

Results of the Enosburgh Community Survey

MARCH 2014

The Enosburgh Community Survey was a Success!

Seventy-four community members filled out the survey available this past March 2014. Thank you for your participation and support for the work the joint Town/Village Planning Commission is doing as part of Enosburgh's Unified Municipal Plan update.

The survey gathered input from the community regarding the adequacy of existing facilities, resources that are important to residents, and additional facilities or developments that would benefit the community.

The results of the survey were reviewed by the Planning Commission and used to inform the goals and direction of the new Unified Plan. *The Planning Commission is currently working on final revisions to the Unified Plan and will be presenting the plan to the community at an event this summer.*

*For more information on the process or plan update **Attend a Meeting or Contact a Commission Member!***

Now that the Village and Town Planning Commissions have officially merged, they will be setting their new meeting time later this month. This information will be posted on the Town and Village websites soon.

Feel free to contact a member of the Planning Commission...

Village Representative – Ronald Duso, 933-4394

Town Representative —Michael Gervais, mgervais.survey@gmail.com

This project has been supported by a grant from the VT Department of Housing and Community Development and completed with support by the Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

Q1. What is the single most important thing that the Community of Enosburgh could do to maintain and improve the quality of life of its citizens?

Answered: 35

Skipped: 39

Showing 12 most important words and phrases

Community Economic Healthy Housing Industry Life
 Physical Therapy Quality Recreational Opportunities
 Road Taxes Town

ACTUAL RESPONSES

Dirt roads that are heavily traveled on (especially Duffy Hill Road) are a health hazard and adversely affect the quality of life for those who live on the road because of the dust from speeding cars & trucks. As a resident on the road I implore the Planning Committee to help the residents on Duffy Hill by doing whatever it can to lower the speed limit to reasonable 30 mph and have the speed limit enforced.
Fix the main road .
Keep reviewing and updating the town plan and get a different zoning administrator.
Lower taxes
Job opportunities
Provide more recreational opportunities.
Open a fitness center and offer exercise classes, nutrition education, small group meetings, physical therapy, etc.
Open the Industrial park up to everything, not just to the agricultural industry.
Continue to make people feel connected to their community by supporting existing events and activities
Provide a quality education and healthy free opportunities for kids/teens to do locally
Keep wildlife habitat intact.
We have to find a common sense way to halt taxes - restructure where money is going and if it's being used efficiently.
Keep taxes low. Give the youth something to do and something to keep them here. (Jobs)
Industry(s) to help with tax base.
Keep costs down, especially taxes .
Affordable healthy food and better sidewalks .
Gym next to physical therapy.
Grow and keep taxes low, but sustain quality community.
Employment new businesses .
Keep them informed.
Lower taxes .
Support one of these endeavors.
Cluster housing and maintain undeveloped farm land .
Improve roads .
Form and staff a Community Center .
Main thing would be taxes increase will not happen, get more development .

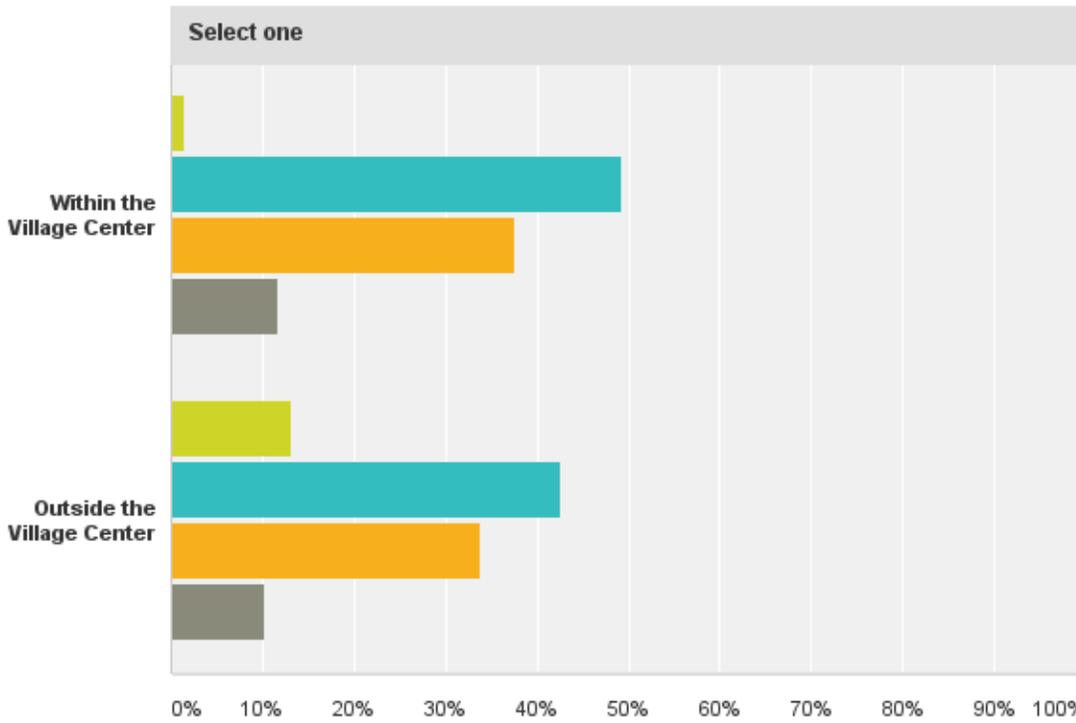
Communicate and have ways to build community and share . Education for all is life long.
More business and parking .
Less welfare housing , encourage economic growth .
Rec life for youth. Ice rink, etc.
Keep good Select Board members who make good decisions for our Town.
Develop a youth center with social and recreational opportunities, staffed and supervised.
Establish a Youth Center, Community Garden , YWMCA, Intentional (?) Living Community, Committee to save the Spavin Cure building.
Retail or Manufacturing . Get more industry to lower taxes. A lot of retired people in area on limited income.
Economic vitality

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS WRITTEN ON SURVEYS

A town methane/bio-mass plant. Our state composting goals would coincide with this energy plan.
Consider having impact fees for development.

