

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Williamstown Economic Development Planning Survey

ANNOUNCED AT TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Williamstown Economic Development Committee is in the process of developing a strategic economic development plan and seeks the ideas and comments of town residents on steps that should be taken to improve the economic development potential of Williamstown. All responses and input to this survey will help the committee to develop a set of priorities and plans for the future of the town's economic health. We prefer that you complete this survey on SurveyMonkey (insert directions) as that will allow easy tabulation of the results. Paper copies of your responses can also be returned to Town Hall. Please submit your responses by April 28, 2015. Thank you for your participation.

RETURN TO TOWN HALL

We also will be holding ___ public forums to gather direct input for those who would like to participate in that fashion on the following dates and times:

_____. The meetings will last one and one half hour and light refreshments will be served.

1. On a scale of 1-5, 5 being the highest, please rate your view as to the importance of the following in promoting economic development in Williamstown:

Marketing the town to prospective businesses	1	2	3	4	5
Faster internet access	1	2	3	4	5
Creating more affordable housing beyond what is planned for Cable Mills and Highland Woods [clear?]	1	2	3	4	5
Providing collaborative workspaces that can be shared by people not necessarily working together.	1	2	3	4	5
Reliable direct public transportation access to Boston	1	2	3	4	5
Reliable direct public transportation to New York City	1	2	3	4	5
Having more bike lanes and bike paths	1	2	3	4	5
Having more parking for the Spring/Latham/Water Street area	1	2	3	4	5
2. On a scale of 1-5, 5 being the easiest, if you have sought permits or approvals from town government, rate your view as to how easy it is to get permits and approvals

	1	2	3	4	5
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3. On a scale of 1-5, 5 being the highest, please rate your view as to how much you favor the town doing the following to promote economic development:

Giving tax incentives	1	2	3	4	5
Providing loans	1	2	3	4	5
Issuing grants	1	2	3	4	5
Spending money on human resources and marketing	1	2	3	4	5
Spending money on resources to promote agriculture	1	2	3	4	5
4. Please rank, on a scale of 1-5, 5 being the most favorable, the uses you feel would be most appropriate for the redevelopment of the former town garage property on Water Street.

Ground-level parking	1	2	3	4	5
Parking garage	1	2	3	4	5
Condominiums	1	2	3	4	5
Affordable Housing	1	2	3	4	5
Mixed residential and commercial	1	2	3	4	5
Exchange with Williams College for comparable value or property (???)	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please specify) _____	1	2	3	4	5
5. Would you use and pay for collaborative work space if it was available? Yes 0 No 0

6. What special cultural, arts or educational events do you think would be most successful in attracting visitors to the region? _____

7. What outdoors events or races would be most successful in attracting visitors to the region?

8. Please give us your suggestions on programs and initiatives that might serve to keep or attract younger workers and younger families to town _____

9. What are the top reasons that new businesses/residents might be attracted to Williamstown?

10. What are the top reasons that detract from Williamstown being attractive to new businesses/residents? _____
11. What type(s) of business would you like to see here?

12. What types of businesses do you think would succeed here?

13. What specific suggestions would you have for facilitating economic development of the kind you would like or think would succeed? _____

14. Do you have particular skills, knowledge, interests that you would be willing to lend or invest in supporting the economic development in Williamstown? _____

15. We invite and encourage you to write any suggestions or concerns regarding economic development for Williamstown. (please continue on additional page if you need more space) _____

Optional: Your name (please print) _____
Your tel _____ email _____

Spruces Question for Discussion.

16. Please rank on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the most favorable, the uses you feel would be most appropriate for the redevelopment of the Spruces property.

Maintain current agricultural use [clear?]	1	2	3	4	5
Athletic fields (baseball, soccer, volleyball)	1	2	3	4	5
Tennis courts	1	2	3	4	5
Basketball courts	1	2	3	4	5
Seasonal skating rink	1	2	3	4	5
Dog Park	1	2	3	4	5
Pavilion for events (performance, markets)	1	2	3	4	5
Walking, running or skiing paths	1	2	3	4	5
Bike paths	1	2	3	4	5
Playground	1	2	3	4	5
River access	1	2	3	4	5
Community gardens – resident-managed plots	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please specify) _____	1	2	3	4	5