

# WINDHAM MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY SURVEY



**FINAL REPORT**

**Town of Windham Planning Board**

**Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission**

July 2014

Updated August 5, 2014

(Reflecting 2 Survey Returns Received After the Deadline)

## **Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission**

The Commission was formed under the New Hampshire Statutes in 1966. SNHPC serves as the coordinating agency for the planning initiatives of fourteen communities in the region.

By taking a regional approach to address development concerns, we can attempt to craft effective and efficient solutions that will preserve the special character and valuable resources of the region.



# **SNHPC**

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## Introduction

The Windham Planning Board conducted a community-wide survey for the Town of Windham to begin the visioning process for an update to the 2005 Master Plan. Surveys were made available online and for pick-up at the Town of Windham Community Development Department. A total of 379 responses were received. Based on the town's current population of 13,960 as of 2013, this represents an approximate return rate of 0.27 percent. More than half (56%) of the respondents were in the 35-54 age group, which is consistent with the median age (43 years) of Windham residents (2010 U.S. Census). Appendix A contains more comprehensive Tabular Results. Written Responses are summarized in Appendix B and a copy of the Survey Questionnaire is provided in Appendix C. SNHPC received two survey questionnaires after the deadline and upon recommendation of the Windham Planning Board, these surveys have been added and incorporated into the final survey results.

## Survey Results

**Question #1:** Are you a Windham: full time resident, seasonal resident or business owner?

*Table 1: Residential Status*

<b>full time resident</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>94%</b>
seasonal resident	1	< 1%
business owner	13	3%
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>98%</b>

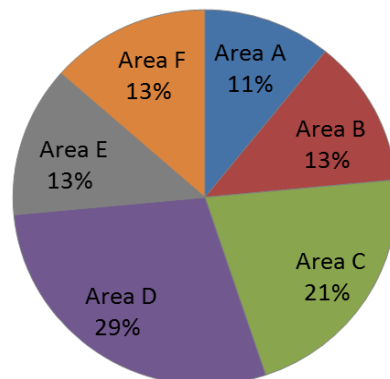
\*Six surveys were returned without an answer to Question #1

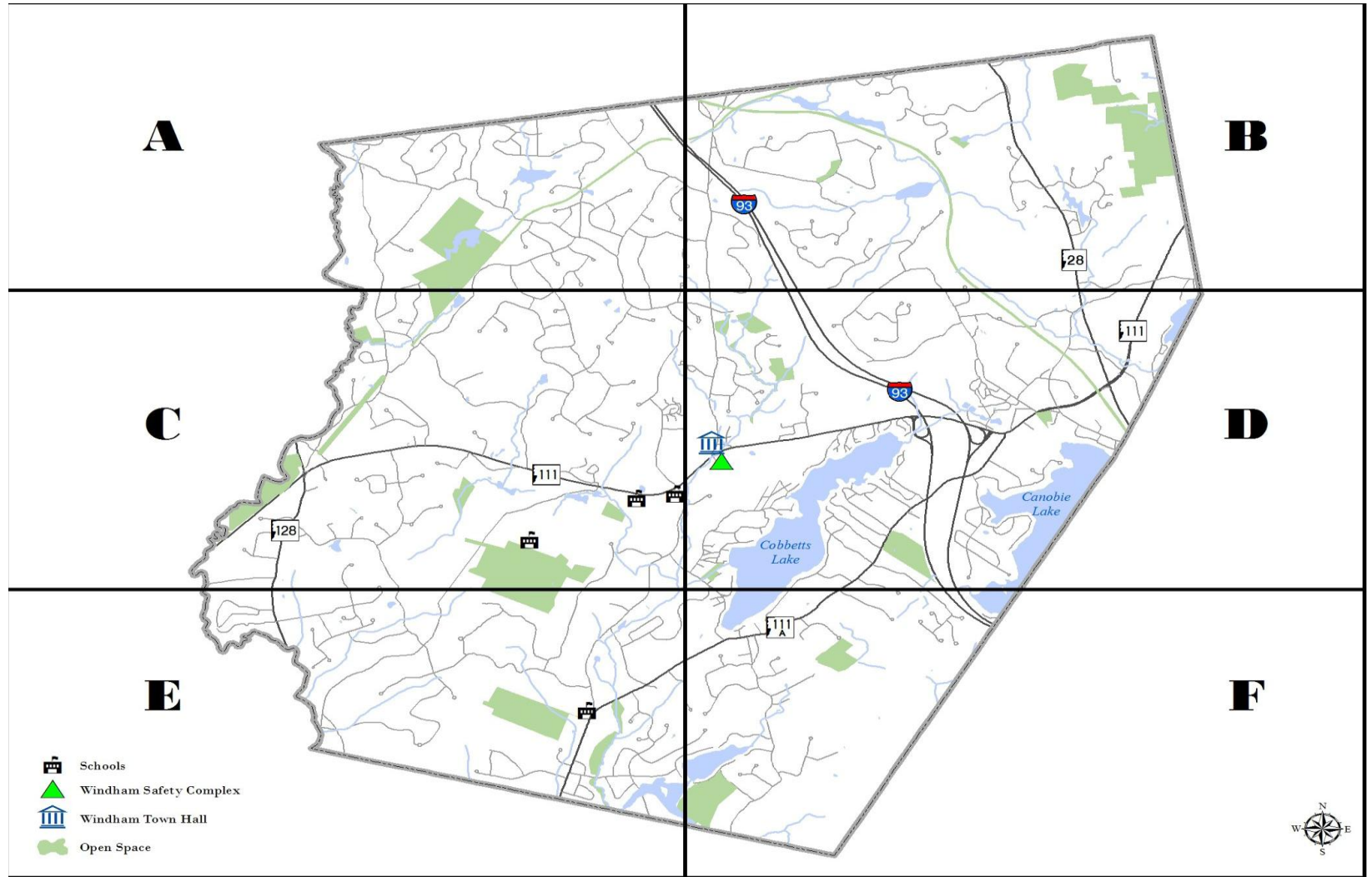
**Question #2:** If you are a resident, what part of town do you live in?

*Table 2: Location of Residence*

Area A	40	11%
Area B	47	13%
Area C	79	21%
<b>Area D</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>29%</b>
Area E	48	13%
Area F	50	13%

*Figure 1: Location of Residence*





**Question #3:** Do you own or rent your home?

*Table 3: Home Owner or Renter*

<b>Own</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>99%</b>
Rent	5	1%

**Question #4:** What type of home do you live in?

*Table 4: Type of Home*

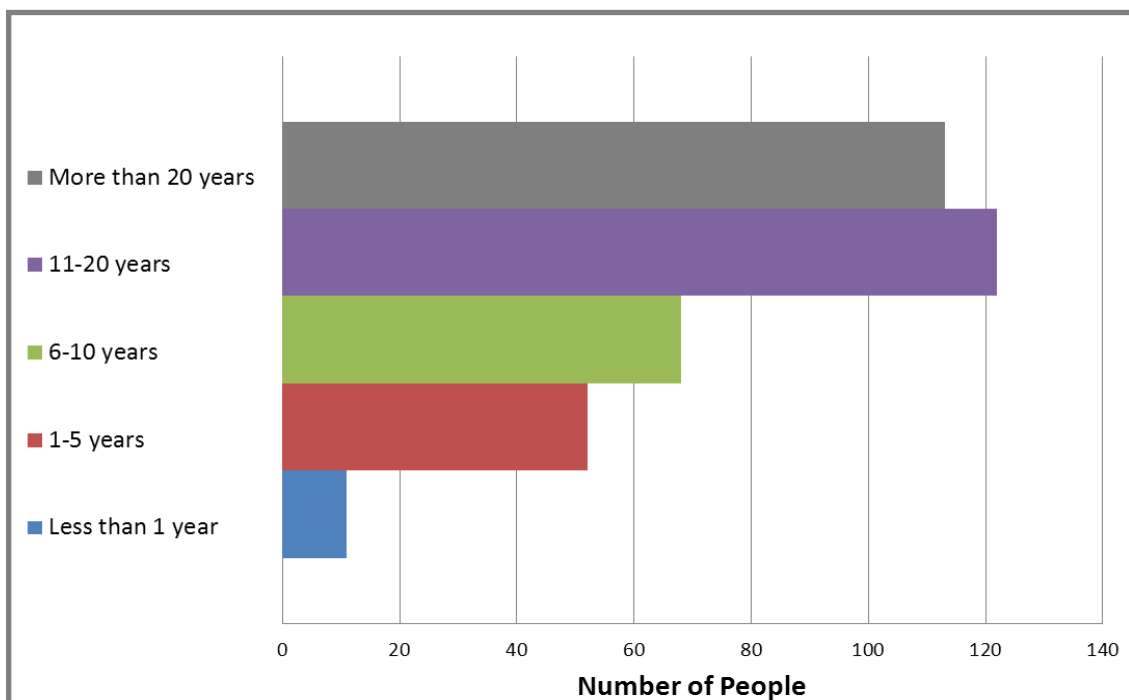
<b>Single-family</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>97%</b>
Condominium	10	3%
Apartment	0	0%
Duplex	0	0%

**Question #5:** How long have you lived in Windham?

*Table 5: Time living in Windham*

Less than 1 year	11	3%
1-5 years	52	14%
6-10 years	68	18%
<b>11-20 years</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>33%</b>
More than 20 years	115	31%

*Figure 2: Time Living in Windham*

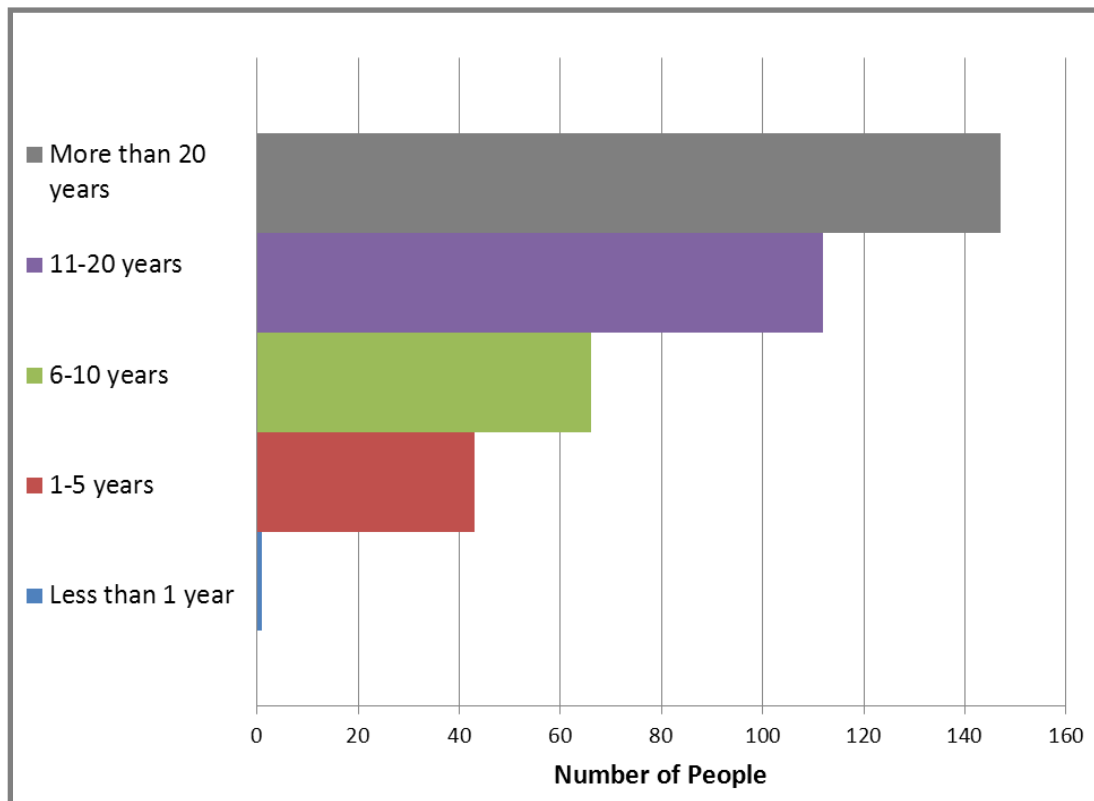


**Question #6:** How long do you plan to stay in Windham?

**Table 6:** Plan to Stay in Windham

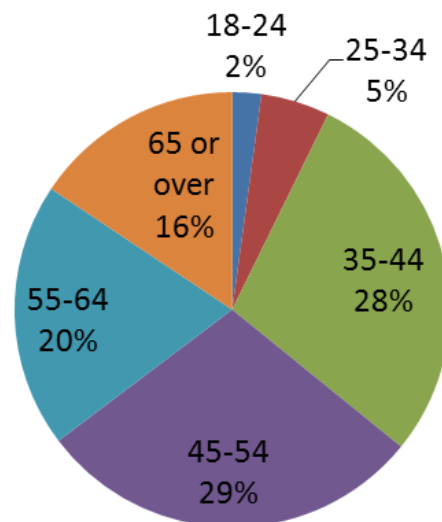
Less than 1 year	1	< 1%
1-5 years	44	12%
6-10 years	66	18%
11-20 years	112	30%
<b>More than 20 years</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>39%</b>

**Figure 3:** Plan to Stay in Windham



**Question #7: What is your age group?****Table 7: Age Group**

18-24 years old	8	2%
25-34 years old	19	5%
35-44 years old	106	28%
<b>45-54 years old</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>29%</b>
55-64 years old	73	20%
65 or over	58	16%

**Figure 4: Age Group**

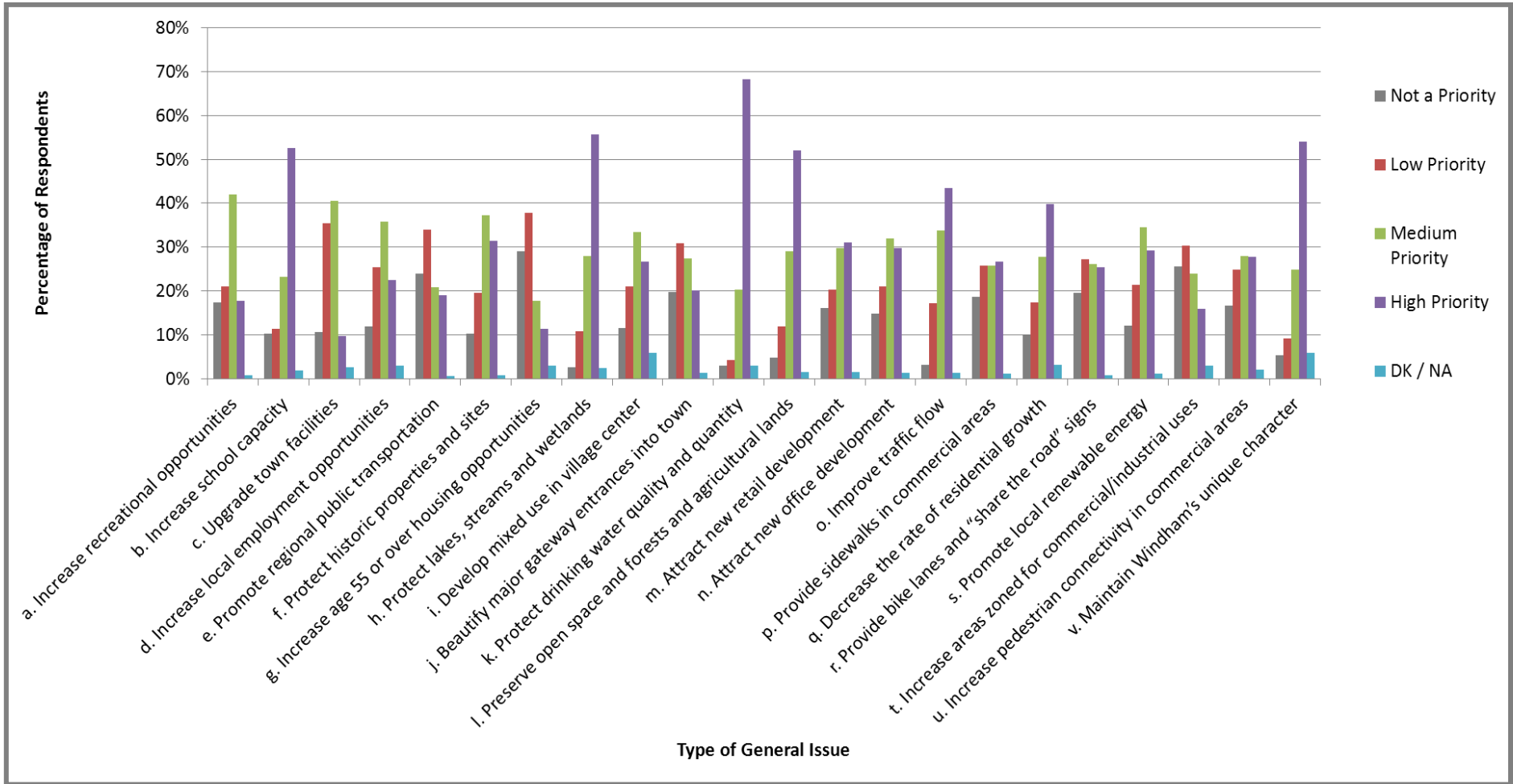


**Question #8:** Please indicate how you feel about the following general issues:

*Table 8: General Issues*

	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK / NA
a. Increase recreational opportunities	66	80	<b>160</b>	67	3
b. Increase school capacity	39	43	89	<b>199</b>	7
c. Upgrade town facilities	41	135	<b>154</b>	37	10
d. Increase local employment opportunities	46	96	<b>136</b>	86	11
e. Promote regional public transportation	92	<b>129</b>	79	73	2
f. Protect historic properties and sites	39	74	<b>142</b>	120	3
g. Increase age 55 or over housing opportunities	111	<b>143</b>	67	44	11
h. Protect lakes, streams and wetlands	10	41	107	<b>212</b>	9
i. Develop mixed use in village center	44	80	<b>128</b>	101	22
j. Beautify major gateway entrances into town	76	<b>117</b>	104	77	5
k. Protect drinking water quality and quantity	11	16	77	<b>261</b>	11
l. Preserve open space and forests and agricultural lands	18	46	110	<b>198</b>	6
m. Attract new retail development	61	78	113	<b>119</b>	6
n. Attract new office development	56	80	<b>121</b>	114	5
o. Improve traffic flow	12	65	128	<b>167</b>	5
p. Provide sidewalks in commercial areas	72	98	99	<b>101</b>	4
q. Decrease the rate of residential growth	39	66	106	<b>151</b>	12
r. Provide bike lanes and "share the road" signs	74	<b>103</b>	100	97	3
s. Promote local renewable energy	46	81	<b>132</b>	112	4
t. Increase areas zoned for commercial/industrial uses	98	<b>115</b>	91	61	11
u. Increase pedestrian connectivity in commercial areas	64	94	<b>106</b>	<b>106</b>	8
v. Maintain Windham's unique character	21	35	94	<b>206</b>	22

Figure 5: General Issues

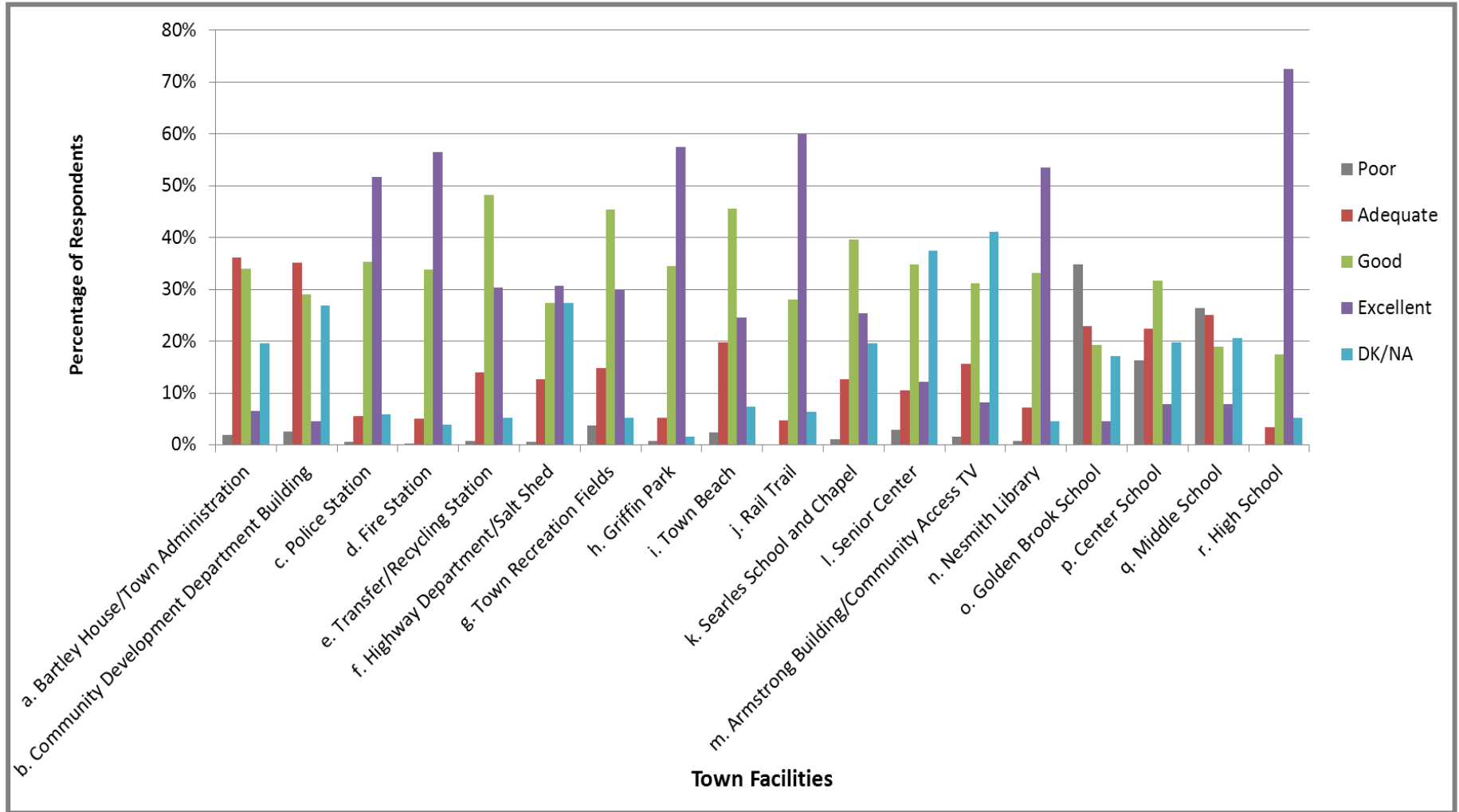


**Question #9:** Please rank the following town facilities as excellent, good, adequate or poor:

*Table 9: Town Facilities*

	Poor	Adequate	Good	Excellent	DK/NA	TOTAL
a. Bartley House/Town Administration	7	<b>137</b>	130	25	74	373
b. Community Development Department Building	10	<b>133</b>	110	17	103	373
c. Police Station	2	21	134	<b>197</b>	22	376
d. Fire Station	1	19	128	<b>215</b>	15	378
e. Transfer/Recycling Station	3	53	<b>183</b>	116	20	375
f. Highway Department/Salt Shed	2	48	104	<b>117</b>	104	375
g. Town Recreation Fields	14	56	<b>172</b>	114	20	376
h. Griffin Park	3	20	131	<b>219</b>	6	379
i. Town Beach	9	75	<b>173</b>	94	28	379
j. Rail Trail	0	18	106	<b>228</b>	24	376
k. Searles School and Chapel	4	48	<b>150</b>	97	74	373
l. Senior Center	11	40	132	46	<b>142</b>	372
m. Armstrong Building/Community Access	6	59	118	31	<b>157</b>	371
n. Nesmith Library	3	27	126	<b>203</b>	18	377
o. Golden Brook School	<b>132</b>	87	73	18	65	375
p. Center School	62	85	<b>120</b>	31	75	373
q. Middle School	<b>100</b>	95	72	31	78	376
r. High School	0	13	66	<b>275</b>	21	375

