Durham Master Plan Survey

Durham is revising its Master Plan to help shape the Town's future during the next 10-20 years. The Master Plan addresses *land use*, *open space*, *housing*, *economic development*, *natural resources*, *recreation*, *education*, *energy*, *sustainability*, *public services*, *facilities*, and *transportation*. Your input will help us to identify:

- qualities and attributes of Durham that you value and wish to preserve;
- qualities and attributes that you perceive to be at risk or wish to change; and
- your priorities for Durham's future over the next 10 to 20 years.

The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete. It may be filled out by more than one member of your household. Business owners, UNH students, and part-time residents are also invited to participate. You may take the survey online at: http://tinyurl.com/Durham-Master-Plan. If you would prefer to complete a paper copy of the survey, you may pick one up at Durham **Town Hall** or at the **Durham Public Library.** Please return the completed survey to the drop-off boxes located at the Town Hall or the Town Library before May 31, 2011. Or, you can mail the completed survey to:

Town of Durham, c/o Master Plan Advisory Committee 15 Newmarket Road Durham, NH 03824

All survey responses are anonymous. For questions about the survey content, please call (603) 868-8064 or e-mail mpvisionforum@gmail.com. If you are having trouble with the web survey, contact Charlie French at 603-862-0316.

		Jen	eral Background		
1.	How many years have you lived in Dur	ham	a? (if you have moved away and retu	rned	l, count both periods)
2.	How many years do you plan to stay in O Less than 5 years O 5 – 10 years	0	rham? (Select one of the following) 11 – 20 years More than 20 years	0	Don't know
3.	 Which of the following best describes y O Owner-occupied home C Lease room in home C Lease single-family home 	0	Lease apartment in multi-unit building	0	ose one response only) Own a business in Durham but don't live here Own home in Durham but don't live here
4.	Which of the following categories described Under 18 O 19 – 24 O 25 – 34	O O	s your age? (please choose one response one syon as - 44	\mathbf{O}	only) 65 – 74 75 years or over
5	Please indicate your gender. O Male	0	Female		
6.	 Which of the following best describes you O Homemaker O Self-employed O Employed full-time 	O	employment status? Employed part-time Student Retired		Unemployed Other (specify):
7.	How many miles do you travel to your p O Work from home O Less than 5 miles	O	or volunteer place of work (each was 6-20 miles 21-50 miles	O	Over 50 miles Not applicable
8.	What is your primary way of getting to O Walk O Bicycle O Bus	о О	r place of work? Train Car or truck Motorized 2-wheels	0	Other Not applicable

9.	If you use more	than one mode of	transportation to	get to your	place of work,	please briefly	explain below.

Community Character

10. How important are the following attributes to making Durham a place where you will want to live during the next ten to twenty years? *Note that these attributes may or may not characterize Durham today.*

	Very	Somewhat	Somewhat	Not at all	No
	important	important	unimportant	important	opinion
Small New England town character	0	0	0	0	•
Vibrant downtown	0	0	0	0	•
Sense of community	0	0	0	0	•
Attractive natural setting	0	0	•	0	•
Traditional, historic architectural character	O	0	•	0	•
Access to outdoor recreational activities	0	0	•	0	•
Quality of Oyster River schools	•	0	•	0	O
Local employment opportunities	•	0	•	0	O
Pedestrian- and bicycle-friendliness	•	0	•	0	O
Affordable, attractive housing options	•	0	•	0	O
Access to UNH	0	0	•	0	O
Access to the Seacoast region	•	O	0	O	O

Economic Vitality

11. To what degree would you support the following policies aimed at stabilizing or reducing the property tax rate?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat do not support	Not at all support	No opinion
Allow commercial or mixed residential- commercial building heights greater than 4 stories in downtown	•	0	•	0	•
Make more land available for commercial development	O	•	O	O	O
Build a parking structure in downtown	0	0	0	0	O
Encourage shopping plaza developments outside of downtown	O	•	O	0	•

12. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about economic development in Durham?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
Joint UNH-Durham projects to promote economic development should be pursued	O	0	•	0	O
Durham should extend water, sewer, and roads to stimulate economic development	O	O	•	O	O
A Durham tax rate with future increases similar to past increases is acceptable to me	O	•	•	O	O
A downtown hotel-conference center would have a positive impact on Durham	O	0	0	O	O

(12 continued) To what extent do you agree with the following statements about economic development in Durham?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
A performing arts center in or around the downtown would have a positive impact	O	0	•	•	0
Durham should establish architectural and site design standards or guidelines for downtown projects	0	0	0	•	0
Durham should continue to facilitate the redevelopment of existing structures	C	0	•	C	O
Durham should continue to facilitate new construction in downtown	0	0	0	O	O
If more choices were available, I would spend more money on retail and professional services in Durham, rather than out of town	O	•	•	O	•
Economic development (e.g., office parks, light industry, etc.) beyond downtown should be encouraged by the Town	•	•	•	•	•
I would be open to development along the entrance to town via Rte. 4 (Piscataqua Rd, past Wagon Hill and Emery Farm)	•	•	•	•	•
I would be open to development along the entrance to town via Rte. 155A (Mast Rd.)	•	O	O	O	O
I would be open to development along the entrance to town via Rte. 108 N (Dover Rd, past Rte. 4)	0	0	0	•	•
I would be open to development along the entrance to town at Coe's Corner near Rte. 4	0	0	0	C	O
I would be open to development to town via Rte. 108 S (Newmarket Rd.)	O	0	•	O	O

13. How important are the following items to improving downtown?

	Very	Somewhat	Somewhat	Not at all	No
	important	important	unimportant	important	opinion
Bike lane network	O	0	•	•	O
Better sidewalks	0	0	0	O	O
Better crosswalks	0	0	•	0	O
Better biking and walking access to the	0	0	0	0	\circ
downtown from where I live	•	•	•	•	•
Better lighting	0	0	0	O	O
Two-way traffic patterns	0	0	0	O	O
Public transportation to downtown from the	0	0	0	O	O
area where I live	•	•	•	•	
Public transportation that connects the	0	•	•	0	O
downtown with perimeter neighborhoods	_		_	_	_
Public transportation that connects the	•	•	•	•	•
downtown with recreation opportunities	_	_	_	_	_
More events/festivals	O	O	O	O	O
Improved parking availability	O	O	O	O	O
Buildings that combine residential and				\circ	\circ
commercial uses					•

14. To what extent do you agree that the following housing options and policies would favorably impact Durham? The state requires towns to provide opportunities for the development of workforce housing: owner-occupied and rental housing that meets the needs of individuals and families that represent the majority of New Hampshire's workforce (RSA 674:58-61).

	Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	No
	agree	agree	disagree	disagree	opinion
More flexible options for 'in-law' apartments	O	O	O	O	O
Expand family rental housing opportunities	•	O	•	•	O
More affordable housing for working	\circ	0	\circ	\circ	\circ
individuals and families)	•)	•	•
More affordable housing for young families	0	0	0	0	O
More affordable housing options for seniors	0	0	0	0	O
Policies that enable seniors on a limited or	0	0	0	0	\circ
fixed income to stay in Durham)	•)	•	•
Encourage a more diverse mix of housing	0	0	0	0	\circ
options in downtown)	•)	•	•
Encourage housing options with shared					
community facilities (e.g., community room,	•	•	•	•	•
playground, parking, kitchen, etc.)					
Encourage more multi-unit housing outside	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
of downtown)))))
Better buffers between commercial or mixed-					
use (including parking lots) and residential	•	•	O	O	•
properties					

15. To what extent do you agree that Durham should encourage the following housing options?

	Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	No
	agree	agree	disagree	disagree	opinion
Single-family homes	0	0	O	0	•
Two-family homes (e.g. duplexes)	0	0	O	0	0
Multi-family homes (3-4 units)	O	0	O	0	O
Apartment buildings (5-plus units)	0	0	•	0	•
Townhouses (attached multi-story)	0	0	•	0	•
Condominiums	0	O	O	0	•
Senior housing	0	0	O	0	O
Conversion of owner-occupied homes to apartments	O	O	•	O	O
Mobile homes	0	0	•	0	O
Mobile home parks	0	0	•	•	0
Conservation subdivisions (clustered homes with common open space)	O	•	•	0	0

