isn't making more real estate (unless you count Hawaii). What we have here is truly special. Any seemingly disparaging or wise-guy remarks made by me should always be interpreted as coming from a caring and positive place in my heart. Hopefully any future editorial remarks I submit to the Cabinet and Citizen will provoke thought and help to grow our ongoing conversation together about our town's future. We've got plenty of fish to fry here; depends on how big of a pan and how much heat's available.	12/20/2014 11:38 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

17	The definition of the village is way too broad, since many citizens who buy homes or want to buy homes, or have businesses or want to establish businesses are limited by its definition. Improvements could be made to outlying areas that would allow for the amenities that were suggested in each section of the survey. I am supportive of safety, but within reason. I look forward to the results - "transparent" results being publish, and for further discourse.	12/20/2014 7:26 AM
18	Why are you wasting time and resources on this make work project???????????? The \$15,000 could have be much better spent by paying for the new proposal for ice skating rink at Bean fields - now there is a great idea!!!! Also provide lights and music and a a shuttle bus to transport kids from Village to the rink ( obviously no way to walk or bike to the school location - too dangerous along Boston Post Rd in winter!!!)	12/18/2014 4:11 PM
19	Leave it the way it is! That is the reason we moved to Amherst Village.	12/18/2014 2:25 PM
20	Leave the center and the common untouched.	12/18/2014 9:31 AM
21	There is something very special about the Historic Village of Amherst... Where children can walk to elementary school and greet the crossing guards at crucial intersections... Where people of all ages drop into a library well stocked with books, computers, etc.... Where teens and "locals" drop into Moulton's for a soda or a cup of coffee... Where, when business failed or grew too big, the buildings were made into homes... Amherst Village is so special that the "YANKEE MAGAZINE" has run pictorial essays touting "Historical Amherst, NH" (Jan. 2014) and included our common as one of "The Five Best Greens in New England" (May, 2014). This is not to say that the town of Amherst is not wonderful but to highlight that it is the custodian of history with which it should not tinker.	12/15/2014 7:57 PM
22	Combining the two greens would give us more open space, and provide safety for the children walking to school.	12/15/2014 7:30 PM
23	We need to get much better utilization of the village if we are to do any IMPROVEMENTS. Right now this survey is just an excuse to propose making the park have additional rescources without any benefit statement to the TOWN and the AREA or Town people who do not live in the village.	12/13/2014 1:59 PM
24	Lower taxes on historic district properties, which appear to exceed other properties in Amherst.	12/13/2014 10:24 AM
25	what is really fdriving this effort.. business profits, developers interests	12/12/2014 10:03 AM
26	Not sure that anyone who lives in the village is driving this idea of expansion and change but clearly the vast majority of people who have invested and lived here for years do not want these proposed changes and ideas!	12/12/2014 9:31 AM
27	PLEASE don't make the mistake of turning Amherst NH into a "northern MASS town. We live here and chose to live here because it is a beautiful historic town. It has enough going on in the village.	12/11/2014 5:02 PM
28	I appreciate the care that is shown to the existing structures within the village. It is a special place and I don't want to lose the charm of this place. What I think is important to remember is that it is a living breathing community and not a museum.	12/8/2014 4:01 PM
29	As a resident of the town for 42 years and the village for 36 years, having owned and rehabbed 3 ea homes, I find that vehicle traffic control has become the greatest threat to preserving the village as it should be preserved.	12/8/2014 12:04 PM
30	I think that natural selection is a far better way to evolve than through the use of committees, meetings, and surveys.	12/8/2014 11:22 AM
31	SAVE THIS TOWN FOR THE WHOLE STATE AND FOR OUR LOCALS DO NOT LET IT GO THE WAY OF MASSACHUSETTS, WE HAVE MERRIMACK AND BEDFORD FOR THAT!!!!!!	12/7/2014 2:40 PM
32	Please do not change what is currently a treasure in our town. This is why we moved here... To enjoy the historic nature and value of this village. To change 200-300 year old looks and ways would defy what the Amherst Village has stood for these many many years.	12/7/2014 8:20 AM
33	thank you for putting this together.	12/6/2014 7:30 AM
34	Improve the Us vs Them perception in the rest of town.	12/3/2014 7:42 AM
35	Go to Boston and enjoy all these changes.	12/2/2014 1:35 PM
36	The village, while beautiful, is a museum to the dead 363 days a year (excepting July 4 and Halloween). Just a few businesses, especially food and beverage-related, would add much-needed life.	12/1/2014 2:49 PM
37	As the town looks to include more affordable housing the village needs to be included in this plan.	11/29/2014 6:14 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

38	This town must continue to attract young and vital and forward minded thinkers and residents...not to settle for the old tried and sometimes failed...we who own homes want our property value protected...cut the excess in the schools and build a school system that is clean, well managed and can and will attract young families...like Bedford...In our 20 years in Amherst we have watched the town and the schools decline...	11/29/2014 11:41 AM
39	Amherst is a very nice place to live. We really need to preserve it as such and avoid the "new age" and "progressive" mindset that puts a politically correct damper on the joy of life. As a Father of a son who went to elementary and high school here, I am very concerned about the poor quality of education here in the village. I realize that this is primarily a result of external political pressures, but the lack of emphasis on the basics, which I fought when my son was in elementary school, hampers our kids when they go on to middle and high school. Teacher competency must be measured and dealt with. There is no place for the injection of the imaginary political correctness into our children's lives. The absurdity of high school students calling their teachers by their first names is totally inappropriate and undermines societal manners and respect.	11/29/2014 11:15 AM
40	We have lived in the middle of the village for over 30 years. There were more car accidents 20 years ago then there have been in the past 10 years. I think having cross walks at the library, and Moutons and several other spots around town helps slow the traffic down for walkers. Several of the smaller roads people walk in the road, and always have. I don't think they would walk on a small sidewalk even if you made one.	11/26/2014 3:30 PM
41	FIX THE BRIDGE!!!	11/25/2014 6:54 PM
42	must have good food and serve IPA beer	11/25/2014 6:34 PM
43	There are way too many stop signs	11/25/2014 5:50 PM
44	I moved to Amherst 23 years ago because I was so charmed by the village. I live in walking distance and use it as a destination often. I would love to see sidewalks throughout the village area including upper Wilkins Fields and back down Mack Hill.	11/25/2014 12:50 PM
45	please do not consider over building in the Village. Improvements make sense, but building more buildings and taking away green space for parking does not fit our community.	11/25/2014 12:25 PM
46	"Preserving the historic nature" has become a third rail -- a catchall phrase that seems to be restricted to architecture. In reality, the historic nature of our community was extremely entrepreneur-oriented, with a strongly-centered heart beating in the village itself. If the village continues to mothball itself, we will have a lovely, preserved museum, which ultimately will cement the increasing distance between the village and the residents of the town. Either we, as a town, think the village is the heart of our identity (and take steps to revive it), or we let it die.	11/25/2014 12:06 PM
47	Preserve the village! It is what makes Amherst unique from other adjacent towns!!!	11/24/2014 7:12 PM
48	None. I like living in Amherst.	11/24/2014 4:51 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

