

Newbury Master Plan Survey

The Town of Newbury is in the process of updating its 2006 Master Plan to address the needs of the Town and shape its character in the coming decade and beyond. The Master Plan provides guidance to citizens and town leaders for discussions regarding Natural Resources/Open Space & Recreation, Economic Development, Housing, Community Facilities and Services, Transportation, Historic and Cultural Resources, and Land Use. The following survey was prepared by Community Opportunities Group, the consulting firm assisting the Town with the Master Plan update; Martha Taylor, Town Planner; and a group of residents who have volunteered their time to work on this important initiative.

Your input is integral to this process; we appreciate your participation in this survey to let us know what you would like to see in your community. Please submit your responses by May 27, 2016. This survey should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. Your answers are anonymous.

Part 1: Demographics

1. What is your age? A. under 20 B. 20-34 C. 35-49 D. 50-64 E. 65 and over
2. Are there school -aged children in your household? Yes ____ No ____
3. How did you come to live in Newbury? (Circle the answer which best describes your experience.)
 - A. I moved here from elsewhere within the past 5 years.
 - B. I moved here from elsewhere more than 5 years ago.
 - C. I used to vacation here and then moved here permanently.
 - D. I was born here and have never left.
 - E. I was born here, lived elsewhere, and then returned.
4. If you moved here from elsewhere, what attracted you to Newbury? _____
5. In which part of town do you live? A. Byfield B. Newbury/Old Town C. Plum Island
6. Which of these best describes your living situation?
 - A. Homeowner
 - B. Renter
 - C. Live with family
 - D. Other _____
7. Which of the following best describes your employment? (Circle one)
 - A. Employed or self-employed in Newbury
 - B. Employed outside of Newbury
 - C. At home/homemaker
 - D. Retired
 - E. Unemployed
 - F. Student
8. How would you like to receive information about Town issues and events? (Circle all that apply)
A. Town website B. Newspaper C. Mail D. Email E. Social media F. Phone G. Text H. Other _____

Part 2: Natural Resources/Open Space and Recreation

9. How important to you is conservation of open space for the following purposes?

[1. Not important 2. Slightly important 3. Important 4. Very important 5. Extremely important]

- _____ A. Preserve agriculture
- _____ B. Preserve views of natural landscape
- _____ C. Protect water and coastal resources
- _____ D. Protect against flooding and storm damage
- _____ E. Ensure public access to natural resource areas (passive recreation)
- _____ F. Prevent excess new residential or commercial development
- _____ G. Expand/connect protected habitat areas
- _____ H. Expand active recreational opportunities
- _____ I. Attract/accommodate visitors
- _____ J. Other _____

10. Do you support Town funding for additional open space acquisition? (Please circle the one that best describes your feelings)

- A. No. Funding should come from private/non-profit or other government sources.
- B. Yes, if matched/supported with funding from other sources.
- C. Yes, only for extremely important purposes.
- D. Yes, the Town should regularly set aside funding for open space acquisition through adoption of the Community Preservation Act.
- E. No. I don't support additional open space acquisition.
- F. Other: _____

11. Do you have specific concerns about open space and natural resources to share?

12. What improvements or changes would you like to see with respect to open space and natural resources?

Part 3: Economic Development

13. How important to you are the following concerns?

[1. Not important 2. Slightly important 3. Important 4. Very important 5. Extremely important]

- _____A. Advocacy to attract/facilitate new businesses to locate in town
- _____B. Need for streetscape, parking, sidewalk, and other improvements to village areas
- _____C. Need for water/sewer infrastructure to support existing/new commercial development
- _____D. Control size, scale, and design of new commercial development to be complementary to existing development
- _____E. Shared marketing and promotion of local businesses
- _____F. Networking and support for those who are self-employed or working from home
- _____G. Appearance (cleanliness, attractiveness, maintenance) of existing business districts
- _____H. Other _____

14. Would you support the following?

[1. Never 2. Possibly 3. Probably 4. Certainly 5. It depends*]

- _____A. Amend zoning to increase flexibility for commercial development or to facilitate new mixed-use (combined residential/commercial) development
- _____B. Increase Town capacity to advocate for, support, and promote businesses in Newbury
- _____C. Provide Town funding to make sidewalk & landscape improvements in/around village areas
- _____D. Provide Town funding for water/sewer infrastructure to support new commercial development
- _____E. Other _____

*If "It Depends", please elaborate how:

15. Are there any particular types of businesses you would like to see locate in Newbury?

16. Would you like to share any other concerns or ideas relating to economic development?

Part 4: Housing

17. Do you have concerns about your own housing needs? Please check all that apply:

	In next	
Now	10 years	
_____	_____	A. House I live in is too small.
_____	_____	B. House I live in is too big.
_____	_____	C. I would like to have less property to maintain.
_____	_____	D. My house has issues with water or septic.
_____	_____	E. My mortgage or rent is unaffordable.
_____	_____	F. My tax bill is unaffordable.
_____	_____	G. My house is vulnerable to storm or flood damage.
_____	_____	H. My house is in poor condition/needs substantial repair.
_____	_____	I. My house is difficult to navigate due to my own or a family member's physical mobility challenges.
_____	_____	J. I would like to have my own place to live or to become a first time homebuyer.
_____	_____	K. Other _____

18. How concerned are you about the following housing issues in Town?

[1. Don't know 2. Not concerned 3. Somewhat concerned 4. Fairly concerned 5. Strongly concerned]

_____	A. Availability of housing appropriate for seniors
_____	B. Availability of rental housing
_____	C. Availability of modestly and moderately priced ownership housing
_____	D. Availability of housing affordable to households earning \$50,000-\$80,000 per year
_____	E. Availability of housing affordable to households earning less than \$50,000 per year
_____	F. Availability of housing for people who work in local businesses and institutions, local agriculture/shellfishing, or for Town employees
_____	G. Support for seniors to help them stay safely in their own homes
_____	H. Need for more information about local housing needs and opportunities for housing Newbury
_____	I. Other _____

19. Would you support the following?

[1. Never 2. Possibly 3. Probably 4. Certainly 5. It depends _____]

_____	A. Zoning to allow more diverse types of housing (townhomes, small scale multi-family, senior apartments, etc.)
_____	B. Small-scale development or house rehabilitation by regional nonprofit entity (such as Habitat for Humanity) to create units affordable to low- or moderate-income households
_____	C. Commitment of local funding to support nonprofit entity to create affordable housing
_____	D. Water/sewer improvements to support existing housing and/or new development
_____	E. Adoption of Community Preservation Act to generate dedicated funding for affordable housing
_____	F. Other _____

20. Would you like to share any other concerns or ideas relating to housing?

Part 5: Community Facilities and Services

21. How important to you are the following concerns?

[1. Not important 2. Slightly important 3. Important 4. Very important 5. Extremely important]

- _____ A. Need for improvement/replacement of Police facilities
- _____ B. Need for improvement/replacement of Fire stations
- _____ C. Condition/sufficiency of space for other Town departments
- _____ D. Condition of school facilities
- _____ E. Quality of schools
- _____ F. Condition and maintenance of Town roads, parks, and other facilities
- _____ G. Condition of Town beach
- _____ H. Condition, availability of resident beach parking
- _____ I. Need for waste management and restrooms at Plum Island Center
- _____ J. Condition, adequacy of Town boat launch facilities (for motorized boats)
- _____ K. Availability of launch locations for canoes/kayaks
- _____ L. Availability/quality of public drinking water
- _____ M. Council on Aging facilities
- _____ N. Availability of services through Council on Aging
- _____ N. Hours and availability of library
- _____ O. Availability/coordination of volunteers to support Town services
- _____ P. Information/communication about public facilities, services, events, public notices, etc.?
- _____ Q. Other capital (buildings and facilities) needs _____
- _____ R. Other Town services _____