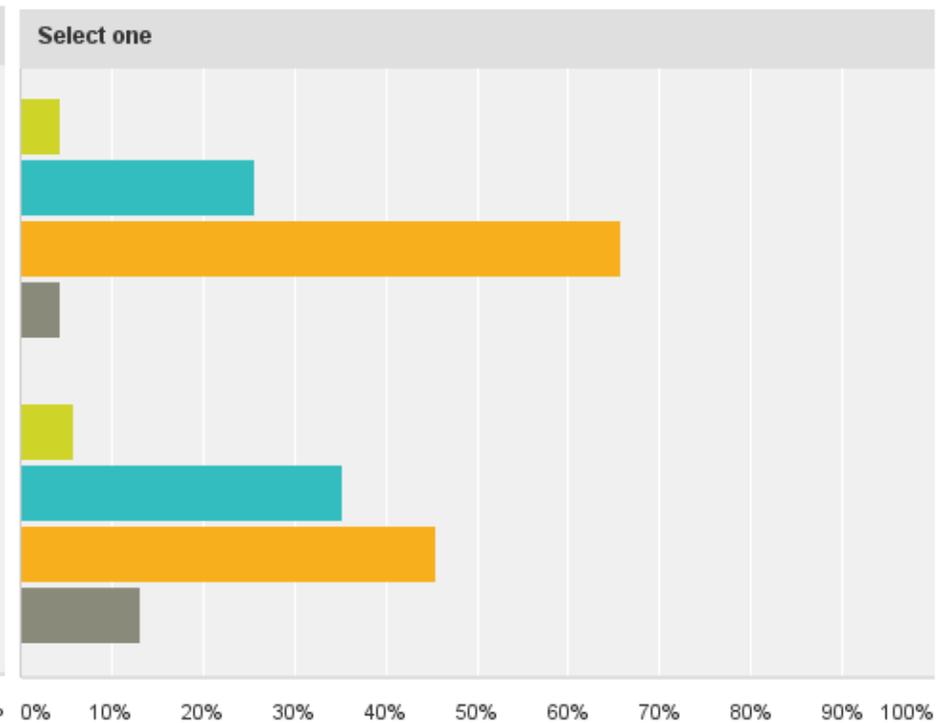
Q2 Do you feel the rate of RESIDENTIAL development in Enosburgh has been...

Answered: 71 Skipped: 3



Q3 Do you feel the rate of COMMERCIAL (stores, offices, etc.) development in Enosburgh has been...

Answered: 72 Skipped: 2



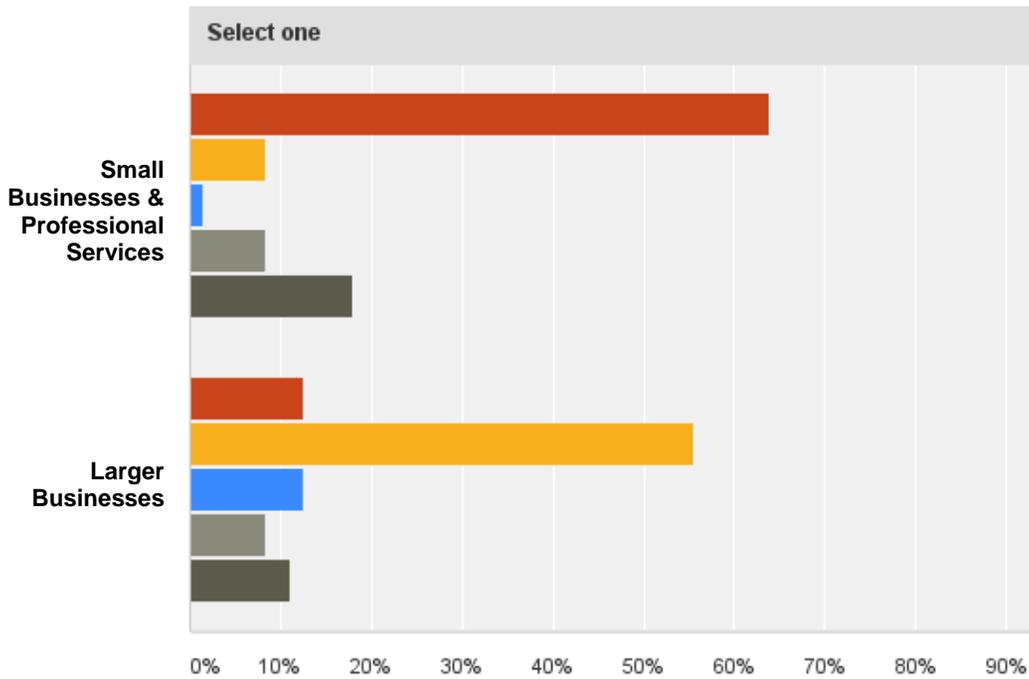
■ Too Rapid
 ■ Just Right
 ■ Not Rapid Enough
 ■ No Opinion

Survey Outcome

Respondents stated Commercial development in the Village Center has been Not Rapid Enough

Q4 In which locations or types of areas should commercial development be concentrated and encouraged?

