

Plainfield Master Plan Survey Results -- 2006

Question Number	Survey Question	Count of Survey Responses					Percent of Positive Responses (SA + A)	Percent of Negative Responses (SD + D)
		SA	A	N	D	SD		
1	Protecting the town's natural resources is important to me	162	43	7	1	1	95.79	0.93
2	Most Town residents get water from drilled wells. Therefore, the town should support regulations which protect groundwater resources (aquifers) from potential pollutant sources even if it means limiting the rights of individual landowners.	122	57	15	11	10	83.26	9.77
3	Scenic views are not an important natural resource.	11	23	29	75	77	15.81	70.70
4	In order to protect our scenic views and insure that development fits in with the natural landscape, the town should discourage development on hill tops and ridge lines.	58	59	35	41	20	54.93	28.64
5	Protecting wildlife habitat is important, and the Town should seek easements which protect and improve habitat corridors.	93	70	30	18	5	75.46	10.65
6	The Conservation Commission currently receives 50% of all current use penalties. Purchasing land or conservation easements in order to protect the town's natural resources is an appropriate use for this	97	79	22	10	7	81.86	7.91
7	Wetlands filter our water, provide important wildlife habitat, and are an important recreation source. The Town should develop regulations which protect prime (major) wetlands even if it means limiting the rights of individual landowners.	78	65	32	28	12	66.51	18.60
8	Recreational opportunities for Town residents need to be increased. The Town should use tax resources to develop new recreation sites and programs within the town and to promote the recreational opportunities which exist.	29	52	51	51	32	37.67	38.60
9	The Town should acquire and develop a public access to the Connecticut River.	58	57	41	37	21	53.74	27.10
10	The Town should convert some or all of our Class VI roads to Class A Trails. This would protect landowner access to abutting property but prevent development and prevent vehicular access by the general	43	65	45	33	25	51.18	27.49
11	Protecting our streams and ponds from pollution is important. The Town should establish reasonable buffers around these water resources and prohibit new construction in these areas even if it means limiting the rights of individual landowners.	73	73	25	24	18	68.54	19.72
12	The Conservation Commission should continue to encourage public access to the existing roads and trails by expanding the system of trails which connect publicly accessible open spaces and community	48	110	38	14	6	73.15	9.26

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13	The Town should support the expansion of pedestrian and bicycle pathways, especially in the village centers.	63	79	36	24	14	65.74	17.59
14	The Town should encourage donations of conservation and agricultural easements to preserve the community's natural heritage.	86	103	17	6	4	87.50	4.63
15	The Plainfield Zoning Ordinance should regulate "clear cutting" to assure that this timber harvest practice gives appropriate consideration to forest regeneration, water quality, soil productivity, and wildlife habitat.	97	66	15	25	12	75.81	17.21
16	The Town should consider funding from public money a program of selective land acquisition for future public recreational use.	35	62	57	37	24	45.12	28.37
17	Water and sewer lines should be extended in order to promote growth around village centers.	23	74	48	41	26	45.75	31.60
18	The Town should allow the conversion of large homes into apartments in order to increase the number of affordable housing units in our	29	86	41	29	28	53.99	26.76
19	If a non-profit housing organization (e.g. Habitat for Humanity) sought to build affordable housing in Plainfield, tax dollars should be used to subsidize the purchase of land for this purpose.	12	38	56	56	52	23.36	50.47
20	Town land use regulations which unintentionally promote sprawl (carving out individual lots anywhere in town rather than concentrating development in village centers) are OK with me.	12	41	34	65	59	25.12	58.77
21	Developers who build affordable housing should be allowed greater residential density for such projects.	14	73	36	48	39	41.43	41.43
22	The Town should promote its image as a quiet, rural, residential community and encourage the continued construction of single family homes.	49	90	41	26	4	66.19	14.29
23	The Town should allow construction of new, multi-unit residential structures in or near village centers where public services exist.	24	89	35	38	26	53.30	30.19
24	Current zoning regulations permit large housing developments (10 houses or more) in any zone where there is sufficient acreage. The town should restrict large developments to areas near village centers.	42	51	46	51	22	43.87	34.43
25	Large developments (10 or more houses) should include some affordable housing units.	50	90	40	21	14	65.12	16.28
26	The Town should attract and support small businesses which provide services to residents and members of surrounding communities.	61	118	20	11	4	83.64	7.01

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27	We should promote the development of tourism based shops and services in order to support Plainfield's image as a "Rural New England Town" and to encourage tourist visits.	32	70	48	45	18	47.89	29.58
28	In an effort to increase the number of local jobs, the development of 'light industry' should be encouraged in the town. (e.g. contractor's office and storage, equipment sales, laboratories for research, assembly of computers or electronic equipment, etc.)	40	72	36	39	27	52.34	30.84
29	Zoning regulations should be adjusted to protect the residential and historic nature of village centers and discourage further commercial development in those centers.	45	55	32	53	29	46.73	38.32
30	We should seek out shops and sponsor events which would promote Plainfield as a center for the arts in the Upper Valley.	33	49	75	35	23	38.14	26.98
31	Plainfield should be kept residential. New businesses, other than home-based or cottage businesses, should be discouraged.	26	40	28	72	47	30.99	55.87
32	In order to insure that Plainfield remains a residentially based community, the Town should continue to place strict restrictions on lighting, noise, and hours of operation of any new business proposed for a residential neighborhood.	80	74	17	24	18	72.30	19.72
33	Zoning regulations should be amended to create a new zone, Village Center (VC), designed to protect the residential character of the villages by further restricting the size and type of businesses allowed.	37	59	32	54	30	45.28	39.62
34	Current Village Residential (VR) zone regulations are least restrictive on business development in village centers in the belief that Town services can best be provided there and that concentrating development in the village centers will best preserve the rural nature of the overall community. Regulations for the VR zone should continue to permit business development in village centers.	47	94	37	21	6	68.78	13.17