22. Would you like to share other concerns/ideas relating to public facilities and services?

Part 6: Transportation

23. How important to you are the following concerns?

[1. Not important 2. Slightly important 3. Important 4. Very important 5. Extremely important]

_____A. Need to address traffic and safety for cars - specific locations:_____

_____B. Need to improve safety for pedestrians – locations:_____

_____C. Need to improve safety for bicycles – locations:_____

_____D. Need for rides/transportation alternatives for seniors

_____E. Bus service for commuters - where to?_____

_____E. Need for multipurpose trail connection – location_____

_____F. Need for sidewalks – location:_____

_____G. Need for change/increase in rail service

_____H. Availability of public transportation - times/locations:_____

_____G. Other _____

24. Would you like to share other concerns/ideas relating to transportation and traffic?

Part 7: Historic and Cultural Resources

25. How important are the following issues?

[1. Not important 2. Slightly important 3. Important 4. Very important 5. Extremely important]

- _____ A. Destruction or alteration of historic properties
- _____ B. New development that is incompatible with historic character
- _____ C. Loss of agricultural or heritage landscapes
- _____ D. Other _____

26. How important are the following needs?

[1. Not important 2. Slightly important 3. Important 4. Very important 5. Extremely important]

- _____ A. Preservation of Town records and artifacts
- _____ B. Educating youth regarding Town history
- _____ C. Collecting and sharing information about Newbury's historic resources
- _____ D. Supporting community events and cultural activities
- _____ E. Promotion of historic and cultural resources to attract visitors
- _____ F. Other _____

27. Would you support the following strategies to protect or promote historic and cultural resources?

[1. Never 2. Possibly 3. Probably 4. Certainly 5. It depends*]

- _____ A. Town funding to preserve and protect Town-owned properties, artifacts, and records
- _____ B. Adoption of Community Preservation Act to generate dedicated funding for historic preservation
- _____ C. Zoning, historic districts, or other bylaws to preserve and protect historic properties or historic community character
- _____ D. Other _____

*If "It depends", please elaborate how:

28. Do you have specific concerns or ideas with respect to historic and cultural resources to share?

Part 8: Land Use

29. In what areas would you like to see new development (check all that apply)

	Single family residential	Commercial	Multifamily residential	Mixed use	Recreation
A. Townwide					
B. In and around Old Town/Upper Green					
C. Route 1 (North of Hanover St./Middle Road)					
D. In and around Byfield Village					
E. Central Street at Route 95					
F. Plum Island					
G. Other (describe)_____					

30. Please rank the order of your top ten concerns for the future of Newbury:

- _____ A. Preservation of agriculture
- _____ B. Climate change and the impacts of storm surge and flooding
- _____ C. Projected decline in school enrollment
- _____ D. Services and support for aging population
- _____ E. Need to control new growth
- _____ F. Need to control/balance tax burden
- _____ G. Preservation of historic community character
- _____ H. Too much regulation
- _____ I. Too little regulation
- _____ J. Need for water/sewer infrastructure
- _____ K. Cost/availability of housing
- _____ L. The ability to attract and retain jobs/employers or local businesses
- _____ M. Maintain/increase a sense of community among Town residents
- _____ N. Need for services and facilities to allow people to safely age in place
- _____ O. Traffic congestion
- _____ P. Opportunities for walking, biking, and recreation
- _____ Q. Other _____

31. What changes would you like to see in Newbury in the next 10 years?

32. Any other comments?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!

To receive notifications of master plan meetings, public workshops, and progress of the master plan update, please provide your preferred contact information below. This form may be separated from the rest of the survey so that your responses to the survey remain anonymous.

Name_____

Address_____

Email Address_____

Phone_____

OR visit the town's website at WWW.TOWNOFNEWBURY.ORG and sign up under "NOTIFY ME" on the home page.