49	<p>Town planners need to stop living in the fantasyland of endless growth and development, "business as usual", and the notion that progress means more economic activity and more people. I would recommend that those of you who prepared this survey read books such as Brian Donahue's "Reclaiming the Commons - Community Farms and Forests in a New England Town", and authors such as Wes Jackson, Wendell Berry, and others. I urge you to educate yourselves about our resource predicament in the US and our overuse of resources in this society, including oil, gas, and other fossil fuels, as well as water, soil, forest resources, healthy, intact ecosystems, and other critical resources. Amherst is already too crowded, and neighboring towns (Bedford, Merrimack) have become WAY overcrowded. &gt;20,000 people for a small New Hampshire town??? Are you kidding? The Amherst, NH website touts the CNN article about Amherst being one of the least crowded towns - why don't you put your money where your mouth is, and leave things alone, or better yet, work to acquaint the current town population with the local resource base and the limits to further growth? If this area had to fall back on local resources to survive at this point, we would be in very deep trouble. And we must not plan for an eternal future of dependency on external inputs of food and fuel to our local economy. You planners should be aware of the news concerning draw-down of aquifers in the Central Valley of California and in the grain belt in the Plains states, limits to phosphorus production for industrial agriculture, etc. As a civilization's soils go, so goes that civilization. Town planners need to start thinking about these issues very seriously. On the energy front, we're acting collectively like we're in some kind of US energy renaissance. Hogwash. Shale oil production is set to falter very soon, and sooner than you probably realize, we will be back to our predicament in 2008; I would guess before this decade is out. Even if shale gas and oil lasts longer than that, it is nothing to pin your hopes on for continued endless growth, development, and population increase. Everyone will ultimately be sorry if you let things continue to progress in that direction. I have lived in New Hampshire since 2000, and in Amherst since 2004, and the quality of life around here has eroded progressively the whole time. Where are the planners to halt that? All we get instead are "Stay, Work, Play" boosters for more development and population growth. The Route 101-A commercial developments that have cropped up in the last big blocks of land along that corridor in Amherst are an abomination. Town planners should be planning for a return to a localized economy, and resist the temptation and desire to make unnecessary and ultimately harmful planning efforts to increase the town's population density and "marketability". Why do you want to "market" the town? It would be far better to focus on the population that is here now, and not seek to increase it. It would be far better to work on ways to make this more of a community than a "bedroom community", which is a contradiction in terms. And it would be far better to educate the current, local population about resource limits and community involvement. Realistically, in my opinion and from an historical and resource point of view, Amherst should be a town maybe of 2-4 thousands of people, not &gt;11,000 as it currently is. A population of 2-4 thousand people could really form a community, and get to know each other, and work together to really improve the place. As things are, I have to ask: Who are you? And do you even know who I am? Worse, do you really even care who I am? That is the sad state of things right now.</p>	11/23/2014 3:29 PM
50	<p>Traffic speed is a concern as this area is more heavily populated with walkers and children. Speed bumps would definitely help to slow it. We see people flying down Boston post between Moultons and the light at Amherst st. It can be scary to step out to get the mail at night.</p>	11/22/2014 8:17 PM
51	<p>I live in the village, and like the historic charm. At same time, I think there are opportunities to make it more of a destination, with some bar/restaurants, and shopping. Many communities have been able to add these types of businesses while at the same time maintaining historic charm.</p>	11/22/2014 7:24 PM
52	<p>Removal of the overhead wires, if that can be done with minimal taxpayer cost would add a lot of historic charm.</p>	11/22/2014 5:38 PM
53	<p>Our housing values are stagnant. Young families want to live in Bedford which is retaining its character while making dining, school and recreational improvements. Let's get it going!</p>	11/22/2014 5:15 PM
54	<p>I really hope you do something with this. We seem to be locked in the 1800's. And there was more commercial activity in the village then, that's for sure! Unfortunately, I don't feel that our village leaders want to move forward. They are more concerned with "saying no" to saying yes. It has hurt the attractiveness of the village. Our property values are so weak. Bedford is eating us for lunch. There is more wrong about Amherst today than right. I live off Mack Hill. I have estimated that the bridge being out has cost me over \$2000 in additional gas costs from having to drive further. Think of all of the people who that has affected. And it has irritated the people on Jones Road. I feel for them.</p>	11/22/2014 12:02 PM
55	<p>Sometimes you don't know how great something is until you lose it. The village is a gem and the temptation to do something new for the novelty of it should be resisted. The talk of a pub is kind of ridiculous. Most patrons would be driving to it anyway, so what's the difference between that and driving to existing restarant/bars like those in Salzburg Sq. or the Meetingplace? We historically have had problems supporting these places due to not enough patronage. Having yet another one is a risk-- see tattoo parlor in Hollis.</p>	11/22/2014 8:27 AM
56	<p>Amherst Village is a treasure and should be preserved. We need to curtail commuters using Amherst as a speedway to get to work. Closing roadways (i.e. Middle St) and expanding green spaces and sidewalks (in village and around - for example, Jones Road loop) would enhance experience.</p>	11/21/2014 1:43 PM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

57	Defined area was too limited because fails to include undeveloped areas in near proximity ( eg. Land in back of church, Jones Road area, and out Mt Vernon Rd). All of these areas will become a part of the Village in the coming years and should be taken into consideration.	11/21/2014 12:09 PM
58	remove Middle street thus increase the green in size and divert traffic. Bury utilities or hide them. Adopt the "shared space" streets concept. It is used to increase safety and the beauty of road ways in some European and American towns. Remove traffic signs that clutter our roadways and distract drivers from attention to pedestrians, vehicles and hazards	11/21/2014 12:31 AM
59	Continue to improve the area for walking. There are still too many roads that are unsafe to walk on in, particularly in winter with banks of snow.	11/20/2014 9:03 PM
60	I would like to see the village become "the place" to go for holidays, and events, or whenever someone wants an authentic small town NH experience.	11/20/2014 6:37 PM
61	Who ever created this survey doesn't know anything about the village. Spend some time in the village before you propose any changes.	11/20/2014 6:05 PM
62	All plans and future development should be carefully considered and permitted so that the lovely visual of the village remains true to it's historic roots! No modern buildings or McDonald's arches, please! And keep it locally owned and operated.	11/20/2014 2:10 PM
63	I love the village, have lived here for 15 years but we don't need to be a museum. We need to keep our community vibrant and change can be a good thing.	11/20/2014 1:05 PM
64	Rebuild and reopen the bridge at the foot of Mack Hill. (I see this as very important.) The nose-in parking on the south side of the Green is helpful.	11/20/2014 11:16 AM
65	Bocce ball league or some form of passive recreation for adults, public playground, better lighting	11/19/2014 12:18 PM
66	There are a couple of Period homes for sale right now that would make great colonial style pub's/ eatery's. That would be a great addition to the area if handled properly.	11/19/2014 11:42 AM
67	Did I mention the farmers market?	11/19/2014 9:07 AM
68	Impose a truck ban. They are ruining the roads	11/19/2014 8:49 AM
69	I see the village of the future as a place that draws the Amherst citizens, and other, in to mingle and communicate through services, local retailers and recreation both inside and out. Everyone wants to keep the charm and historic value that we have but bring up to date.	11/18/2014 10:15 PM
70	Perhaps the trees are a little too dense on the village green. Maybe careful thought to thinning out some.	11/18/2014 7:24 PM
71	The village is the "centerpiece"of town. Protect the integrity of the homes/values. Stop the trucks from speeding thru the village(empty loads or full) it stresses the roads. Stop the 80%plus pick up at Wilkins, note that the 2nd line pollutes the conservation land & the illegal uturns are unsafe for all traffic.	11/18/2014 5:03 PM
72	Residents of the Village need to step up to the plate to fund their desired improvements; stop expecting "non-Village" town residents to pay for their wishes.	11/18/2014 2:39 PM
73	Major utilities work was done this summer in the village and more is planned for 2015...how would all this existing cost be jeopardized by all the suggest "improvements"	11/18/2014 1:31 PM
74	If the town wants to fix something - focus on the plaza where the post office is. fix the buildings and make better use of the wasted space. This will require a traffic light at the entrance.	11/18/2014 1:10 PM
75	I basically love the village as is !!!	11/18/2014 12:12 PM
76	Overall Amherst is lovely. With a few tweaks, such as burying the power lines (which I realize is expensive), it could be even more attractive. Adding lighting would be a mistake. It somewhat paradoxically increases crime and it devalues the night sky.	11/18/2014 9:43 AM
77	I don't live in the village but I enjoy driving and walking around. There is a very large part of of the population that lives away from the village.I would like to see changes that encourage people to go to the village and feel at home.	11/18/2014 9:15 AM
78	While it's important to retain the "charm" of the Village, I would not support funding expensive extras, I.e, pavers, or extensive walkways etc. keep it moderate and safe.	11/18/2014 8:50 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

79	I'm not sure if there is open space for this, but a walking trail from Salzburg Village and/or Black Forest to the Town Village would be my #1 request/recommendation. Salzburg Village could be such a gem if it had some kind of connection to the village.	11/18/2014 8:33 AM
80	I support making the village a safer place but let's not forget about AMS and HS. Streets around these places should also be safe to walk and bike. They also deserve sidewalks, lights etc.	11/18/2014 7:59 AM
81	We need to work with the state to improve the safety of 101. It's dangerous. Footbridges over 101 to connect the village with the rest of town would be appreciated. Work with the school board to use the schools and school property collectively. Build a park we can all be proud of.	11/18/2014 7:52 AM
82	It would be awesome if the village hosted a NH beer and bike festival. Local beer and wine vendors pitch tents in the village and offer sampling. Bikers (mountain bikers and motor cycles) run races that travers thru the beautiful roads and trails around Amherst	11/18/2014 6:39 AM
83	Please keep outdoor lighting to a minimum. We are losing all ability to see the stars in Amherst.	11/18/2014 12:53 AM
84	I think street lights and sidewalks are important safety factors, but they also make a town seem intentional rather than merely the result of traffic patterns	11/17/2014 11:41 PM
85	thank you for your request	11/17/2014 11:20 PM
86	More practical and moderating HDC. The effort is important and valuable to all but some of the decisions make the brain hurt.	11/17/2014 10:33 PM
87	We have some open spaces for various use but really are lacking a playground in town for our children.	11/17/2014 10:05 PM
88	there is no life on the Green, a playground?	11/17/2014 9:46 PM
89	the HDC should be thanked for keeping it historic	11/17/2014 9:45 PM
90	Thank you for your energy and time, and for helping to make Amherst Village an even better place!	11/17/2014 9:25 PM
91	the village is really in-accessable (housing wise) for young families. In addition to the price (and I recognize that the cost of housing is something that the planning committee has little control over. The market decides) there are few recreation options for young children (or teens for that matter) There is no public swimming pool in the village and precious few in the area. If the zoning were changed or taxes were lowered on new construction in the Town (not the Village), additional dwellings could be built, increasing the supply and possibly having a positive (for the buyer) effect on the price. Increase population would increase tax base, would benefit all.	11/17/2014 9:01 PM
92	Benches...a few more benches would be great!	11/17/2014 9:00 PM
93	Sidewalks along Christian Hill would be a huge improvement. Farmers markets seem to be a no brainer.	11/17/2014 8:58 PM
94	id we can add some small businesses, sidewalks & some elderly housing our seniors could live in town & walk to cafes, restaurants, pubs, bakery, church & eve their doctors office . They could be a part of the heart of the town & even volunteer easily at the schools or library, it is s win, win for everyone	11/17/2014 8:13 PM
95	The colored Christmas tree lights on the common are tacky. The town should follow suit with it's own ordinances placed on the village residents.	11/17/2014 7:50 PM
96	Thank you for letting Amherst residents voice heard	11/17/2014 7:45 PM
97	Thank you for offering public surveys to the town residents.	11/17/2014 7:36 PM
98	Good Luck to all...we are leaving town, after our home sells, to be with family.... after 42 years in Amherst. We cannot find any towns in the area we are headed to, that have anything remotely like Amherst Village, and that makes me feel so sad to leave it...but our dear grandchildren call us! BY THE WAY...When we chose our 2 homes, in 1972 and 1983, we chose ones that routed us through the village in order to get to our house...there is nothing like coming home from work and driving Slowly through the Village, always going by the Congregational Church...especially during the holidays.... with the white lights in all the village windows...it is pure nostalgia...so hard to find in this new millennium. As we prepare to leave, I am now even more aware of what I am about to give up...so please take care of the jewel...	11/17/2014 6:59 PM
99	Attracting businesses is the wrong idea. We have enough going on in the village-this is why the house next to the insurance agent is for sale again.....too much noise! If you want to live where there's a lot of action, you should move down to 101A.	11/17/2014 3:29 PM
100	I picture something like Woodstock VT. Quaint but with enough going on that people gather there.	11/17/2014 3:21 PM
101	The draw of the village is its historic nature. Trying to add amenities will destroy that and make it less desirable	11/17/2014 10:20 AM