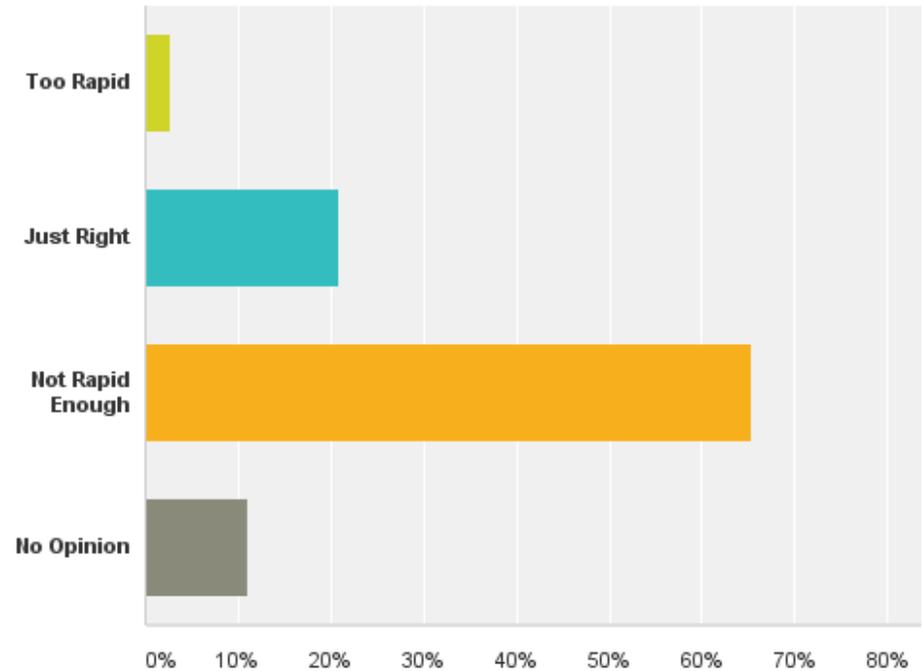
Answered: 73 Skipped: 1



- Village Center
- Outskirts of Village Center
- Shopping Centers or Retail Malls
- Along Highways
- Anywhere

Q5 Do you feel the rate of INDUSTRIAL (manufacturing, warehouses, etc.) development in Enosburgh has been...

Answered: 72 Skipped: 2



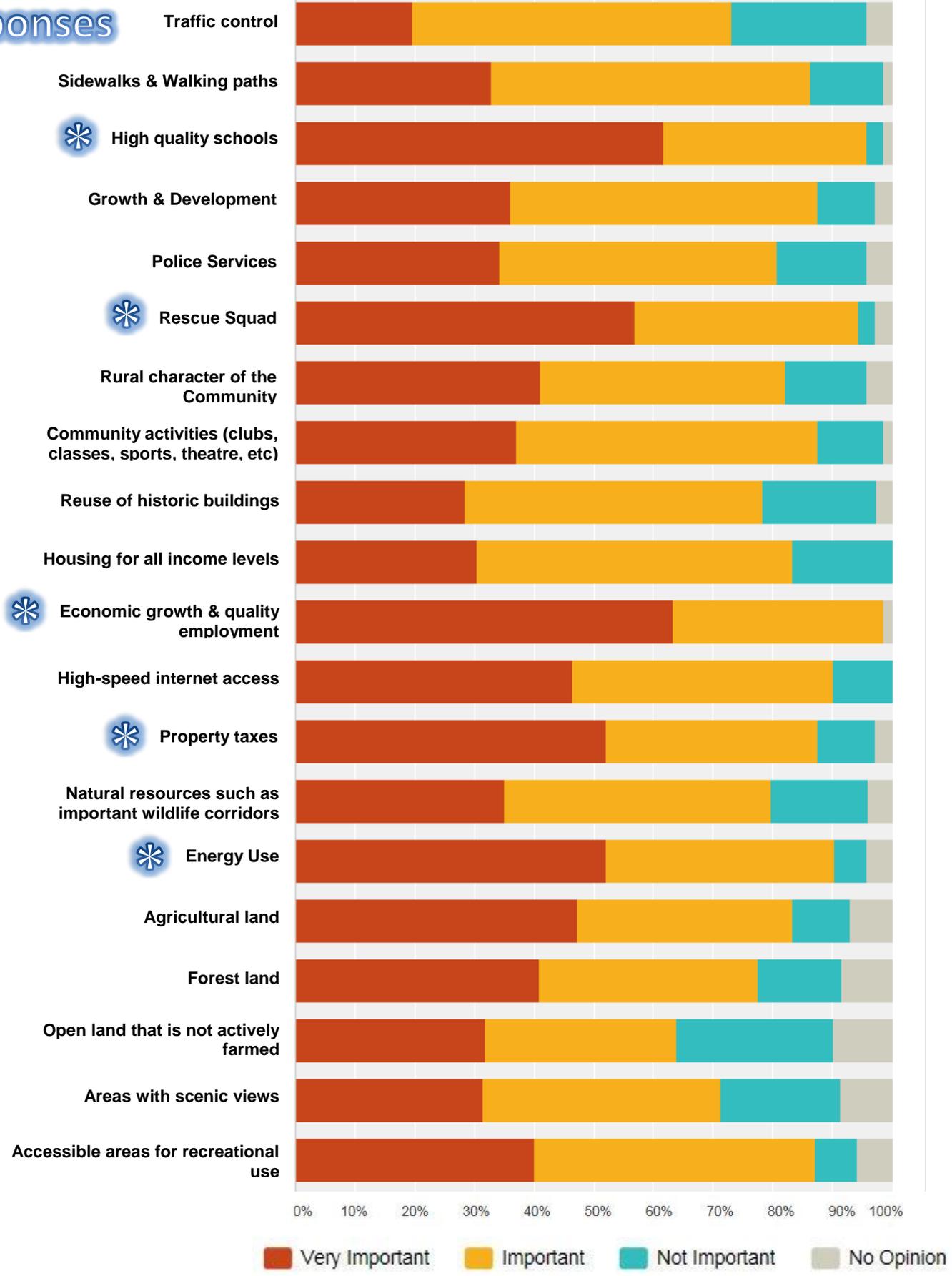
Survey Outcome

Respondents want Smaller Businesses in Village Center & Larger Businesses in the outskirts of the Center and in Industrial Park

* = Top

Q6. The Enosburgh Community will face many issues over the next 5 years
Please indicate how important each issue is to you. Answered: 74 Skipped: 0

Responses



Q6. Comments provided on Issue Topics...

