

Westhampton Resilient Master Plan Community Paper Survey

The Town of Westhampton is creating its first ever Master Plan. A Master Plan is our collective vision for the future. Your input is essential to identifying what we want our town to be like and to look like over the next 10-20 years.

The plan will address transportation, housing, economic development, land use, infrastructure, facilities and services, culture and history, community connections, and how we can be more resilient in response to the impacts of a changing climate. The Town is also updating our Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Your opinion is an important piece of the planning process and will help shape the Master Plan.

This survey takes about 25-30 minutes.

Please complete by May 5, 2022

We encourage each member of your household to fill out their own survey.

*If you would like to take this survey online, please use this link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WesthamptonMP>*

Thank you!

Westhampton Master Plan Working Group

1. Please provide a few words or a phrase that best describes Westhampton.

2. What are your favorite aspects of living in Westhampton? (Check all that apply, write-ins encouraged)

- Rural Setting
- Sense of community
- Ability to live in peace, quiet, and privacy
- Low-density development (housing, commercial)
- Safety
- Agriculture, open space, and forested landscapes
- Local culture
- Westhampton Public Library
- Cost of living
- Quality of public resources: schools, health and safety, infrastructure (roads, public buildings, utilities)
- Proximity to family and friends
- Proximity to larger communities (cultural events, restaurants, colleges) and highways
- Other (please specify)

3. What aspects of living in Westhampton would you like to see change? (Check all that apply, write-ins encouraged).

- Affordability for seniors and young families to live in Westhampton
- Diversity of population
- Access to public transportation
- More opportunities to connect with community (neighborhood and town wide events)
- Improved high-speed internet capability
- Improved local communication outlets (Town website, newsletters)
- Other (please specify)

4. Please indicate your preferences on the following approaches to managing land use and future development patterns in town.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Distribute new development throughout town rather than in concentrated areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encourage new development to locate in compact neighborhood or village style layout	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discourage new development in environmentally sensitive areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Protect farmland, water supplies, open spaces to preserve resources and maintain rural character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Protect views and mountain/hill tops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Update local bylaws/regulations to minimize the impact of new development (e.g., sustainable development, best management practices, environmental protection)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

5. Please give your preferences for future housing development in town. Options are not mutually exclusive.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Encourage a mix of housing types and prices to create a diversity of housing compatible with local character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encourage more moderate-income housing (\$300,000 or less per unit)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assist low/moderate income homeowners with upgrades to weatherization, septic systems, wells, lead paint removal, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allow duplexes compatible with local character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allow accessory dwellings compatible with local character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allow new senior housing and retirement communities that are compatible with local character and meet the needs of older adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allow multi-family apartments or townhouses compatible with local character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I prefer new housing to be on lots with frontage on existing roads (current zoning requires 250 ft road frontage and 50,000sf lot size)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I prefer new housing to be in developments on new subdivision roads (current zoning requires 250 ft road frontage and 50,000sf lot size)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I prefer new housing to be in subdivisions with houses clustered on smaller lots with remaining land in the subdivision placed in permanent conservation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

6. Please give your preferences for new business development in town.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Small business development in a manner that does not impact residential neighbors and preserves rural character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Home-based businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Arts and cultural businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Farms or agricultural businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Forestry, wood products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mining, sand and gravel excavation, rock quarries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Small scale solar fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Small service-based businesses, retail, or restaurants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Continue to allow shopping centers up to 50,000 square feet (as currently allowed under Zoning Bylaw)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

7. Please give your preferences for historic and cultural goals in town

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Identify, protect, and promote cultural and historic resources (buildings, landscapes, and Town documents) that are an important part of Westhampton's identity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support existing and create new town-wide cultural events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

8. Please give your preferences for transportation goals in town.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Provide access to public transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identify and implement methods for compliance with posted speed limits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identify and implement ways to improve pedestrian safety	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identify and implement ways to improve bicycle safety	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