## Amherst Village Strategic Plan Survey

102	Please consider the small size of the Village. It is about two blocks by two blocks. in size. Any commercialization on a planned scale can and could destroy the historic nature of the village.. Once gone, there is no returning.	11/15/2014 12:45 PM
103	We spend enough on the village. Are taxes are high enough.	11/15/2014 10:23 AM
104	please don't destroy the village with commercial activity! keep it on 101a	11/15/2014 9:11 AM
105	The consultant fees associated with this survey are a waste of my tax dollars. It is clearly a canned survey used for urban community surveys.	11/13/2014 4:42 PM
106	Fix the *&\$#@!!! Bridge.	11/13/2014 4:10 PM
107	I've lived in the Village for 18 years. Over those years we've seen activity increase and decrease. Homeowners definitely put up with a LOT of aggravation when events occur. I've had people drive on my lawn, break sprinkler heads, block my road so we can't get out, etc., etc. Sometimes we've considered moving, but overall it's a lovely place to live and therefore we're willing to put up with some aggravation. Once again, it is vital to keep in mind that the Village is predominantly a neighborhood and visitors need to definitely be more mindful of that fact. Homeowners are not going to tolerate turning the Village into a commercial center.	11/13/2014 10:03 AM
108	Under ground electric wires, would be nice, but as we all know, too expensive. Think very carefully before you make changes to our neighborhood, you can never go back. Remember we are a neighborhood, know how to drive, and would be much happier with fewer signs cluttering our streets and driveways. Why are we having another study? Rather than having a view tax for living on the Green they should have a discount for every sign they see.	11/12/2014 11:32 PM
109	Seems that questions of sidewalk and road surface should have been asked three years ago. I am not a fan of wasting tax dollars already spent or adding more asphalt. It seems these questions could lead to a scattered disastrous effect on the true treasure of this town, the Village.	11/12/2014 11:11 PM
110	Decisions should be made to maintain the longevity of our historic town village. I am concerned that those who want change are people who are not invested in this town and are "short timers." We need to be careful to not make drastic changes that will be a horrible mistake in the future.	11/12/2014 10:45 PM
111	The town seems like a dead town, it doesn't feel like it has any life. Milford is alive and people mingle and meet and work together in their village, this isn't in Amherst. Even in Peterborough it is nice and they have restaurant, a pub, cafes. There a real community there, this doesn't exist in our village. It feels like everybody is just in their house doing what they have to do. I am from Santiago, Chile. In Santiago there are many colonial buildings. There is an antique preservation group that makes rules for the town to listen to. The group makes rules for architects of new buildings and also rules for the city. They have cobblestone streets without paint and bury power. This isn't the case in Amherst. I don't understand why this is when there is such a special historical town.	11/12/2014 4:50 PM
112	I've lived in town for 37 years and I love the place. I do think that the village is going in the wrong direction though. Some people dont notice it but I think it looks too urban now. There used to be strict rules about how things had to look in the village. It is actually one of the reasons why I moved to town, for the beautiful colonial village. It doesn't look like that anymore, it looks too much like a small version of Nashua or Manchester now. What happened to these standards? I know they are so picky about what color your house is there, but the village just looks like urban jungle now, all those power poles, roads, and stuff.	11/11/2014 2:53 PM
113	Why the questions about workforce housing and multifamily development? These types of things have been done on the edge of the village - and one particularly looks bad. Putting one in the heart of the village seems like some kind of a joke or provocative question (to see if I was paying attention).	11/6/2014 11:44 AM
114	Please keep the entire Amherst community in mind when making plans for just the Village.	11/5/2014 1:46 PM
115	Increase police presence and slow down traffic. People drive WAY TOO FAST through the Village.	11/3/2014 9:12 AM
116	Quit using taxes to fund all the projects that affect only the village. If the residents of the village proper want improvements, they should pay for them as they are benefiting with an increase in property values.	10/31/2014 11:54 AM
117	An assessment of the noise level associated with trucks and increased traffic was not addressed in this survey. It should be included.	10/28/2014 9:39 PM
118	The historic commission has taken control to a point that nothing new is allowed in Amherst. Amherst used to be a bustling commercial district, so historically, more commerce was present in this area. While I don't want to see any box stores arise in the village, it would be great to have an ice cream store, a coffee shop, a tavern or other gathering/social spot that doesn't compete with Moulton's business directly.	10/28/2014 3:09 PM

## **Amherst Village Tomorrow – Outreach Summary**

### **Outreach Event and Name (Board, Committee, Name of Host – Private Residence)**

Private Residence – Al Patnaude

**Address** - 94 Boston Post Road

**Date** - 10/22/14

### **Meeting Attendees**

Al & Tracy Patnaude, Randy & Lara Lowenberg, Joe Taggart, Rick Katzenberg, Terry Mayo, Linda & Rand Peck, Lydia Bennett & Paul Klapatch, Dave Clark, Kirsten Quinn

### **Meeting Facilitator and Note Taker**

Mike Akillian and Camille Pattison

### **Ice Breaker**

**less than 6 years** - 4      **6-10 years** – 2      **11-20 years** - 8      **20 + years** - 2

- Numerous attendees had lived at 1 or more locations in Amherst prior to moving to the Village.

### **Question 1 - What's Best about the Village?**

- sense of community
- The fact that we're a neighborhood
- History
- Unique Village in NH as it is one of the only villages that doesn't have a mill district or a major road going thru town as there is a bypass in place.
- Activities in the center – parade, Halloween in the Village, village green ties the larger community into the village; kids events are key to creating a sense of place
- Preschool and schools in the Village bring people from throughout the community to the Village, making it a bigger community.

### **Question 2 - What is the most important issue facing the Village?**

- Traffic, there is no major road through the village but it is becoming a main travel corridor,
- Speed is a big issue; traffic flies up Boston Post Road and cars go too fast even near the school,
- Traffic volume is also a problem and has increased over time,
- It is a raceway most of the day from 5 am to 8 am. As a driver there is pressure to drive as people hand and gesticulate if you obey the speed limit.
- people take it for granted that they can drive fast
- noise is also a huge issue – can hear blowing horns and jake brakes; there is a significant number of large trucks traveling through on a daily basis such as granite state, septic, lawn service trucks, UPS, Fed Ex,
- Traffic increase is largely due to Milford enforcing no trucks in the Oval, If this is the fastest route they will come
- Courthouse Road has a no thru truck sign

**Question 3 - What could be done to address this?**

- passive measures may be better than enforcement, measures to slow down, need a police presence, narrow roads, speed bumps,
- Mont Vernon - enforced traffic and it has been effective for years
- Could Boston Post Road be signed no thru Trucks
- Trucks need to be slowed down
- prefer speed bumps to stop signs

**Question 4 - Change**

- The village has become younger and kids are out and about
- The change in ages seems to come in waves
- Sense of community is great - seems to be deteriorating somewhat
- There seems to be like a little bit of and us vs. them between the people who live in the Village compared with the greater town.

**Question 5 - How often do you walk or bike in the Village?**

- Daily / very frequently; been great to see the sidewalks improved

**Question 6 - Is it safe and convenient?**

- new sidewalks have improved walkability
- liked the stop sign by main and middle - it has been taken down, close to the ice skating rink is
- walking up Mack Hill - it is very narrow need to walk on the shoulder
- It is unsafe to walk or bike in the Village - New Boston and Jones Road
- The worst stretch is Mack Hill to Jones; New Boston Road to Wilkins School
- Safe Routes to School aimed at increasing kids to walk to school - wondering if these improvements will make moms feel safer
- Boston Post Road and everything else – foundry/Davis/carriage/middle/church/cross street, middle
- Won't let my 11 year old cross Boston Post Road – unless Sally (the crossing guard is there)
- Dangerous for kids to cross in the Village

**Question 7 - How would you make this better?**

- The Town needs to decide if they want to reduce traffic on Boston Post Road – it is a main travel route from 101 to 13.
- Bridge out on Mack Hill is adding more traffic onto Jones Road and then onto Mack Hill (Manchester and over near the police station)

**Question 8 - Specific locations that pose safety?**

- concerned about my 17 year old driving, especially in construction areas and certain roads in the Village
- Middle and Amherst Street - due to the large tree; blind left;
- The temporary light was better Middle and Main where you take a left to Moultons - have to stop twice; first for the cars turning and then again at the road.