ISSUES	COMMENTS
Traffic Control	- Consider light at Hannaford's
Sidewalks & Walking Paths	- Neon crosswalk signs are needed again in the Village to slow 105/108 traffic. - It is tourist friendly and an incentive for exercise. - Need more connecting to Hannaford's, Doctors office
High Quality Schools	- Need work here - College local courses CCV extension
Growth & Development	- In appropriate place - Not too much - Service learning
Rescue Squad	- We already have too many
Rural Character of the Community	- Should control and qualify growth and development
Community Activities	- Public gym facilities - Community learning center
Reuse of Historic Buildings	- Unless a building already suits an intended use, sell it privately. - Historic village areas, tourists
Housing for all Income Levels	- We have too many welfare
Property Taxes	- Keep low - Our tax rate increases presently are not sustainable - We are driving people away - Too high - Keep them affordable
Natural Resources	- If zoning is properly handled, this will take care of itself. - Not to the exclusions of use more solar - Local Humane Society
Energy Use	- Renewable/sustainable
Agricultural Land	- Small farms
Open Land	- It's more important to have our land in use. - Community gardens
Accessible Areas for Recreational Use	- Local YMCA

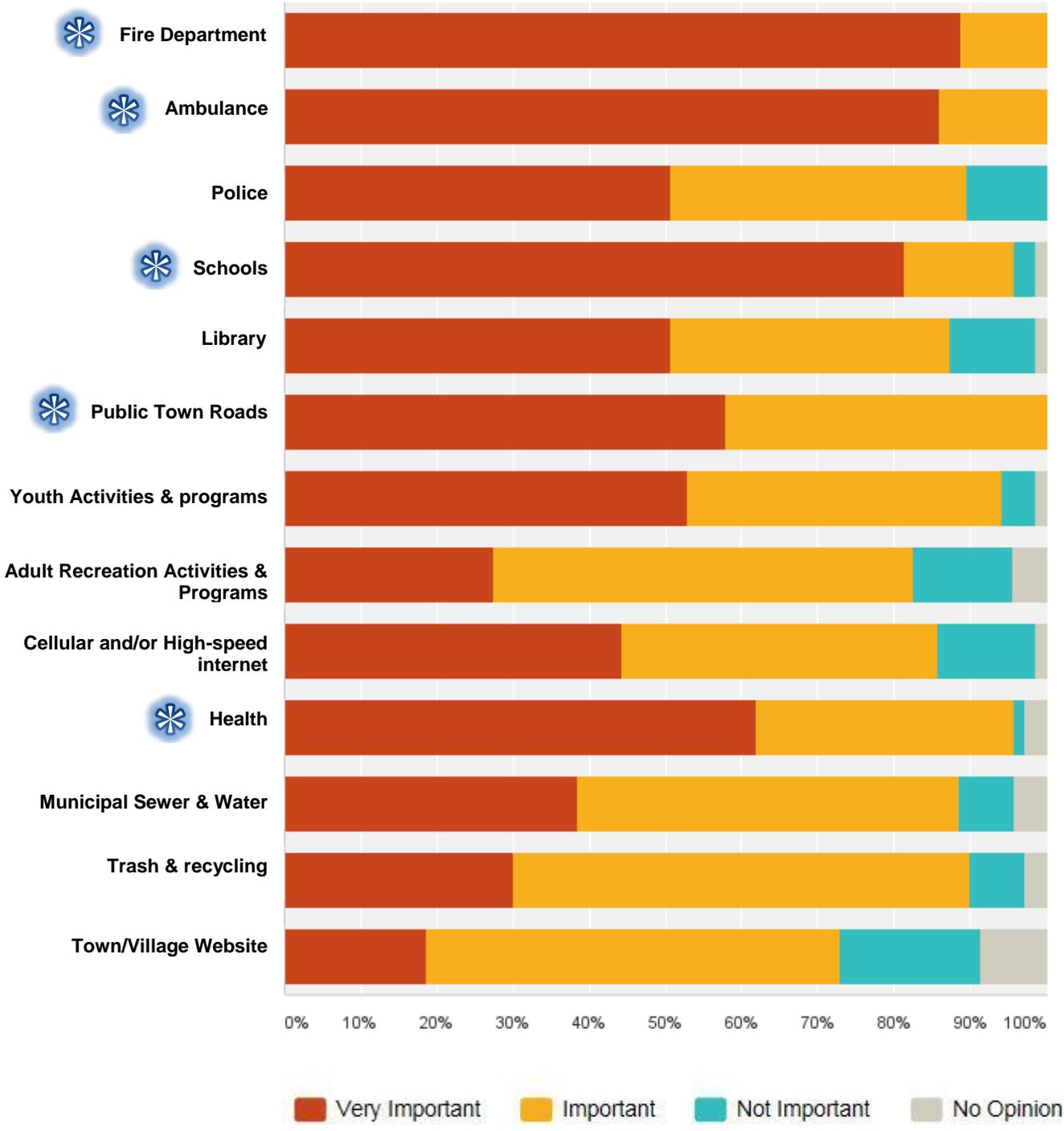
“OTHER” Comments:

- WE HAVE to reign in our school spending - it is choking tax payers!
- The road maintenance in the village is an embarrassment! The horrendous condition of the road is a reflection on the community and I'm sure it discourages travelers from returning.
- I feel we should upgrade the town park to include swings, playground equipment and picnic tables for families to bring their children.
- Clean water and air
- Fund for Economic Growth
- Spavin Cure Restoration project. Neglected building on Church Street.
- Smart growth w/ open space protection
- Main Street maintenance

Q7. Please rate the importance of the following services in Enosburgh
 Answered: 72 Skipped: 2