9. Please give your preferences for facilities, infrastructure, and energy goals in town.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Provide adequate facilities for Town services and for employees to safely and efficiently perform their work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stabilize capital expenditures through long term planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consider shared regional services with surrounding communities where appropriate and cost-effective	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure resilient/reliable broadband, communication, and electric systems given increasing severe weather events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reduce municipal energy use through conservation, energy efficiency, electric/hybrid vehicles, and installation of renewable energy systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assist residents/businesses to reduce energy usage through conservation, energy efficiency, electric/hybrid vehicles, and installation of renewable energy systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

10. Please give your preferences for social and community building goals in town.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Create more ways for residents to meet each other in town	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It is important for me to remain living in Westhampton as I age	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It is important that Westhampton be an open and welcoming community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It is important to me that all residents and visitors feel safe in town	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create a community center or public space where youth or adults can gather	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create more opportunities for youth to meet each other in town through events and programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create more opportunities for youth to participate in community activities and leadership such as the Good Works Group, assisting with community projects, or other areas of interest to youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create ways for residents to learn more about and engage with each other around differences (age, ability, ethnicity/race, gender/sexual identity, income, political viewpoint) and create opportunities to engage with people of different backgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

11. What more would you like to know about climate change? (Check all that apply, write-ins encouraged).

- How might climate change affect my property and what can I do to prepare
- What nature-based solutions are available to mitigate climate impacts in Westhampton
- Which areas of Town are vulnerable to flooding, erosion, or storm damage
- What emergency response measures should I know about for severe weather, pandemic, or other emergency event
- What resources are available to improve my understanding about the impacts of climate change, severe weather risks, or impacts to the natural world
- Other (please specify)

12. Which of the following climate related/severe weather impacts are you concerned about in Westhampton?

(Check all that apply).

- Impacts of severe weather and climate (flooding, strong winds, winter storms, extreme precipitation, extreme heat)
- Heat related illness
- Increased energy costs
- Loss of electricity or internet service
- Inability to get to work or other locations due to severe weather
- Damage to property due to severe weather events
- Drought conditions
- Wildfires
- Invasive species (plant and animal)
- Vector-borne disease (e.g., carried by ticks and mosquitoes)
- Other (please specify)

13. What changes or improvements do you think the Town should consider to address climate change and climate resiliency in Westhampton? (Check all that apply)

- Replace culverts with larger culverts sized to prevent road damages in bigger storms and allow fish and wildlife passage
- Integrate green infrastructure and nature-based solutions in municipal and private projects to improve storm water management, prevent flooding/erosion, and reduce heat impacts
- Develop shelters for extreme heat events or storm-related emergencies
- Implement a municipal tree planting and tree replacement program
- Create town-owned renewable power sources (solar, wind, geothermal)
- Provide charging station(s) for electric vehicles
- Acquire land to protect: floodplains/wetlands that store water during storm events; forests that help moderate temperatures, absorb carbon dioxide, and reduce storm impacts; farmland soils that store carbon and mitigate climate impacts
- Expand recycling and waste reduction programs
- Provide information on best practices to reverse climate change impacts and promote resiliency that can be adopted by households and businesses
- Other (please specify)

14. Any other input or ideas you would like to share about the future of Westhampton?

15. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-44
- 45-64
- 65+

16. How many people in your household are in each age group, including yourself?

18-24	<input type="text"/>
25-44	<input type="text"/>
45-65	<input type="text"/>
65+	<input type="text"/>

17. How many years have you lived in Westhampton?

- Less than 5 years
- 5 to 15 years
- 15+ years
- I don't live in Town

18. Do you own property in Westhampton?

- Yes
- No

19. If you do own property in Westhampton:

How many acres do you own?

How many homes do you own?

How many years have you owned property in Westhampton?

20. Does your home have air conditioning?

- Yes
- No

21. Does your home have a back-up heat source?

- Yes
 No

22. If you would like to get more involved or would like us to follow up with you about your comments, please provide your contact information:

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Please return paper surveys by mail to: Administrative Assistant at Town Hall, One South Road, Westhampton, MA 01027 or drop off at either Town Hall or the Westhampton Public Library.