**Question 9 – How would you make this better?**

- Need to slow down traffic
- A greater police presence is needed - (works in Francistown)
- Corduroy and Stearns has frequent policing and it's effective

**Question 10 – Are there any additional destinations your would like to see in the Village?**

- Tavern, small seated restaurant
- A non-school playground in the Village maybe on Middle Street (can use the playground at the church) need a visible location - like the Brick School,
- need more fields, limited parking at the ice skating rink
- Discourage the town to focus activity in the Village need a playground elsewhere people already come here because they like it - keep it as it is - the residents like it and other people outside of the town come here because it is such a special place. (1 person shared this opinion)
- Remember the village is also a neighborhood. People bought houses here for what it is now not what it could be in the future.
- Moulton's is great - small additions that will enhance the livability of people who live here (perhaps hide the dumpster and make the façade more in keeping with the historic architecture that surrounds it). The village can only support so many businesses. Need to support the neighborhood.
- Parking could be a problem

**Question 11 – Would burying all or some of the utility lines make a noticeable improvement to the Village? (The trade-off would be visible transformer boxes on the ground.)**

- doesn't bother people, would be nice to have them underground
- Nice idea but improving the livability and traffic is more important.

**Question 12 - How much do you think the town should spend to accomplish this?**

- Not discussed

**Question 13 - How would you like to see existing businesses in the Village evolve over time?**

- Moulton's - could look more historic; shield the dumpster;
- Moulton's ice cream window - put ice cream on Boston Post Road side - add seating, bike parking but you would lose parking and the truck unloading area
- Remove vinyl siding, make it look more historic
- Mikes Auto – Lots of tires in back

**Question 14 – Would you like to see more (festivals, fairs, chili cook offs) or less activity in the Village?**

- Liked the Farmer's Market; and enjoy all of the children oriented events on the green.

**Question 15 – What is your long term vision for the Village and what key things must happen to make it a reality?**

- What we have needs to be preserved and it only needs to be refined or tweaked.
- This village is based on home owners maintaining their properties. If these homes are not attractive to buy the village will die.
- Need to make sure parking, traffic, and the HDC requirements are not significant enough issues to make the village lose its appeal to prospective buyers.

- The HDC does help the village maintain its visual appeal but it would be more helpful if they could provide more standardized guidance to homeowners regarding options for renovations.
- People like the village because it looks nice.
- Need to be cognizant about not focusing too many town resources on the village and make sure we look at the needs of the entire town.
- ok with some of the inconveniences of living in the Village - parking on my grass; love the craziness of Halloween; and having to get approval to change the house, but we still love the village and the town

**Question 16 - Is there anything else that you would like to add that we haven't covered?**

- Historical District Commission
  - Admire what they do and trying to keep the look of the village, but they could improve the process.
  - One person had a successful experience 3 times and found it was better if you were well prepared.
  - The HDC has a good goal, but they can be inconsistent, there is a lot of grey area.
  - Need to focus on historical accuracy.
  - They don't seem to have specific design criteria. A visual guide could assist homeowners in knowing what they are looking for.
  - It would be better if they could provide more guidance to homeowners.
  - Homeowners find it challenging that the board doesn't always review materials in advance and they are limited by the 1 meeting a month.
  - Decisions could be appealed to the ZBA.
  - The HDC is limited by a lack of funding, statutory standing and enforcement.
- How about increasing the businesses along 101A to offset the tax base and get the Economic Development committee up and running.
- Could we use the old train tracks as a bike path? Thornton Ferry 1 (4 houses in) up to Boston Post Road after the left hand turn to the school.

**Additional Solutions (feel free to identify any possible solutions here).**

- Could No Thru Truck Signs be used in the Village?
- passive measures may be better than enforcement, measures to slow down, need a police presence, narrow roads, speed bumps,
- Need to slow down traffic
- A greater police presence is needed
- Improve HDC review process.

**Amily Moore hosted a coffee/tea at her house on 11/21. Here is her brief feedback:**

The general consensus was that people moved to Amherst because of the beautiful, charming and quaint Village and that we should not change anything. People like Amherst as a community and people who live in the Village also like their neighborhood community. The main issue on everyone's mind was traffic - speed and enforcement, the bridge, and the amount during certain times of day. Making it safe for walkers was also a concern. The attendees did not want more commercial entities and thought that the Black Forest, the Meeting Place complex and Salzburg Square should be a focus for business development -- not the Village. People were mixed on bringing additional activities (festivals, etc) to the Village and felt that we have quite a bit of events on the green throughout the year. Enhancing the play structure at the Brick School was brought up too. People like having picnic-ers on the green and people walking around town, etc. No one wanted a pub (in fact we learned that you can walk down Limbo Lane through the woods to the Black Forest and again that we should be supporting existing businesses just down the road from the Village).

**Amily Moore also met with the MOMS Club and Preschool in the Village. Here is her brief feedback:**

All of these attendees were non-Village residents, but visit the Village regularly. They commented that they moved to Amherst because of the green and charm of the Village and want to preserve it. The green and library are all draws, as well as everyone loves Moultons and would love to see more within Moultons (ice cream?). Traffic seemed like less of a concern, but sidewalk safety and walk-ability was a concern. Better sidewalks was mentioned. It was also noted that it would be great to have sidewalks/bike lanes or some way to walk into the Village from the roads that are outside of the Village. Safe access for other neighborhoods to get to the Village was suggested. People also commented about not raising taxes for any enhancements in the Village and that there are other more pressing issues for the town to deal with. Relocating the post office back to the Village was also mentioned. Adding more daytime things on the green or the Village, or play structures in the Village were also suggested as improvements.

## 1. MOORE COFFEE

Amherst Village Strategic Plan Outreach Neighborhood Coffee

November 21, 2014

Attendees: Amily Moore (host, village resident), Susan Dunlap (village resident), Erin Potrzeba (Mack Hill), Tracy Veillette (village resident), Trish Berlack (village resident), Dean Jackson (Mack Hill), Carolyn Cricenti (village resident), Caroline Quinn (village resident), Alice Handwerk (village resident), Sally Hooper (village resident), Gretchen Pyles (town resident), Susie Blalock (resident), Zola Brown (village resident), Elisabeth Larson (village resident)

Residents of Amherst: Less than 6 years (2), 6-10 years (5), 11-20 years (2), 20+ years (5)

Question 1 - What is best about Village?

Overall aesthetic. Historic character. Strong neighborhood identity. Heart of Amherst. Unique in that entire town is on historic register. Not corrupted by development.

**Neighborhood feel.** Historically preserved town with access to commercial areas, jobs. Walkable: schools, library, Moultons. Strong traditions: 4th of July, Halloween, Tree Lighting, Easter Egg Hunt. Vibrant community for young families.

Question 2 - What is most important issue?

**TRAFFIC TRAFFIC TRAFFIC!** Both the amount and speed

"Stopoptional" signs. Traffic at rush hours significantly impedes walkability. Dangerous for kids.

More sidewalks - in the village and around it (Jones road Loop). Need designated sidewalks in winter - a bike lane for walking does not work in the snow. Specifically around brick school and in front of Tellanders on 6 Main Street.

Question 3 - How to address?

Is it possible to: Ban trough trucking in the village (windows shaking); have one way streets; **close middle street and enlarge the greens**; utilize temporary speed bumps in non-winter months; **increase police presence?** [Note: Studies have shown that 6 weeks of constant police presence changes traffic behavior. Examples of Mount Vernon and Francetown were cited]

Question 4 - What changes could be anticipated/made?

Maintenance of the tennis courts at Clark school. Have fallen into disrepair.

Question 5 - Majority of the group (8) walked in the village daily, most multiple times a day. Weekly (2), Monthly (1).

Question 6 - During non-rush hour hours, yes. During rush-hour times traffic is a huge issue.

Question 7 - Reroute as much as possible. First, reroute out of Amherst Village. Second, reroute traffic down Boston Post (A road intended for heavy use) away from smaller side streets.

Question 8 - Blind corner at Middle and Amherst Street.

Question 9 - Discourage use. Could be done by closing middle at the green.

Question 10 - Are there any additional destinations you would like to see in the Village? Definitive no on changing zoning to accommodate commercial interests. General feeling was that until Meeting Place and Salzburg Square can attract and maintain tenants, we don't need additional commercial interests in the village. Tattoo parlor in Hollis was also cited as an example of how commercial zoning can have unintended consequences.

The group also discussed a "rail-trail" where you could walk and **bike** away from the road. More publicity/development for existing trails (path across Wilkins with picnic benches, green space at bottom of Mack Hill, trail from Walnut Hill to Baboosic which has been gated). Create and maintain walkway to Black Forest from Village

Question 11 - Yes, absolutely. Cost needs to be mitigated by private fundraising.

Question 14 - Yes, but group felt like there was already a lot of activity.

Question 15 - Predominant sentiment was that people loved the village as a neighborhood and wanted it to stay pretty much as is, with the **major exception being traffic**. Again, traffic was the main issue cited. People love living here and want to make it more accessible as a walkable neighborhood for all Amherst residents to enjoy. Increased opportunities for recreation and improved safety were the major considerations.