* = Top

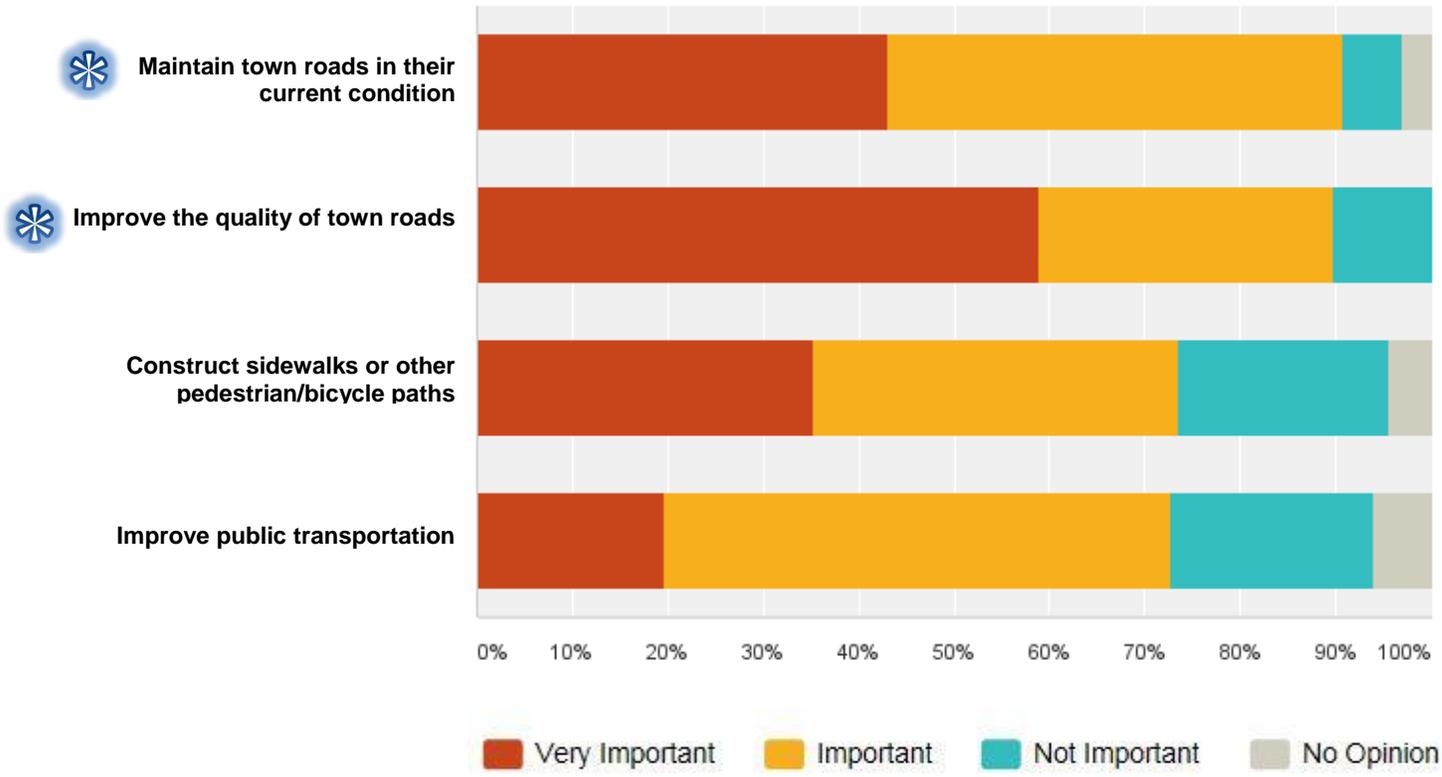
Responses



Q8. Please indicate the level of importance of each transportation-related action.