Figure 6: Town Facilities



**Question #10:** Which town service is most in need of improvement?

*Table 10: Town Service*

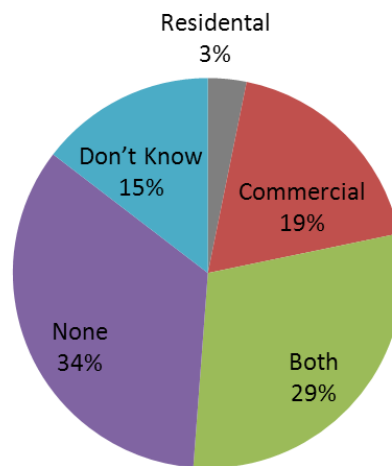
<b>Trend</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Recurring Terms</b>
<b>School Facilities</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>Increase Capacity of Schools. Build New Schools. Renovate Schools.</b>
<b>Transfer Station</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Parking and Hours of Operation Need Improvement. Open More Days Per Week.</b>
<b>Community Development/Planning</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Bring In More Viable Businesses, Limit Zoning Changes</b>
<b>Activities/Services/Recreation</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Need More Offerings for Teens, Adults and Elderly. Add More Bike Trails and Recreational Fields</b>
Infrastructure	5	Repave Old Roadways. Make General Repairs to Roads. Construct More Sidewalks. Improve Drainage. Reduce Traffic.
Town Hall	4	Building is in Need of Improvements. Combine all Town Departments in One Bulding.
Town Government	4	More Proactive. Reduce Unnecessary Town Services.
Utilities	4	Improve Water Quality. Add Natural Gas Pipelines.
School Board	3	Need to Improve the Effectiveness and Fiscal Accountability.
Library	2	Expand, Renovate Town Library.
Tax Rate	2	Add More Businesses to Reduce Tax Burden on Residents.
Clean Cobbetts Pond	1	
Police Department	1	
Town Beach	1	
Snow Removal	1	
Finance Department	1	

**Question #11:** Should the Town of Windham seek to provide public water for...

**Table 11: Public Water**  
(“Both” as an independent category)

Residential	12	3%
Commercial	70	19%
Both	111	29%
<b>None</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>34%</b>
Don't Know	55	15%

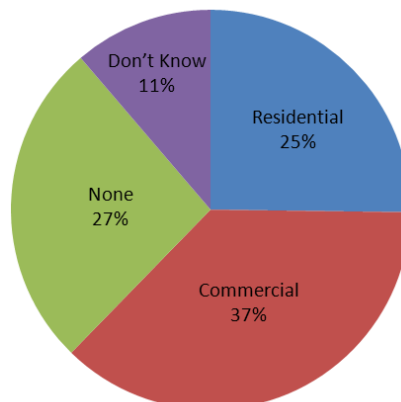
**Figure 7: Public Water**



**Table 12: Public Water**  
(“Both” included in “Residential” and “Commercial”)

Residential	123	25%
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>37%</b>
None	129	26%
Don't Know	55	11%

**Figure 8: Public Water**

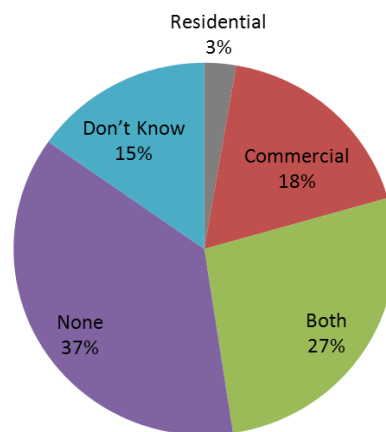


**Question #12:** Should the Town of Windham seek to provide public sewer for...

**Table 13: Public Sewer**  
 (“Both” as an independent category)

Residential	10	3%
Commercial	67	18%
Both	101	27%
<b>None</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>37%</b>
Don't Know	57	15%

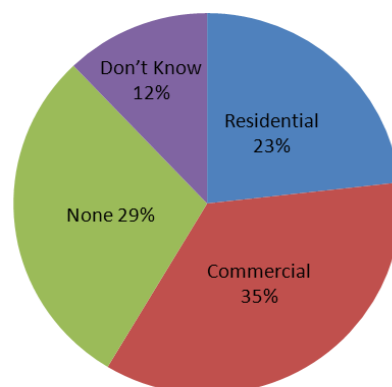
**Figure 9: Public Sewer**



**Table 14: Public Sewer**  
 (“Both” included in “Residential” and “Commercial”)

Residential	111	23%
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>35%</b>
None	139	29%
Don't Know	57	12%

**Figure 10: Public Sewer**

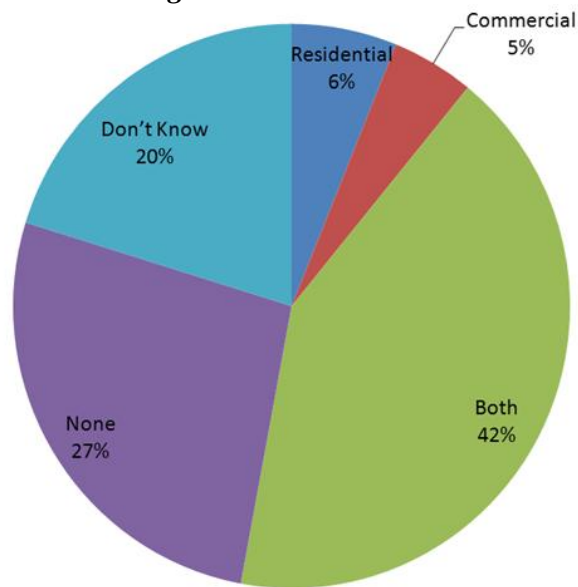


**Question #13:** Should the Town of Windham seek to provide natural gas for...

*Table 15: Natural Gas*

Residential	23	6%
Commercial	18	5%
<b>Both</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>42%</b>
None	101	27%
Don't Know	76	20%

*Figure 11: Natural Gas*



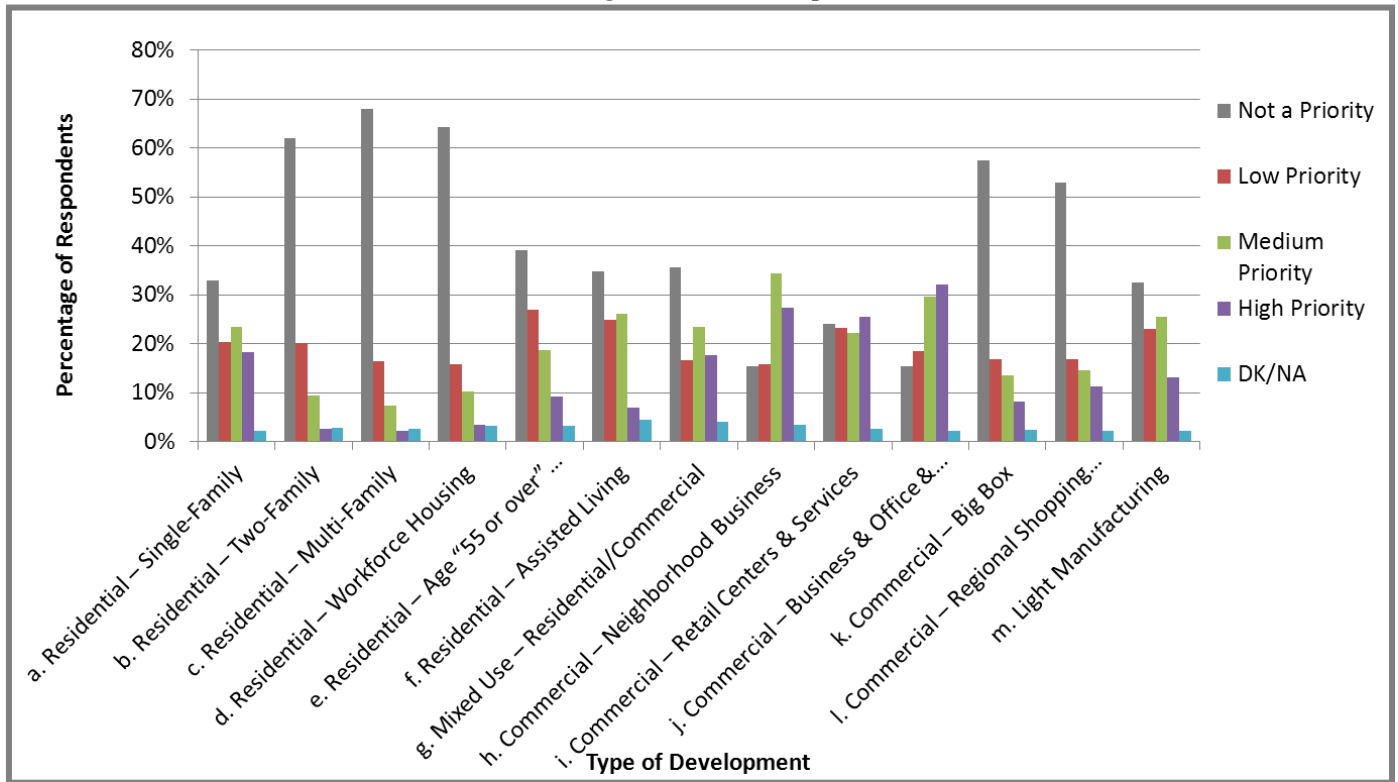


**Question #14:** What type of development should Windham encourage?

*Table 16: Development*

	<b>Not a Priority</b>	<b>Low Priority</b>	<b>Medium Priority</b>	<b>High Priority</b>	<b>DK/ NA</b>
a. Residential – Single-Family	<b>125</b>	77	90	70	8
b. Residential – Two-Family	<b>237</b>	76	36	10	11
c. Residential – Multi-Family	<b>260</b>	62	28	8	10
d. Residential – Workforce Housing	<b>245</b>	60	39	13	12
e. Residential – Age “55 or over” Housing	<b>149</b>	102	71	36	12
f. Residential – Assisted Living	<b>133</b>	94	99	27	17
g. Mixed Use – Residential/Commercial	<b>135</b>	63	90	67	15
h. Commercial – Neighborhood Business	58	60	<b>131</b>	104	13
i. Commercial – Retail Centers & Services	91	88	85	<b>98</b>	10
j. Commercial – Business & Office & Technology	58	70	113	<b>122</b>	8
k. Commercial – Big Box	<b>219</b>	64	51	31	9
l. Commercial – Regional Shopping Centers/Malls	<b>202</b>	64	55	44	8
m. Light Manufacturing	<b>123</b>	87	99	50	8

**Figure 12: Development**

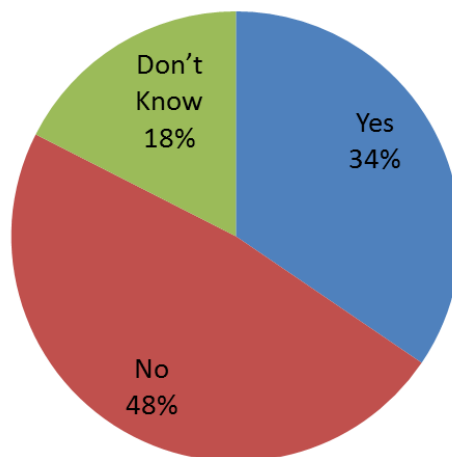


**Question #15:** Does the Town of Windham need to increase the minimum residential lot size?

**Table 17: Minimum Lot Size**

Yes	128	34%
No	178	48%
Don't Know	67	18%

**Figure 13: Minimum Lot Size**

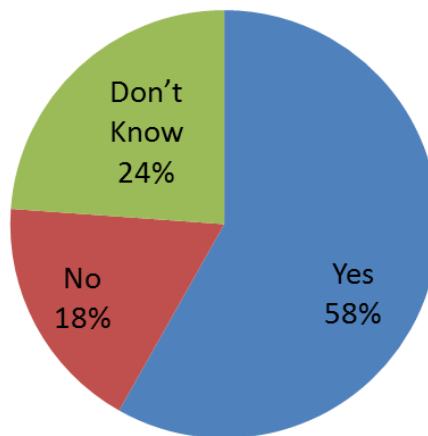


**Question #16:** Should the Town of Windham propose a growth management ordinance?

*Table 18: Growth Management Ordinance*

<b>Yes</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>58%</b>
No	67	18%
Don't Know	90	24%

*Figure 14: Growth Management Ordinance*

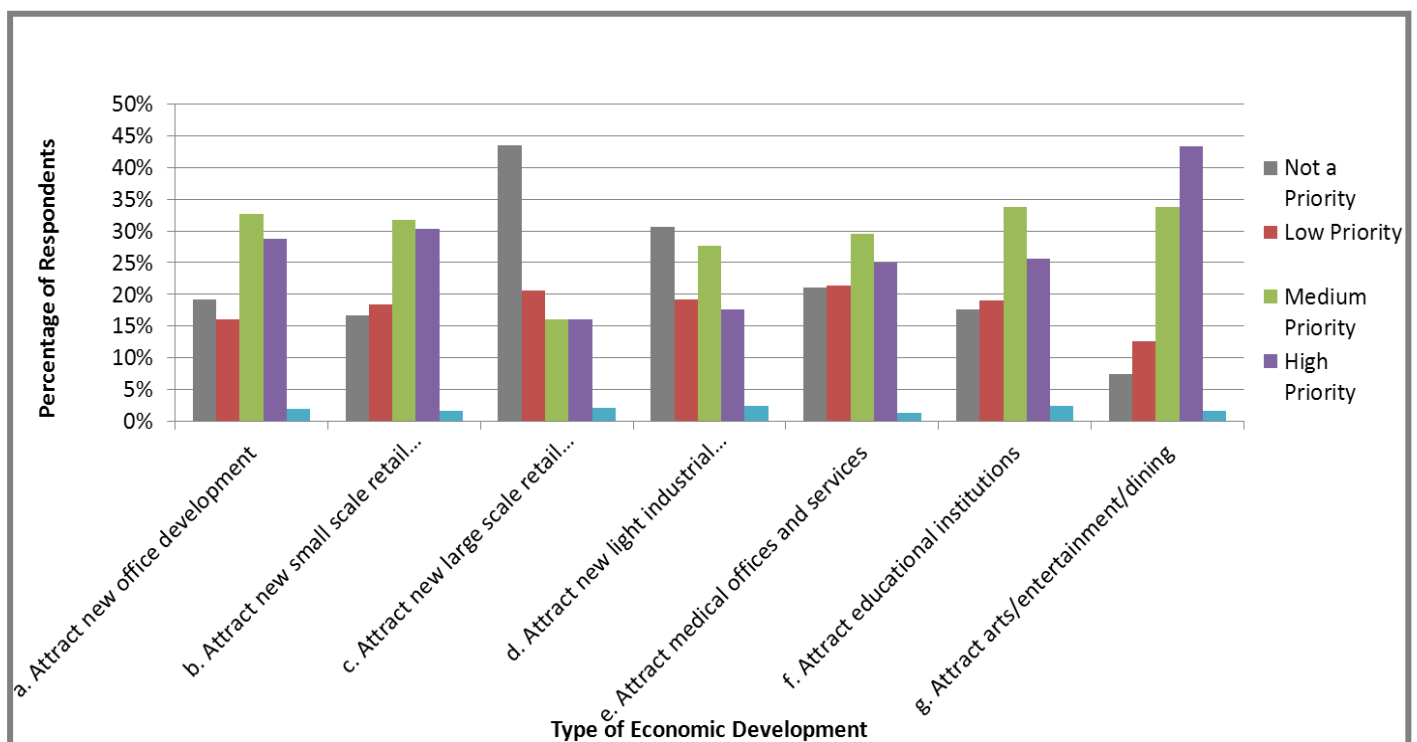


**Question #17:** Please indicate the level of priority that the town should give to the following economic development actions:

*Table 19: Economic Development*

	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK/NA
a. Attract new office development	73	61	<b>125</b>	109	8
b. Attract new small scale retail development	63	70	<b>121</b>	115	7
c. Attract new large scale retail development	<b>165</b>	78	62	61	9
d. Attract new light industrial development	<b>116</b>	73	106	67	10
e. Attract medical offices and services	81	81	<b>112</b>	95	6
f. Attract educational institutions	67	72	<b>129</b>	97	10
g. Attract arts/entertainment/dining	28	48	129	<b>164</b>	7

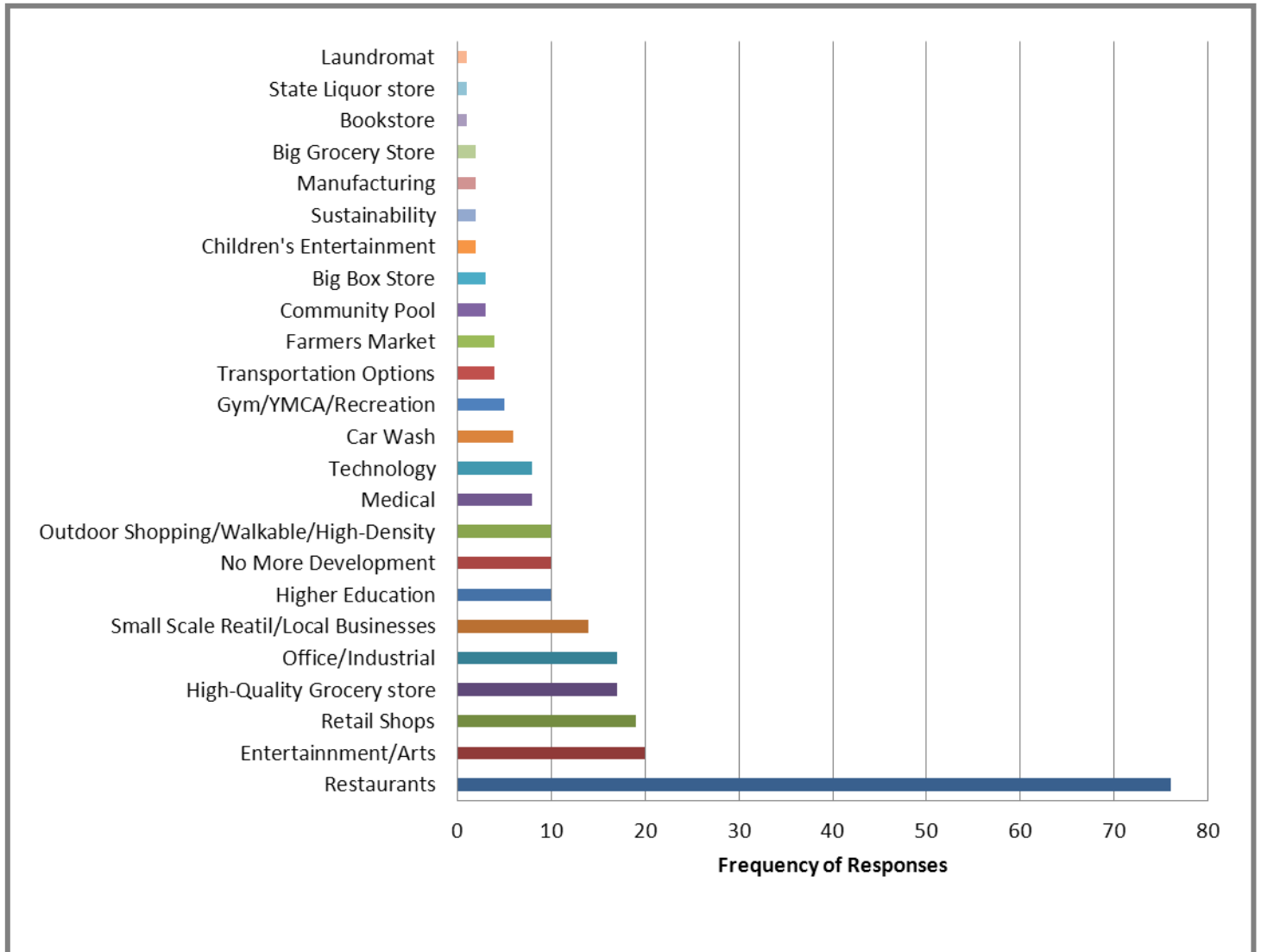
*Figure 15: Economic Development*



**Question #20:** Is there a type of business, industry or service that you would like to see in Windham?

*Table 20: Desired Business*

Trend	Frequency	Recurring Examples
Restaurants	76	<b>Strong Support for a Panera and Starbucks. Upscale and Family Friendly Restaurants are also Desirable.</b>
Entertainment/Arts	20	Addition of a Movie Theater, Viewing Gallery, Mini Golf Course and Activities for Seniors.
Retail Shops	19	Increase Shopping Opportunities by Adding Upscale Shops, Boutiques and Outlets.
High-Quality Grocery store	17	Residents Want High Quality Grocery Stores Such as Trader Joe's or Whole Foods.
Office/Industrial	17	Companies that Bring in High Paying Career Opportunities to Residents such as Science, Technology, etc.
Small Scale Retail/Local Businesses	14	There is a Strong Desire to Support Small, Local Businesses Rather than Big-Box Store's.
Higher Education	10	Enhance Opportunities by Adding a Satellite College Campus or Enrichment Programs.
No More Development	10	Halt Development, Windham is a Small Town that Wants to Retain it's Rural Feel.
Outdoor Shopping/Walkable/High-Density	10	Lynnfield Marketplace is a Model for What Type of Development Residents want.
Medical	8	Medical Offices Bring Great Career Opportunities and Allow Residents to Stay in Town for Medical Visits.
Technology	8	
Car Wash	6	
Gym/YMCA/Recreation	5	
Transportation Options	4	
Farmers Market	4	
Community Pool	3	
Big Box Store	3	
Children's Entertainment	2	
Sustainability	2	
Manufacturing	2	
Big Grocery Store	2	
Bookstore	1	
State Liquor store	1	
Laundromat	1	

