Newbury Master Plan Survey

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

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

Part 1: Demographics

1. What is your age?  
   A. under 20    B. 20-34    C. 35-49    D. 50-64    E. 65 and over

2. Are there school-aged children in your household?  
   Yes ___    No ___

3. How did you come to live in Newbury? (Circle the answer which best describes your experience.)
   A. I moved here from elsewhere within the past 5 years.
   B. I moved here from elsewhere more than 5 years ago.
   C. I used to vacation here and then moved here permanently.
   D. I was born here and have never left.
   E. I was born here, lived elsewhere, and then returned.

4. If you moved here from elsewhere, what attracted you to Newbury? __________________________

5. In which part of town do you live?  
   A. Byfield    B. Newbury/Old Town    C. Plum Island

6. Which of these best describes your living situation?
   A. Homeowner
   B. Renter
   C. Live with family
   D. Other ________________________________

7. Which of the following best describes your employment? (Circle one)
   A. Employed or self-employed in Newbury
   B. Employed outside of Newbury
   C. At home/homemaker
   D. Retired
   E. Unemployed
   F. Student

8. How would you like to receive information about Town issues and events? (Circle all that apply)
   A. Town website  B. Newspaper  C. Mail  D. Email  E. Social media  F. Phone  G. Text  H. Other __________
Part 2: Natural Resources/Open Space and Recreation

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

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

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

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

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

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

12. What improvements or changes would you like to see with respect to open space and natural resources?
Part 3: Economic Development

13. How important to you are the following concerns?

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

_____ A. Advocacy to attract/facilitate new businesses to locate in town
_____ B. Need for streetscape, parking, sidewalk, and other improvements to village areas
_____ C. Need for water/sewer infrastructure to support existing/new commercial development
_____ D. Control size, scale, and design of new commercial development to be complementary to existing development
_____ E. Shared marketing and promotion of local businesses
_____ F. Networking and support for those who are self-employed or working from home
_____ G. Appearance (cleanliness, attractiveness, maintenance) of existing business districts
_____ H. Other ____________________________

14. Would you support the following?


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

*If “It Depends”, please elaborate how:

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

16. Would you like to share any other concerns or ideas relating to economic development?
Part 4: Housing

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

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

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


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

19. Would you support the following?


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

20. Would you like to share any other concerns or ideas relating to housing?
Part 5: Community Facilities and Services

21. How important to you are the following concerns?

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

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

22. Would you like to share other concerns/ideas relating to public facilities and services?
Part 6: Transportation

23. How important to you are the following concerns?
[ 1. Not important  2. Slightly important  3. Important  4. Very important  5. Extremely important ]

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

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

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

_____ D. Need for rides/transportation alternatives for seniors

_____ E. Bus service for commuters - where to?

_____ F. Need for multipurpose trail connection – location

_____ G. Need for sidewalks – location:

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

_____ G. Other

24. Would you like to share other concerns/ideas relating to transportation and traffic?
Part 7: Historic and Cultural Resources

25. How important are the following issues?

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

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

26. How important are the following needs?

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

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

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


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

*If “It depends”, please elaborate how:

28. Do you have specific concerns or ideas with respect to historic and cultural resources to share?
Part 8: Land Use

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

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

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

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

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

32. Any other comments?
THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!

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

Name______________________________________________

Address____________________________________________

Email Address________________________________________

Phone______________________________________________

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