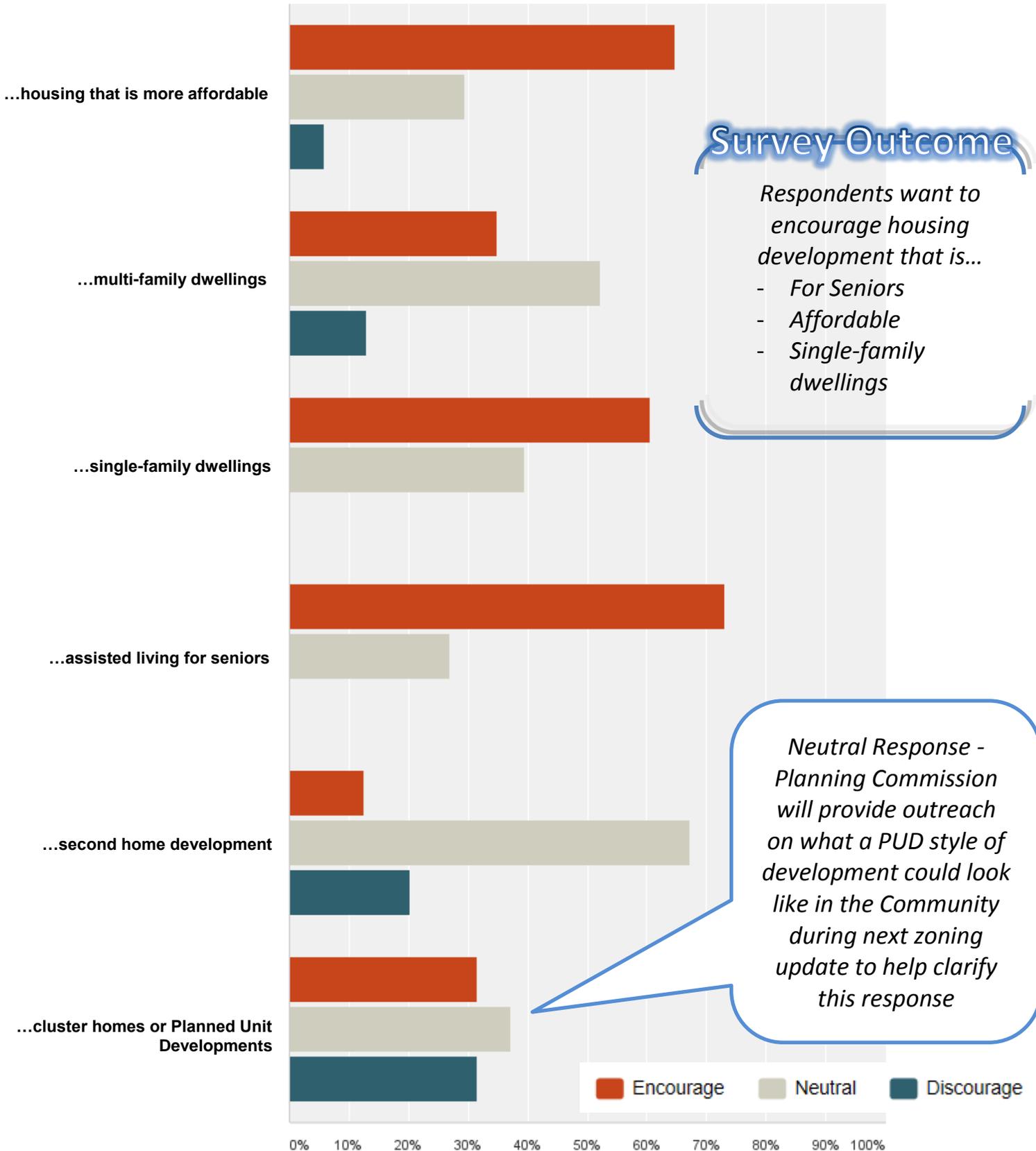
Answered: 68 Skipped: 6

* ≡ Top Responses



Q9. What type of Housing Development should Enosburgh encourage in the next 5 to 10 years? [Definition: Planned Unit Development is a design where homes are built closer together to accommodate a shared Open Space].

Answered: 70 Skipped: 4



Survey Outcome

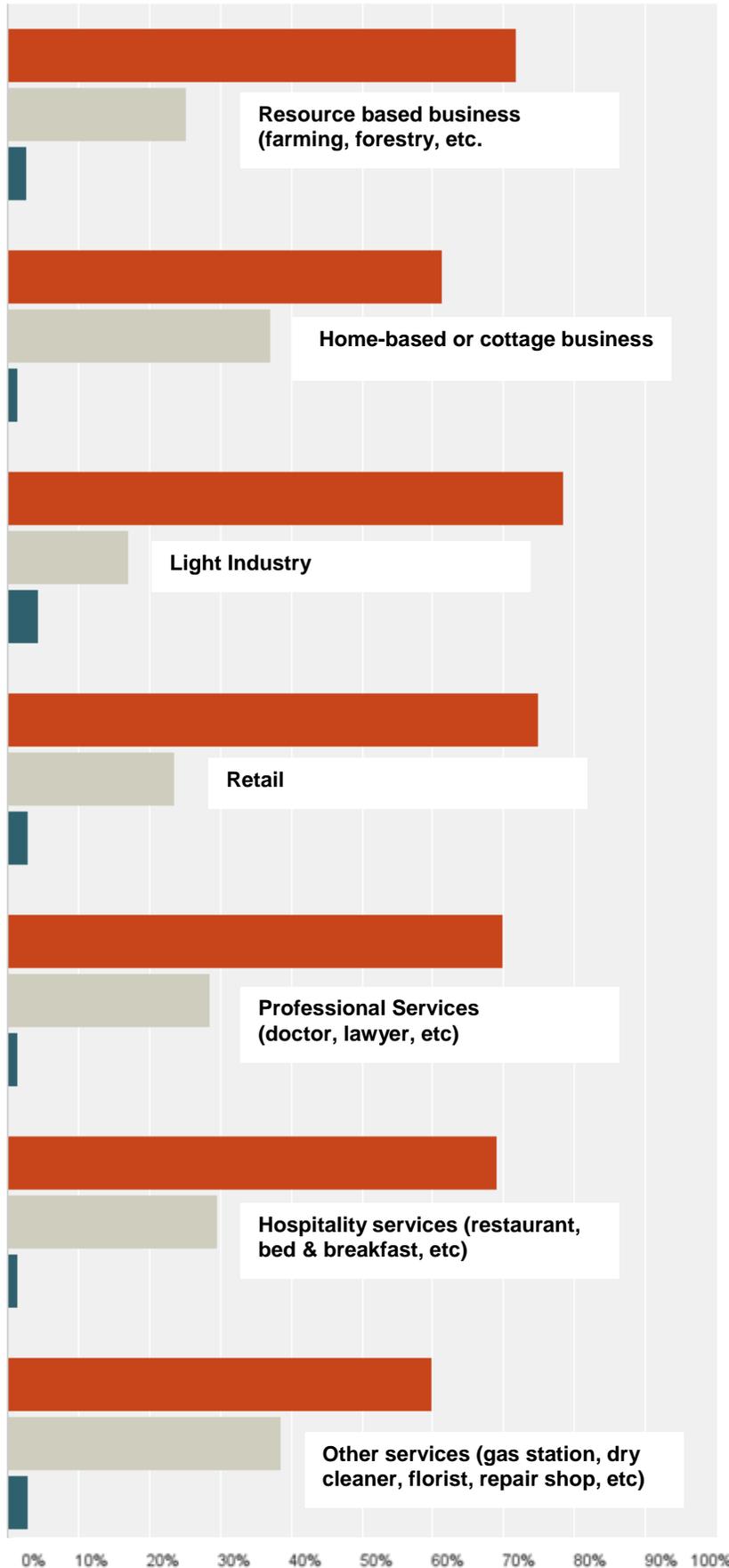
Respondents want to encourage housing development that is...

