

Potential Questions to Inform a Comprehensive Housing Needs Assessment of Amherst, NH

1. What is the appropriate mix of housing types necessary to accommodate Amherst's existing and projected population with respect to the town's demographic composition, income levels, household types, family composition and lifestyle preferences? Specifically, what is the need for:
 - Senior (age-restricted) housing
 - Studio units
 - One-bedroom units
 - Two-bedroom units
 - Single-level units
 - Handicapped accessible units
 - Rental multi-family housing (including duplexes and quadplexes)
 - Owner-occupied multi-family housing (including duplexes and quadplexes)
 - Accessory dwelling units
2. How many of the types of housing units listed above does Amherst currently have?
3. How will the town's existing housing composition need to change to meet projected changes in the town's demographic composition, income levels, household types, and housing preferences?
4. How does Amherst's existing housing composition compare to that of the region?
5. How does Amherst's existing housing composition compare to that of the similarly situated rural/residential communities?
6. How would the town's existing housing composition need to change to meet projected changes in the state and region's projected demographic composition?
7. What density levels or bonuses are necessary to provide realistic opportunities to develop the range of housing types noted above?
8. What types of density bonuses or incentives are offered in other communities to encourage differing housing types?
9. Does the value of homes in open space developments differ from that of conventional developments?
10. What forms of open space developments need to be incentivized with density bonuses or by other means?
11. Should Amherst encourage diversity of housing in a single subdivision (i.e mixed housing types in the same subdivision)?