Natural, Historic, Cultural, and Recreational Resources

16. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about Durham's natural resources?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
Protecting the sources of our drinking water is important to me	O	O	•	0	O
Protecting water resources for recreational use is important to me	0	O	•	O	O
Protecting aquatic habitats is important to me	0	0	O	C	O
Durham should protect its coastal streams and water bodies that lead to Great Bay	0	O	•	0	O
Durham should concentrate <i>commercial</i> development in existing developed areas to preserve outlying, high-quality natural areas	•	•	0	0	0
Durham should concentrate <i>residential</i> development in existing developed areas to preserve outlying, high-quality natural areas	0	0	•	0	O
Durham should shift to single-stream recycling, whereby recyclable materials are collected without the need to separate them	•	•	•	0	•
Durham should play a role in encouraging less consumption, leading to less waste	O	O	O	•	•

17. Durham should adopt agricultural policies that:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
Support the production and sale of local agricultural products	•	0	•	0	0
Support homeowner gardens	0	O	0	0	0
Support community gardens	0	0	•	0	O
Allow livestock-raising by homeowners	0	0	•	0	O
Allow poultry-raising by homeowners	0	0	•	0	O
Protect agricultural lands for current or future food production	O	•	•	0	0

18. Durham should take action on each of the following energy initiatives over the next ten to twenty years:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
Implement additional energy conservation measures for municipal facilities	O	O	•	0	O
Develop alternative energy sources for municipal facilities	O	O	•	O	O
Encourage energy-efficient building construction through Town codes	O	•	•	0	O
Establish one or more conveniently placed park-and-ride lots for carpooling	O	O	•	0	O

19. Which specific road(s) or intersection(s) in town pose the most serious threat to <i>pedestrian</i> safety?
20. Which specific road(s) or intersection(s) in town pose the most serious threat to <i>bicyclist</i> safety?

21. Durham should take the following steps to protect and promote the Town's historic and cultural character:

	Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	No
	agree	agree	disagree	disagree	opinion
Preserve historic structures	0	0	0	0	O
Expand the Historic District boundaries	0	0	0	0	•
Strengthen architectural design standards for	0	\circ	\circ		\circ
the historic district		9	9		
Install signage to identify historic buildings			\circ	\circ	
and historically significant areas			9		

22. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the Town's recreation resources?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
A community recreational center for people of all ages would enhance Durham residents' quality of life.	•	•	•	•	0
Durham should promote more outdoor events for the community	0	0	•	0	0
Durham should expand parking at Wagon Hill Farm	O	0	•	O	O

Community Facilities and Infrastructure

23. Please rate the following existing facilities and infrastructure:

	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor	No
					opinion
Athletic/playing fields	0	•	0	0	•
Indoor recreation facilities	0	O	•	0	O
Library	0	•	•	0	•
Fire/rescue station	0	•	•	0	•
McGregor Ambulance Station	0	•	•	0	•
Oyster River Cooperative School District facilities	O	O	0	O	0
Police station	O	•	•	0	•
Public works facility	0	•	•	0	•
Road maintenance & reconstruction	0	•	•	0	•
Town Hall	0	•	•	O	•
Transfer station (recycling)	0	O	O	O	C

24. Name three attributes of Durham that you find to be most important or attractive.
25. Name three attributes of Durham that you would like to change or see improved.
26. The Durham Planning Board is interested in creative ideas that would favorably change the character of Durham as a place to live or conduct business over the next ten years. What are your ideas?
27. Please use the space below if you have any additional comments about the Town's priorities over the next 10 to 20 years, or any items addressed or omitted in this survey.

28.	Which number on the tax map approximates the area of Durham in which you live? (please choose one	•
	response only)	

O Not sure	O 4	S C	O 12	O 16	O 20
O 1	O 5	O 9	O 13	O 17	Q 21
O 2	O 6	O 10	O 14	O 18	O 22
O 3	O 7	O 11	O 15	O 19	Q 23