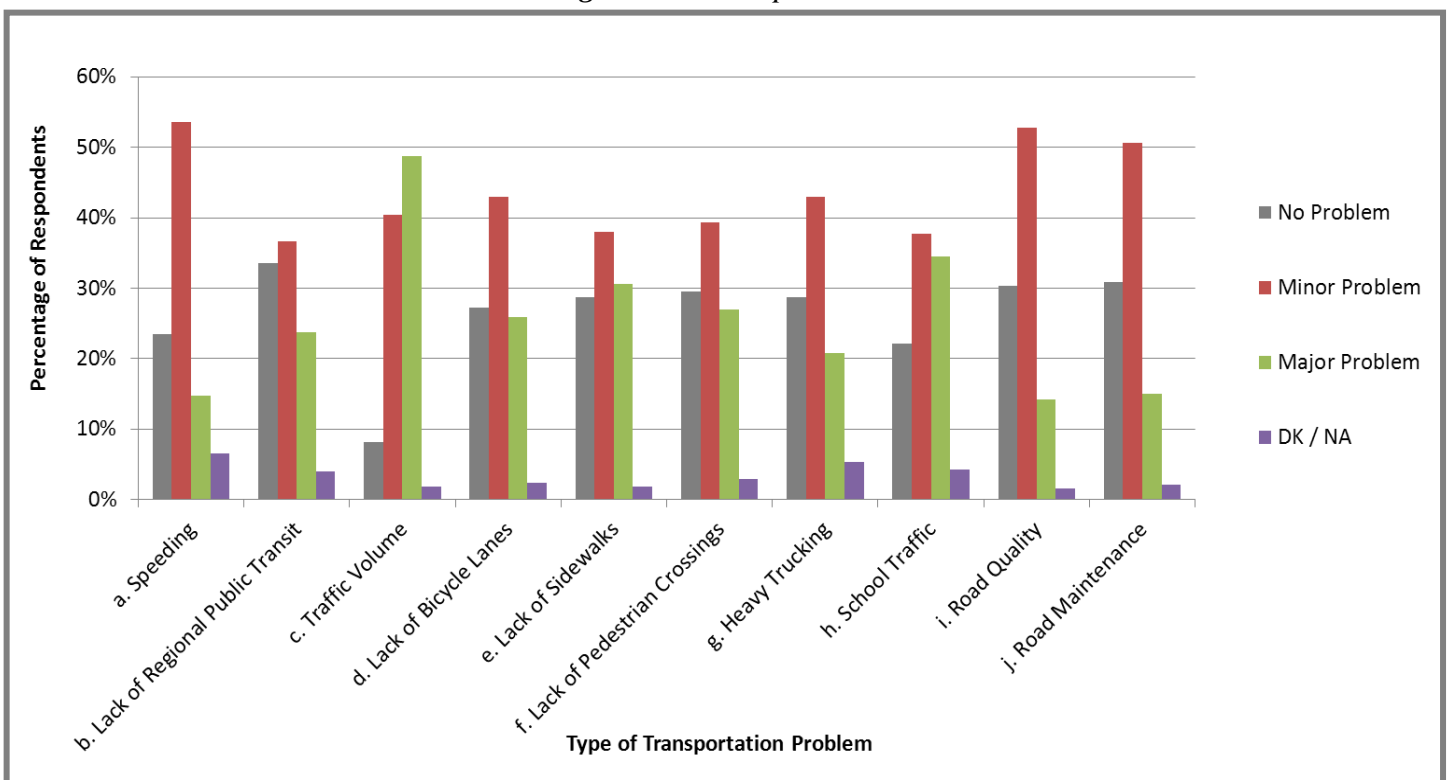
**Figure 16: Desired Business**

**Question #19:** What do you think are the most pressing transportation problems facing Windham?

*Table 21: Transportation Issues*

	No Problem	Minor Problem	Major Problem	DK / NA
a. Speeding	90	<b>203</b>	56	25
b. Lack of Regional Public Transit	127	<b>139</b>	91	15
c. Traffic Volume	31	153	<b>187</b>	7
d. Lack of Bicycle Lanes	103	<b>164</b>	98	9
e. Lack of Sidewalks	110	<b>144</b>	116	7
f. Lack of Pedestrian Crossings	112	<b>150</b>	102	11
g. Heavy Trucking	110	<b>163</b>	79	20
h. School Traffic	84	<b>144</b>	131	16
i. Road Quality	116	<b>200</b>	54	6
j. Road Maintenance	118	<b>192</b>	57	8

*Figure 17: Transportation Issues*



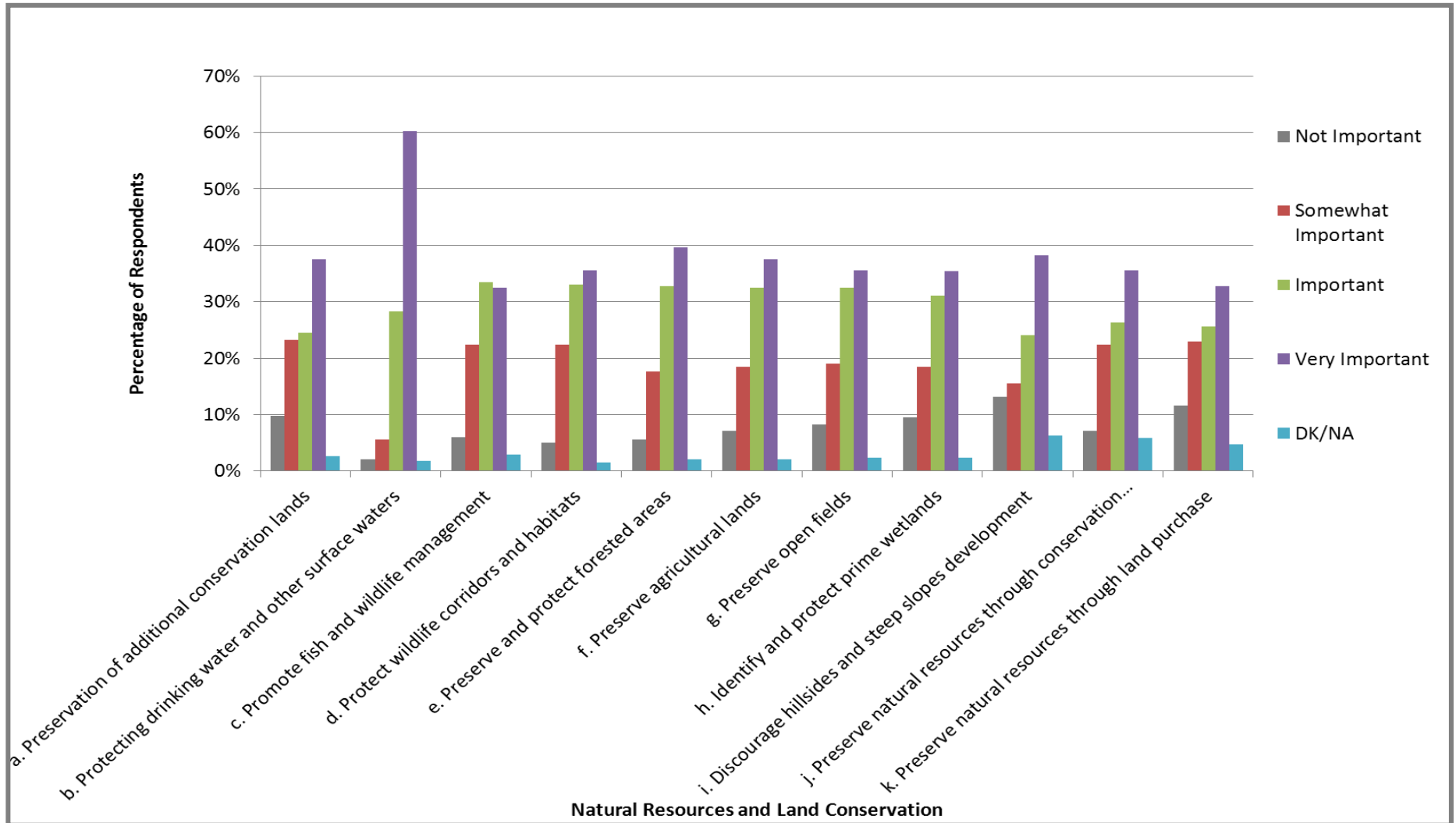
**Question #20:** Please indicate the level of importance you feel about the following natural resources and conservation lands:

*Table 22: Natural Resources and Conservation Lands*

	<b>Not Important</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Important</b>	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>DK/NA</b>
a. Preservation of additional conservation lands	37	89	94	<b>142</b>	10
b. Protecting drinking water and other surface waters	8	21	108	<b>229</b>	7
c. Promote fish and wildlife management	23	86	<b>128</b>	123	11
d. Protect wildlife corridors and habitats	19	86	126	<b>135</b>	6
e. Preserve and protect forested areas	21	68	125	<b>150</b>	8
f. Preserve agricultural lands	27	71	123	<b>143</b>	8
g. Preserve open fields	31	74	123	<b>135</b>	9
h. Identify and protect prime wetlands	36	70	120	<b>134</b>	9
i. Discourage hillsides and steep slopes development	51	59	91	<b>145</b>	24
j. Preserve natural resources through conservation easements	27	86	101	<b>135</b>	22
k. Preserve natural resources through land purchase	44	88	98	<b>124</b>	18



**Figure 18: Natural Resources and Conservation Lands**

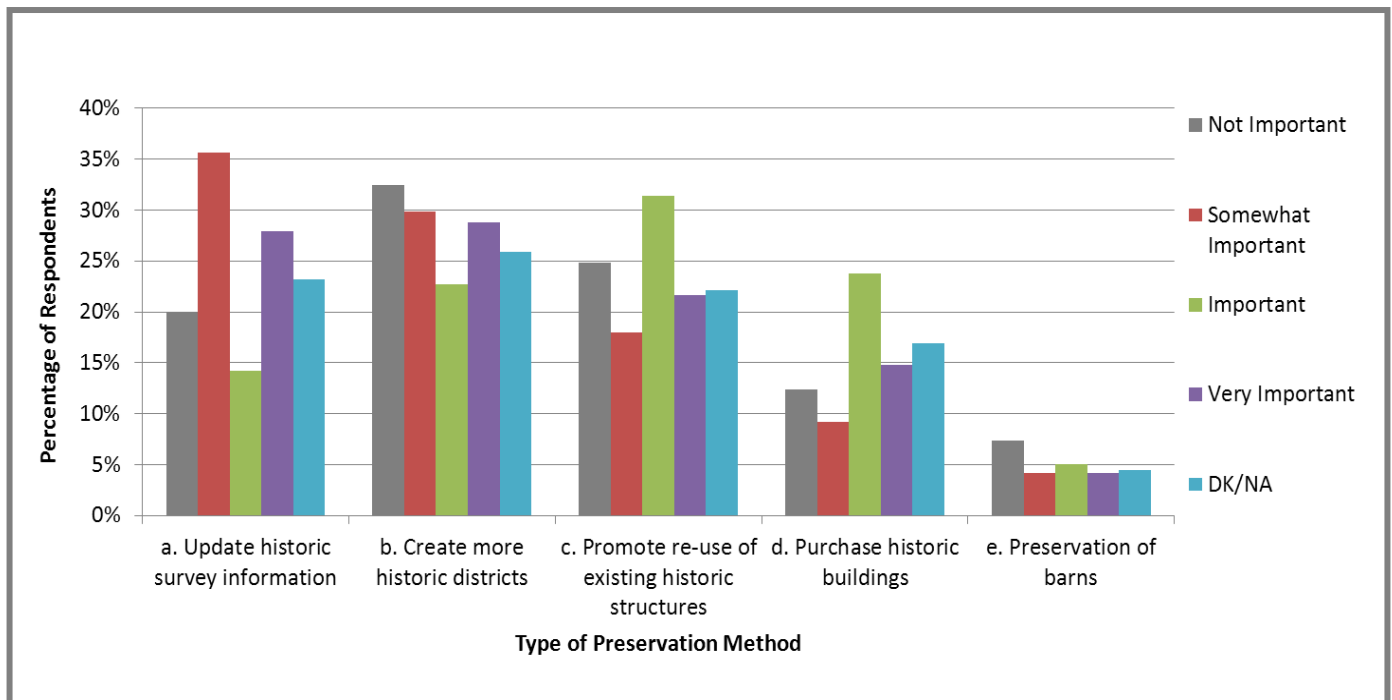


**Question #21:** How important do you consider the following historic and cultural preservation methods:

*Table 23: Historic and Cultural Preservation Methods*

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	DK/NA
a. Update historic survey information	77	<b>123</b>	95	47	28
b. Create more historic districts	<b>136</b>	113	68	35	16
c. Promote re-use of existing historic structures	54	86	<b>120</b>	91	19
d. Purchase historic buildings	107	<b>109</b>	83	56	16
e. Preservation of barns	89	<b>99</b>	84	64	17

*Figure 19: Historic and Cultural Preservation Methods*

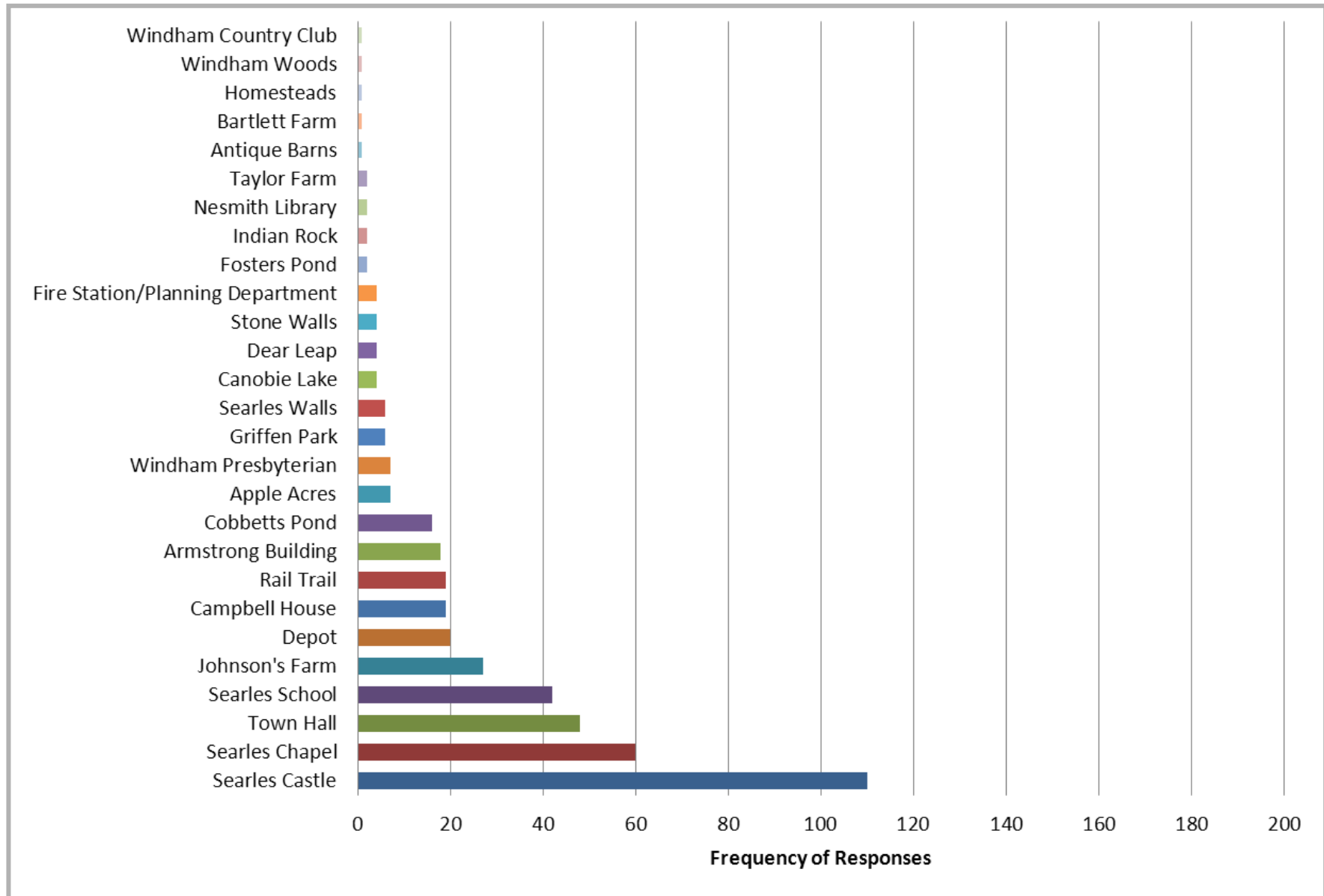


**Question #22:** What three sites or features in Windham do you feel have the greatest historical significance or preservation value?

**Table 24:** Sites with Historical Significance or Preservation Value

<b>Trend</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<b>Searles Castle</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Searles Chapel</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Town Hall</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Searles School</b>	<b>42</b>
Johnson's Farm	27
Depot	20
Campbell House	19
Rail Trail	19
Armstrong Building/Old Library/ Town Museum	18
Cobbetts Pond	16
Apple Acres	7
Windham Presbyterian	7
Griffin Park	6
Searles Walls	6
Canobie Lake	4
Deer Leap	4
Stone Walls	4
Fire Station/Planning Department	4
Fosters Pond	2
Indian Rock	2
Nesmith Library	2
Taylor Farm	2
Antique Barns	1
Bartlett Farm	1
Homesteads	1
Windham Woods	1
Windham Country Club	1

*Figure 20: Sites with Historical Significance or Preservation Value*

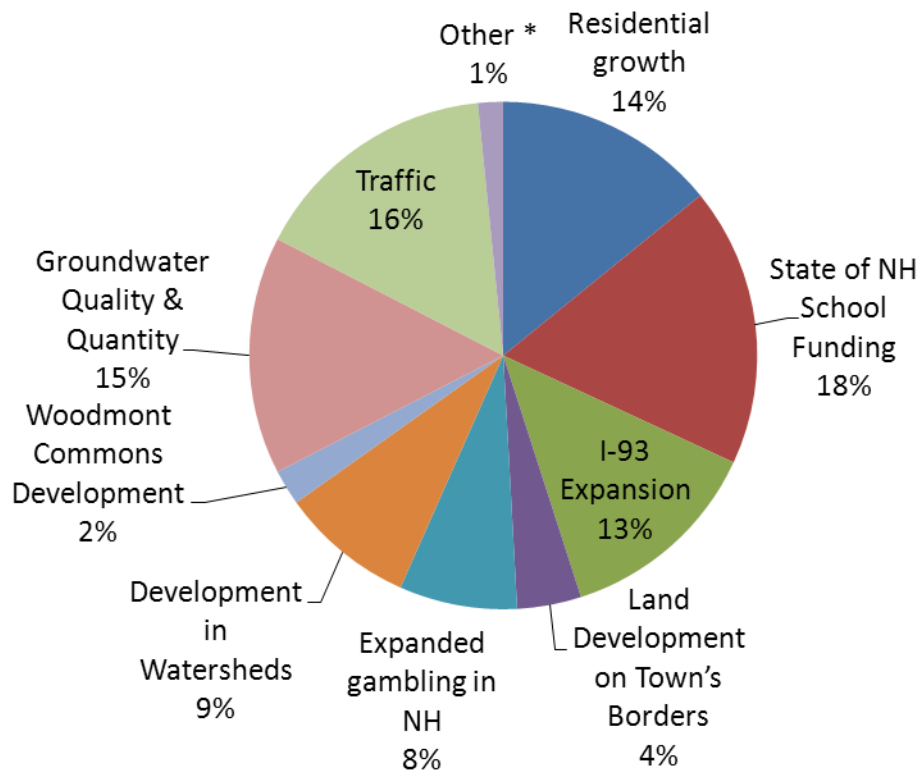


**Question #23:** What impacts from outside of Windham concern you the most?

*Table 25: Outside Impacts*

					Percent of 379 Surveys received	Percent Rank
<b>Residential growth</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>14%</b>			
<b>State of NH School Funding</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>18%</b>			
<b>I-93 Expansion</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>13%</b>			
Land Development on Town's Borders	56	15%	4%			
<b>Expanded gambling in NH</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>8%</b>			
<b>Development in Watersheds</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>9%</b>			
Woodmont Commons Development	31	8%	2%			
<b>Groundwater Quality &amp; Quantity</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>15%</b>			
<b>Traffic</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>16%</b>			
<b>Other *</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>1%</b>			
Total	1372		100%			

