

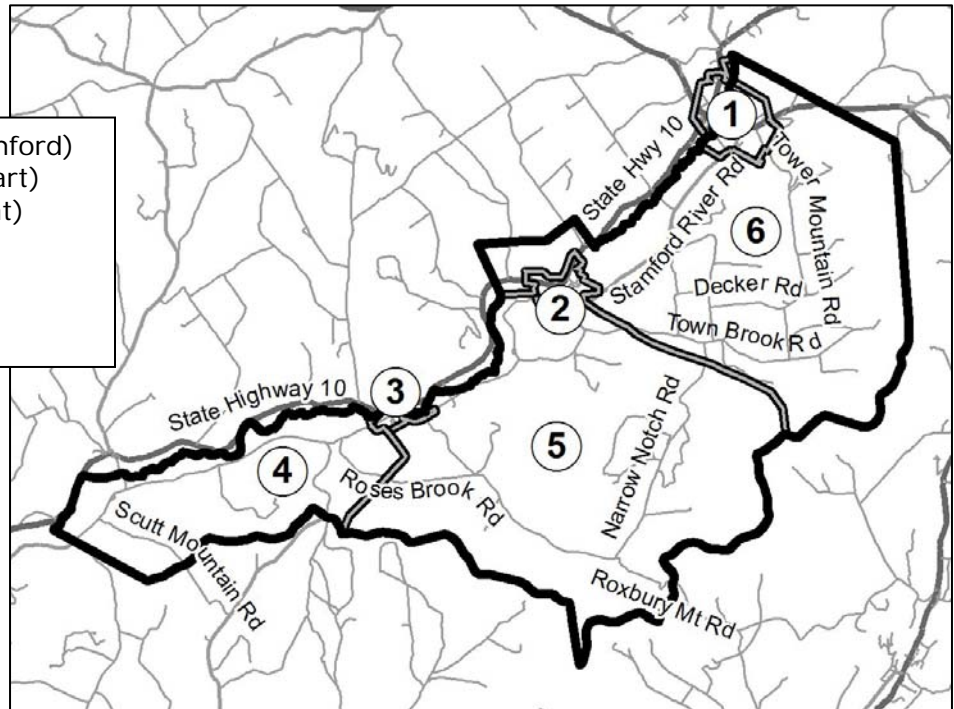
Results of the Town of Stamford Community Survey

204 Participants; 1200 mailed. 17% return rate.

About You

1. Where in the Town of Stamford do you live or own property (Choose area number 1 through 6 from map, below)? _____

Area 1 **39** (Village of Stamford)
Area 2 **23** (Village of Hobart)
Area 3 **11** (South Kortright)
Area 4 **4**
Area 5 **36**
Area 6 **57**



2. Are you a year-round, part-time resident, or non-resident landowner in the Town of Stamford?

113 Year-round. I have lived or owned property here for **Avg 25** years.

34 Part-Time. I live in the Town of Stamford **Avg 4.4** months per year.

53 Non-resident landowner

3. Do you have school-aged children still living at home in the Town?

24 ___ Yes **172** ___ No

4. How old are you? (Check one)

0-18-24yrs **33-25-44yrs** **45-45-54yrs**
44- 55-64yrs **50- 65-74yrs** **22- 75+yrs**

Community Character

Community character encompasses many things including both the built and natural environment. It includes not only the visual character of our community and landscape, but also cultural activities, town services, community demographics, and even the kinds of regulations a community has.

5. What are the strengths of the Town of Stamford?

Beautiful (20), rural (20), community (20), small (18), farm (14), people (11), Friendly (8), views (6), quiet (8), scenery (7), clean air (4), clean water (2), Natural resources (2), neighbors (5)

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6. What are the weaknesses of the Town of Stamford?

Lack of business (20), roads and road maintenances (16), lack of jobs (14), lack of shopping (11), lack of cell/internet (7), hi taxes (6), lack of economic vitality (6)

7. State three things you would like to see stay the same in Town of Stamford.

Farm (26), beauty (13), low taxes (11), rural (11), small town feel (11), open space (12)

8. Write three words/phrases to describe current community character in the Town of Stamford.

Friendly (27), rural (21), small town (17), quiet (11), helpful people (10), beautiful (9), home (9), people (9)

9. Is maintaining community character important to you?

Yes **153** No **4** No opinion **15**

10. Write three words or phrases to describe what the community character of the Town of Stamford should be in 15 years.

Friendly (14), farm and agriculture (13), beautiful, scenic, clean, peaceful, economic prosperity, helpful people, small town, safe, low taxes

11. Describe three actions you would like addressed in relation to community character.

Economic development, jobs, business development, tourism (30+), clean up properties including code enforcement (26), community events (10), no wind (20), revitalize Main Street, promote assets