Question 16 - Possibility of closing roads (especially Davis and Foundry) on Halloween

## 2. LARSON COFFEE

**December 16, 2014**

**Elisabeth Larson's home**

**Library, Nipmugs, Villagers**

Attendees: Charlene Carper, Chris Shaver, Nancy Spears, Sally Harrington, Katrina Holinan, Nancy Head, Kim Ayers, Paula Schmida, Elaine Bennett, Elisabeth Larson (host, committee member, Village resident), Amily Moore (committee member, Village resident)

Ice breaker: 8 have lived here more than 20 years, 3 have lived here 6-10; None of the attendees (aside from Liz and Amily) resided in the Village.

### Question 1:

The consensus was that there is already a lot of attention on the Village and it is fine as is. Questions about "LA" aka "Lower Amherst" were raised. Why aren't other areas in town being addressed? Village is fully developed and built up. Exploring improvements in other parts of town seems like a better use of time and resources. Also, there was strong consensus that Amherst needs to attract young families to remain vital. Improve schools and become a town that rivals Bedford and Hollis for new families. Taxes keep going up and services seem to be going down. Also attendees felt that we should retain rural character because it is different than Bedford. Anything that is done in the Village needs to be aesthetically appropriate.

### Question 2.

Traffic. People drive too fast on Boston Post and Mack Hill. Slow drivers down.

Parking. If we want to encourage people to come to the Village, we need to be sensitive to the parking issues.

Signage - seems excessive in the Village (but people want the stop signs, just maybe less of the other signs).

### Question 3:

4-way stop at base of bridge and Mack Hill.

Consider some additional parking spaces (maybe work with Carriage House?).

Evaluate what signs could be removed.

### Question 4:

Aging population. Businesses in Village, Meeting Place and Salzburg Square going out of business.

### Question 5.

All but 1 person daily

### Question 6.

Attendees like the existing sidewalks and crosswalks.

### Question 7.

Slow down traffic. Add more sidewalks.

### Question 8.

Boston Post Road.

Mack Hill and bridge area.

Question 9.

Add stop at base of bridge. Slow down traffic.

Question 10.

Not in the Village

Question 11.

Most people do not want to spend money to bury the lines but would be fine if they are buried.

Question 12.

Attract a Hollywood company to film a movie in Amherst and they could pay to bury the lines.

Question 13.

No additional businesses in the Village. Support Moultons; let them add an ice cream window.

Town should support existing businesses in Meeting Place and Salzburg Square before the town allows for additional commercial spaces. Meeting Place used to have a grocery store, toy shop, cafe, etc and they all went out of business. Concerns were raised regarding whether or not Amherst citizens actually support Amherst businesses or not?

NO PUB!

Question 14.

Activity level seems fine. Move tree lighting to Sunday (like it used to be).

Question 15.

Make Amherst as a whole more attractive to young families.

Question 16.

Consider a senior center for the aging demographic.

Consider a traffic light on 101 by K-9 country.

Preserve open space on 101 from Bedford through Amherst

Time the lights on 101A so it is faster to get to Route 3.

## **Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 Village Strategic Planning Public Forum Notes**

The first Public Input Session took place last night (12/2) with Colleen Mailloux facilitating and Tori Burke as note taker. Here is a synopsis:

There were 31 attendees. Of those, eight were members of the steering or outreach committees. Other town groups or officials represented included HDC, Heritage Commission, ZBA, BOS, and Library, so that town officials made up about half of the crowd. About 15 were citizens with no role on the village strategic plan committee or on other town boards and had not attended a house meeting.

While most were Villagers, there was a handful from outside the village. Most have lived in the town 20+ years or 11-20 years. The overall consensus was don't change the Village, but people felt very strongly about traffic and speed as the primary concern. Another topic raised was overall excessive noise of vehicles/traffic.

People love the historical aspect and are very proud that it's such a unique gem. People moved here for the Village and love walking around the town and, all said, they walk daily even though the village is not as conducive to walking as they would like.

The need to make the Village a place that brings "non-villagers" in was also raised. Currently, Moulton's and the Library, and to a lesser extent, Mike's Auto and Town Hall are the most noted destination spots. It was mentioned that moving the post office out of the village had been a bad idea. Bringing back the Farmers Market was also something people would like to see.

Another strong theme throughout this session was the lack of a police presence in the Village and how a stronger police presence could reduce a lot of speeding. Suggestions were to pave Austin Rd so people further up Mack Hill Rd. could have better access to Rte.101 versus driving down Mack Hill, as well as making the bridge (currently closed) a one-lane bridge.

**Main themes:** improve walkability, control speed (law enforcement), and reduce traffic (spread it around instead of concentrating it on Boston Post Road). There was some interest in burying power lines; however everyone acknowledged the high cost of doing so.

## Outreach Summary

Group- Amherst Village Business Owners

Address- 12 Middle St, BMA Architecture

Date 12/2/14

Attendees: Steve Yurish( note taker) Laurie Biggers( Facilitator) Rolf Biggers,  
Rick Boyd, Mickey Larivee, Mike Larivee

Invited, but unable to attend:

Walter Murry Jr., Walts Service

Bernard Eng, Amherst Village Dental

Brian McGuigan, Edward Jones

11-20 years- 2      20+ years -4

Question 1. What is best about the village?

The group felt that what was best about the village was it's scenic charm, noting that it was the idyllic New England community. It was mentioned that it had a good organic mix of structures and a good hometown atmosphere.

It was generally agreed that the events on the common were a positive addition, and that it was a real loss that the Farmers Market moved out of the village. It was noted that the bridge closure had much to do with the move.

Most felt that more activities on the common were needed as a means of bringing residents from across the town together, improve the quality of life, as well as have a positive impact on our businesses. We would all like a village that is alive & thriving.

Question 2. What is the most important issue facing the Village?

From the group perspective, the most important issue was the continued "free flow" of traffic through the village.

While the village businesses survived the 4 months of restricted traffic during the village construction of last summer, it did have a negative impact. Reopening the bridge, and not instituting new measures that divert traffic away from the village were important.

The second most important issue was the divisive atmosphere which exist between village residents, and residents outside the village. The Us vs. Them atmosphere is so palatable, and it appears to some the villagers don't think the residents at large should have a say at all about what happens in the village.

Third, Beautification of the Village- Some felt Amherst should be the “showplace” of Southern New Hampshire, and we need to do better taking care of what we have as well making cosmetic improvements. We all felt that Amherst should be a destination for visitors.

Finally, most felt that the village was dying. The loss of the post office to the Meeting Place, the loss of the Farmers Market, & Fox Brook B&B were the examples given. It was noted that there was discussion at some point several years ago of also moving the Library out of the village. There were comments about that being a “Tragic Loss”.

Question 3. What do you think can be done to address this issue.

Open the bridge, bring back the farmers market & use the common for more community events that bring people together. Examples given were and expanded Winter Carnival in February(maybe flood the common for a larger rink), broaden the events of the Cider Festival, which has happened in recent years at the Lindabury Orchard, Mass on the Grass, or Amherst Rec. programs like Yoga. It was also mentioned that maybe the Village Museums should be open more frequently to attract visitors.

Also, the group felt that we “ collectively thrive or perish ” with a village that does or does not. Meaning, as the village goes, so do we. It was noted that the commercialization of Rt. 101A has taken more people out of the village, and that the village has less commerce now than at any time in it’s history. A limited amount of additional commerce would be welcome.

It was important to all that any new businesses were enhancements to the quality of life in Amherst, not ones that would negatively impact existing businesses.

Some felt the town should consider spot zoning modifications to some of the village properties to residential/ commercial, to allow for the potential of future businesses.(Most notably, the lots & structures at the intersections of Boston Post rd & Amherst St., and Main St.) The former Purtell residence at Amherst St. and Boston Post Rd was specifically discussed as a Bed & Breakfast Inn or event center. Professional offices, a Library Annex, or Art Studio were also mentioned.

Question 4. What past changes have you seen, what changes are happening now, and what changes do you anticipate in the future?

A) Past changes - The conversion of Country Mansion; new riding stables on Amherst St. and Mack Hill Rd, & the demise of Fox Brook Bed & Breakfast

B) Current Changes- Roadway infrastructure, depletion of retail stores at Meeting place & Salzburg Square.

C) Expanded Business district- Discussion centered on “ Change of Use”, not new structures, with the exception of a possible community center.

## **Amherst Village Strategic Plan**

### **Small Group Session Notes – Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce session**

**Thursday, January 8**

Facilitated by Mike Akillian, Note taking by Tracy Hutchins

Attending: six business people, four of whom are real estate agents who regularly sell properties in Amherst.

Nancy Pomerleau, Berkshire Hathaway Verani Real Estate and 50 year resident of Amherst

David Hennessey, Coldwell Banker Real Estate in Amherst (also on Board of NRPC and Pelham Planning Board)

Ingrid Michaelis, Coldwell Banker and long time Amherst resident

Deb Farrow, Coldwell Banker and long time Amherst resident

Trent Blalock, Edward Jones Investments, new Amherst resident

Jay Maiona, Attorney, Amherst resident 5 years

What is best about the Village?

- Quintessential New England
- The Green – the Village gathering space
- Appearance matters – Amherst is so pretty

The most pressing issue facing the Village?

- Traffic
- Age of population is an issue – majority of newcomers choose Bedford over Amherst due to age of homes (young people not willing to take on upkeep of historic homes).