*Figure 21: Outside Impacts*

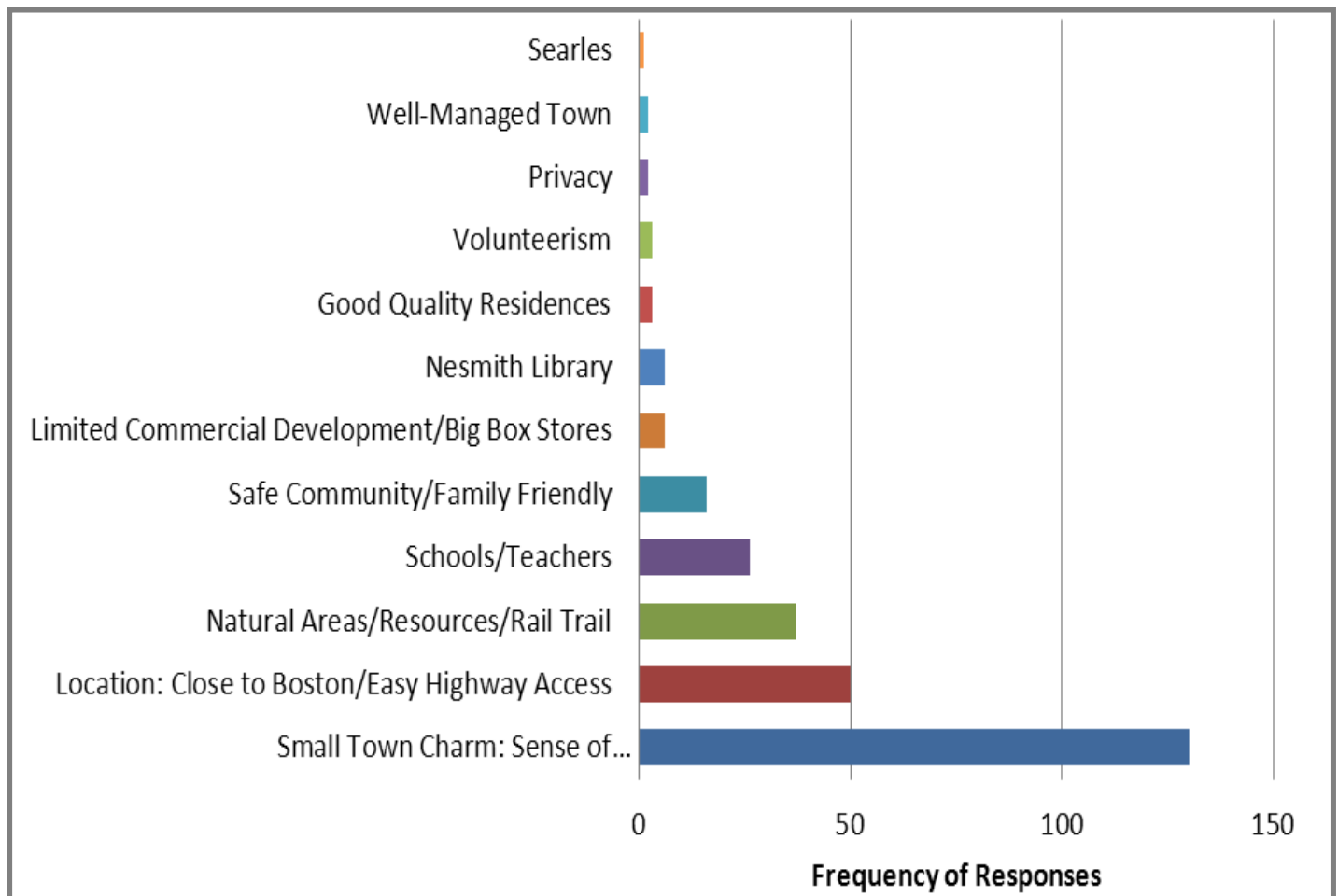


**Question #24:** What is the BEST thing about Windham?

*Table 26: Windham's BEST Feature*

Trend	Frequency
<b>Small Town Charm: Sense of Community/Involvement/Good people</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>Location: Close to Boston/Easy Highway Access</b>	<b>51</b>
Natural Areas/Resources/Rail Trail	37
Schools/Teachers	26
Safe Community/Family Friendly	16
Limited Commercial Development/Big Box Stores	7
Nesmith Library	6
Good Quality Residences	3
Volunteerism	3
Privacy	2
Well-Managed Town	2
Searles	1

*Figure 22: Windham's BEST Feature*

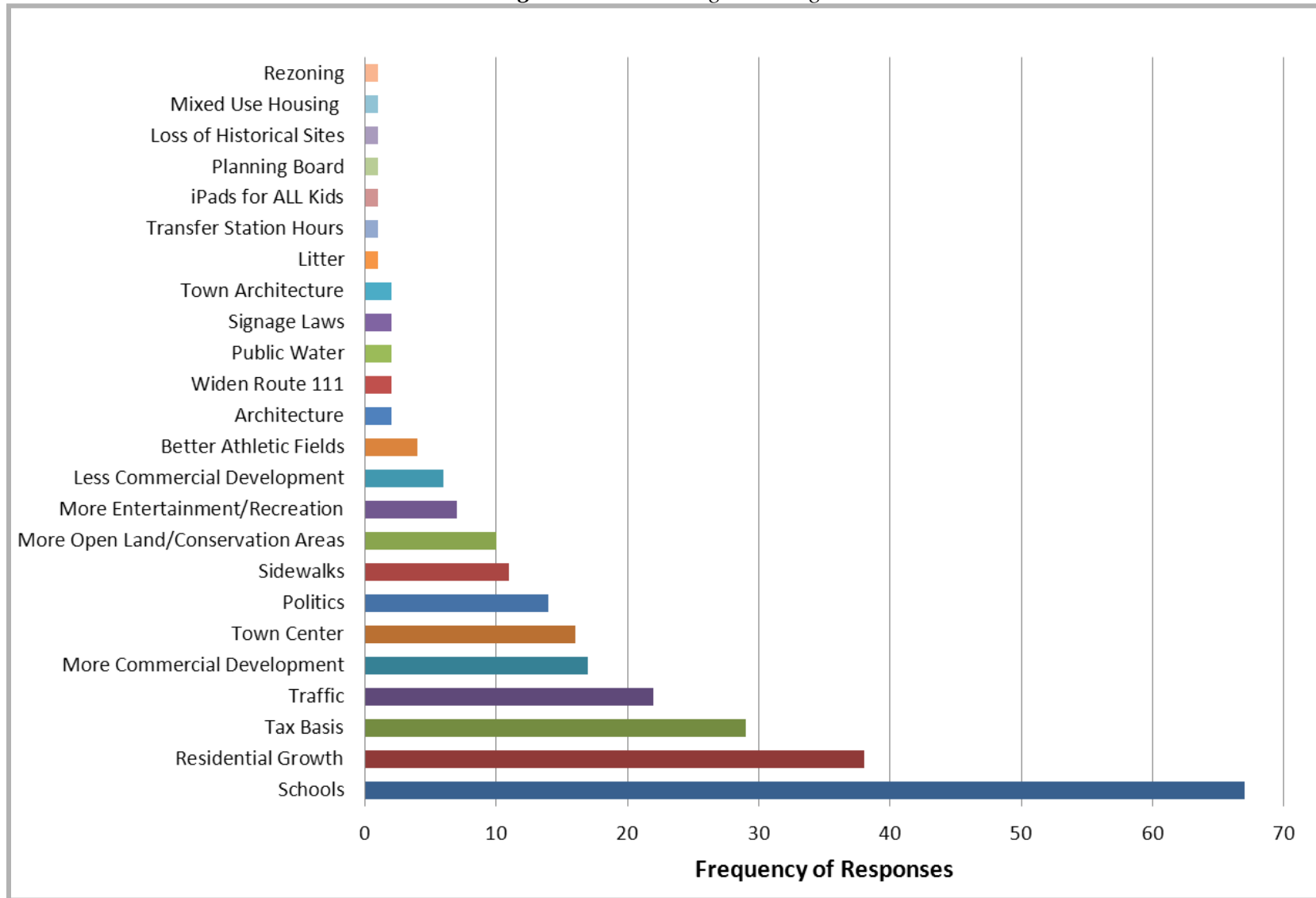


**Question # 25:** What is the one thing about Windham you would change?

*Table 27: One Thing to Change*

Trend	Frequency	Recurring Terms
Schools	67	Schools are Overcrowded and Expansion is Necessary. The School Board and Funding are Also Issues Amongst Residents.
Residential Growth	38	Less Residential Development. Limit Sprawl and Fix Overcrowding Issue.
Tax Basis	29	Need More Tax Revenue from Businesses to Decrease the Burden on the Residents.
Traffic	22	Traffic on Route 111. Addition of Route 111 Roundabouts. Reconfiguration of Route 93.
More Commercial Development	17	Add More Dining and Shopping Options. Residents Desire Sustainable Businesses.
Town Center	16	Downtown Can be Improved by Making it More Open/Walkable and by Providing Shopping/Dining options.
Politics	14	Town Government Could be More Proactive and Responsive to Residents Rather than to Developers.
Sidewalks	11	Add More Sidewalks and Bikepaths.
More Open Land/Conservation Areas	10	Stop Wetland Infringement. Add More Conservation Land.
More Entertainment/Recreation	7	Movie Theater. More Bars and Other Entertainment Options.
Less Commercial Development	6	Rethink the Idea that Commercial Development is the Key. Limit Sprawl. Less Strip Malls.
Better Athletic Fields	4	Better Maintenance on Fields and Addition of More Fields.
Architecture	2	
Widen Route 111	2	Make 4 Lanes
Public Water	2	
Signage Laws	2	LED, Energy Efficiency.
Town Architecture	2	
Litter	1	
Transfer Station Hours	1	
iPads for ALL Kids	1	
Planning Board	1	
Loss of Historical Sites	1	
Mixed Use Housing	1	
Rezoning	1	

**Figure 23: One Thing to Change**

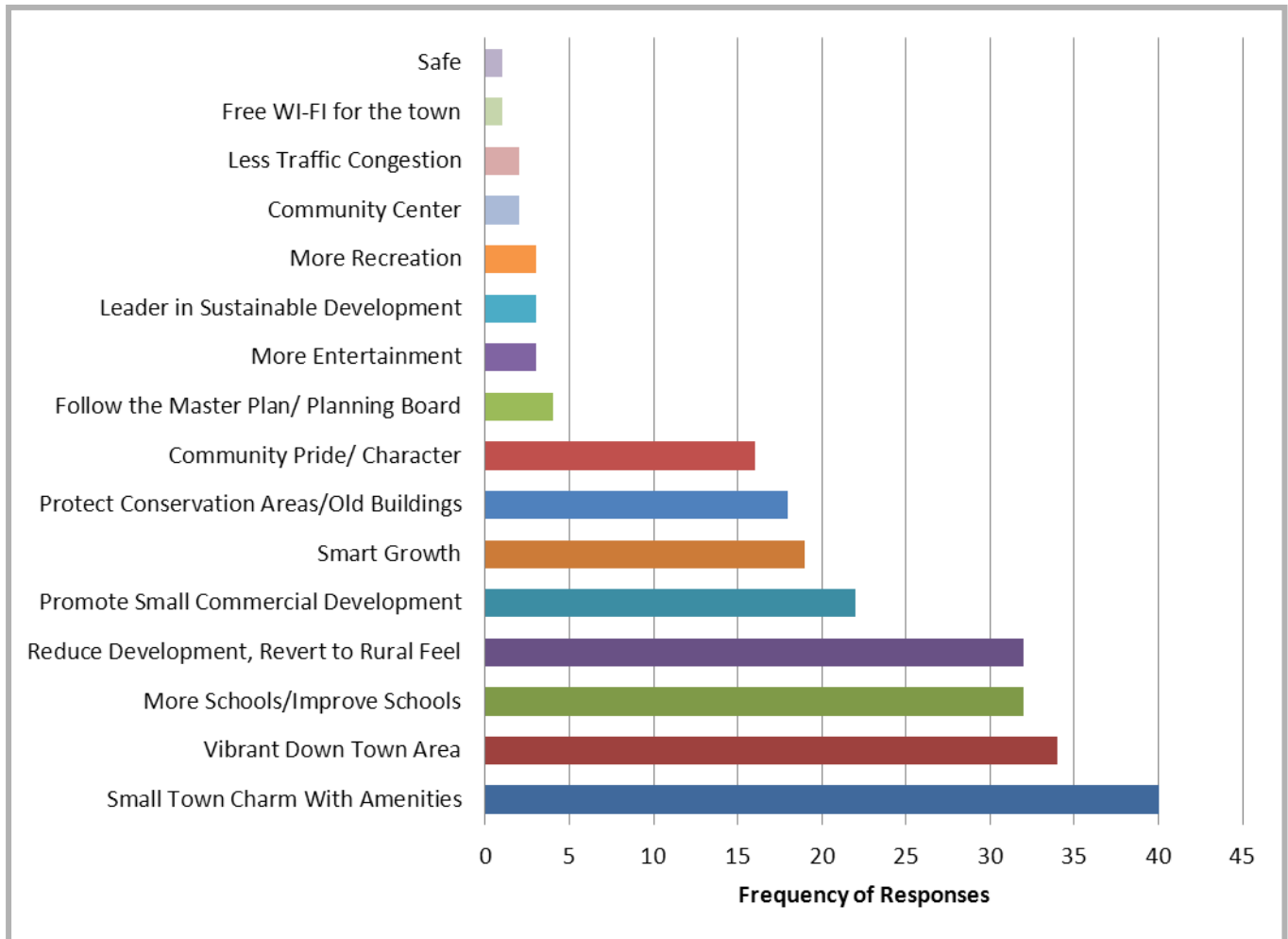




**Question #26:** If you could identify one vision for Windham what would it be?

*Table 28: Vision for Windham*

Trend	Frequency	Recurring Terms
Small Town Charm With Amenities	40	Bedroom Community. Family Friendly Environment. Aesthetically Pleasing Area.
Vibrant Down Town Area	34	Small, Local Businesses. Walkable Village Green. Similar to Andover, MA.
More Schools/Improve Schools	32	Schools are too Small for the Population Size.
Slow Residential Development, Revert to Rural Feel	32	Town is Already Overpopulated.
Promote Small Commercial Development	22	Need to Increase Tax Revenue Generated from Businesses. Develop in Areas Where Some Development has Already Occurred Such as Route 111.
Smart Growth	19	Promote Viable Businesses Only. Limit Sprawl by Clustering Development. Encourage Sustainable Practices.
Protect Conservation Areas/Old Buildings	18	Maintain Historical Significance and Natural Beauty of the Area.
Community Pride/ Character	16	Residents Acknowledge the Importance of Remaining a Tight-Knit Community.
Follow the Master Plan/ Planning Board	4	
More Entertainment	3	
Leader in Sustainable Development	3	
More Recreation	3	
Community Center	2	
Less Traffic Congestion	2	
Free WI-FI for the town	1	
Safe	1	

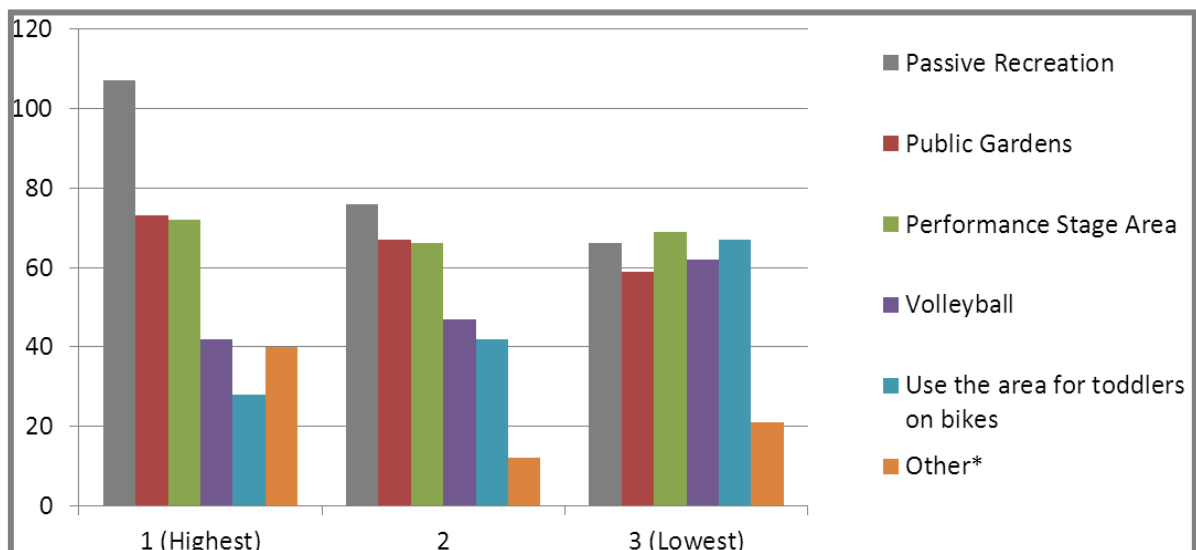
**Figure 24: Vision for Windham**

**Question #27:** At the request of the Board of Selectmen, this question has been included, but is not part of the master plan. Please rank your top 3 choices, with 1 being the highest and 3 being the lowest, for reuse of the former skate park at Griffin Park.

*Table 29: Reuse of Skate Park*

<b>Passive Recreation</b>		
1 (Highest)	<b>109</b>	<b>43%</b>
2	76	30%
3 (Lowest)	66	27%
<b>Public Gardens</b>		
1 (Highest)	<b>73</b>	<b>37%</b>
2	67	34%
3 (Lowest)	59	29%
<b>Performance Stage Area</b>		
1 (Highest)	<b>72</b>	<b>35%</b>
2	67	32%
3 (Lowest)	69	33%
<b>Volleyball</b>		
1 (Highest)	43	28%
2	47	31%
3 (Lowest)	<b>62</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>Use the area for toddlers on bikes</b>		
1 (Highest)	28	20%
2	42	31%
3 (Lowest)	<b>67</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>Other*</b>		
1 (Highest)	<b>40</b>	<b>54%</b>
2	12	16%
3 (Lowest)	22	30%

*Figure 25: Reuse of Skate Park*



# Appendix A

## Tabular Results

**Disclaimer:** Percentages in this section derive from the total number of surveys received (379). For this reason, percentages may not add up to 100% and may differ from the percentages found elsewhere in the report.

Table A-1

<b>1</b>	<b>(1) Are you a Windham?</b>				
	full time resident		359		94%
	seasonal resident		1		< 1%
	business owner		13		3%
	TOTAL		373		98%

Table A-2

<b>2</b>	<b>(2) If you are a resident, what part of town do you live in?</b>				
	Area A		40		11%
	Area B		47		12%
	Area C		79		21%
	Area D		106		28%
	Area E		48		13%
	Area F		50		13%
	TOTAL		370		98%

Table A-3

<b>3</b>	<b>(3) Do you own or rent your home?</b>				
	Own		374		99%
	Rent		5		1%
	TOTAL		379		100%

Table A-4

<b>4</b>	<b>(4) What type of home do you live in?</b>				
	Single-family		359		95%
	Condominium		10		3%
	Apartment		0		0%
	Duplex		0		0%
	TOTAL		369		98%

Table A-5

<b>5</b>	<b>(5) How long have you lived in Windham?</b>				
	Less than 1 year		11		3%
	1-5 years		52		14%
	6-10 years		68		18%
	11-20 years		122		32%
	More than 20 years		115		30%
	TOTAL		368		97%

Table A-6

<b>6</b>	<b>(6) How long do you plan to stay in Windham?</b>				
	Less than 1 year		1		0%
	1-5 years		44		12%
	6-10 years		66		17%
	11-20 years		112		30%
	More than 20 years		148		39%
	TOTAL		371		98%

Table A-7

<b>7</b>	<b>(7) What is your age group?</b>				
	18-24		8		2%
	25-34		19		5%
	35-44		106		28%
	<b>45-54</b>		<b>107</b>		<b>28%</b>
	55-64		73		19%
	65 or over		58		15%
	TOTAL		371		98%

Table A-8

	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK / NA	TOTAL	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK / NA	TOTAL
a. Increase recreational opportunities	66	80	160	67	3	376	17%	21%	42%	18%	1%	99%
b. Increase school capacity	39	43	89	199	7	377	10%	11%	23%	53%	2%	99%
c. Upgrade town facilities	41	135	154	37	10	377	11%	36%	41%	10%	3%	99%
d. Increase local employment opportunities	46	96	136	86	11	375	12%	25%	36%	23%	3%	99%
e. Promote regional public transportation	92	129	79	73	2	375	24%	34%	21%	19%	1%	99%
f. Protect historic properties and sites	39	74	142	120	3	378	10%	20%	37%	32%	1%	100%
g. Increase age 55 or over housing opportunities	111	143	67	44	11	376	29%	38%	18%	12%	3%	99%
h. Protect lakes, streams and wetlands	10	41	107	212	9	379	3%	11%	28%	56%	2%	100%
i. Develop mixed use in village center	44	80	128	101	22	375	12%	21%	34%	27%	6%	99%
j. Beautify major gateway entrances into town	76	117	104	77	5	379	20%	31%	27%	20%	1%	100%
k. Protect drinking water quality and quantity	11	16	77	261	11	376	3%	4%	20%	69%	3%	99%
l. Preserve open space and forests and agricultural lands	18	46	110	198	6	378	5%	12%	29%	52%	2%	100%
m. Attract new retail development	61	78	113	119	6	377	16%	21%	30%	31%	2%	99%
n. Attract new office development	56	80	121	114	5	376	15%	21%	32%	30%	1%	99%
o. Improve traffic flow	12	65	128	167	5	377	3%	17%	34%	44%	1%	99%
p. Provide sidewalks in commercial areas	72	98	99	101	4	374	19%	26%	26%	27%	1%	99%
q. Decrease the rate of residential growth	39	66	106	151	12	374	10%	17%	28%	40%	3%	99%
r. Provide bike lanes and "share the road" signs	74	103	100	97	3	377	20%	27%	26%	26%	1%	99%
s. Promote local renewable energy	46	81	132	112	4	375	12%	21%	35%	30%	1%	99%
t. Increase areas zoned for commercial/industrial uses	98	115	91	61	11	376	26%	30%	24%	16%	3%	99%
u. Increase pedestrian connectivity in commercial areas	64	94	106	106	8	378	17%	25%	28%	28%	2%	100%
v. Maintain Windham's unique character	21	35	94	206	22	378	6%	9%	25%	54%	6%	100%
TOTAL	1136	1815	2443	2709	180	8283	300%	479%	645%	715%	47%	

Table A-9

9 (9) Please rank the following town facilities as excellent, good, adequate or												
	Poor	Adequate	Good	Excellent	DK/NA	TOTAL	Poor	Adequate	Good	Excellent	DK/NA	TOTAL
a. Bartley House/Town Administration	7	137	130	25	74	373	2%	36%	34%	7%	20%	98%
b. Community Development Department Building	10	133	110	17	103	373	3%	35%	29%	4%	27%	98%
c. Police Station	2	21	134	197	22	376	1%	6%	35%	52%	6%	99%
d. Fire Station	1	19	128	215	15	378	0%	5%	34%	57%	4%	100%
e. Transfer/Recycling Station	3	53	183	116	20	375	1%	14%	48%	31%	5%	99%
f. Highway Department/Salt Shed	2	48	104	117	104	375	1%	13%	27%	31%	27%	99%
g. Town Recreation Fields	14	56	172	114	20	376	4%	15%	45%	30%	5%	99%
h. Griffin Park	3	20	131	219	6	379	1%	5%	35%	58%	2%	100%
i. Town Beach	9	75	173	94	28	379	2%	20%	46%	25%	7%	100%
j. Rail Trail	0	18	106	228	24	376	0%	5%	28%	60%	6%	99%
k. Searles School and Chapel	4	48	150	97	74	373	1%	13%	40%	26%	20%	98%
l. Senior Center	11	40	132	46	142	372	3%	11%	35%	12%	37%	98%
m. Armstrong Building/Community Access TV	6	59	118	31	157	371	2%	16%	31%	8%	41%	98%
n. Nesmith Library	3	27	126	203	18	377	1%	7%	33%	54%	5%	99%
o. Golden Brook School	132	87	73	18	65	375	35%	23%	19%	5%	17%	99%
p. Center School	62	85	120	31	75	373	16%	22%	32%	8%	20%	98%
q. Middle School	100	95	72	31	78	376	26%	25%	19%	8%	21%	99%
r. High School	0	13	66	275	21	375	0%	3%	17%	73%	6%	99%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>1034</b>	<b>2228</b>	<b>2074</b>	<b>1046</b>	<b>6752</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>273%</b>	<b>588%</b>	<b>547%</b>	<b>276%</b>	



**Table A-10**

<b>10</b>	<b>(10) Which town service is most in need of improvement?</b>								
	Left Blank				154				41%
	User entered value				225				59%
	TOTAL				379				100%

**Table A-11**

<b>11</b>	<b>(11) Should the Town of Windham seek to provide public water for...</b>								
	Residential				12				3%
	Commercial				70				19%
	Both				111				29%
	None				129				34%
	Don't Know				55				15%
	TOTAL				377				100%

**Table A-12**

<b>12</b>	<b>(12) Should the Town of Windham seek to provide public sewer for...</b>								
	Residential				10				3%
	Commercial				67				18%
	Both				101				27%
	None				139				37%
	Don't Know				57				15%
	TOTAL				374				99%

**Table A-13**

<b>13</b>	<b>(13) Should the Town of Windham seek to provide natural gas for...</b>								
	Residential				23				6%
	Commercial				18				5%
	Both				160				42%
	None				101				27%
	Don't Know				76				20%
	TOTAL				378				100%

Table A-14

14 (14) What type of development should Windham encourage?													
	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK/NA	TOTAL	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK/NA	TOTAL	
a. Residential – Single-Family	125	77	90	70	8	370	33%	20%	24%	18%	2%	98%	
b. Residential – Two-Family	237	76	36	10	11	370	63%	20%	9%	3%	3%	98%	
c. Residential – Multi-Family	260	62	28	8	10	368	69%	16%	7%	2%	3%	97%	
d. Residential – Workforce Housing	245	60	39	13	12	369	65%	16%	10%	3%	3%	97%	
e. Residential – Age “55 or over” Housing	149	102	71	36	12	370	39%	27%	19%	9%	3%	98%	
f. Residential – Assisted Living	133	94	99	27	17	370	35%	25%	26%	7%	4%	98%	
g. Mixed Use – Residential/Commercial	135	63	90	67	15	370	36%	17%	24%	18%	4%	98%	
h. Commercial – Neighborhood Business	58	60	131	104	13	366	15%	16%	35%	27%	3%	97%	
i. Commercial – Retail Centers & Services	91	88	85	98	10	372	24%	23%	22%	26%	3%	98%	
j. Commercial – Business & Office & Technology	58	70	113	122	8	371	15%	18%	30%	32%	2%	98%	
k. Commercial – Big Box	219	64	51	31	9	374	58%	17%	13%	8%	2%	99%	
l. Commercial – Regional Shopping Centers/Malls	202	64	55	44	8	373	53%	17%	15%	12%	2%	98%	
m. Light Manufacturing	123	87	99	50	8	367	32%	23%	26%	13%	2%	97%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>967</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>4810</b>	<b>537%</b>	<b>255%</b>	<b>260%</b>	<b>179%</b>	<b>37%</b>		

**Table A-15**

15	(15) Does the Town of Windham need to increase the minimum lot size?				
	Yes		128		34%
	No		178		47%
	Don't Know		67		18%
	TOTAL		373		98%

**Table A-16**

16	(16) Should the Town of Windham propose a growth management ordinance?				
	Yes		218		58%
	No		67		18%
	Don't Know		90		24%
	TOTAL		375		99%

**Table A-17**

17	(17) Please indicate the level of priority that the town should give to the following economic												
	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK/NA	TOTAL	Not a Priority	Low Priority	Medium Priority	High Priority	DK/NA	TOTAL	
	a. Attract new office development	73	61	124	109	8	375	19%	16%	33%	29%	2%	99%
	b. Attract new small scale retail development	63	70	120	115	7	375	17%	18%	32%	30%	2%	99%
	c. Attract new large scale retail development	165	78	61	61	9	374	44%	21%	16%	16%	2%	99%
	d. Attract new light industrial development	116	73	105	67	10	371	31%	19%	28%	18%	3%	98%
	e. Attract medical offices and services	80	81	112	95	6	374	21%	21%	30%	25%	2%	99%
	f. Attract educational institutions	67	72	128	97	10	374	18%	19%	34%	26%	3%	99%
	g. Attract arts/entertainment/dining	28	48	128	164	7	375	7%	13%	34%	43%	2%	99%
	TOTAL	592	483	778	708	57	2618	156%	127%	205%	187%	15%	

**Table A-18**

18	(18) Is there a type of business, industry or service that you would like to see in				
	Left Blank		187		49%
	User entered value		194		51%
	TOTAL		381		101%

Table A-19

19	(19) What do you think are the most pressing transportation problems facing Windham? Please										
		No Problem	Minor Problem	Major Problem	DK / NA	TOTAL	No Problem	Minor Problem	Major Problem	DK / NA	TOTAL
	a. Speeding	90	203	56	25	374	24%	54%	15%	7%	99%
	b. Lack of Regional Public Transit	127	139	91	15	372	34%	37%	24%	4%	98%
	c. Traffic Volume	31	153	187	7	378	8%	40%	49%	2%	100%
	d. Lack of Bicycle Lanes	103	164	98	9	374	27%	43%	26%	2%	99%
	e. Lack of Sidewalks	110	144	116	7	377	29%	38%	31%	2%	99%
	f. Lack of Pedestrian Crossings	112	150	102	11	375	30%	40%	27%	3%	99%
	g. Heavy Trucking	110	163	79	20	372	29%	43%	21%	5%	98%
	h. School Traffic	84	144	131	16	375	22%	38%	35%	4%	99%
	i. Road Quality	116	200	54	6	376	31%	53%	14%	2%	99%
	j. Road Maintenance	118	192	57	8	375	31%	51%	15%	2%	99%
	TOTAL	1001	1652	971	124	3748	264%	436%	256%	33%	

Table A-20

20	(20) Please indicate the level of importance you feel about the following natural resources and conservation of												
		Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	DK/NA	TOTAL	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	DK/NA	TOTAL
	a. Preservation of additional conservation lands	37	89	94	142	10	372	10%	23%	25%	37%	3%	98%
	b. Protecting drinking water and other surface waters	8	21	108	229	7	373	2%	6%	28%	60%	2%	98%
	c. Promote fish and wildlife management	23	86	128	123	11	371	6%	23%	34%	32%	3%	98%
	d. Protect wildlife corridors and habitats	19	86	126	135	6	372	5%	23%	33%	36%	2%	98%
	e. Preserve and protect forested areas	21	68	125	150	8	372	6%	18%	33%	40%	2%	98%
	f. Preserve agricultural lands	27	71	123	143	8	372	7%	19%	32%	38%	2%	98%
	g. Preserve open fields	31	74	123	135	9	372	8%	20%	32%	36%	2%	98%
	h. Identify and protect prime wetlands	36	70	120	134	9	369	9%	18%	32%	35%	2%	97%
	i. Discourage hillsides and steep slopes development	51	59	91	145	24	370	13%	16%	24%	38%	6%	98%
	j. Preserve natural resources through conservation easements	27	86	101	135	22	371	7%	23%	27%	36%	6%	98%
	k. Preserve natural resources through land purchase	44	88	98	124	18	372	12%	23%	26%	33%	5%	98%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>1237</b>	<b>1595</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>4086</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>211%</b>	<b>326%</b>	<b>421%</b>	<b>35%</b>	

Table A-21

21	(21) How important do you consider the following historic and cultural preservation methods?												
		Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	DK/NA	TOTAL	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	DK/NA	TOTAL
	a. Update historic survey information	77	123	95	47	28	370	20%	32%	25%	12%	7%	98%
	b. Create more historic districts	136	113	68	35	16	368	36%	30%	18%	9%	4%	97%
	c. Promote re-use of existing historic structures	54	86	120	91	19	370	14%	23%	32%	24%	5%	98%
	d. Purchase historic buildings	107	109	83	56	16	371	28%	29%	22%	15%	4%	98%
	e. Preservation of barns	89	99	84	64	17	353	23%	26%	22%	17%	4%	93%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>1832</b>	<b>122%</b>	<b>140%</b>	<b>119%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>25%</b>	

Table A-22

22	(22) What three sites or features in Windham do you feel have the greatest historic				
	<b>Significant #1</b>				
	Left Blank		185		49%
	User entered value		195		51%
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>380</b>		<b>100%</b>
	<b>Significant #3</b>				
	Left Blank		226		60%
	User entered value		154		41%
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>380</b>		<b>100%</b>
	<b>Significant #2</b>				
	Left Blank		225		59%
	User entered value		155		41%
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>380</b>		<b>100%</b>

**Table A-23**

<b>23</b>	<b>(23) What impacts from outside of Windham concern you the most? Multiple answers</b>		
	Residential growth	194	51%
	State of NH School Funding	244	64%
	I-93 Expansion	180	47%
	Land Development on Town's Borders	56	15%
	Expanded gambling in NH	103	27%
	Development in Watersheds	117	31%
	Woodmont Commons Development	31	8%
	Groundwater Quality & Quantity	208	55%
	Traffic	217	57%
	Other *	22	6%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1372</b>	<b>362%</b>

**Table A-24**

<b>24</b>	<b>(24) What is the BEST thing about Windham?</b>		
	Left Blank	101	27%
	User entered value	279	74%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table A-25**

<b>25</b>	<b>(25) What is the one thing about Windham you would change?</b>		
	Left Blank	99	26%
	User entered value	281	74%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table A-26**

<b>26</b>	<b>(26) If you could identify one vision for Windham, what would it be?</b>		
	Left Blank	150	40%
	User entered value	230	61%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table A-27

<b>27</b>	<b>Passive Recreation</b>			
	1 (Highest)	109		29%
	2	76		20%
	3 (Lowest)	66		17%
	TOTAL	251		66%
	<b>Public Gardens</b>			
	1 (Highest)	73		19%
	2	67		18%
	3 (Lowest)	59		16%
	TOTAL	199		53%
	<b>Performance Stage Area</b>			
	1 (Highest)	72		19%
	2	67		18%
	3 (Lowest)	69		18%
	TOTAL	208		55%
	<b>Volleyball</b>			
	1 (Highest)	43		11%
	2	47		12%
	3 (Lowest)	62		16%
	TOTAL	152		40%
	<b>Use the area for toddlers on bikes</b>			
	1 (Highest)	28		7%
	2	42		11%
	3 (Lowest)	67		18%
	TOTAL	137		36%
	<b>Other*</b>			
	1 (Highest)	40		11%
	2	12		3%
	3 (Lowest)	22		6%
	TOTAL	74		20%
	<b>*Describe Other</b>			
	Left Blank	304		80%
	User entered value	72		19%
	TOTAL	376		99%
	<b>Please indicate your physical address in Windham (Optional)</b>			
	Left Blank	261		69%
	User entered value	115		30%
	TOTAL	376		99%



# **Appendix B**

## **Written Responses**

**Question 10:** Which town service is most in need of improvement?

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- Our school facilities are in significant need of attention. We've addressed our high school issue, it's time to address middle school and below.
- Transfer/Recycling Station. Needs new management.
- Programs and services for residents that are not for young children or the elderly
- Planning Department. Too many zoning changes year in and year out. Enough is enough. Need more business then coffee shops doggie day care and spas. Get some real sustainable business here.
- School Capacity
- It probably would be nice to have all town offices in a new building in the area of the Library if funding ever permits. But as of now, all town departments are well run and managed by personnel who are extremely knowledgeable and courteous.
- School Board
- schools
- Parking at the Transfer/Recycling Station. Parking around the town center.
- Searles School and Chapel renovations
- School crowding issue
- School capacity and activities for children
- I do not want to spend money on any improvements at this time, but to choose the one that should be done 1st, it would be the town hall. The building is very old and my concern is that it is not adequate for conducting business today.
- School buildings and a nice walkable downtown area. Windham needs more for people to do as we have to go out of town for most things. However, it should not be like 28 or 102 or DWH.
- School buildings are THE most important issue. High quality schools go a long way to keeping real estate values high.
- Schools
- More days at the transfer station
- School capacity
- Planning and Development Customer Service
- Town Administration Offices
- School Capacity
- Additional hours at the transfer station
- Schools
- School Facilities
- Pedestrian Opportunities
- Recreation for adults"
- Middle School
- Elementary Schools - providing a quality education is essential to property values as well as our obligation to our children.
- Snow removal
- Schools!!!!
- Wish the transfer station was open more days for trash drop off, especially in summer.

- Schools
- Favor a Chipotle in town, Favor a Panera in town.... Some office space would be nice... Not interested in any large wall-mart type retail... Not interested in centrally controlled water (Looks like Penichuck trying to take Cobbets and make a profit off it, and they're a horrible company)... We are not densely populated and centralized water, sewer, gas are dumb ideas for Windham, unless you want to turn this place into apartment building central and most folks that live here moved away from that. There are other towns that provide that, we don't have to. You want to go back to 2 acre lot minimum so we we don't turn into Merrimack NH. Take a good look at Merrimack and all the condos, and empty retail space and crumbling schools... Don't go that way.
- Not being a wise guy but effective planning and zoning have been non-existent in this town...zero rhyme or reason
- The football field at the high school needs lighting.
- Schools!!!!
- Public Utilities; School Facilities
- Tree-cutting. We have a leaning tree over our road in which I called the town a year ago complaining about it, and it still hasn't been cut down.
- Lack of planning for sidewalks / bicycle paths to connect residential areas to recreational areas.
- Tree-cutting. We have a leaning tree over our road in which I called the town a year ago complaining about it, and it still hasn't been cut down.
- Lack of planning for sidewalks / bicycle paths to connect residential areas to recreational areas.
- Town water
- The school facilities. Overcrowding
- Schools need more room.
- The schools
- Schools capacity!
- Primary and Secondary schools and facilities. Overcrowding and level of poor facility conditions at the middle school and the older sections of Golden Brook need to be addressed. I believe it is not longer just a "school" issue to be dealt with by the school board but it is now a town wide community issue as it will affect the value of our homes.
- The schools
- The schools! Fix the overcrowding and halt the over building before we become the city of Windham !
- Schools, schools, schools
- Don't know about town service, but top priority should be the schools.
- School facilities, more fields, finish WHS football field
- Schools need to be expanded
- School capacity, availabiltiy of STEM offerings at all levels.
- School capacity and create mixed use center
- School capacity and facilities need to be enhanced. We need core infrastructure in this town for schools, its a must for this town (in my opinion).

- service? As opposed to facility.... "Economic Development" should focus more on actively (regionally) recruiting professional businesses to town and less on being an event planner for small mom-and-pop grand openings.
- Trash pickup
- School Board
- More proactive town government, responsiveness is excellent in general, but the answer from town government is often "that's not my issue" and referral to state agencies. I'd like to see better ownership from elected and appointed officials.
- Capacity of Schools
- The tax rate. Try holding that down instead of spending more
- Need more school capacity. Should be number 1 priority and town government should get on Board with School Board. Stop adding to schools and build a new middle school.
- Schools & the space therein.
- Schools!
- The planning dept needs new management that is aligned to support the town's needs and not just those of developers
- Schools - my son was displaced with the mold in the portables! I moved here for the schools and feel a little let down.
- transfer station
- Improve drainage problems and repave roads that have not been done for more than 30 years.
- Schools
- Where are the sidewalks for the protection of walking children and older folk. What a terrible oversight. Windham loses a lot of charm for the lack of that simple consideration.
- Where are the sidewalks for the protection of walking children and older folk. What a terrible oversight. Windham loses a lot of charm for the lack of that simple consideration.
- School capacity and traffic flow are major concerns.
- In terms of development, need to slow down pace of growth / reduce max potential buildable lots.
- School buildings
- Schools traffic ..(center school the most)
- school capacity
- Golden brook/ middle school designation
- Schools especially Golden Brook and Center School
- Increase in school capacity
- Community Development Department should not continue promoting initiatives to commercialize the town.
- Transfer station - hours of operation should include both Saturday and Sunday"
- Upgrade/update school facilities
- Let's look at creative ways to increase available classroom space - how about Searles school for Elementary school use? Creative meaning think outside the box and try not to gold plate the next option presented to the public. Taxes are getting ridiculous.

- 1- Schools and space for our students
- Schools are overflowing.
- Schools and in particular Golden Brook is very crowded and need to revisit an expansion plan.
- Cobbetts Pond needs to be cleaned
- Schools
- Elementary / middle schools.
- I think things are fine. The spending overall could slow down.
- While technically not a "town department", the School Board need to become for cost conscious.
- Possibly some volunteer maintenance at Foster's Pond Trails?
- Educational facilities
- schools
- Code enforcement
- I believe it is not so much the "service", but town officials and boards should uphold the character and LAWS of Windham. I feel there is too much behind the scenes activity.
- More recreation opportunities and facilities. Increased capacity for schools to meet current and future needs. A public disc golf course would be nice as it provides safe outdoor recreation at minimal initial and upkeep costs. I have lived in other parts of the country where there are many courses and they are used frequently by individuals of all ages, groups (leagues), and families. In addition, the costs to play (you cant start with one disc at around \$10) are also minimal and it is easy enough not to require lessons to learn. Once up and running there is very little maintenance or oversight required.
- Spruce up Town Hall and open up the "old library" next door to the public.
- Community development, creating more areas for our community to interact and be able to do business in our town
- Probably space issues with the schools.
- Schools should be added on to. We do not need a new school, expand what we have. Keeping taxes down as much as possible.
- Schools K-8
- Attitude of Police
- Community Development - too much friction in the department due to micromanaging
- Transfer station - always closed!
- Adequate capacity standards should be reached for the primary public schools (i.e. Golden Brook, Center School, and Middle School.)
- Public transportation.
- Business development to decrease tax burden on residential property owners.
- I would have ranked the High School as excellent if it was completed with a track and multi-purpose lighted field.
- Schools
- For young families like mine I believe we need to address the overcrowding issues first and foremost. Second, it would fantastic to see a recreational center in town with indoor facilities as well as an outdoor pool.
- Administration

- Schools
- General: 8(a) Bike trails - so we could bike/walk to the town beach/Griffin Park/Foster's Pond - would be wonderful. More ball fields/soccer fields do not seem necessary right now.
- Community: 9(i) a larger Town Beach would be nice - it gets very overcrowded."
- Schools
- Schools
- Golden rook and center school need more room for students
- Schools
- Traffic flow
- Windham needs a downtown. Maybe a nice shopping plaza with dining/shopping/etc. Some sort of gathering point. Windham has nice schools and a rail trail, but we need more amenities, and a community feel. I spend a lot of time driving to other towns. Keep the business in Windham.
- What about something like Market Street in Lynnfield.
- Water/Sewerage. Natural Gas pipelines
- The elementary and middle schools need updating/re-building. We need space for our children to learn. If we don't improve the space issues, our children will suffer and the quality of our educational system in town will decrease. This will negatively impact all of our property values.
- Probably schools
- Schools - overcrowding and maintenance.
- Schools- GBS, Center and WMS
- We need more schools.
- Road repair
- Schools for grades K - 8
- Education
- Middle School
- School capacity
- The school system. The School Administration and School Board have to address recent issues and act in a fiscally responsible manner while improving the education provided to students. Why is the SAU seeking outside legal advice to answer questions and requests for information made by school board members? Why with all the issues with school crowding and increasing class sizes is the SAU suggesting that school administrators are underpaid when the majority of the school administrations have come into their new positions with no experience in that position? (For example the current Center School principal, Center School assistant principal and Curriculum Director). Taking time and resources to study school administrators' salaries given the current issues makes the SAU and School Board appear out of touch with reality. The school system should be focusing on holding people accountable to do their job and respect the taxpayers of the town. The recent vote taken by the School Board regarding the portables at Golden Brook before viewing the bids submitted for the work was irresponsible. Although the actual decision of whether to fix the portables after reviewing the bids may not have been clear cut, to vote before the requested information was reviewed is irresponsible. It is also irresponsible to spend up to

\$70,000 to assess the mold at Golden Brook, if the three School Board members were going to conclude that there could never be a guarantee that the buildings would be mold free as this conclusion could have been reached without spending money as the microscopic organisms are everywhere.

- Also given the overcrowding in the school system, the town administration and school administration should be actively working together more. Continuing to build more and more new houses in town year after year does not make any sense given the current school overcrowding issues.
- Need transfer station opened for 5 days, including Monday (or Tuesday if Monday = Holiday)
- Improve the facilities management of the school district (portables fiasco)"
- The transfer station hours of operation.
- Transfer Station needs to not allow people to sell, hold signs or block residents from using the facilities by the drop off areas on the weekend. It is unsafe and creates traffic.
- Searles School and Chapel
- Goldenbrook School
- Something for teens to do at night.
- Easier access to the Senior Center for the elderly/handicapped. The few new spaces will help - but probably more are needed.
- Recreational Fields
- Educational facilities, especially K-6
- Our town services are good. No complaints.
- Center school, middle school golden brook school
- Lower schools (physical facilities)
- Town hall and community development buildings are old and not efficient.
- Schools and overcrowding are of greatest concern.
- schools
- Schools limited capacity
- School capacity
- Development of Commercial Property to reduce residential tax burden.
- Road maintenance
- Road maintenance.
- And in winter, London Bridge Road is treacherous, especially with so many new teenage drivers. This road should be one of the first to be salted/sanded/plowed if it starts to snow before school lets out.
- Schools
- Golden Brook
- Elderly transportation
- None. Lower taxes and reduce services to those only actually needed to provide functioning Town services (police, Schools, fire, roads).
- Tax collection.
- Road cleaning/grooming...(overgrowth/trash) Winter recreation
- Schools in general, but specifically Golden Brook and High School playing fields.
- None. So long as we maintain fiscal restraint, Windham will continue to provide excellent service to our community.

- Added space to the middle school or a larger middle school.
- School capacity
- There should be a donation area at the transfer station. If we are truly a recycling community, instead of trashing good quality items, we should have a "Pick and Save" area.
- The schools.
- Also the transfer station should be open more days. It is difficult with the transfer station closed Sunday through Tuesday.
- The middle school is full of mold and unsafe for teachers and students.
- The middle school is full of mold and unsafe for teachers and students.
- Our schools!
- Need more space in schools, they're currently overcrowded.
- Need better maintained restroom facilities at town parks. Griffin's restrooms are often dirty with broken toilets. Portapotties should be available year round at public parks if no restrooms available.
- Schools
- Schools
- Planning and Development to attract some businesses in real industrial park settings. The efforts to attract more retailers are pointless and quite amateur. The town needs a few real job producers like Research and Development firms and high technology manufacturers. The present Planning Dept. is unprofessional and incapable of attracting any real industry to our town. Contacts should be developed through the many professionals, executives, scientists, engineers, etc. that are residing in our town. Concepts such as satellite office parks which allow local professionals to remain in Windham two or three days out of the week may be attractive to firms along 93 and 128/95 in MA to assure they retain their NH workforce.
- The finance dept
- Schools
- Overpopulation in lower grades
- Schools capacity.
- Overpopulation of schools , shade is needed at the Griffin park playground, it is unusable in hot weather
- The town needs to find a way to have a stable property tax rate. I grew up here-my child grew up here and now I am struggling to pay the high property taxes. above all remember we want the people who love living here and are happy with the current services to be able to afford to live here....maybe we just need to leave things the way they are for a while.
- School space.
- Zoning enforcement
- Schools- GBS, Center and Middle
- Schools
- Searles School and Chapel should have a large tent in the rear of the property (seasonal) that could be rented for outdoor events. This would generate more income for the building. A small building behind the School with bathrooms may be a good idea also.
- Fire safety due to lack of fire hydrants in town.



- Sidewalks on 111A to Griffin Park
- I firmly believe that Windham should try on a coat of contentment. Let's be thankful for all the new facilities we have taxed ourselves to the hilt on - and at least pretend that the majority of our residents have caps on our financial resources. Improvement is great, but thankfulness and contentment is needed. Our children have every advantage in education and recreation - as do we as adults. Our roads are good. Yes, sometimes we have to wait in traffic, but - as we sit there in our cars - can we not just revel in the amenities we now possess? Let us not look to protect our open land since we have filled Ryan Farm Road filled with the dirt from the new 111 bypass. Let us not actively attract retail and professional business and then have to worry about getting the masses into and out of town. Let us be content without sidewalks and bike paths. Let us embrace the snippet of simplicity this quaint, lovely town still possesses. Oh, please. Let's be the "family" that cannot afford every luxury - the one in which the "parents" tell their children, "We don't have the money, so tonight we're going to stay home, be together, and have game night." Let's not continue to think about what we don't have; let us be the close-knit town that is thankful for what we do have. Please, oh please.
- The schools!
- Schools - overcrowded
- Schools.
- Town Hall services
- Our schools are well below standards or expectations for our town. Schools are a major factor in determining home values. School capacity and resources are a complete embarrassment.
- Strategic new business outreach
- Schools
- Support and promotion for existing businesses like Shaw's
- Elementary schools
- School system! We need to solve overcrowding in our schools
- Schools
- WMS
- WMS
- School capacity
- We need a bigger schools, the middle school is barely adequate, classroom space is very poor. I think this is where we need to focus our attention in the coming years.
- Senior Citizen Activities
- Keep our farms, access to public ponds
- Educational facilities
- Golden Brook School
- Schools
- None
- Middle School
- Schools
- Town beach
- Poor cell phone service
- More convenient transfer station hours

- Monday or Tuesday hours for transfer station
- Recreation - town needs a community center
- Community center
- Increase Industry and the Tax Base
- School Capacity
- School System
- GBS, Community Development
- School overcrowding
- community development dept
- community development
- Cut taxes for seniors who own their home
- Schools
- Expand Library
- Library Needs to Grow
- School District
- School Space and Facilities
- Senior Programs
- Recreation & ponds / fields
- Water, Sewer and natural gas service
- Town Beach

**Total omitted written comments with distasteful language: 4**

**Question 18:** Is there a type of business, industry or service that you would like to see in Windham?

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- Car wash and restaurants
- Higher Education
- Anything that would expand the tax base
- Technology
- Restaurants, community pool
- Businesses geared towards kids' activities...i.e. a bouncy house/jump park. More restaurants including fast food and traditional sit down. YMCA or other full service (pool) athletic club.
- I would most like to see some sort of office/manufacturing. I do not want more retail/restaurant that would be a constant increase in traffic. An office building/industrial would have a traffic increase 2 times each day, then just a building.
- If you're going to impact tax rates at all you need big businesses with \$50M+ type properties. The pin pricks of small retail shops etc. will only serve to increase traffic. STOP residential growth completely.
- Arts, entertainment, dining
- Office
- Sustainability
- Downtown village area with shops, local restaurants & pubs
- Upscale restaurant
- High quality food store
- YMCA
- Car wash
- Specialty restaurants- Tapas, Mexican, French, German. Something that is not available in the local towns that becomes a destination. No more pizza or donuts shops.
- Companies that will bring in high paying career opportunities.
- Trendy restaurants that serve fine foods
- Patagonia
- No dry cleaners, gas stations, coffee shops, pizza, fast food or low end retail
- Attract companies that offer career opportunities and higher salaries
- Trendy restaurants with high class food
- Patagonia
- No dry cleaners, gas stations, pizza, fast food, coffee shops or low end retail
- Sit down dining
- Bed and Breakfast, antiques - places built into older homes/buildings that are unique and eclectic rather than in strip malls. Similar to the work Northstar Financial Planning did to the home across from Griffin Park, retaining the original building while renovating, landscaping, etc. to make it attractive.
- Trader Joe's, health food stores, farmer's markets
- Chipotle, Panera, office space for tech....
- More recreational services
- Entertainment venue
- No, there is adequate retail/industry in the surrounding area

- Beautiful outdoor shopping mall like Southlake, Texas, here's the link:  
<http://www.visitsouthlaketexas.com/shopping-dining>
- More restaurants, not national guard or medical institutions
- Panera bread, Starbucks, non-chain restaurants, whole foods
- Bookstore
- More restaurants and retail
- Restaurants, gift shops
- Trader Joes or Wild harvest! More choices in fine dining, such as Indian, Thai, Mexican cuisine
- Anything but dunkin donuts, medical office space
- More restaurants and small business in general to offset taxes
- Full service restaurants, shopping, Panera Bread, Chipotle, specialty foods, fish market, produce or farmers market, boutiques
- More restaurants and box stores - Lowes, Target, etc.
- I'd like to see more small restaurants. Specialty type stores. We could use an area where people could park and walk. Maybe a small furniture store, antique store, bakery, restaurant with outdoor seating, fire pit, music.... Also, a small college campus would bring students, faculty and culture
- Small scale retail and medical business that serve the community is welcome. However, we do not want any major commercial development. We need to keep our town's charm it should be the top priority. If any material businesses need to be created the development should be limited to route 28.
- More dining establishments that are not affiliated with a chain
- Costco :-)
- More professional services, restaurants
- A pool or sprinklers for the kids at park or fields
- I would like to see non-impactful businesses that serve the local community, so non-manufacturing, and non-big-box businesses.
- Anything that will pay taxes... this town needs development
- More restaurants
- Improvement in outdated overcrowded schools
- Good restaurants...we drive out of town for most of our dining out; No chains!!
- Panera! More restaurants...would be great
- No- keep it a small town
- Car wash. Upscale pub. Family restaurant.
- Office space is nice as it increases tax base while not equally increasing demands for services. Wall Street Corridor is a perfect location for this type of development as it will reduce the impact of increased traffic. Also like the idea of the Wall St Ext to further split that traffic out.
- Computers and smart phone services. Colleges.
- Small town center encompassing town hall library
- Any business that could be located in the east side of Windham in alignment with the Rt 28 business district, not mid-town or west side
- I would like to see a combined "Lynnfield market street" with a combination of outlet stores and retail stores and restaurants.
- Priority should be given to what can bring in the most tax revenue

- Restaurants, small retail businesses
- Not crazy about the impact from a big box - at least not on 111 (maybe 28 would work). Let's consider some tax incentives to get any clean business here that won't require a lot of infrastructure upgrades (assuming they're of sufficient scale to help offset the tax burden that is presently falling on the homeowner almost totally).
- Restaurants
- I would like to see a mini mall plaza that is bigger the current ones that we have on Rte 111 at least three times the size of what we currently have. Where Banks, Restaurant and some retail stores.
- More restaurants
- Professional offices, small retail, family businesses
- Need more retail, specifically restaurants
- More restaurant options
- More manufacturing
- Whatever helps give taxpayers some relief on the property taxes is what should be looked at.
- YMCA or other similar recreation facility whether nonprofit or not. Dining. Pubs. Smaller grocer such as Trader Joes or McKinnon's.
- Panera bread. Trader Joe's. Restaurants that serve lunch and dinner
- I would like to see a town center develop with walking retail and restaurants connected with sidewalks and courtyards. More arts inspired businesses. Whole foods!!! Starbucks!!! I would like to be able to bring my family to lunch, walk next door to shop, walk next door to the pharmacy/convenience store and sit on a bench to have dessert!
- Only small local businesses, maybe another few restaurants
- More choice of restaurants and boutique shops
- Starbucks would be great
- Restaurants
- NOT any type of business or "entertainment" that is not family friendly/oriented i.e.: no gambling, strip joints, race tracks, sex shops
- Car Wash
- I felt I had to answer DK to the above questions as I don't have enough knowledge or context to answer the questions - I'd just be guessing at the priority.
- More office buildings for businesses like Medicus
- How about a satellite campus for a Massachusetts College, i.e. BC, BU, Northeastern etc...
- Outlet shops like the Merrimack Outlets right off interstate 93
- Restaurants/ice cream
- More sit down restaurants
- Arts and entertaining and upscale restaurants - no more mom and pops
- Panera
- Entrepreneur Retail space 1,000 +/- room for artists, small food shops, farmers market, etc.
- Panera
- Restaurants for FAMILIES, Common Man & Windham Restaurant are too expensive
- Also, Trader Joe's would be an awesome addition

- Opening another Dunkin Donuts just down from Heavenly Donuts is stupid
- ENOUGH ALREADY -- stop spending time trying to attract ANY kind of business!!! We bought in this town BECAUSE of the rural feel - we purposefully paid a premium for that rural feel - and now you (CDD) are spending your time trying to attract businesses that will ruin that rural feel - STOP!
- CCD = "Community Development Department" -- NOT "Business Development Department"
- For many residents it is not all about lower taxes - it IS all about quality of life!!
- Anything to help offset taxes
- Small local business that get involved with the community
- No more strip malls. Develop a downtown with a community feel.
- More Restaurants, Car Wash, Possible Office buildings for businesses. Family friendly entertainment... Move Theatre, mini golf... etc.
- More restaurants. Ones that offer delivery would great, in addition to sit-down restaurants. An additional grocery store would also be great.
- Small business
- The charter school would hurt the town in my opinion
- Restaurants - non-chain
- Outdoor shopping area, Starbucks, Chipotle
- Na
- Charter school
- Market Basket - could replace Shaw's!
- Better restaurants
- Greater variety of affordable dining options - good places to eat lunch
- More adult/senior activities"
- Restaurants and commercial retail
- Trader Joe's, more restaurants - pub style, contemporary food
- More office buildings
- Upscale bar or tavern with good food and entertainment.
- Ikea
- State Liquor store
- No
- Movie Theater and a couple of nice restaurants
- More retail stores, more local businesses, more restaurants
- Modern, upscale entertainment and dining complex similar to Market Street in Lynnfield, MA
- Restaurants - both local and small chain, office condos
- Entertainment and dining
- Dining, local chefs, arts/craftspeople in Village Center area, unique local shopping opportunities, shaded walkable areas and outdoor gathering places such as for local musicians, better employment opportunities (corporate offices, light industry); Whole Foods store or some equivalent, more transportation options.
- Personalized, small business, boutiques
- Industrial manufacturing
- Trader Joes
- Restaurants

- More restaurants
- A major retailer like Cabela's as an anchor store to attract other businesses
- Cobbler
- Recreation choices for pre-teens and teens as well as more family dining choices
- More family dining options, but no more pizza or donut shops! Outdoor cafes are nice. More places like the Windham Junction.
- Recreation for teens. Sad to see Victorian Park close.
- Indoor sports/recreation complex
- Food market such as Trader Joe's
- Dining with outdoor seating. NO CHARTER SCHOOLS STEALING OUR SCHOOL BUDGET!!
- High-end research and development offices
- Shopping/ dining vs new homes.
- No
- Nice Restaurants!!! Sick pizza and subs
- Wholefoods/Trader Joes...get rid of Shaw's!
- The market should determine what services are needed...not government. If retail is needed, then the development and developers will show interest. We need to provide proper management and planning for such businesses, however, we should not be singling out particular types of businesses or categories to be encouraged or prohibited. Many opportunities can be lost by narrowing zoning in hopes of finding the "exact" type of business we think we want.
- Entertainment services (family or community oriented)
- keep supermarket and add a Laundromat
- No. I moved to Windham for the communities then lack of interest in retail, industrial, and commercial development.
- Educational facilities such as a college or university, medical facilities such as a hospital or satellite facility for a hospital, sit down restaurants
- Restaurants, performance venue for Windham-scaled concerts and performances.
- A second hand store
- Entertainment
- More restaurants and shops. We need to develop more similarly to Salem, offering a wide variety of things to do. We do not need any more medical buildings.
- More restaurants and retails stores
- We desperately need more restaurants in town
- A senior center offering the programs comparable to that of Salem where many Windham seniors now attend.
- Restaurants, shopping center similar to Lynnfield Marketplace
- When I think of the massive amount of acres of commercial land wasted on strip malls in the Town... and where has it gotten us? A half a dozen bakeries, pizza joints, and random cutesy shops; with a higher than average turnover. Ask yourself, really, how effective such development is when these small businesses can't sustain themselves in Windham due to overhead costs. They're in/they're out... in no short order. And that land is wasted. Can we be done be wasteful now and STOP pushing for this type of development in Town?

- My answer is... big. Big, ugly, box stores. A mall. A movie theatre. An outlet center. A chain restaurant. A factory. Anything of a scale that has a scintilla of a chance at easing the tax burden enough to avoid residents like myself, whose families have lived here for literally generations, being forced to pull up those roots and relocate.
- Windham's highly educated and experienced professional workforce is the hidden and unutilized 'gem' of this community. This people resource could easily attract small satellite operations of many scientific and engineering oriented corporations. The town presently does nothing to attract some real corporate business to town. I suggest taking a look at the Fidelity campus in Merrimack or Philips Medical (formerly HP Medical) in Andover as the type of firms to actively attract to town.
- Mall & restaurants
- Starbucks
- I would like to see more dining opportunities in town
- Office buildings
- Village shops and restaurants and more overall retail business
- Restaurants
- We could really benefit by having some more updated restaurants and shops (not typical NH country type places). Starbucks, Panera Bread, retail shops that will attract people (not Moose-related).
- I don't understand why it has been so difficult for business on 111 to be approved. The new Dunkin's by Delahaunty wasn't allowed to put in a drive thru. Yet, McDonalds and Heavenly both have them, just a few feet away. Why hurt a business like that?
- High end, but small retail/entertainment/dining such as Starbucks, Panera Bread or small high end restaurants.
- Trader Joe's
- Public transportation to the Manchester Airport/Boston/Logan Airport
- More retail shops/grocery stores & Medical facilities so as to not have to drive to Salem daily
- Satellite college campus(MBA program)
- Furniture and/or Boutique consumer technology (Apple)
- Restaurants and grocery stores
- More educational opportunities, enrichment programs
- Enrichment programs for kids
- More nice restaurants.
- Commercial areas planned to minimize traffic affects. Keep larger impacts to gateway district I-93/Rt111. Ensure travel within does not impact the outskirts-backstreets and sidewalks to move around them.
- Slow the growth-Windham is losing its character as a lovely residential town
- Restaurants, Specialty retail (stove shop), Medical/Professional office space.
- No more fast food!
- Car wash with recycled water
- No
- Educational services, hospitals/medical offices
- Dog park, Digital credit union
- Theatre-Museum
- Public transportation and town water



- Entertainment (Theatre)
- No
- None
- Better restaurant, business/commercial to offset residential tax rates
- Trader Joes store
- Dog park, Digital credit union
- Neighborhood bar rooms
- No
- Funeral Home
- No, prefer the quiet rural residential Town that it is now
- Eco Friendly
- Public transportation-medical-industry-office-Windham needs to increase the tax basis but not on the backs of residents. By proposing all this retail/industry/commercial etc. where are you going to get the land area.
- All commercial, Medical and retail Development to lower taxes.
- Movie theatre, college, outlet shops
- Arts, Restaurants, Theatre
- Pedestrian friendly village center
- Restaurant like Tuscan kitchen, farmers market, arts center at Campbell farm.
- Movie theatre, college, outlet shops
- Brew Pub
- More commercial developments, specifically in the retail sector
- Science Technology
- Light regional manufacturing
- Medical research, office, service and or bio gen facilities to support the greater Boston industry
- Businesses that pay taxes

**Question 22:** What three sites or features in Windham do you feel have the greatest historic significance or preservation value?

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- Town Hall
- Johnson Farm
- Searles chapel
- Griffin park
- Rail Trail
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles Area
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle, Searles School
- Windham Presbyterian Church
- Searles
- Searles Chapel
- The castle tower
- Town Hall
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- Johnsons farm
- Searles Castle
- The original town center/Armstrong building
- Castle
- Anything Searles-related
- Castle
- Rail trail
- Town Hall
- Searles castle
- Campbell farm
- Searles castle
- Searles castle
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- Searles chapel
- Searles castle
- Town hall
- Windham Rail Trail
- Searles Castle
- Town Center buildings (Town Hall, Armstrong, Church, etc.)
- Searles Castle
- Griffin Park
- Searles School
- Park
- Documenting town history (including I-93 expansion)
- Searles Castle
- Searles School

- Searles castle
- Town hall area
- Searles chapel
- Searles Castle
- Searles
- D/K
- The castle
- Searles Chapel, Castle and walls on Searles....
- Armstrong Building
- Armstrong Building
- Our water resources - Cobbett's and Canobie
- Cemetery
- Town hall
- Campbell Farm, Lakeview Farms, Johnsons Farm
- Castle
- Campbell Farm
- Windham Depot area
- Searles
- Searles Castle
- Town Hall
- Searles Castle
- Town Center (Town hall, PB, Bartley, Senior and Church)
- Rock walls
- Windham train station/ rail trail
- Searles Castle
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles castle
- Searles School
- Searles
- Searles Castle
- Gage Lands
- Searles Castle
- Searles
- Searle's Castle
- Barns & agricultural land, open fields
- Searles castle properties
- Searles Castle
- Searles Chapel/stone wall
- Area around the Common Man
- Searles Chapel/stone wall
- Searles castle
- Castle
- Searles Castle and School
- Play house
- Old Windham town center

- Open spaces
- Searles Castle and School
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- Searles
- Town hall
- Searles School and Castle
- Searles castle
- Searles Chapel
- Open lands and trails
- Searles Chapel
- Searles chapel
- Johnson Farm
- Cobbett's Pond
- Cobbett's Pond
- Campbell Farm
- Town Center
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- The three historic town office buildings and the Pres. Church
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles Castle
- Town Center
- Johnson Farm
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles Castle
- Cobbett's Pond
- Searles Castle and Chapel
- Gage lands
- DNK
- Searles School/Chapel
- Searles Castle
- Searles
- Don't care
- Deer Leap
- Searles Chapel
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- Old fire station/town hall
- Johnson's Farm
- Searles castle and wall
- Town Hall
- Searles school and chapel
- Searles

- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle and School
- The old houses at the town center
- Fosters Pond Recreation Area
- Rail trail
- Searles Castle
- Searles castle
- Searles Castle
- Many have been lost to commercial development
- Cobbett's Pond
- Farmland such as Taylor Farm
- Former stone library
- None
- Searles Chapel
- House on corner of 111 and Hardwood
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles castle
- Searles Castle
- Town Hall/Commons area
- Searles School and Chapel and other Searles sites
- The museum building - old library
- Searles Castle
- Searles
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles school
- Searles castle and chapel
- Searles Castle
- Presbyterian Church
- Campbell Farm
- Searles School
- Searles Castle
- Land/Trees
- Searles Castle + Wall
- Castle
- Searles Castle
- Farms - Johnsons
- Town hall
- Taylor farm area
- Taylor's farm
- There is no need for Windham to include further tax payer funded preservations of any tax payer, let property be donated + owner set up trust fund for all expenses associated to maintain and improve property they are donating to the town of Windham.
- Town hall
- Armstrong Building
- None
- Windham Restaurant

- 1742 Crucius house
- Some 18th Century homes
- Searles school chapel
- Searles Castle
- Castle
- Union Hall
- Searles Chapel
- Searles Castle
- The brown 1700s home on Range road
- Moeckel Pond Dam
- Town Hall
- Searles Chapel
- Apple Acres-Great family place/seasonal events
- Parks - Griffin as example
- Gage Lands
- Old Library
- Johnson farm
- Searles Castle
- Campbell House
- The local historical homesteads
- Town Hall
- Searles Castle
- Searles School and Chapel
- Apple Acres
- Campbell farm
- Searles Chapel
- The Windham Depot
- Town Hall complex
- Rail buildings
- Searles School
- Searles castle
- Old library and fire station
- Searles castle
- Searles chapel
- Cobbett's Pond
- Town administration building
- Cobbett's pond
- Searles school
- Johnson farm
- Windham Woods
- Bartlett Farm
- Johnson Farm
- Rail Trail
- Cobbett's pond
- Foster's Pond
- Making history accessible on-line and in the library

- Searles Castle
- Searles chapel
- Searles castle
- Rail Trail
- Area near Senior Ctr/(town hall area) utilize area near beautiful stream near gazebo more
- Depot
- Depot
- Our existing trails - conservation land
- Pond
- Searles School
- The Castle
- Johnson's Farm
- Rail Trail
- Town Building area on North Lowell Road
- Searles School
- Searles School & Chapel
- Searles Castle
- wetlands
- Searles Chapel/School
- Searles Chapel
- Searles Castle
- Town beach
- Johnson Farm
- Farmland
- Searles School
- Campbell Farm
- Searles Chapel
- Town Hall
- Searles castle and the chapel
- Searles Chapel
- Town Hall/Presbyterian church/Armstrong Building
- Range at Rockingham Blvd. to Indian Rock
- Town Hall/Presbyterian church/Armstrong Building
- Searles school
- Presbyterian church
- Rock bridges and walls throughout the town
- Town hall/av building
- Historic homes
- Campbell's Farm
- Searles Chapel
- Campbell Farm
- Old library
- Johnson farm
- Town Hall
- Searles School

- Town hall
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- Old town center -
- Foster's Pond
- The Windham Depot and area
- Depot
- Searles Chapel
- Apple Acres - Johnson Farm
- Brown house next to Naults
- Farmland (Apple Acres, Johnsons Farm, Taylor Farm, etc.)
- Rail Trail area
- Moeckel pond
- DNK
- Searles Castle!!
- Don't care
- Rail Trail
- Indian Rock
- Windham Depot (and rail trail)
- Griffin Park/Johnson's Farm
- Old library
- Old homes 1700's
- Rail trail and junction
- Historic Homes
- Town Forest
- SEARLES CHAPEL
- Prominent, visible historic homes on well-traveled routes
- Searles Castle
- The Town Hall Area
- Searles Castle
- Searles Chapel
- Town Center
- Town hall
- None
- Armstrong Building
- Cluster of old houses on Cobbett's Pond Road south of Golden Brook.
- WCTV Building
- Searles school
- Searles School & Chapel
- Original Fire Station
- Parts of the castle - wall, perhaps
- Armstrong Building
- Depot
- Campbell farm house
- Campbell farm house
- Searles Chapel



- Campbell Farm
- Original town buildings, center building
- Old library building
- Searles School
- Castle, Stone wall
- Searles
- Armstrong building
- Johnson farm
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles Chapel
- Searles Castle and Chapel
- Searles Castle
- The kitchen at Windham junction.
- Building next to common man
- Town hall, senior center. Church area
- Searles castle
- Searles Schools and Chapel
- Searles School
- Windham Depot
- Searles Castle
- The white home on Range road
- Searles School and Chapel
- Searles
- Johnson farm-friendly family owned place with animals to see.
- Windham Depot
- Rail trail -Windham junction rd
- Town Museum
- Windham Depot
- Town Hall and center buildings
- Planning Department
- Indian Rock
- Windham Country Club
- Johnsons Farm
- Antique Barns
- Searles Castle, Searles School/Chapel
- Johnson Farm
- Town Center
- Town hall
- Windham Presbyterian Church
- Searles chapel
- Windham museum
- Windham Depot/rail trail
- Deer leap
- Any of the old homes that could be renovated and turned into new businesses
- Town Hall Area
- Moeckel Pond

- Keeping more open space
- Town Center
- Town beach
- Old town center buildings, including Presbyterian Church
- Canobie Lake
- Revolutionary and Civil War history
- Town Hall
- Town hall
- Cobbett's Pond
- Rail trail -- area near Windham Junction!
- Searles buildings
- Searles buildings
- Historic homes and farms
- Searles Castle
- Older homes on 111
- Searles Chapel
- Johnson Farm
- All farms (Apple Acres / Campbell / Johnson)
- Searle's castle
- Griffin Park
- "Old library" next to town hall....Town Hall needs TLC
- Campbell Farm
- Bike path/train depot
- Windham Junction
- Windham Depot
- Town Common
- Searles Castle
- Town Hall
- Searle's School
- Cobbett's Pond
- Windham Depot
- Johnson's Farm
- Town Center / Town Building area at N Lowell
- Johnson's Farm
- Searles School
- Union hall - and many other 1600-1800's buildings around town
- Outdoor rec spaces
- Searles School
- Apple Acres
- Canobie Lake
- Nesmith building
- Stone walls
- Searles Castle
- Deer Leap
- Deer Leap
- Johnson Farm

- Campbell Farm
- Searles Chapel for Number 2
- Campbell Farm
- Town Center Buildings
- Town Hall
- Cobbett's Pond
- Town Hall
- Searles Castle
- Searles Castle
- Rail trail
- DNK
- Town Center's oldest buildings
- Don't care
- Town Common
- Lands of Griffin Park and Johnson Farm
- Armstrong Building and town center
- Rail Trail/Depot Area
- Any remaining farms and/or farm houses
- Old homes 1800s
- Town forest
- Cobbett's pond
- Windham Town buildings
- Cobbett's Pond
- Campbell Farm
- Presbyterian Church
- Nesmith Library
- Town Beach
- Cobbett's Pond
- Armstrong Building
- Cemeteries
- Depot Area
- None
- Searles School
- Senior Center
- Windham depot buildings
- Canobie Lake
- Town Hall
- Farmhouses
- Town Center
- Cobbett's pond
- Depot
- Town Hall
- Searles Castle
- Windham depot
- Old Farms
- Laundry and new ski area

- Armstrong Building
- Bartly house Searles
- Town forest on Route 28
- Johnson farm
- Searles School
- Kivikoski house
- Apple acres
- Searles castle
- Campbell farm
- Town offices
- Town Hall
- Deer Leap
- Town Hall
- Library
- Rail trail-quiet, scenic and clean trail for all ages.
- Searles Castle, Chapel

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**Question 24:** What is the BEST thing about Windham?
 

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- Local community feeling
- Rail Trail
- Community involvement
- Rail trail, volunteerism
- Windham is extremely well managed as displayed on the town side of our tax bills.
- Small community feel, close to Boston
- Schools, reputation, location.
- School
- Schools
- Still a small town
- It's quaint size and school system
- Schools/teachers/admin & community
- The people.
- The community
- The people
- Small town character
- The best thing about Windham is what's left of the original Spirit this town was built and founded upon.
- Commuter Access
- Safe community
- Well positioned to implement sustainable growth strategies (natural resources, energy, educational, health/recreation, etc.)
- The Parks and Nature areas
- Character
- Its charm and location
- Residential pride
- Natural Environment including Rail Trail, Griffin Park, Johnsons Farm, Apple Acres
- Open spaces, safety, nice neighborhood, desirable, opportunities for outdoor recreation,
- Open spaces, safety, nice neighborhoods. Opportunities for outdoor recreation
- Windham's unique character (distinct from surrounding towns).
- Trees
- Beautiful natural areas
- Large lots and wooded spaces between homes and the new high school and it's right off of 93
- The best thing was - peaceful
- Rural character
- The community itself
- Small town feel and quaint setting away from the hustle and bustle.
- People
- The fact that it's mostly residential and high-middle class people with no chain stores
- It's volunteerism
- Proximity to Boston mountains and beaches
- Caring and involved community
- Beautiful, residential town close to Boston and lakes/mountains

- People
- The teachers, location and community feel
- Proximity to 93 and the townspeople.
- People
- Outdoor resources, athletic programs
- The small town feel
- Country living, close to 93, great teachers despite current situation within school system itself
- Location, near Boston, ocean and mountains
- Has maintained its small town feel.
- Space
- Natural beauty & the chance to help shape growth and development
- Great schools and locations
- Griffin Park, rail trail, Johnson's Farm
- Sense of community.
- Close to Boston
- The community feel
- Residential and Quaintness of the Town
- Residential Community, commuter town to Manchester, Nashua and Boston.
- Proximity to Boston
- The residential character (no big box retail; minimal strip malls; conservation and recreation spaces)
- I feel safe in Windham.
- Its family friendly nature (which is becoming tarnished)
- Safety
- The residents
- Location
- Small town feel
- Convenient location
- Optimism
- Teachers
- Location to Boston and access to the rest of NH
- The neighborhoods, the schools (until recently)
- rail trail
- Central to lakes, mountains and Boston.
- Somewhat rural spaces left
- Proximity to Boston, schools,
- Small town atmosphere/friendliness
- Its location: close to I-93 and access to the Salem-Nashua shopping complexes that don't need to exist in town.
- Community, excellent schools
- Location
- The rural character that is left
- Small town
- The people
- Location

- Local charm and our local businesses
- There is not much left after the installment of the McDonalds.
- Small knit community and school system
- Location (rural but commutable to major cities)
- Small Town Community feeling
- Small town feel
- Small town look with very little congestion and safe neighborhood
- Great country setting close to city jobs
- Character
- People
- Its character
- Good schools - need to keep this a priority
- Convenience to commuting options and quality of housing
- Quality of life
- Its people
- Community
- Location
- Its population
- The proximity to Boston...The People
- Nesmith Library
- The spirit of the community, the quaint New England feel of the town center
- Its lack of commercial shopping in downtown.
- The People.
- Small town feel and knowing your neighbors.
- People & community events
- Volunteerism
- Location
- People
- Windham High School
- Town character, schools, opens space (including Cobbett's) and access to 93
- It's small enough to get involved and make a difference. There's a lot of pride here.
- Small town atmosphere and town programs
- Still not over developed, close to airports
- Its character
- Low crime
- Recreational recourses and education
- Location
- It's rural (non-commercial) flavor.
- A great place to raise kids
- Location
- People/schools
- Staying small
- A sense of community and our volunteers
- My house
- Nice Community, nice lots of land, great location - need more businesses though
- Small town character with access to everything.

- Community
- Close to 93, nice area
- Community
- Community, amenities
- Small town, level of academics/teachers
- Small town feel
- It is desirable because it is not overbuilt. Prop. Values benefit.
- Small town feel and high quality educational system
- Schools
- Small town feel
- The residents
- Friendly, safe environment for raising children
- The school system
- Still has a small town feel; is not too commercially developed; no big box stores
- Location
- The community feel of the town.
- Small town character
- Small Town culture
- Small Town culture
- Decent facilities, good people, decent schools but watch the tax expense. We don't want to be the most expensive in southern NH.
- It's rural character.
- Combination of proximity to Boston/Mtns/Seashore and its rural character
- Geographical location and the people that live here.
- The Rail Trail, and lakes & ponds
- Schools
- Easy Access East/West 111, North/South 28, i93, 128
- Feeling of Windham being a safe community
- People
- It is a beautiful place to live with people who what the best for their families
- Community Events
- Natural beauty of the town maintained through 30 years of growth
- The people, our values and the beauty of our community.
- Residents
- Slightly rural community
- Abundance of well-educated, knowledgeable residents
- Small town
- Still feels like a small town
- The Wildlife and Historical Rural Character
- The character of the town
- Small, clean
- Close to I-93
- Community spirit
- It's remaining open spaces.
- Cultural character coupled with location
- The Town Clerk



- Windham has a strong character and great schools
- Convenient access to Route 93
- Nesmith Library
- Small community
- Privacy
- Proximity to I93 to Boston and rt111 doesn't look like Rt28 in Salem
- Its home...
- The old town residential feel
- The character of the town
- Residential Privacy
- Rural character
- Limit to the commercial development. I appreciate that Windham is mostly residential.
- Quaint rural desirable community
- Quality of life (good schools, natural resources, geographic location, New England character)
- Feels like a small town but close to everything.
- the unique people in town
- The friendliness of the town.
- Educational facilities
- Educational facilities
- Location
- Good school system
- Cobbett's Pond
- Convenient location to Boston, Manchester, Nashua
- Safe
- Quickly disappearing rural feel
- If you have to ask that, you haven't lived here anywhere near long enough.
- Its small town character, which is quickly disappearing
- Pleasant central location to cities and NH's natural resources
- Board of selectmen
- Caring community
- Recreation.
- Location
- The sense of community we have
- Windham is a great place to raise a family, great schools, great rec.dept. Safe and beautiful.
- The town's location.
- The school system
- Develop rail trails
- Location and small town feel.
- Beautiful and safe neighborhoods for families with children
- I like to think Windham aligns with my own fierce independence AND determination to be thankful for what I already have.
- The community
- The people
- Small hometown quaint suburb feeling

- Location and the general town culture
- Schools
- Searles school / chapel
- Teacher quality in the public schools and the Rail Trail. Low crime.
- Small community feeling
- It still has a small town feel.
- Cobbett's community
- It people
- Rural Feel
- Community
- Improve tax burden with business
- People who live here
- As is Windham
- Kendall pond Road
- Proximity to Boston, quality of life
- The people
- People who live here
- Small town charm
- Support family and atmosphere
- Cooperative and tightknit community
- Windham's activities
- The people/ community
- Community connection and scape/ low crime rate
- Rural atmosphere
- No big stores or malls
- Not too complex or crowded
- Schools
- Senior Center
- Rural Community
- Offer variety for all ages to enjoy anytime
- Sense of community.
- Community
- Our safe, quiet, non-commercialized residential living.
- It's a great Town
- It is the perfect quiet rural town
- The only good thing is proximity to highway.
- A lot of family friendly activities, Nesmith Library.
- Windham Community Bands
- Location
- Residential, pristine community
- Quiet town, the people
- Rural Character
- Family atmosphere
- Open space small town character
- Still a small town
- People tend to take care of their property

- People who care about the community
- The Library
- Library
- Old time small town feel
- Good sized community with hometown feel
- Small town Ambience sense of community
- Cobbett's Pond, but improve water quality
- Cobbett's Pond
- Small town government to support, small town rural charm
- Safe + Quiet, Close to Boston
- No big stores or malls

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**Question 25:** What is the one thing about Windham you would change?
 

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- Aside from the high school, our schools need significant work.
- More open land
- Acceptance of change
- Partisan politics
- Heavy reliance on property taxes
- No real town center, crowded elementary/middle schools
- Better/larger town center/green
- Board of Selectmen
- Put more money into schools
- Residential growth needs to stop.
- school funding and political discourse
- State Adequacy Aid funding; there isn't much to do in town for entertainment.
- Politics of school board - spend our tax money wisely.
- We have way, way, way too much ongoing residential development.
- We do not have sidewalks-I am not able to park and walk to the post office and then walk to get coffee
- Less development
- I have no control over other people's decision making, so this is a nebulous question.
- School Capacity
- Negative politics
- Lack of character via a distinct downtown area
- Renovate elementary schools and WMS
- SCHOOL OVERCROWDING
- Update the schools
- WTC should be banned from attending elections since they do not represent the people of the town - rather they represent morons
- Hire an architect to improve architecture for both residential and commercial structures
- Hire an architect to enhance visual character of commercial and residential structures
- Limited space in schools and school buildings not being maintained.
- Increasing traffic congestion
- Traffic along 111
- LIMIT residential growth!
- Better high school fields for sports and community use.
- Traffic
- Attitude of some--impossible to do
- Growth, the school systems are suffering.
- Over development.
- Create a "downtown" area with small shops / restaurants
- Add bicycle paths / sidewalks
- Rate of residential growth
- Town public water
- Less residential development, sidewalks, more room for all students in schools, greater investment in schools
- How unattractive the 93 expansion is on Windham.

- Schools
- The schools
- Windham needs another revenue stream and it needs to be from business and manufacturing.
- Taxes
- Tax basis
- Decrease the taxes
- Go back and not have it built up so rapidly in the last 15 years without the schools keeping up to accommodate
- Schools facilities are horrible, embarrassing
- The schools need to be updated and have more room
- School capacity
- Action regarding school capacity, facilities & fields
- We need more businesses to support the growth - people spend money in other towns because it's not available locally
- There's a lack of charm. The town has no big old trees or old stone walls visible from a driving stand point.
- Provide adequate student capacity in every school.
- TRASH on the roadways and in my front yard. People here are slob
- the Interloper feel from the old timers
- Enhance School Infrastructure
- Not enough commercial development
- Add sand volleyball courts
- Get a village center district up and running so that we have a true downtown
- Improve dining options, more recreational activities.
- Slow the population growth that appears to be unchecked
- Create a town center
- The tax rate..... Why only houses for taxes? Where are the businesses?
- Tax rate climbing too fast. Difficult for seniors.
- stop adding houses
- Get more people to utilize school buses. It is a form of public transportation that not enough people take advantage of.
- School capacity
- Improve the traffic flow through town (111 and access to 93)
- Investment in schools - it's why I moved here!
- High property tax
- Slow down growth
- School board
- Place a moratorium on residential building.
- Residential growth
- All the houses being built and traffic!
- Windham has no central business/cultural center. Tax rate is very high relative to services provided
- Sidewalks would be great...although I realize costly...a "town center"
- Stop developing Griffin Park
- Sidewalks and, Please some shaded passive recreational area at Griffin Park

- Reduce partisan bickering.
- The polarity of our citizens on several issues - it seems there may not be a middle-ground on several key issues.
- Slow / diminish commercial development along 111
- Create a town center
- School capacity
- Not having a strong downtown area to pull the town together
- Ease of variances
- Enforce the no truck and buses law on the McDonalds property.
- Better school facilities
- Taxes - due to unrestricted residential growth
- School crowding issues
- Lower taxes by allowing more commercial in limited areas
- Fee for new homes that can help subsidize school system
- Traffic on 111
- The large led signs
- Slow down growth
- I would like more town forests or conservation land
- Add sidewalks and decorative street lamps
- Control the School board and excessive budgets.
- Property taxes
- We need more retail
- Schools
- The State's inconsiderate attitude towards us; 111 Bypass / Rt 93 expansion, 111 reconfiguration
- Overcrowding
- Tax rate for services rendered. More recreational opportunities
- Traffic
- Growing too fast
- I would provide more space for education since the schools were built for smaller populations
- Create more green space in the center and develop a walking shopping area add sidewalks to existing shopping areas
- Put a limit on building new homes to keep schools manageable.
- School overcrowding, problems, etc.
- Add more small business to alleviate taxes
- Schools over-crowding and disconnect w/continued residential housing growth
- Traffic by making students take the bus
- Transfer Station Hours
- Lack of support for developing/maintaining public schools and educational standards
- Have more gathering places, e.g. a Tupelos
- School facilities
- The overcrowding at the schools really concerns me.
- the whole 111/93 project it is too bad 111 couldn't have been pushed further north
- Lack of interesting architectural development
- traffic

- Add a dog park
- Funding to help a 501 c3 repair part of Windham's beautiful conservation, the dam on Moeckel
- Taxes
- REAL bike paths - throughout the town (the attempt on Lowell Rd is a failure - no one uses - too dangerous)
- Build a new school
- School overcrowding
- Not moderate enough, seems to be dominated by republican ideology
- Excessive arguing over issues without being productive
- Make our schools a community resource - pool track, etc.,
- School overcrowding
- high property taxes and bringing big time politics to a small New England town
- BORING
- Promote Smart growth of businesses to better quality of life and lower tax burden on residents
- The overcrowding in the schools.
- Outside political influences
- Slow the building of houses, reduce taxes
- Schools
- School structures
- Beautify 111 - looks dumpy!
- School building quality, # of students per class
- school capacity
- Lot sizes - make bigger and slow down development
- Reduce taxes
- School buildings from k - 8; parking at parks
- Add roundabouts to route 111
- Stop population growth - stabilize population and need for town services
- iPads for all students instead of books, the impact would be huge
- Needs more good restaurants; more organized activities for adults and seniors, such as in The Villages in Florida
- Limit residential development until school capacity issues are resolved
- The growth of new residential areas
- Decrease the rate of growth in new residential houses.
- Restrict residential growth
- More bike friendly
- Stop building houses! Every house costs us more tax dollars than it contributes
- The mindset that we can remain a rural oasis, and that mindset is making for very poor long term decisions at BoS and PB
- nothing
- create zoning to preserve seasonal cottages on the pond
- Easier access to retail facilities
- Selling land in Current Use, the penalty should go in General Fund under control of voters.
- The people who think they are better than everyone else.

- Traffic
- The concept that more commercial development will make Windham better.
- Identity
- Better water supply
- Add sidewalks to encourage more walking.
- Increase tax base
- Develop Village Center as a unique site and as a VILLAGE
- Utilize route 111 and exit 3 access for development localized near these resources.
- Traffic, the heavy trucks on 111.
- Improve school facilities
- Politics
- Reduce traffic
- Lessen congestion.
- Change tax revenue to income for fairness.
- The Planning Board
- Slow down residential growth and huge homes
- Slow down residential growth and reduce size of homes.
- Windham Middle School
- Overcrowding
- Too snobby. Too much money. Too expensive.
- Signage laws
- Quality of education
- Need a quaint down town
- Industrial growth
- Bring Back Ice on Cobbett's Pond or Griffin Park for winter skating
- High School Principal
- Current attitude about and push for commercial development.
- Persistent interest in commercial and industrial development
- Traffic congestion
- The continual loss of historic buildings.
- Stop the cutting down of all the trees in town!
- The uncontrolled growth of the town.
- More local attractions for residents
- More retail stores and restaurants.
- Build more schools
- The high tax rate
- Targeted commercial development to support residential services
- Conspicuous consumption
- I would have a more restrictive sign ordinance- no internally illuminated signs or flashing electronic signs.
- Refer to my answer to questions (10) and (18)
- Reduce the number of little retail centers now cropping up that add to traffic congestion, but do not aid in reducing tax rate
- Taxes
- Town administration & Staff
- The anger and vitriol among politicians.