12. What other comments would you like to share with us related to community character?

Please use additional paper if needed. **NONE**

Community Service

13. The following services are provided or supported by the Town of Stamford. How are we doing? (Place "X" or "✓")

Service	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	No Opinion
Town Provides:			
Highway/Road Maintenance	119	45	8
Town Hall	127	4	31
Town Court	90	6	71
Town Board	83	25	55
Planning Board	74	32	58
Town Clerk	133	3	28
Code Enforcement Officer	64	27	69
Animal Control Officer	54	31	73
Tax Assessor	102	20	39
Trash Refuse Transfer Station	99	16	40
Town Supports:			
Volunteer Ambulance and Fire Services	117	18	31

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Library	86	24	50
Historical Museum	53	18	84
Summer Youth Program	59	26	75
Senior Citizen Program	49	23	88
Public Health Officer	47	13	98

14. If you indicated that any services "Need Improvement" in the table from Question 13 above, what suggestions do you have for improving those services?

See Attached List

15. What other services do you feel should be provided for or supported by the Town of Stamford, such as cell/cable/broadband services, community events, economic development programs, etc)?

Broadband, cell service, internet (64)

Community events (10)

Economic development, jobs, tourism (18)

Promote farming (2)

Economic Development

16. Which of the following commercial businesses would you personally support in the Town of Stamford? (Check all that apply)

Business	Within a Village	Outside a Village	Not At All	No Opinion	# times business was ranked in top three (#17)
Additional Light Industrial/Manufacturing Businesses	27	57	19	17	50
Big Box Retail	14	29	86	17	16
Antique / Flea Market	81	22	10	11	22
Arts and Crafts Store	102	8	8	11	13
Bakery	133	3	3	5	0
Bed and Breakfast	42	30	9	16	26
Book Store	77	4	14	21	3
Clothing Store	98	7	4	24	11
Dry Cleaner	87	6	11	33	4
Grocery Store	118	5	8	11	19
Hotel/Motel	49	23	14	16	37
Medical /Dental Offices	93	8	7	17	13
Pharmacy	99	4	15	17	6
Restaurant	93	6	4	9	42
Tourism-related Businesses	60	12	9	16	31
Other (Please List): farmers market (10), home depot/lumber (4), wind (2), big box store (3)					

17. What are the TOP THREE types of businesses listed above in Question 16, that you would like to see in the Town of Stamford outside the Villages?

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Light industry/manufacturing (50), restaurant (42), hotel/motel (37), tourism related (31), bed and breakfast (26), antique store (22), grocery (19)

18. What threats do you feel are facing the Town of Stamford that would drive businesses away?

Bad economy (20), high taxes (34), DEP and Watershed (15), wind turbines (19), gas drilling (7), lack of jobs (8)

19. According to the Relocalization Network, relocalization is when communities are more dependent on local food, energy and goods. Communities with more of a local emphasis can provide more local jobs which decreases dependence on fossil fuels.

Do you support relocalization as an economic development strategy in the Town of Stamford?

Yes **134**____ No **14**____ No Opinion **27**____

Energy

20. Are you in favor of large commercial wind facilities in Stamford where the energy generated is connected to the overall national power grid?

Yes **86**____ No **91**____ No Opinion **17**____

Why? **See Attached Sheet**

21. Are you in favor of large commercial wind facilities in Stamford if the power generated were used locally?

Yes **101**____ No **72**____ No Opinion **14**____

Why? **See Attached Sheet**

22. Are you in favor of small wind facilities in the Town of Stamford used exclusively for a single residence, farm, or small business?

Yes **138**____ No **30**____ No Opinion **23**____

Why? **See Attached Sheet**

23. Are you familiar with the wind facility laws that already exist in the Town of Stamford? (Laws can be found at www.townofstamfordny.us/locallaws.html)

Yes **68**____ No **97**____ No Opinion **15**____

If yes, do you feel that they are sufficient to address concerns related to wind facilities?

Yes **27**____ No **42**____ No Opinion **44**____

24. Are you concerned about the possibility of horizontal ("hydrofracking") gas drilling in Stamford?

Yes **95**____ No **57**____ No Opinion **35**____

Why? **See Attached Sheet**

25. A biofuel plant for the hamlet of South Kortright is currently being considered. Are you in favor of additional biofuel plants elsewhere in Town?