- For Seniors
- Affordable
- Single-family dwellings

Neutral Response - Planning Commission will provide outreach on what a PUD style of development could look like in the Community during next zoning update to help clarify this response

Encourage Neutral Discourage

Q10. What type of Economic Development actions would you like to see Enosburgh encourage over the next 5 to 10 years? Answered: 72 Skipped: 2



“OTHER” Comments:

- Other than farming **Enosburgh has not found its economic/business niche**. If traveling into and through Enosburgh isn't a pleasant experience no one will come here to spend money except for Dairy Day. I'd be surprised if attendance hasn't dropped off in the last 5-10 years.
- **Big business**
- **Computer Businesses**

Encourage Neutral Discourage

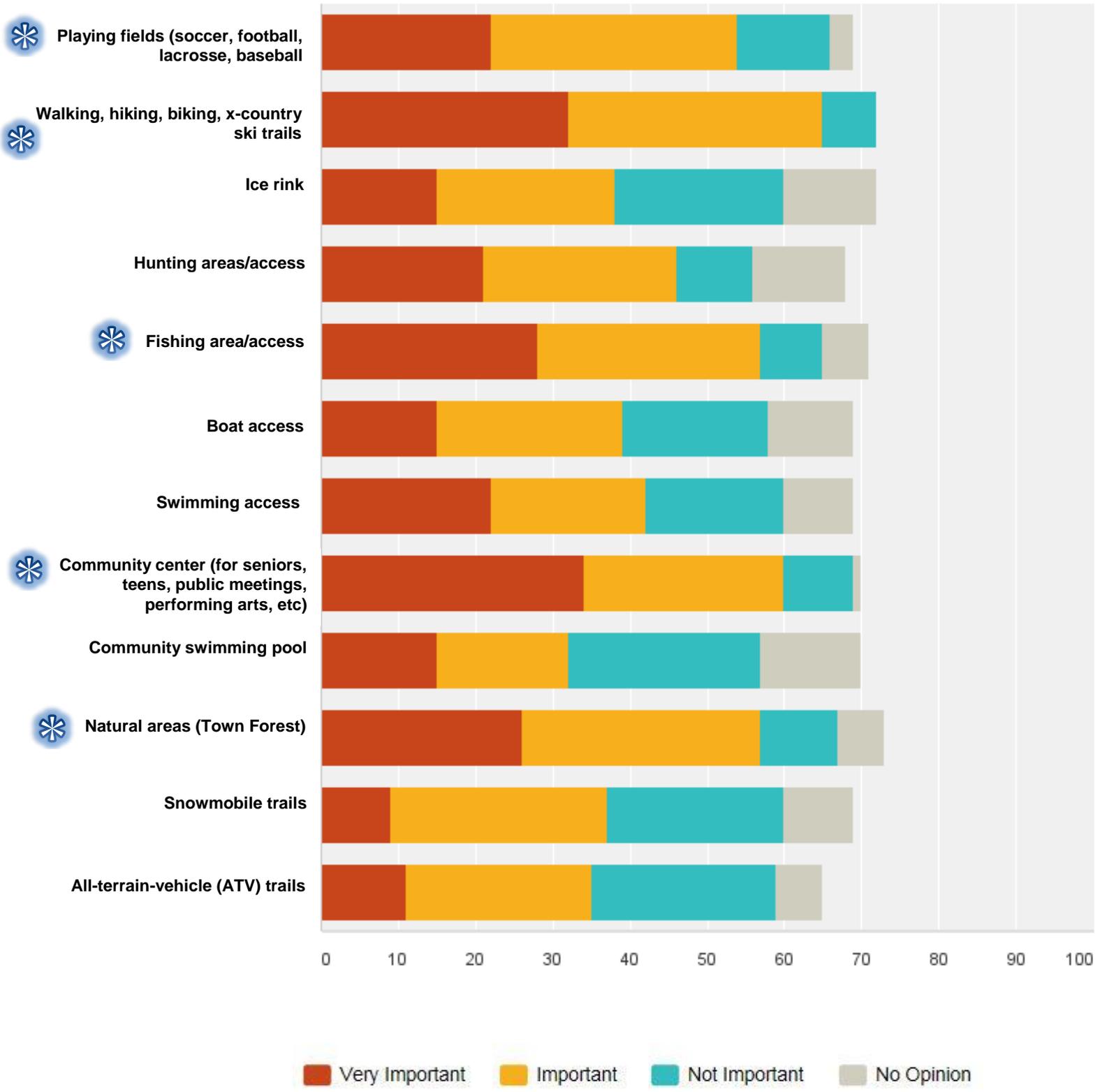
Survey Outcome

Overall respondents were supportive of Economic Development in general for the Community

* ≡ Top

Q11. Which types of recreational land or facilities are important to you and/or the community? Answered: 73 Skipped: 1

Responses



Very Important Important Not Important No Opinion

Q11. Comments provided on Specific Improvements resondents would like to see...

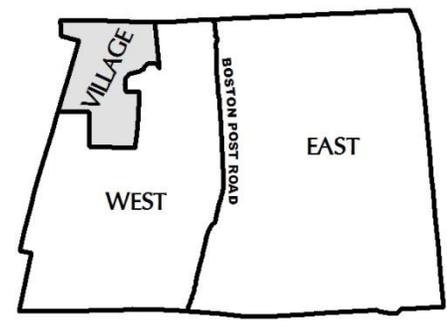
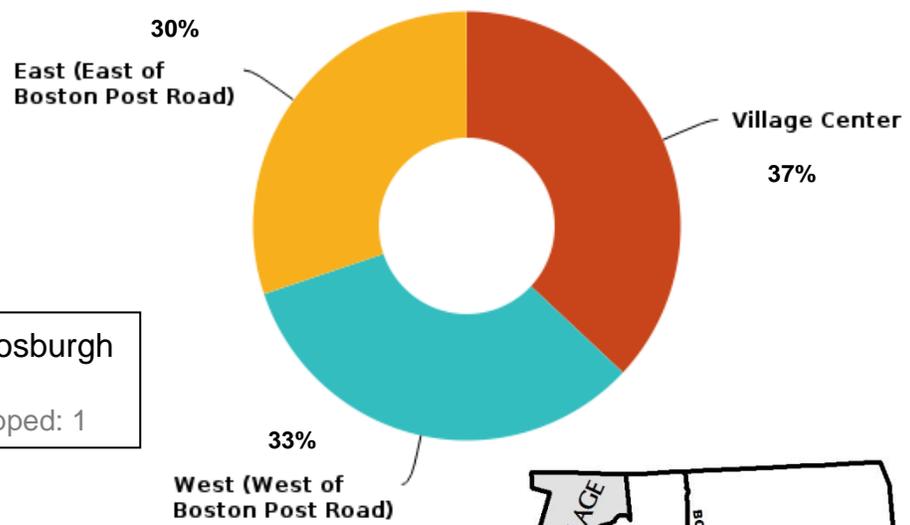
Specific Improvements Needed	COMMENTS
Playing Fields	Good as is, recent excellent work
Walking/Hiking/Biking Etc.	Only Rail Trail and Brownway Trail
Ice Rink	Do we have one?? (outdoors) too expensive, one at Jay
Hunting Areas/Access	Protect large forest
Fishing Areas/Access	Protect river corridors
Boat Access	Too many rocks to be concerned. We have 2 excellent access areas, good as is
Swimming Access	Protect special sites
Community Center	We have nice facilities for these things. Opera House Use the Spavin Cure Building We have Opera House, Library, Emergency Services Bldg
Community Swimming Pool	Too expensive
Nature Areas (Town Forest)	We have these areas presently. Need to expand, too small
Snowmobile Trails	Rail Trail and VAST Good as is
All-Terrain-Vehicle (ATV) Trails	Rail Trail Controversial, causes erosion
Other	Tennis Courts Sledding hill Recreational ctr for youth, could include some of the above Village Park as housing expands

