

Public Comments Master Plan Survey-April 2020

What, if any, kinds of private businesses or services would you like to see, or see more of, in Stratford?

Grocery store, competitive supermarkets [in 14 comments]

24/7 mini mart

Gas station convenience stores

Restaurants, dining [in 8 comments]

restaurants (pizza hut, Domino's, Italian meals,etc)

Bank [in 5 comments]

Lumber yard, hardware store [in 3 comments]

Retail [in 3 comments]

Stores

Drug store, small pharmacy [in 2 comments]

Lodging [in 2 comments]

self storage

Any non-hazard business

Industrial, commercial

Small business that would draw traffic through our town. Not all businesses are suitable to small towns. A bigger business would be nice, but unlikely.

Small, locally owned, low-carbon footprint businesses and services. No commodity industries. Instead, support value-added, niche businesses and services. The ATV economy is over developed and carries a very high carbon footprint. We need economic diversity, not more ATVs.

Perhaps something of benefit to elderly

Services for the elderly [ride sharing etc]. Self help to improve community resilience.
Private school???

Any business that would provide gainful employment for residents. Stratford is a mill town not a retirement community.

Youth programs,, child care

Clothing

Incubators that slows businesses can rent a room (s) at a low cost and short or monthly lease to see if your idea is viable or really something you want to do.

Camping, Outdoor recreation

laundry

independent shops

all, services, entertainment

Financial Planner, Hair Salon, Manufacturing

Walk in Medical Clinic - Senior/Community Center

A Cafe gathering place. Reopening of the General store next to the Post Office.

More shopping choices, more access points to the Connecticut River and trial access points.

Manufacturing

medical & brewery

A technical/vocational school that would improve employment options for local youth.

n/a

Flooring Company

any business thats brave enough to come to stratford should be welcome.

Educational services, small shops producing value-added products, medical services, small farms

Industrial, Manufacturing

Craftsmen

brewery, winery, cafeteria

well i want to see more houses for rent instead to bye

Entertainment, Tourist

Manufacturing or something that would create multiple positions from management to unskilled labor that would help out on real estate values eventually.

state liquor store

What Town services would you like to see provided, even if it would raise property taxes?

None [13 comments]

Police [in 4 comments]

town police

Police coverage, Town cop or Sheriff or State Police

Police Dept as it takes a long time for State Police to come

a police department instead of the state police even if part time

More of a Police presence espically with the drug epidemic and domestic violence.

Building inspector, permit process. This will not raise taxes.

Things are fine the way it is!

More library hours/programs

Maintain class 6 roads

Maintenance of early elementary school grades

Current services are fine

Food pantry, rec. center, youth programs, emergency services

Taxes are high enough

Solar power/municipal. Community support, perhaps our own food pantry. Maintain [expand?] library.

Oiling of side roads that are not paved [Mason Rd]. Very dusty in warm months.

Existing use zoning. Also known as current use zoning. If land is currently in agriculture or forested, existing use zoning zones them for those current uses and protects farms and forests from land speculators. Stratford should focus development on rebuilding abandoned properties, not subdividing undeveloped tracts of land.

Driveway plowing for a yearly fee With extra fee if it's a snowy

Better Cell coverage

nothing that would raise taxes

free garbage pick-up

Building Department to oversee Federal guidelines to building structures.

Police & Drug Enforcement - Restrict OHRV's on the off road trail system-
Senior/Community Center - Walk in Medical Clinic

Single stream recycling

no increase in taxes

fire

taxes are high enough, just not enough people or places to spread it out on. get more people or business, the rest would come by itself.

More parks and recreation development for physical activity, more town beautification, more effort to make Stratford attractive to future looking people..

Water

maintenance on my road

infrastructure repair like roads
well the roads

I'm good with what is available

What town services would you like to see ended, especially if it would reduce property taxes?

Get rid of tax assessor.

Don't think we have anything left that we can give up to lower taxes.

None [16 comments]

Public school [2 comments]

Would like to see the School closed and collaborate with both Groveton and Colebrook. Then turn the building into elderly housing but keep the aesthetics.

School

school. time to combine local area schools

Evaluate closing 7th and 8th grades-value to students' development to attend larger system, academically and socially.

Close school, tuition all students, cheaper for taxpayers, better education for students

Better sewer/water tax system [more fair]. Paved roads. Public school

Town roads that provide maintenance to one family houses.

Maintenance of town roads that have only one or two people on them.

Any Town subsidies, tax breaks or other expenditures to pay for ATV trails or other ATV services. ATV clubs must pay to repair damage to steams, wetlands, etc.

What are services now

none our tax rate is not that high

Dim the blinding street lights in Stratford Hollow.

??????

its up to the town supervisors to get rid of anything thats useless.

Police

i dot see any

I'm good with what is available

Any other Comments?

Absolutely no zoning. Might work in other towns but we do not need to have any negative impact on businesses that might want to move into our town.

Talk to State about lowering the speed limit on Rte 3 along the grades and curves. Maybe more surveillance by the State Police in regards to large trucks traveling way too fast.

The end of 4 wheelers on public roads.