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Yes **81**____ No **42**____ No Opinion **57**____

Why? **See Attached Sheet**

Open Space and Natural Environment

26. How important are the following environmental resources and issues in the Town of Stamford to you?

Environmental Resource	Important	Not Important	No Opinion	# times resource was listed as top three in #27
Scenic views/landscapes	170	9	5	39
Wetlands	155	19	10	8
Streams/floodplains/stream habitats	171	9	6	21
Steep Slopes	112	33	34	0
Ridgelines	126	24	27	10
Dark Skies (no light pollution)	121	28	31	14
Wildlife habitats	170	7	7	34
Water quality	181	1	6	85
Air quality	173	3	5	46
Other Environmental Topics				
Open space preservation	154	15	13	28
Hunting/fishing/trapping	148	20	12	20
Use of energy alternatives such as solar, wind, biomass heating, and geothermal	143	22	11	52

27. Of the activities listed above in Question 26, what do you think are the TOP THREE that should be addressed in the Town of Stamford?

Water quality (85), energy alternatives (52), air quality (46), scenic views (39), wildlife habitats (34), open space (28), streams (21), ridgelines (10), dark skies (14)

Agriculture

28. How important is dairy farming/agriculture in the Town of Stamford to you?

Very Important **158**____ Not Important **7**____ No Opinion **19**____

29. In your opinion, should the Town promote and preserve agriculture in any of the following ways?

Agricultural Support Activity	Yes	No	No Opinion	# times resource was listed as top three in #31
Encourage and allow agri-tourism (B&B's, dude ranches, U-Pick operations, etc.)	152	14	18	51

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Agricultural Support Activity	Yes	No	No Opinion	# times resource was listed as top three in #31
Help establish a community "kitchen" that farmers could use cooperatively to process their food products.	149	15	20	24
Offer incentives to developers when farmland is preserved.	137	19	26	17
Promote agri-businesses that support farms (vets, supply companies, processing facilities, machinery dealers).	149	9	24	20
Promote and allow small scale processing facilities (small-scale slaughterhouse, milk bottling, yogurt/cheese processing, composting, etc).	148	16	18	68
Support local farmers markets, and stores that sell local agricultural products.	182	0	6	85
Promote and encourage local agricultural products. (Where to buy, why you should know where your food comes from, Why it is important to buy local agricultural products and support local family farming.)	176	1	7	67

Others: all are important (6), buy local (2), u-pick (3)

30. Would you be interested in buying more local agricultural products, such as dairy, meat and produce?

Yes **168**____ No **3**____ No Opinion **13**____

31. Of the activities listed in Question 29 above, what do you think are the TOP THREE that could be most effective in promoting agriculture in the Town of Stamford?

Support local markets (81), small processing facilities (66), promote local ag products (64), agritourism (51), promote agri-businesses (20), community kitchens (24), offer incentives (13)

Cultural and Recreation

32. What is your favorite recreational or cultural activity that you do in the Town of Stamford?

Favorite Activity: **hiking, walking, hunting, outdoor activities**

33. Are there enough recreational or cultural activities for you and your family in the Town of Stamford? Yes **64**____ No **74**____ No Opinion **29**____

34. What facilities or cultural activities would you like to see offered in the Town of Stamford? **See list. Top one activity was movies (15), but boating, indoor tennis, pool, concerts, and more youth activities were mentioned.**

Housing

35. What type of housing do you feel is needed in the Town of Stamford?

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Housing	Yes	No	No Opinion
Combined townhouse/apartment building complex(es)	44	72	43
Duplexes (two-family houses)	43	62	45
Senior citizen housing	110	20	38
Assisted living and continuous care facilities	105	25	41
Existing houses/commercial buildings renovated into apartments of two or more dwellings	97	31	31
Single-family dwellings	109	17	37
Manufactured home park	22	104	33
Other (please list):			

Overall Topics

The list below contains topics explored in this survey.

Topics Explored in Survey	
Access to open spaces for recreation 14	Affordable housing opportunities 21
Alternate energy sources such as solar and wind energy 40	Business development in Town 21
Cable and high speed internet services 32	Commercial wind farms 12
Community character 34	Cultural and recreational opportunities 16
	Dark skies 6
Farmlands and farming 60	Gas drilling 6
Historic structures 13	Less residential development 1
Local job development 60	More residential development 1
Open Space 14	Outdoor recreation 18
Relocalization of our economy 18	Ridgelines and steep slopes 1
Scenic views/landscapes 39	Streams and wetlands 8
Town public services 8	Water and air quality 46
Wildlife habitats 27	All are important 1

Others: no DEP (2), Recreation (2), Solar not wind (3), wind farms (2)

36. Looking at this list, which THREE topics are most important to you?

- a. Farmlands and Farming (60)
- b. local job development (60)
- c. water and air quality (46)

37. Would you support zoning to address these specific topics?

Yes **114** No **24** No Opinion **47**

Why? See Attached

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. Your participation is very important and will help make sure our new Town of Stamford Comprehensive Plan meets the needs of our residents and landowners. Please feel free to add other comments below: