

Canaan Master Plan Survey

TOPIC

QUESTIONS

Background Information

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| | Resident | 254 | 98% | Seasonal Visitor | _4_ | 2% |
| Do you own your home? | Homeowner | _245_ | 96% | Renter | _9_ | 4% |
| How long have you been in Canaan? | 21 (yrs ave) | | | <10 yrs | | 31% |
| | 17 (median) | | | >20yrs | | 54% |
| How large is your household? | Age 0 to 4 | _____ | | | | |
| | Age 5 to 17 | _____ | | | | |
| | Age 18 to 64 | _____ | | | | |
| | Age 65 and higher | _____ | | | | |
| Are you retired? | | _70_ | 27% | | | |
| Working at home | | _18_ | 7% | | | |
| Working in Canaan | | _31_ | 12% | | | |
| Working outside of Canaan | | 115 | 45% | | | |

Town Services

What town government and/or administration services do you believe need to be cut back, improved or expanded? Please label those you think should be: **C** – cut back; **I** – Improved; **E** – Expanded; **O** – OK as is

| | <u>Cut back</u> | <u>Improved</u> | <u>Expanded</u> | <u>OK as is</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ___ Assessor's Office | 30 14% | 14 6% | 2 1% | 168 77% |
| ___ Board of Selectmen | 15 7% | 29 13% | 13 6% | 164 73% |
| ___ Health Officer | 23 10% | 17 8% | 17 8% | 152 68% |
| ___ Conservation Comm. | 24 11% | 21 9% | 37 17% | 135 60% |
| ___ Town Clerk's Office | 7 3% | 11 5% | 15 7% | 194 85% |
| ___ Elderly Services | 6 3% | 35 16% | 46 20% | 132 59% |
| ___ Fire Department | 12 5% | 16 7% | 22 10% | 175 77% |
| ___ Building Inspector | 24 11% | 22 10% | 17 8% | 150 68% |
| ___ Library | 9 4% | 20 9% | 42 18% | 154 66% |
| ___ Planning Board | 20 9% | 21 10% | 22 10% | 153 70% |
| ___ Police Department | 31 13% | 17 7% | 26 11% | 155 67% |
| ___ Recreation Department | 17 7% | 27 12% | 58 26% | 117 52% |
| ___ Schools | 37 16% | 97 41% | 27 12% | 62 26% |
| ___ Tax Collector | 15 7% | 8 4% | 5 2% | 197 86% |
| ___ Water Department | 13 6% | 16 7% | 9 4% | 169 77% |
| ___ Sewer Department | 14 6% | 20 9% | 10 5% | 162 74% |
| ___ Transfer Station | 16 7% | 21 9% | 19 8% | 163 71% |
| ___ Welfare Department | 46 21% | 11 5% | 10 5% | 142 65% |
| ___ Historic District | 27 12% | 9 4% | 20 9% | 163 73% |
| ___ Museum | 21 9% | 18 8% | 24 11% | 153 68% |
| ___ Highway Department | 10 4% | 54 24% | 26 11% | 133 58% |
| ___ Budget Committee | 20 9% | 13 6% | 2 1% | 177 82% |
| ___ Cemetery | 4 2% | 7 3% | 4 2% | 203 91% |
| ___ Emergency Management | 11 5% | 20 9% | 15 7% | 164 76% |
| ___ Ambulance / FAST Squad | 7 3% | 20 9% | 36 16% | 158 70% |

Does the town put enough resources into maintaining the town buildings?

Yes **67%** No **27%**

Should we coordinate with other municipalities in providing town services listed above, wherever cost effective?

Yes **82%** No **14%**

Comments:

**Canaan's
Landscape**

**Identify those special places in Canaan that are important to you?
Recreational/Conservation:**

Churches & Historic Buildings

Attractive Residential Areas:

Scenic and Open Spaces

Ponds and Streams

Other

Do you support town involvement in preserving any of these?

Recreational and Conservation Areas: Yes **219 90%** No **5 2%**

Churches and Historic Buildings: Yes **182 77%** No **14 6%**

Attractive Residential Areas: Yes **147 64%** No **24 10%**

Scenic and Open Spaces: Yes **203 85%** No **9 4%**

Ponds and Streams: Yes **214 88%** No **6 2%**

Do you support the following as part of Canaan's Landscape?

Wind farms (typically on ridges) Yes **161 67%** No **20 8%**

Solar farms (typically in fields) Yes **196 80%** No **10 4%**

**Business
Economy**

What type of retail shopping would you use in Canaan if it were available?

What kinds of **professional offices** should we have in Canaan?

What kinds of professional and business use parks should we encourage in Canaan?

What type of businesses, (commercial, retail, manufacturing, etc.) if any, would you like to see **discouraged** in Canaan?

Where should new professional and business parks be located?

145 60% Along Route 4 **11 5%** Along Route 118

28 12% Near Canaan Village

12 5% Spread throughout the town _____ No opinion

Why?

Are there areas in town that you would like to see protected from business development?

**Residential
Growth**

What is your opinion about the rate of **residential** growth in Canaan?

29 12% Growing too rapidly **59 24%** Not growing fast enough

107 43% Growing at about the right rate **44 18%** No opinion

Where should most of our residential growth be located?