What can be done about these issues?

- Don't want to change how the Village looks. Should consider changing uses allowed by zoning of the buildings and allow accessory apartments and small businesses with tight zoning.

When asked how it is to work with the Historical District Commission (HDC), they said zoning is challenging. Would like to see zoning more flexible to allow for multiuse of buildings.

What changes would you like to see in the future?

- A gathering place – pub, coffee shop.
- There were proposals in past years to change some Village properties into Bed & Breakfasts, or a coffee shop/bakery that the Town said no to.
- Would be a good idea to allow contextual businesses. Traditionally, the Village or center of a town was the center of commerce.

- Allow form-based zoning.

How often do you go to the Village?

- 4 people – daily
- 2 people – maybe 3-4 times per year. No reason to go there, there is nothing to attract us there.

When you do go to the Village, how does it feel?

- Safe, welcoming, family friendly, people walking dogs, quiet, sleepy
- Would like to see a gathering place – perhaps something with outdoor seating
- Perhaps change traffic patterns to allow for pedestrian-only access to areas of the Village. Would need a parking area outside the Village.

If you could bury the power lines in the Village, would you be willing to pay for it as taxpayers?

- No, not without doing it as part of a larger redevelopment plan.
- All new regulations for developers should require underground utilities in development plan.
- The town should consider putting pressure on PSNH to update their infrastructure, replace aging lines/transformers and trim trees to reduce the number of power outages.

Are there additional destinations you would like to see in the Village?

- Bring the farmers market back
- Gathering place – work in conjunction with existing businesses
- Band concerts in the summer are nice
- Perhaps a Memorial Day parade as a kickoff to summer?
- Tree lighting could be expanded or developed

Long term vision for the Village?

- Address traffic in the Village
- Create bike paths
- Peabody Mill is a huge asset
- Need sidewalks on walking loops such as Mack Hill-Jones Rd-Boston Post-Village
- Need more mixed use – walking /biking trails, roads with bike lanes
- Nancy – “I find the Village is becoming younger as young people and families move in because they like the convenience.”

Use European model of signage for the Village?

- Would need to be a statewide program. Amherst cannot do it alone (no other towns are doing it) because no one would know what it meant.
- Add roundabouts

Anything Else?

- Lighting is important – can make a huge difference in how people perceive the historic area.
- Consistent lighting would be great
- Attracting young people to the state is necessary. We need to continue attracting younger families and enhance the convenience of living here so they don't have to go to far for services.
- Mixed use is important and has to be done to revitalize the Village. A gathering spot is important.

**Amherst Village Strategic Planning Committee**  
**Jones Road Neighborhood Meeting, Miller Residence,**  
**Saturday, January 17, 10 AM-12 PM**

Facilitated by Mike Akillian, Notes by Tracy Hutchins

Present: Jean Miller, Ken Miller, Christine Chabot, Chris Conard, Jessica & Brian Carreiro, Diane Lyttle, Rick Barnes, Margie Blessing, Bob Rowe, JT Zuna.

1. Years of residence in Amherst: 1, 5, 34, 45, 47, 10, 35 years.
2. What is best about the Village?
  - Amherst remains a small town. The basic Village is still the same as it was years ago, just more people.
  - In the early 1800s, the railroad bypassed the Village and the businesses that follow the railroad also went elsewhere. The Village fell into disrepair when the people left to follow the railroad. Also, when the main road was routed around the Village, we didn't end up like Milford – we kept our character, sort of like 'Brigadoon.' When I (Rowe) moved here, the Village was still in disrepair, there were drug peddlers on the green. Now it has changed – it is vibrant, lots of young people. The Village is a catalyst for Amherst, it is the reason people move here. We can't turn ourselves into a Lexington or Concord Mass.
  - Bones are historic – other towns, the history is paint-thin. Here, everything is historic from the buildings to the lack of sidewalks.
  - We like the small town feel. We purchased here because of its safety. We can walk to everything.
  - It (the Village) should stay exactly as is – quiet, bucolic. Everything about it is perfect. I like it specifically because there are not a lot of businesses.
3. What is the most important issue facing the Village?
  - Getting the bridge open.
  - Traffic through the Village – people want a Village they can walk to.
  - Make existing patterns traffic/walking patterns safer in terms of parking.
  - Sometimes motorcycle groups go through Amherst and noise is an issue.
4. Traffic Calming Options, example 'European' model, stop signs, etc.– discussion:
  - Everyone knows you don't speed in Francestown because the police patrol and everyone knows that.
  - We don't want all kinds of speed bumps and cameras.
5. How often do you walk or bike to the Village? How does it feel?
  - Everyday. Son goes to PIV. Walking from parking on Village green to Church can be hairy.
  - I walk from Mack Hill to the Village and speeding on Mack is a problem.
  - The intersection of Mack Hill/Jones Rd/Dodge Road can be difficult.

- Personally would not like to see sidewalks everywhere on Mack Hill like in Lexington, MA.
6. What is it like to drive through or around the Village?
    - The driving is smooth until you get to the Village and then sporadic (referring to stop signs). Although that makes people slow down and pay attention.
    - Better parking and more businesses mean more parking and businesses that want to locate there – and we don't want that.
    - People coming from Mont Vernon come down Boston Post Road very fast coming into the Village.
    - The police do try to be in Village but they can't be everywhere all the time.
    - Having police sit in Village would not be cost-effective but having cameras would be.
  7. What would you like to see as destinations in the Village?
    - In the last 30 years, there were businesses that have come and gone in the Village but they couldn't stay in business – not enough traffic.
    - I would like to see nothing added to the Village. I don't want to see it change.
    - I like the Village being children-friendly, children using the green and able to walk there.
  8. We have heard from other groups that making the Village more connected by walking or bike paths would be a desired change. Thoughts? (notetaker note – no specific comments made)
  9. Thoughts on burying utility lines in the Village?
    - Would be for it if it reduced the number of power outages but otherwise then no.
  10. How would you like to see existing businesses in the Village evolve?
    - Would be reluctant to allow businesses to evolve and open the door for other businesses to come in.
  11. What kinds of activities in the Village would you like to see?
    - Not opposed to activities that set up and break down in 6 hours – short term activities like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, tree lighting.
    - Activities in the Village is why we like to live close to the Village.
  12. What is your vision for the Village in 10 or 15 years?
    - Depends on whether the town will support new businesses.
    - My vision already exists (the Village as it is today)
    - We should be prepared against 'down days'.
  13. How do people feel about accessory apartments?
    - When the door is opened to multifamily housing, you sometimes open the door to other issues. But I would hate to see the homes fall into disrepair because the owners cannot afford to keep them up.

**Comments on other issues that came up, but were off the survey topics:**

Issues specific to Jones Road:

- Wilkins soccer field parking (blocking both sides of the road, especially during tournaments) has been a headache.
- The Amherst Patriot football loud speakers were an issue although that has been solved. We need to be diligent about maintaining the lower noise level.

- Speed on Jones Road – many drive much faster than 30 mph. Possible solution is to drop speed to 20 and enforce.
- Speeding is bad on Mack Hill, and New Boston Road is like a runway.

Historic District Issues:

- The Historic District was expanded to include Jones Road a few years ago – we would have preferred Jones Road to be left out of it.
- HDC is more collaborative than they used to be. They saved Amherst Village and that saved Amherst.

Safe Routes to School Committee  
January 21, 2015 @ 18:00  
Brick School

Attendees: Rick Katzenberg (village resident), Susan Durling (village resident), Chris Shenk (resident), Carolyn Mitchell (resident), George Bower (resident), Porter Dodge (resident), Mark Reams (resident), Bruce Berry (DPW Director)

Status: Five (5) 20+ year residents; two (2) 11-20 year residents

Question 1: People appreciate the ambiance of the Village

Question 2: Initial, general response of "I don't know...are there any problems with the village?" Later consensus was that the most important issue facing the village is connectivity to other areas of town

Question 3: Addition of pedestrian/biking amenities along Boston Post Road, Merrimack Road, and Corduroy Road (for example) leading up to the village

Question 4: Like to see increased sidewalk and biking/pedestrian amenities over time. Recent improvements in village sidewalks during road reconstruction have been wonderful.

Question 5: Two walk/bike daily in the village, while three walk/bike weekly and two walk/bike monthly

Question 6: General feeling that it is not safe to bike anywhere in town because the roads are too narrow and bikers have insufficient room to ride safely. Geometry of the village is not conducive to biking and is not much better for drivers either. Walking accommodations were seen as being okay, and attendees expressed appreciation to Dir. Berry for his recent village sidewalk upgrades last year. Comments made that we do not have an issue with speeding motorists in town – we simply have roads that don't give bikers/pedestrians/motorists enough room or designated zones to safely coexist, and pedestrians/biker proximity to passing traffic creates a feeling that cars are going too fast when overall they are not.

Question 7: Improve sight lines in the village, and re-think parking areas since parked vehicles in and about the village create obstructions and diminish biking and pedestrian safety

Question 8: Boston Post Road near Bill Belvin's house (#231) is very narrow and dangerous for biking and pedestrians...there is no room.

Question 9: Re-think traffic flow in the village to encourage drivers to take routes around the village...e.g., make Courthouse Road a one-way so cars from Amherst Street cannot go up Courthouse and onto Mack Hill once the bridge reopens; encourage thru-traffic to take Lyndeborough Road instead of Boston Post.

Question 10: Split opinions, but roughly 50% interest in a bed and breakfast within one of the larger village homes, and the addition of a pub either in that same location or elsewhere in the village.

Question 11: Most said burying utility lines would not make a noticeable improvement, while at least one felt that it would provide better aesthetics and utility service

Question 12: How much should the town spend to accomplish this?...ZERO  
One resident suggested the creation of a special tax assessment district so that only those who benefited from the changeover would be taxed for the work.

Question 13: Arrange Moulton's Market to get a license to serve liquor

Question 14: People disappointed over the loss/relocation of the farmers market that used to be on the green. Desire to see the market return, which would largely hinge on enticing a new seafood vendor to the event since the market crumbled when the former seafood vendor left. Also, need to have more than one "draw" so that this doesn't happen again.

Question 15: Connectivity to the rest of town, and care taken to not over-commercialize the village. Sidewalk connectivity is the primary long term goal. Goal to create a priority for non-vehicular traffic through the village over time and keep thru-traffic to a minimum.

**From:** Colleen Mailloux [mailto:[cmailloux@amherstnh.gov](mailto:cmailloux@amherstnh.gov)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:35 PM  
**To:** Camille Pattison  
**Cc:** Jen Czysz  
**Subject:** RE: Amherst Village

Camille—

I owe you notes from the Cons Com – sorry for the delay. Our discussion definitely got off course and did not stay strictly focused on the discussion questions. Generally- the conservation commission members (speaking as individuals and not as the Cons Com) indicated that they like the existing character of the village, have concerns with traffic safety and walkability / pedestrian facilities could use improvement. Most members of the Cons Com visit the village on a daily/weekly basis and frequently walk/bike around the village. They would like to see bike/ped connectivity between the village and existing trail networks, and to the high school/other areas of town. Some concerns about traffic/speeding. Would like to see additional activity, bring back farmers market, have more events and festivals, ambivalent about business / economic growth. No to burying power lines – town money could be better spent on other projects. Would like to see increased utilization of the Cons Com land across from Wilkins School (is this “the village”?)

Big concern identified was the health of the trees on the common/town owned green spaces... when large trees die or are knocked down in a storm it creates a big visual impact. Could develop a planting plan for adding new trees with the expectation of losing some of the older trees? Big issue with proper pruning/maintenance of trees and shrubs on town property – town should consider reviewing pruning/maintenance measures and following recommendations of landscape professionals on proper vegetation management to enhance the existing trees/shrubs.

**Nothing earth shattering, but the tree maintenance issue was something that I do not think had been raised previously.**

Colleen P. Mailloux, AICP  
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Town of Amherst  
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## **Amherst Heritage Commission: Response to Amherst Village Strategic Plan Questions**

- 1) What is best about the village?
  - Amherst is the largest historic district in the State of NH
  - Colonial, pristine village
  - Village is unique and wonderful
  - Friendly people who take an interest in it's preservation
- 2) What do you think is the most important issue facing the village?
  - Traffic and Noise
  - Keep the village as is
  - Risk of village becoming cordoned off where it becomes two Amhersts – those living within the village and those outside the village.
  - Village should be a living village – government, stores, schools, sports
  - Don't destroy character of the village with more businesses
  - No added commercialization
  - Keep village quiet, historic, and charming
- 3) What do you think could be done to address the issue?
  - Develop a noise code
  - Ban through trucking
  - Loosen up restriction on use of property
  - More activities – Chairman Ludt noted that the Village hosts many activities – every month something is going on. Example: There are library events and those hosted by the Garden Club. Selectman Grella pointed out the calendar of events is listed on the website. See Village Activities Matrix
- 4) What past changes have you seen in the village, what changes are happening now and what changes do you anticipate in the future?
  - More transient generation
  - Road Construction
  - Traffic/Speed
  - Too many Stop Signs/too much road striping
- 5) How often do you walk or bike in the village?
  - Daily
- 6) Is it safe and convenient to walk or bike in the village?
  - Yes
- 7) How would you make this better?
  - Study stop signs and their use

- 8) Are there any specific locations or conditions that pose safety concerns when driving?
  - End of Courthouse Road/Middle Street coming on to intersection with Amherst Street
  - Mt. Vernon Road taking a left onto Boston Post Road
  - Intersection of Jones Road and New Boston Road
- 9) How would you make them better?
  - Studies and roads usage analysis
- 10) Are there any additional destinations you would like to see in the village?
  - There would be a parking problem no matter what comes into town
- 11) Would burying all or some of the utility lines make a noticeable improvement to the village?  
(The tradeoff would be visible transformer boxes on the ground)
  - Yes
- 12) How much do you think the town should spend to accomplish this?
  - Zero – must be funded through private funds or grants  
(It was mentioned that a MA town that has done this. It would require a 25-30 year plan)
- 13) How would you like to see existing businesses in the village evolve over time?
  - Moulton's
  - Mike & Mickey
  - Carriage House (where PO use to be)
  - BMA Architects (offices)
- 14) Would you like to see more activity (festivals, fairs, chili cook-offs) or fewer activities in the village?
  - Commission was split- several wanted to keep activities the same and one individual wanted more activity. Use the Activities Matrix as a baseline
- 15) What is your long term vision for the village and what key things must happen to make it a reality?
  - Stay the same with several activities enhanced
- 16) Is there anything else that you would like to add that we haven't covered?
  - Do not jeopardize Amherst as a historic district
  - Find a balance between cordoning off the village (museum) and bringing in too much commercialization.
  - Develop a property maintenance code (village neighborhood is well maintained)

Amherst Village Strategic Planning  
Tuesday, February 17, 2015 5 PM  
Souhegan High School Annex Room 222

Facilitated by Mike Akillian

Minutes recorded by Chris Janson

Present: Amherst School Board members Peg Bennett and Amy Facey; Souhegan Cooperative School Board members Steve Coughlan, Mary Lou Mullens, Chris Janson; Superintendent of Schools Peter Warburton

1. What is best about the village?

- It is a "town center", something many towns, including Bedford, does not have
- It is a place where people can gather
- A quaint New England town center
- Village is a focal point; a working center of town

2. What is the most important issue facing the Village?

- There is not enough to do in the Village; we should look at expanding the offerings including events.
- Bring the Farmers' Market back
- Look to make the Village more mixed use bringing in more commercial; traffic may be an issue if this happens.
- Safe walking/jogging/access to schools. Increase presence of sidewalks.
- School-related traffic is an issue. Anecdotally, fewer kids take the bus to school. (Superintendent Warburton said they do not have statistics on bus ridership and whether or not it has decreased with this year's expanded school day).
- Village schools are in a small area and there are lots of people -- kids, staff, parents, who come and go each day. (The schools have made an effort to lessen traffic by sending only two buses each day to Clark School).
- People driving from the Christian Hill area are caught up in the Foundry, Davis Lane school-related traffic.
- In addition to traffic to and from schools, there is a parking issue at the Brick School, especially when there are meetings held there.

3. If there were more sidewalks, would more kids walk and bike to school?

- The conclusion of the Safe Routes to School committee was that yes, more would walk or bike.
- The areas around AMS and SHS are more in need of sidewalks than the Village.
- Although Foundry St. has sidewalks, it seems that no one uses them due to their condition. Perhaps this will be fixed when road work is done on that street.

4. What is your sense of traffic signs in the Village and do you think a European model would work?

- Yes, a European model could work but would never happen politically

- Not sure how that model would address the many blind spots in the Village.
  - Concern about no stop signs.
  - It seems we have already done some of this by narrowing some roads.
  - Wonder if things like objects in roads meant to slow down traffic detract from the look of the Village.
5. If you could envision an addition to the Village, what would it be?
- A new park or playground
  - The Post Office back to the Village ("The Post Office leaving killed the Village")
  - Something such as the Post Office that allows someone to do multiple things with one trip.
  - Possibly a Senior Center (may come with parking issues)
6. As the schools have extra space, could you envision a building swap?
- Possibly
  - An evaluation of school space and facilities is part of the SAU's strategic plan. Some answer on this will be available within the next year.
7. How do you feel about burying the utility lines in the Village?
- Most attendees noted that they do not even see or notice the utility lines.
  - Would not spend the money on it.
  - Superintendent Warburton asked about wireless technology
8. What are some possible new events for the Village?
- Fall Festival, possibly in conjunction with the Lindabury Orchard event.
  - Additional summer concerts; book bands that appeal to varying age groups including teenagers
  - Haunted Green on Halloween
  - Pancake Breakfast
  - Fireman's muster
9. What is your long term vision for the Village?
- Maintain the quaint, historic nature
  - The most sustainable model is mixed use.
  - Not too much commerce, but a balance with what exists today.
  - Continue to look for additional ways to bring more activity.
  - Continue to have conversations like this one.
10. How can the schools operate differently to better collaborate with other Town departments (e.g. Library, Recreation, etc.) or to draw more people to the Village?
- Schools presently have Mother's Day Art Show at the Library and third grade Colonial/Amherst History days.
  - There could be more school-related weekend activities
  - Activities where kids walk from schools to library, skating rink, fields, etc.
  - Explore ways to combine educational opportunities with schools, Recreation, PMEC, Library
11. Final thoughts and Ideas
- Bundle several events over a weekend

- Host a 5K road race
- Amherst needs an arts center/museum that may bring people in for small events (perhaps even weddings!)