OTHER COMMENTS:

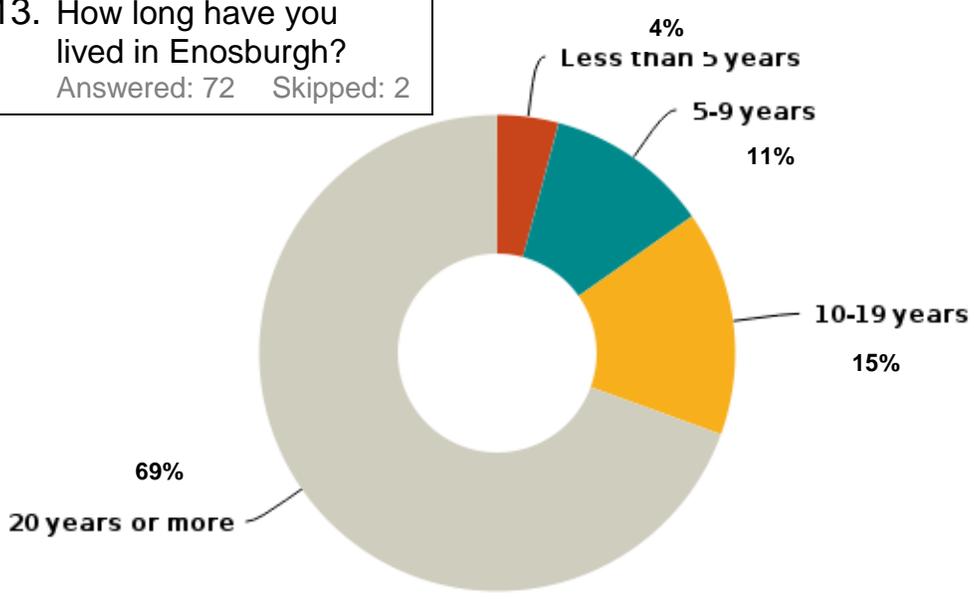
- What's up with the sign by the falls "Island View"? Isn't the attraction the falls or the river/fishing hole?
- Living in Northern Vermont is very enjoyable, but becoming increasingly difficult due to the ever-increasing cost of living (food, energy, health-care, taxes). We are also a State with a high percentage of seniors. Something's got to give, because we (the citizens) can't operate on a deficit like our Federal government. When the outgo exceeds the income, we're forced to either tighten the belt even more or move to someplace more affordable. Vermont and our small towns need a plan for the future, because the status quo just isn't cutting it anymore.
- Sledding Hill
- Recreational center for youth could include some of the above.
- Our Ancestors knew how important Parks were when they established Lincoln and Maple Park in 1890's. We need more Village Parks.

Demographics of Respondents

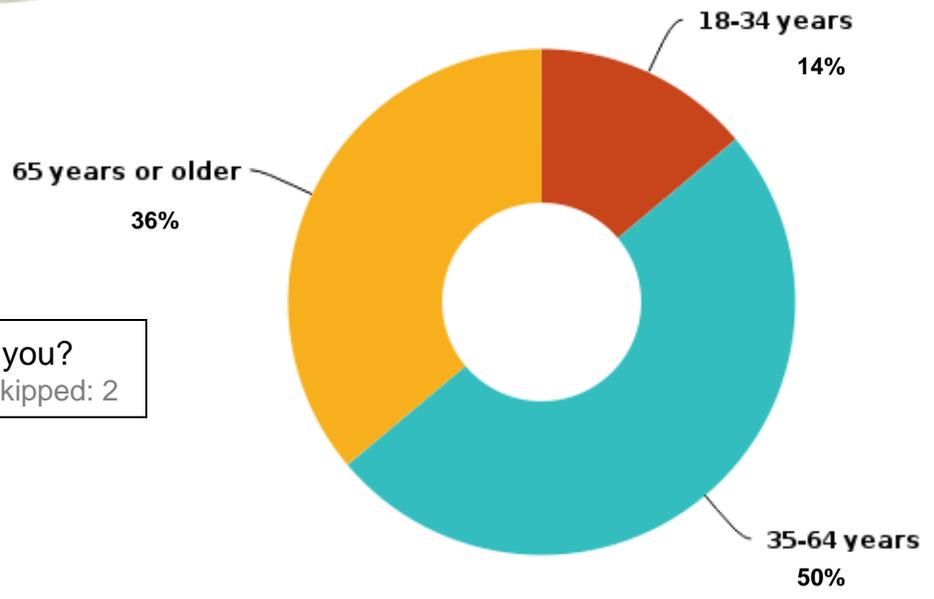
Q12. In what part of Enosburgh do you reside?
 Answered: 73 Skipped: 1



Q13. How long have you lived in Enosburgh?
 Answered: 72 Skipped: 2



Q14. How old are you?
 Answered: 72 Skipped: 2



Q15 If you are employed, where do you work?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 21