47 20% On large rural lots **53 23%** In rural clusters

54 23% In compact 'downtown' settlements **77 33%** No opinion

Canaan's voters authorized charging an impact fee for the construction of new homes and commercial buildings, but it has never been implemented. Should the cost of the building permit include an impact fee to offset new costs to the town for road maintenance, schools, police and fire protection? Yes **69%** No **31%**

Should new construction be regulated differently depending on whether it is in town or in more rural areas? Yes **53%** No **47%**

Comments

**Open Space
& Recreation**

| | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| Does Canaan need additional recreational facilities? | Yes 51% | No 49% |
| Does Canaan need a Youth/Community Center? | Yes 64% | No 36% |
| Do we need to increase adult recreation? | Yes 31% | No 49% |
| Do we need to increase elderly recreation? | Yes 53% | No 47% |
| Should conservation lands and waters be more accessible to the general public? | Yes 67% | No 33% |
| Do we need to increase individual recreation? | Yes 46% | No 54% |
| Do we need to increase team recreation? | Yes 41% | No 59% |
| Should tax dollars be spent to develop these? | Yes 47% | No 53% |

Comments?

Housing

Which of the following housing types should the Master Plan encourage in Canaan?

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Rental Properties | Yes 50% | No 31% | No Opinion 20% |
| In-Law Apartments | Yes 55% | No 18% | No Opinion 27% |
| Mobile homes | Yes 20% | No 62% | No Opinion 17% |
| Condominiums | Yes 44% | No 40% | No Opinion 17% |
| Developments | Yes 43% | No 41% | No Opinion 17% |
| Multi-Family residences | Yes 47% | No 34% | No Opinion 19% |
| Unrestricted Development | Yes 10% | No 80% | No Opinion 10% |
| Assisted Living | Yes 71% | No 16% | No Opinion 13% |

Canaan is an old town with many lovely antique residences. Should the town adopt a Heritage Commission to encourage their preservation? Yes **64%** No **27%**

How can we create or encourage housing for low income or moderate income families?

Rural Areas

How should we guide the future of our rural lands? For the purposes of this survey, rural areas include all of except: village areas served by water & sewer, Canaan Street Historic District, pond & lakes frontage already protected by the state, and frontage along route 4. Please select one blank for each row.

| | Encourage with | | |
|---|----------------|--------|------------|
| | Encourage | Limits | Discourage |
| Agriculture | 69% | 29% | 1% |
| Forest | 74% | 19% | 5% |
| Gravel pit or excavations | 5% | 44% | 49% |
| Outdoor equipment or material storage | 9% | 47% | 41% |
| Industrial without noise or odor | 30% | 44% | 24% |
| Office buildings | 39% | 48% | 11% |
| Warehouse Service | 24% | 47% | 28% |
| Service depots | 18% | 50% | 28% |
| Commercial landfills | 3% | 12% | 83% |
| Outdoor recreation (motorized winter) | 24% | 53% | 22% |
| Outdoor recreation (not motorized winter) | 72% | 24% | 2% |
| Outdoor recreation (motorized summer) | 23% | 46% | 29% |
| Outdoor recreation (not motorized summer) | 71% | 25% | 2% |
| Campgrounds | 50% | 42% | 7% |
| Racetracks (auto) | 12% | 41% | 41% |
| ATV parks | 14% | 41% | 43% |
| One family dwelling | 81% | 16% | 2% |
| Two family dwelling | 50% | 39% | 10% |
| Second dwelling on single lot | 19% | 38% | 40% |
| High density housing with common open space | 25% | 40% | 33% |
| Condominiums | 25% | 39% | 34% |
| Apartments | 21% | 48% | 29% |
| Mobile Home Parks | 8% | 28% | 62% |
| Home based business | 55% | 39% | 4% |
| Land-locked parcels | 14% | 19% | 63% |
| Woods | 88% | 9% | 2% |
| Quiet/Silence | 76% | 18% | 3% |
| Wildlife | 89% | 10% | 0% |
| Privacy | 84% | 13% | 1% |
| Scenic views | 86% | 10% | 2% |
| Sparse population | 43% | 37% | 16% |
| Unpaved roads | 27% | 32% | 38% |
| Town acceptance of private roads | 24% | 40% | 32% |
| Preservation of barns | 58% | 31% | 8% |
| Road frontage for new lots | 34% | 53% | 10% |
| Adult bookstores and clubs | 5% | 11% | 79% |

Transportation and Roads

How far do you travel to work? Mean 15.4 Median 15

Which way do you travel to work? In Canaan 8% Rt 4 West 64%
Rt 4 East 8% Rt 118 North 1% At home 8%

List the roads in Canaan, if any, which you feel are inadequate to serve existing traffic.

If roads need to be improved, how should we pay for the improvements?

- 15% increase property taxes
- 24% increase registrations
- 33% increase gas tax

Have you used Advance Transit buses? Yes 33% No 67%
What would encourage you to use the bus more?

Communication:

How do you get information about issues going on in Canaan?

- Public Postings 31%
- Valley News 36%
- Mascoma Listserve 2%
- Radio 2%
- Town Web Page 8%
- Word of mouth 13%
- Town emails 6%

Other

Do you use a cell-phone in Canaan? Yes 68% No 20%

Would you support building a new cell-phone tower in the area? Yes 77% No 18%

Do you use Internet from home? Yes 90% No 10%

Which service do you use?

- Dial up 3%
- DSL 24%
- Cable 58%
- Satellite 8%

Other cell phone 4, WiFi/wireless 4, Verizon 3

Have you visited Canaan's new website, www.canaannh.org? Yes 71% No 29%

What would facilitate communication amongst the town's people?

Future Concerns

What do you think are the three (3) most serious issues facing Canaan in the next 5-25 years?

What other things should the Planning Board consider in preparing our new Master Plan?

Do you believe that the Planning Board should develop and propose a zoning ordinance for Canaan, which would be voted on at a Canaan Town Meeting?

Yes 64% No 31%