- School capacity
- Tax base
- Deal with overcrowding of schools
- Windham needs to keep our property taxes stable.
- Improve our ability to act on school capacity needs in a timely manner.
- bring in more business
- Make it easier for business to open on Route 111.
- Charge appropriate impact fees on new residential development to offset burden on town services
- I would change this incessant wheel that churns with discontent. We have enough. Our children have enough. Let us be thankful
- Stop building
- Make sure town employees show up for work.
- Traffic/Route 111 should be two lanes in both directions
- The schools need to be brought up to par and frankly mirror the true demographics of the town.
- Start proactively courting business development
- Improve support for existing businesses
- More commercial growth to increase the tax base
- Center and middle schools
- Schools
- Urban Sprawl
- Inducements
- Mixed use housing
- Size, growth
- Create neighborhood k-5 school
- Town politics
- Residential lack of interest in preservation
- Corn development
- Sidewalks
- LIMIT residential growth!
- School board
- School space
- None
- School crowding
- Build a theatre
- Access to public transportation, better bike paths
- Change the make-up of some boards
- Widen Rte. 111
- The mind of those who want to change things
- Home building
- Over development, wetland infringement
- Dysfunctional school board
- Voter apathy
- Make it more open to business
- More open to business

- Housing for elders.
- I would discourage commercial development
- Tax base needs to include industry/ commerce
- Stop or finish construction-now
- School Capacity
- School Board
- Need more diversity and housing choices
- Expand lanes on 93
- School funding-additional not from property taxes
- New elementary school, larger middle schools
- Traffic off exit 3 from 93
- Stop intrusion into wetlands
- I-93, Rte. 111 expansion
- School Administration
- Traffic on Route 111
- More Commercial Growth
- Limit Residential Growth
- Elected Officials
- Rail station to Boston
- Fewer residential developments with huge houses
- Lower taxes
- Decrease residential development
- 4 Lane Route 111 thru town
- Widen Route 111

**Total omitted written comments with distasteful language: 2**

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**Question 26:** If you could identify one vision for Windham, what would it be?
 

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- More of a 'country town'. If I wanted city I would move to MA.
- Stay course of previous master plans
- Get moving on new projects that the Planning board has worked on for several years as far as zoning and regulations. I feel that the Planning Board has done a great job in the preparation for growth, now we need the builders.
- A community of excellence in education with community spirit and pride reflected by active healthy lifestyles and philanthropic giving by affluent residents
- Get more elementary and middle schools
- I have the following vision:
- A town that embraces technology and is on the cutting edge.
- A town that uses a proofreader on surveys.
- Resident opportunities offered with fiscal responsibility.
- Small town with plenty of activities and amenities so that you don't need to go out of town for much.
- Small town, some business. Smarter use of school buildings. Less traffic at the schools (which would be easily accomplished by parents putting their students on the provided busses).
- Stop residential growth as there is No plan to deal with the influx of school aged children. While more commercial suggests that'll help the tax rate the reality is you'd need 50 Wal-Marts to make a dent. A nice downtown area with benches, restaurants, etc. would be nice. No mixed use of Condo's/small retail. There's a negative (more kids) and a positive (more services) that offset each other.
- Plenty of quality, small businesses in a concentrated area with well-controlled traffic patterns. Top school system in the state along with top quality facilities. Control residential growth. All of these working together will ensure high property values and high quality of life in town.
- To have a town center that is walkable.
- I would love to be able to park and wander around "downtown" Windham - all of the areas on 111 should be connected somehow with sidewalks
- maintain the rural character and manage growth of individual residences
- To maintain the integrity of the community values that made this town a good place to live.
- Best school district in the State of NH
- A Leader (a model) for Sustainable Development and Living in Southern New Hampshire. (e.g. energy, natural resources, health (recreation etc.), local food/small retail initiatives)
- A small quaint village, downtown area that would promote pedestrian access to small retail shops, restaurants and pubs
- Quaint rural New England
- Learning and growing together as a community by providing the highest quality public schools, recreational and learning opportunities for adults, and mutually beneficial business-community relations.
- to attain high national ranking for educational excellence and recreational satisfaction

- Open spaces where conservation, clean air and sustainable growth and resource management ensure that we remain head and shoulders above the surrounding towns in NH and MA.
- Promote well thought out decisions where the town
- Remain highly desirable by protecting natural resources (including open space) and focusing on outdoor recreation opportunities, safety, education, aesthetics and well thought out planning for clustered vibrant town center.
- More things to do and schools large enough to accommodate the town's kids.
- The 2005 master plan vision statement is excellent including: retaining a close relationship with the land, its open spaces, lakes, ponds, streams and forests; future development should be shaped to preserve scenic landscapes, allow for continuous habitats and recreational trails, and protect water quality; improving overall circulation to, from and across town; continued support for top notch educational institutions; recreational programs and facilities, pedestrian friendly village center, etc.
- Step away from the desire to bring in more business and to further develop 111.
- Smart growth for the future - well thought out business, recreational and residential plans to keep Windham from recreational development due to factors we could have controlled.
- Nice quiet town with a good school system and friendly people that live here.... Which you have to control/slow residential growth to keep the school system good so that we can plan and build over time rather than in a burst all at once. It would also be nice if the state contributed money into what it chooses to regulate. Charter Schools are a complete waste of time and money and should not be sponsored by the town, run by the town, or paid for by the town. Be wary of those that pitch a school for nothing because they are misguided...
- Back to the future - a bedroom community as opposed to where we seem to be headed, Salem, NH
- Keep the rural character
- Retain its charm and feel, but improve road way efficiency. Provide adequate infrastructure for its residents which would include much need upgrades for the lower school grades.
- To remain a suburban oasis. Rural is long gone.
- Promote commercial development to lower residential taxes
- Bring schools back to quality education they used to be by investing in our schools.
- Create a beautiful town, with a town center with quaint retail/restaurants (like Lexington) or planned beautiful retail groupings like in Westford, MA Cornerstone Square. Key is planned and beautiful - not random so we end up looking like 28 in Salem.
- To have one of the best school systems in NH.
- Increased revenue from business and manufacturing that will reduce taxes on families and increase the quality of infrastructure.
- Better schools
- More business opportunity development
- Slow the residential building, increase CERTAIN commercial building but not become a Salem or Nashua but keep a small town feel and to help offset the tax burden. Have

several more schools on each side of town, 2 elementary 2 middle and 1 high because you know this town will continue to grow

- A small town community setting, with schools we can be proud of.
- To make the schools a priority.
- Model after towns like Andover, MA or Bedford, NH
- Continue to invest in schools, attract more businesses and expand services to meet the needs of the growing population
- Try to create some charm. Put money into what people see when they drive through. (i.e. Concord, MA.) If we don't have a lot of old bldgs. or homes to use for business then build them to look old. Add a porch. Be mindful of signage. Keep an old small town feel but with amenities like restaurants and shops. Places to meet for dinner or a drink. Add a town center with a fire feature in the middle, outdoor seating. A meeting place. A place out of Towner's would hear about and come to see. Small good restaurants not Weathervane or the 99.
- To keep Rt 111 from becoming commercial like Rt 102 in Londonderry with increased traffic, business signs, congestion.
- Keep it simple and small. We need to slow down and appreciate what we have rather than moving forward with growth without thinking about the future impacts. Our schools need a lot of work, not just physically but we need to make sure the curriculum is strong and that our teachers have say in what and how they teach.
- Make it look like Andover at its peak. We should be the place where upper middle class families desire to live.
- Maintain the core value of the town. Keep the residential and quaintness of the town. Resist over development / too fast development. Maintain lot sizes, focus on quality!
- Safe family friendly community with easy and close options for commuting to Boston, Manchester or Nashua. Conservative approach to town management & financials. Comfortable town center with small businesses, shops and office space, support and promotion for entrepreneurs and new business creation. A strong sense of community spirit, safety and a focus on good governance within economic means.
- Minimize traffic congestion upon completion of I-93 construction
- A bedroom community not overrun by rampant over-commercialization
- A family friendly town that is rural, but not backwoods.
- Bedroom community with close proximity to jobs/shopping
- To increase the business side of the tax bill so that homeowners are not stuck paying huge taxes due to the lack of business offsets.
- Small rural, residential community with superior schools
- More commercial development to share the tax burden.
- School capacity issues
- Confusion and lack of focus for current growth. Lack of consistency of new England architecture for commercial building
- Top notch schools; no chain or big box retailers. Develop the old driving range into something useful for the town.
- To maintain the character of a small friendly town. Traffic pattern entering from Rte. 111 through Dunkin Donuts needs a DO NOT ENTER sign to drive into B & H gas pumps.

- Keep small town. All new buildings have to look "olde town" not cheap and thrown together.
- Development of a business and cultural center. This community lacks a central business area similar to Derry, Andover, Winchester, Newburyport
- Creation of a "town center" -- similar to an Andover (smaller scale) with sidewalks/access...
- Smaller homes, closer together in a neighborhood arrangement with sidewalks.
- To continue our excellence in schools and maintain the SMALL nature of our community. Enough residential development....
- A cooperative-style town where everyone is involved for the betterment of the whole with a focus on conservation and education.
- A visually beautiful place to live.
- Community cohesion
- Make 111 feel like a quaint New England Town
- have a central 'downtown' area that can serve as a community building site and drive tax revenue
- Maintain a small town feel with a balance of commercial and residential properties
- Stop building and destroying the tranquility that most of us moved here to enjoy.
- Orderly introduction of appropriate businesses that complement our community and quality of life
- Focus development of retail business and services along Rt 111 and managing increasing traffic flow, while allowing rest of the town to continue with residential development while maintaining historic and forest preservation. This will help Windham continue to have a small town feeling while providing additional tax revenue from businesses along primary route through middle of town.
- Top notch schools, maintain small town feel. DO NOT BECOME SALEM. Too much commercial and lost the appeal of a small town
- I love the town. However quality of education and in particular Pre-School through 8th grade are going downhill in general and in particular for the past 6-8 years.
- Windham should strive to keep the charm & character of a small town.
- Stay small
- Need a beautiful town center with a statue and sidewalks for walking to small retail shops, illuminated by decorative street lights!
- Become a more balanced community with more commercial/light industrial activity to balance residential.
- Let change happen organically, no need to "promote" or "discourage" anything. Like many others, I chose to move to Windham from Mass for a reason. We don't need to unnaturally engineer Windham to become more like the towns we left. Keep it simple without restricting natural growth. If there is demand for a certain business or housing type, it will happen without the need of the town to interfere with the free market system. And let's get the property taxes back to a reasonable rate.
- Add more commercial centers to bring the overall real estate taxes down. We need to upgrade and/or build more schools with the population growth, but need help paying for them.
- walkable downtown with nice retail and dining options
- Preserve the open space. Stop building

- I have been in Windham all my life. I remember when in the summer we had 1200 people in town because of camps on the lake. Now we have more than 10X that every day. I miss the "old" Windham. I know it will not come back, but I hope that instead of building more houses we can add more business to help with homeowner's taxes. I have gone from \$4200 to \$17,500 in 10 years. We need to STOP adding more kids into the schools and add more business to help the tax burden.
- A more vibrant downtown/commercial area that puts most of its resources towards education and recreation programs.
- Keep its bedroom community character while encouraging more recreational activities as well as arts, small retail and dining destinations.
- Keep the character of the town in the development of new businesses...make it look like our historical
- Buildings.....stone...colonial design. Not like McDonalds!!!!
- We have a unique opportunity to be the "jewel" of Southern New Hampshire. We are not over developed and there is no other town nearby with a sense of culture and a combination of restaurants/shopping in a New England setting. We need to capitalize on this and fully realize the potential of our town. People would come here from all around to eat, shop, bike if only we made it more consumer friendly and worth their while. The gateway district is prime for skiers, lakers heading north... we can draw them in off the exit and they will want to explore more if there is more to be had!
- To keep it's rural charm and deal with current overcrowding in the schools. To find a way to promote small local business and definitely not having 111 look like 102 in Londonderry or 28 in Salem.
- To have a nice small downtown area with restaurants and shops so you can walk around. Great example is Hingham, MA or Andover, MA with downtown area to walk, shop, and dine. We don't need any more Dunkin Donuts, would prefer Starbucks.
- culture, community, sports, & education
- Unite the town by having Green & Gold as the school color. I have never seen a town have two sets of colors for junior high and high school unless there was more than 1 high school in town (i.e. private or vocational)
- Unique, rural community. Not Salem, Not Londonderry.
- Successful, neighborly small town feel with high standards for quality of life; family-centered; supporting growth of small businesses.
- Be more diverse.
- Maintain character while allowing commercial and industrial growth in areas such as route 28 and 111.
- This is a place that would continue to grow, offering more recreation, restaurants, more educational choices, places of worship, and attract young families as well as retirees and diversity.
- I like the idea of Town Center but with 111 bisecting the town it is almost impossible to have a town center as it stands now. Perhaps a town center could be located away from 111 in a spot conducive to developing a real town center.
- Recreational, environmental, educational and visual esthetics valued as the basic foundation to everything else we do in the community.
- Variances get approved. Right now it seems that 90% of variances get approved.
- Maintain small town atmosphere

- I would like to see Windham create a town center/village green. We missed a huge opportunity when we built the library and Police Station/Fire Station. Those buildings could have been situated around a central green area (similar in function to Kingston, NH) that could serve as the community meeting place. Right now we have no appropriate area for community events (fireworks, parade termination, Strawberry Festival, etc.). Griffin Park is not good for many reasons: first the parking is inadequate, second it never feels like a town event there, it always feels like we are 'borrowing' it from the athletic associations. We do not have it now, but we could create the quintessential New England small town if we had a will - and a town planner - to design it.
- Ensure appropriate school class size and adequate space for classrooms
- Better school facilities, less residential development and more preservation, more things to do in town and places to shop and eat.
- Can we all get along?
- Progressive while maintaining preservation
- Develop a Town Center.
- Downtown with community feel. Sit and drink coffee, spend the day shopping, walking, reading books, maybe add a park.
- To maintain our beauty - but also grow with the times. Smart "quality of life" growth for our town to help with our tax burden. I believe residents would appreciate growth in the business community if it is controlled and all parties are respected while the growth is taking place. Windham needs to communicate "smart & controlled growth" to the residents
- Continue to be a Rural Oasis.
- keep the residential feel, have small business
- Trash pickup, town water, sewerage
- "quaint " "downtown" area
- Fix the schools so we keep the high quality of academics with low class number
- Keep the character - keep it attractive to buyers because of quality of life.
- Cap the population soon and keep the town "small"
- A town center with sidewalks and outdoor areas along with quaint shops/restaurants.
- Preserve the quality of life here in Windham.
- To preserve all existing open lands, and stop housing development. This would allow us to stabilize the population and stop outgrowing schools and other town resources - and preserve what Windham has always been known for. The "rural oasis" almost does not apply any longer - but we could stabilize it. The only ones gaining from continued development are builders - everyone else pays the price with more traffic, overcrowded schools and ball fields, higher taxes etc.
- Continue to be a place people want to have their kids grow up in. Stay small and keep the small town charm. Do not become like Salem NH.
- Keep the town focused on land conservation and limiting commercial development. Put a cap on residential development.
- Back to the small town it once was. So sad to see all that change and Rt111 becoming more commercial



- Improved town center. We don't have any way to walk between retail establishments and there isn't a good 'look' with parking in front. Why can't parking be in back and retail in front with sidewalks?
- Look at space/buildings that we have available and make sure that we use what we have.
- Increasing the commercial development to help the tax base while maintaining the rural character of Windham. With the newest regulations put in place, design review and watershed protection, we are able to achieve this.
- Not to have any roundabouts on Route 111.
- create a true village or downtown area
- Community calendar and overall better communications between town departments, schools and residents. Free Wi-Fi for the town.
- Preserve rural and quiet nature of residential, while developing 128, intersection of 111/i93, and Wall St for Commercial.
- Windham basically has everything - from historic castles and homes, beaches and parks to recreational facilities to being family friendly. My vision would be to keep taxes affordable for the elderly, but also for the families that are still young - but do not have children in the schools. Some kind of tax system - where you pay per child for taxes.
- Keep it as rural as possible. Maintain high level of academics in the schools.
- Zone and develop more commercial real estate.
- The best rural, small town to live in the United States
- Windham creates a wonderful town center that is truly community oriented and easy to navigate on foot.
- continue to stick to core values that allow attractively built shopping/office buildings set back from the road
- Promote the upscale reputation we already have -- make it visible in our commercial and economic development.
- build nice downtown area
- Provide water and sewer so the Town can attract more commercial and industrial development near I-93 and route 111.
- Keep it rural and friendly; do not turn it into another Salem, Hudson/Nashua.
- Quintessential NH small town, where we can shop local, support our community and build a better environment for the future.
- improve schools
- Wider tax base
- Be more open minded about business development and potential tax revenue
- More pedestrian and bicycle connectivity throughout town through the use of trails, rail trails and bicycle friendly street design on our major roads.
- Aggressively develop commercial property within Windham's quality and character to reduce residential tax burden while improving its infrastructure (water especially is critical to the community).
- Instead of a country club atmosphere, get back to a quaint New England town. Places like Griffin Park, Rogers Field, the cemetery on the Plain, Common Man, Lobster Tail, & MaryAnne's Diner help define the character of the town.

- Return to the modest, quaint community charm that attracted us to this town. Our town's reputation has become rich and snobby, especially with all of the over-sized homes being built.
- Top Public School systems that equip our town and country with ready to work and productive adults that will move our Country forward and not need social assistance.
- Create a nice small town with nice center. Like Newburyport or similar.
- Strong traditional family model
- Quaint town center with unique shops, restaurants...no big chain stores
- Pride in saying I live in Windham
- To be a more accepting community focused on community development and then outreach to other communities.
- Preserve our residential value by limiting growth
- Limiting commercial development as well as preservation of the historic buildings in the town.
- Fiscal restraint.
- High quality of life
- Small enough to care, big enough for all to thrive.
- preserve the old buildings in town, houses, farms, etc. including the forests and
- To be a more diverse and lively town.
- No more building residential areas. Create a quaint town center with unique but small shops, restaurants, and walking areas.
- I would like to see a "center" with services, office space, retail shops and dining places much like Exeter, Nashua, Keene, Andover or Newburyport.
- Safe, affordable place to live with great schools.
- Preserve the history and embrace the future
- To go back to the Windham I moved here for- the rural undeveloped feel rather than a strip of empty strip malls and unattractive commercial growth.
- Pattern our commercial developments after those in Londonderry over the last two decades. All new development has been kept a further distance off the main roads and the several industrial parks attract quite a variety of industry while not impacting established residential areas.
- Further development of industrial area to attract businesses to assist with taxes.
- The uncontrolled residential growth in the past 15 years without proper upgrading of facilities has contributed to the position we are currently in - high taxes and lacking facilities. As the "wants" of the town departments increase Windham needs businesses to assist with the tax base to meet those "wants" as well as satisfy the town needs.
- Not cool
- Commercial development along 111.
- I would like to see a few stores so we wouldn't have to leave town so much.
- Stop the slide into making us look like every other town. Keep us a little different. A little nicer. STOP more strip malls!
- Increase school capacity in order to attract and retain more families, long term
- Connect east west corridor to Windham depot
- More business on 111, this will help with taxes and make shopping in Windham easier.
- Preserve and maintain Windham's unique character and quality of life through smart growth, focus on education and fiscal responsibility

- continue to encourage small business
- Contentment. Blessed contentment.
- To stay a SMALL and close community.
- Amherst NH
- Moderate but steady expansion to lessen the tax burden on residents yet trying to keep a small town feeling
- Become a regional destination by growing cultural capital.
- Increase support and marketing for cultural events
- More restaurants and shopping
- I would like to have a downtown area with shops and restaurants. An area that you could walk around in
- Planned Development
- Stop building big houses
- Small New England town
- More commercial development to share the tax burden.
- Historical
- Preserve small town atmosphere
- Self-sufficient town with excellent schools, hospitals/ medical facilities, grocery stores and good public transportation
- Love Searles Castle
- Maintain the small town community vibe, keep brick and mortar stores out of town
- Best possible school system, outdoor concerts and sledding hill.
- Maintain rural/ residential
- Larger Sr. Center
- Don't Know
- Rural oasis- open space
- Retain as rural oasis
- A community center on fellow's road.
- Having a community center, and more entertaining artists and speakers.
- A town similar to Andover Mass
- More like Andover Mass
- Keep it as is. A town where everyone wants to move to, to escape the busy world
- The school board spending is out of control and needs to be realigned.
- Please peace and quiet, reduce tax rates
- To encourage residents to be "greener" it bothers me seeing cars idling at school pick up, all the irrigation systems, huge houses using so much energy etc...
- The rural oasis is over
- More welcoming to outsiders and business.
- Preservation of natural resources, expanded arts and theatre
- Keep it smaller
- Village center with green space and trees, walkways, small shopping centers, pedestrian friendly
- Create a town center, no big box development, more scenic vistas.
- Keep small town, more scenic, create a park like Boston Garden at junction 111 and 111A
- The best place to raise a family in Southern NH

- A developed downtown similar to Andover
- Stop Growing
- Limit residential growth
- Take light out at Clems Corner and replace a Round about
- draw more business to medicine
- To foster connections among citizens
- Nice Center-no run off to lakes, increase buffer zones in front of areas such as gas stations.
- Down Town area with buffer zone
- Medical office + service hub of Salem NH
- Maintain Current Lifestyle
- Larger Senior Center

**Total omitted written comments with distasteful language: 2**

# **Appendix C**

## **Survey Questionnaire**