**Amherst Village Strategic Planning**  
**Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7 PM**  
**Home of Nancy and Dick Danzinger, 114 Horace Greeley Rd, Amherst**

Facilitated by Mike Akillian

Minutes recorded by Chris Janson

Present: Nancy and Dick Danzinger, Nancy Head, Susan Deschenes, Fred Dyke, Bob and Nancy Baker, Alan and Candy Shirey, Patrick and Penny Eggleston, Nancy and Ray Iannuzelli

Icebreaker: How long have you lived in Amherst? 3-52 years.

Attendees all lived outside the historic district.

1. What is best about the village?
  - The Library; "I use it all the time and am personally committed to it."
  - The Library is wonderful.
  - When I take visitors to the Village, they are amazed at its charm and quaintness. It is very unique.
  - The Village Green; it is a well-preserved space for community activities.
  - It is delightful to walk in the Village; it is peaceful. Lots of people come to the Village to walk the Jones Rd loop, just sit, or have lunch.
2. What is the most important issue facing the Village?
  - Parking
  - Parking at the Library and church and town hall and the Green (during events)
  - Geese in the road
  - Too many stop signs
  - Safety issue at the Library (not being able to see when backing out of parking spaces) , especially during events
3. What could be done to address the parking issues?
  - Pave the island/part of the island between Carriage Lane and Main Street (although part of that area is "casually" maintained by the DPW in the winter).
  - Character of the Village may be compromised if there are additional paved areas. Perhaps Library patrons could park farther away and walk.
  - Use Moulton's parking area for the Library.
4. What are some changes you have seen in the Village?
  - Nice changes at the Town Hall.
  - Additional parking at the Green.

- The use of the Village has increased tremendously; more events, more walkers, etc.
  - Library has seen two additions
  - More foot traffic at Town Hall.
  - Wilkins/Clark Schools built and added to.
  - Post Office and Kindergarten are gone.
  - "I miss the farmers' market".
5. How often do you walk or bike in the Village?
- Most answered *never*.
  - One said *1-2 times per year*.
  - One said *daily*.
  - A few said *just at events*.
  - (None of those present biked).
6. Is it safe and convenient to walk in the Village?
- The overwhelming answer was *YES*.
7. Are there safety concerns while driving at the Village?
- There is not enough traffic to make one worry.
  - There is an issue at the Library (backing out from the parking spaces).
  - You drive slowly in the Village, which makes it safer.
8. Are there any additional destinations you would like to see in the Village?
- Place for people to meet, like a pub.
  - Coffee shop -- a place to get together.
  - A nice restaurant with good food.
  - It was noted that the Bagel Shop at Meeting Place was once a favorite place to meet friends, showing there is a need for this type of destination.

*Side Note: bike paths into the Village were noted by the facilitator. One attendee noted that the roads getting to the Village are not safe. One other wondered how bike paths would affect the historic charm of the Village.*

9. How do you feel about burying the utility lines in the Village?
- Perhaps in certain parts of the Village, especially if it would include the addition of period street lights (Town Hall and Library were noted).
  - It is not a big deal to have utility lines and poles exposed as we do now.
  - Like the idea of period street lights.
10. How would you like to see current Village businesses evolve?

- Would NOT like to see structural changes to current buildings in order to support more businesses.
- Would NOT like to see Moulton's expand (into insurance company building, for example).
- Moulton's is about the right size for a Village our size.
- Would hate to see any of the businesses expand.

11. Would you like to see more activity in the Village?

- Yes. It may draw more people to the Village. Today, many go to the Oval and festivals in other towns.
- There are already a number of events such as Halloween, July 4, Tree Lighting, etc.
- The Library has a number of events but they are often hard to get into because space is so limited there. It would be nice to hold Library events at a larger space.

12. If certain buildings became available for different uses (for example, if Clark School is no longer needed by the school district), how would you see "musical buildings" working?

- Relocate Library to Clark.
- Keep Town Hall at Town Hall.
- Have a Senior Center in a school (or part of a school).
- Use a school for: Senior Center, Library Programs, Library meeting space.
- Brick School has had many uses over time and could be used to something other than SAU offices.
- Clark is on one floor which makes it ideal for many uses.

13. What is your long term vision for the Village?

- As a taxpayer, it is hard to get excited about spending more money on the Village.
- The Village makes the whole town attractive to those who want to buy; it is a draw.

*Side Note: One attendee noted that it may be a good idea to remove houses built after, say 1900, from the Historic District so that owners do not have to go through the HDC to make changes.*

14. Final thoughts and Ideas

- Amherst needs a good, cheap venue for community events. This would be a public building with a kitchen, tables, chairs, etc.

## **Amherst Village Forum May 19, 2015 Meeting**

There were over 26 attendees at this meeting.

### **Sidewalks**

In terms of sidewalks, there is already a lot of pavement in the village. Are there any alternative materials for sidewalks? With the exception of the addition of sidewalks on Boston Post Road, the town hasn't added new sidewalks. To add sidewalks along Mack Hill it would take land from property owners. In certain areas the road is wider than it needs to be; some of the grass along the road is actually within the ROW. For the sidewalks that the town already has, winter maintenance is difficult.

### **Library**

In the front of the library, where there is parking, pedestrian crossing should be a concern. Drivers typically slow down and look for activity, so it was agreed that this is a good example of how natural activity causes drivers to slow down. However, we may want to add more visual markers outside of the library to help drivers be more aware. The library may benefit from a crosswalk bollard as well.

### **Davis Lane**

Is there a need for increased police presence with the parking for school drop off and parking on Davis Lane? There might also be a need to increase police presence in the afternoon. Why was it that lack of parking was never noted here? The general consensus of the group and the survey data was that it didn't come out as a priority. People often park on the grass, which causes it to turn to dirt. This is especially an issue on Sunday mornings. Maybe we need signs in these areas that say "Do Not Park on Grass."

### **Projects**

School Street is dug up and it could be a pilot for burying utility lines. But why would we want to close another street? Closing another street will move traffic into another location. It is worth considering supporting data from the slides. Also, when Mack Hill opens up, would it be worthwhile to collect traffic data?

### **Utilities**

Underground wiring must also involve the utilities commission prior to burying wires. When repairs are done they tend to address priority sections first. Underground utilities can take longer to repair.

**More Businesses**

We need to note that survey and committee results were split on additional businesses as no one wants to negatively impact the historic character of the neighborhood. Overall these options need further study.

It could be difficult to sell an existing business in the Village. If a buyer can't be found after 18 months the grandfathered status sunsets. There is a possibility of extending that grandfathered status another 18 months but this would require going to the ZBA after the initial 18 month timeframe. If a business can't be sold it is more of a market-driven issue.

**Expanding the Business Zone**

Expanding the business zone into the district would require very strict guidelines and the HDC's input. How will the BOS address this? The committees will recommend priority projects to the BOS. Some items will take much more time and effort and public meetings. It will depend upon each recommendation. What happens to implement the changes? It is dependent upon which board/department has oversight.

**Major Themes:** sidewalks, library pedestrians, future street projects, burying utilities, additional businesses, expanding the business zone

**Amherst Village Forum**  
**May 21, 2015 Meeting**

There were 8 attendees at this meeting.

**Thru Trucking**

The chief addressed a question about enforcing no thru trucking. This issue has come up before. An impediment to that is Amherst Street because it is a state road. There needs to be an alternate route for a legal standpoint – there needs to be safety concerns to justify the implementation of no thru trucking. We need to work with business owners on this issue.

**Motorcycle Noise**

Motorcycle noise is becoming one of the bigger issues. There is a decibel level in place but the department is not equipped to enforce noise issues as there are other priorities.

**One Way**

Making Boston Post Road and Middle Street one ways was a discussion topic. The chief stated that they didn't really look at that. Amherst has more than one main road so enforcement is more of a challenge. One resident suggested that Courthouse Road be kept as a one way street. The reasoning was that if it wasn't one way people would use it as a cut-through which would defeat the traffic calming effect it currently has. The chief acknowledged the resident's concern but is less concerned about the cut through issue.

**Safety**

The chief wants some trees to be trimmed back to improve safety at intersections and he also wants more traffic calming. There is a speeding issue on Amherst Road because drivers try to beat the light.

**Committee**

There is no one from Recreation Commission that participated in the working group. It was noted that Craig Fraley led the working group and was the liaison with the Recreation Commission. The Commission will address the recommendations moving forward.

**Burying Utilities**

Should we bury lines on Foundry Street? Bruce Berry stated that there is a small window to do this and it is not enough time. He also said that there is no money budgeted, but it is unfortunate not to bury the lines because the village would look nice without overhead lines, and with street lights.

**Business**

There was no consensus on how to address business. Amily suggested looking at all nonconforming businesses, not just in the village. For example, Hollis has a tattoo parlor in its village. Are there any unintended consequences? This led to the question, should we grandfather existing businesses? This is a very dicey issue, and it was decided that it needs more consideration and to be looked at with a larger perspective. Amily brought up how limbo lane used to be a commercial zone. We couldn't fill that. Mike then asked what a business would look like in the village. He also asked what would happen if it fails. It was discussed how half of Meeting Place is empty, so why do we need business in the village? The farmers market didn't work in the village or 101A. A resident then spoke about how the ZBA is compassionate to business owners.

**Major Themes:** thru trucking, motorcycle noise, one way streets, safety, committee, burying utilities, business