I appreciate this survey-being asked this included!

Every town official I have met seems to be genuinely interested in 'the best interests' of all who live here. Each diligently strives to provide excellent service to the very best of their ability, and is successful in their endeavors. Please know that each of you, past present and future, is appreciated.

There are sufficient services for the population we have.

Reluctantly, it may come down to closing the school. The problem with that is you will probably never open the school or re-open your school.

Repair the roads we now have.

Speed limit flash signs @ the beginning and end of town! [Or at least North Village]

More young people involved in Fire Dept and Town business.

All planning must occur in the context of climate change. We need to encourage policies and actions that lower our individual and collective foot prints. Planning for a low-carbon economy now will pay out long term benefits. Encourage low impact logging or non-management of forest lands so as to optimize carbon sequestration and long term carbon storage in trees and forest soils.

Thank You planning board!!_x005F_x000D_

Stratford needs to attract more residents not just camp owners.

Overall I love our small community and would love to keep it quaint and charming. However, I realize that we also need growth in order to keep up with the current economy. We also need to provide the younger generation opportunities (what that is - I am not sure but, conversations/ideas need to be had). They are our future!!

Protect our nature and keep harm from our animals and humans.

Resident communication, input/voting should be part of the process for all major projects. Decisions on erecting towers or allowing OHRV's to ride on road ways should be subject to periodic resident input and voting. No one should have to say - How did this happen? I was never informed that this would effect me.

Please do not allow another low income development be built. It would be appreciated if residents were made to keep their homes and yards appealing. It would also be nice to have the Pleasant Valley Road mobile home park cleaned up. Most of the homes need to be condemned, along with the old Blay House and the Sthol Home. They are a terrible sight!!!!

Adopt the Master Plan.

Need to have a reason for young people to stay , more opportunities would help

I am a landowner only. I don't reside in the town, so some of these questions are not appropriate for me to comment on.

We just purchased land in town so some of your questions we did not answer for a lack of time in town, but so far we are very happy with your town services !

Many thanks to the Planning Board for its thoughtful attention to the important issues facing Stratford. Jeremy Keller

I would like to see a hiking trail established somewhere in Stratford to go along with 4wheel trails and snowmobile trails.I think this would improve economy in area.

if stratford voters don't let anything that can help the tax base in, than keep paying. if some things that want to come like the survey asked about new housing developments, as long as they build there own roads, and are built to specs , no class 5's inspected to insure they are, build there own infrastructure, and are able to support themselves and the added resources they will need, water, sewer, firemen, plus help the town with taxes.

good

OHRV, do destroy trails and land and increase land erosion. Is there a way we can still allow for the business OHRV, but maintain trails better to prevent damage? Respectful and responsible riders and utilize some of the revenue to maintain trails and prevent land destruction/erosion?

I bought in stratford because it's where I want to be. What should be protected is the rights of the original residents and how they want to live not someone like me or others that haven't grown with the town. It's happened here ,where I live in Milton NH A town like Stratford with a dg and and a Cumbies which is being influenced by southerners which want to bring their way of life .

There are a lot of reasons why this town feels down. If the town doesn't decide to start looking forward instead of backward it will continue to feel down.

Thank you, sincerely Christopher Holt and Family

Taxes are ridiculously high on land unless you are enrolled in current use, and the current use penalty on inherited land is completely unreasonable.

why do my taxes fluctuate

Restaurants will bring in tourism, revenue and jobs

How important is each of the following? Comments written under 'other':

Code enforcement in a joint effort with other towns to keep cost down. [no ranking given]

OHRV trails ['very important']

Maintain current town regulations ['very important']

Food pantry ['very important']

Present roads in better repair [no ranking given]

Community school type of classes for adults such as arts and crafts, hobby building such as train layout or building small wood projects. Knitting, weaving. Using school or town hall. A small fee charged. Age group: generally 18 and above.

keeping property taxes low

??

Stratford need more business to attract new residents

Codification of the Master Plan for common sense growth.

Better police coverage, speeders at 65+ on rte 3 not safe to get to mail box.....

no to agenda 21 and any green new deals

Dick Labonte's campground, he has no hook ups, where are they dumping their sewer, he wants use junky campers as rentals and selling seasonal sites to a campground that doesnt exist

Ohrv use

Checking the expansion of harmful ATV road/trail development.

Stop widespread clear cutting of land. This should not be allowed as it negatively affects wildlife and destroys their natural habitat. There should be some restrictions and oversight on logging of land.

food insecurity

Developing a local economy that has low climate change impact - very important.

Helping economic activity that has a high climate change impact very unimportant - should always be discouraged.

Try to keep a close knit country atmosphere. Balance the use of ATV's and other traditional uses. Camps or second homes will give the town more revenue without having to increase other costs to the tax payers.

taxes on camps should be less then primary homes

affordable housing for young adults and senior citizens

well the roads could be better

Atv,ITV,snowmobile should have to read and sign off that they understand it landowners respect while enjoying trails on there properties.

One respondent made comments on almost each survey multiple choice question. I have notated this separately on the survey form.