

## Results from Workshop - Town of North East and Village of Millerton

### Topics Identified from Visioning Exercise:

These topics were the titles given to the categories of vision descriptions offered by participants. Each table had multiple topics they included in their vision description. This list describes those topics considered to be important to the future of the Town and Village. The number of times that same topic was included in the visions from all the tables is included to give the sense of priority/importance.

<b>Topic Identified</b>	<b>Number of Times Topic Was Mentioned at Tables</b>
Housing, Affordable Housing	11
Employment/Business/Economic Development	10
Infrastructure/Sewers	7
Education	6
Environment/Natural Landscape	6
Community Character	6
Culture	5
Recreation, for all ages	5
Open Space	5
Agriculture, Farm Friendly	4
Sense of community	4
Public Transportation	4
Village charm/character, village center character	4
Community participation/civic engagement	3
Zoning	2
Diversity and inclusion	2
Walkability	2
Beautiful Scenery	2
Public services	2
Arts and entertainment	1
Senior Concerns	1
Government	1
Tourism	1
Taxes	1
Development	1
Quality of life	1
Safety	1

## **Vision Descriptions Offered:**

Each topic identified (above) had one or more descriptions of what that table felt the future should be like. The following is a transcription of all the vision descriptions offered for the various topics above. Not all tables offered a specific statement for each topic. The statements below are grouped by topic. Where the same statement was found to be proposed at more than one table, it is indicated.

### Housing

- Housing for different types and ages so people can own their own home or rent a nice home for all incomes
- Decent senior and workforce housing in Village
- Affordable and diverse housing that fits the architectural character of the community
- Create many types and sizes of affordable housing

### Business/Economic Development

- Develop small/medium appropriate businesses
- Business with green space includes river walks
- Variety of businesses and job training opportunities
- Appropriate commercial development in and around village which supports the entire community
- A thriving economy with defined business growth areas with smart growth systems that will sustain them.
- Encourage economic development to enhance tax base and lower taxes

### Infrastructure

- Enhanced sewer and roads
- Buried utilities
- Create infrastructural systems that support smart growth
- Improve infrastructure to protect what we have (water) and to allow for economic development
- Improve transportation to link to train.
- Access to local and regional transportation
- Explore community-based transportation options

### Education

- Youth of NE deserve the best public education possible (2 tables very similar)
- Encourage high quality education for all sections of community
- Expand educational opportunities and improve our school system

### Environment

- Integrated green thinking into zoning
- More green thinking
- Proactively protect our natural resources

## Community Character

- Maintain rural character
- We are a beautiful, vibrant, rural and friendly community. Our community is diverse, family friendly, economically thriving and culturally focused. We are built on clean and efficient infrastructure and dynamic zoning that supports the well being of our unified Village and Town.
- We are a welcoming community
- Maintain historic nature of community
- Retain and enhance village character
- Careful planning to preserve rural quality

## Cultural and Recreational

- Millerton is the cultural hub of the future
- Cultural offerings
- Local recreation facilities for all ages
- Encourage arts and entertainment
- Improve recreation by developing Eddie Collins Field and leverage the rail trail

## Diversity

- Strong, diverse community
- Create a welcoming community, accessible to all ages, economic and ethnic groups and promote events to bring people together.
- Diversity of inhabitants
- Establish and promote events that will serve our diverse community
- Our quality of life should have diversity and protect what we have

## Open Spaces

- Maintain open spaces

## Agriculture

- Protect and utilize farmland
- Thriving farms, food diversity and a whole food system with high end specialty products, fresh fruits and vegetables, slaughterhouse, agritourism and on farm sales for enhanced delivery.
- Preserve and protect open space and working farms
- Protect our agricultural legacy and rural character

## Seniors

- Wide range of senior and affordable housing for workforce (2 tables very similar)
- Support senior populations to enrich lives

Two tables also wrote overall statements that brought individual vision topics together:

- Let our community flourish by sustaining its historic village, protecting its agricultural legacy and welcoming businesses, residents and visitors by effectively using smart growth practices. These should encourage a range of housing, commercial and technological development, cultural experiences and the protection of natural resources and landscapes. North East and Millerton should be models for how small communities can retain their sense of place while growing into their future. Keep North East and Millerton vibrant, rural and welcoming.
- Maintain quality of environment including open spaces of the Town, clean air and water. Maintain the historic character, sense of place of the Village (including building stock and the appearance of Main Street, keeping the community attractive and well maintained, avoiding intrusive lighting of streets and commercial sites, and keep Millerton and North East a fun place to live, visit and shop.

## Specific Elements of Vision – from Post-It Notes

During the workshop, each person identified one or more features of their desired future Town and Village. Each was written down on a post-it note and then combined with ideas from other people to form the large vision description. The following describe the specific elements that made up the vision descriptions of workshop participants. This also includes the number of times the same feature was identified among participants.

These should be read as...in the future, North East and Millerton will have/will be...

### Housing

- Wide range of housing types and costs available (5)
- Attractive concentration of affordable housing near village (2)
- New housing exists to raise population level
- Not gated
- Affordable housing (8)

### Business/Economic Development

- Store fronts full of small, local businesses (5)
- A variety of employment opportunities (5)
- Affordable stores that meet local needs (6)
- Varied shops for varied incomes (2)
- Clothing, hardware, small stores, locally owned, restaurants (6)
- No chain stores in village (2)
- Active, diverse, robust, vibrant (18)
- Family friendly
- Replace antiques with store fronts
- Remodeled shopping center
- Jobs for young people (2)
- Allow small manufacturers
- More zoning for business uses
- Minimum of business uses on Route 22 south of Village
- Businesses developed to preserve community character (3)

### Infrastructure

- Improve water in the village
- Public transportation (8)
- Public transportation is green
- Sewers (11)
- Infrastructure is sound and resilient (3)
- Great cell and broadband (10)
- Updated transfer station
- Good sidewalks (2)
- Underground wires

- Improved all around
- Lots of parking

#### School/Education

- Good school system (12)
- Thriving
- Inspiring teen culture
- After school learning center (2)
- Supplemental education
- Community college branch here

#### Environment

- Clean air and water (4)
- We are leaders in dealing with and reversing effects of climate change
- We have dark skies (4)
- Safe (2)
- Green (5)
- Use alternative energy (2)
- We are a solar community (3)
- Resilient and self-sustaining
- Low levels of development (3)
- Quiet (2)

#### Community/Community Character

- We respect neighbors and visitors (2)
- Strong sense of community (4)
- Helpful community
- People involved in community with lots of volunteerism (2)
- Preserved architecture and preserved history (3)
- More services (2)

#### Village Character

- Integrated South Center Street and Century Blvd with Main Street
- Aesthetically charming and inviting (3)
- Walkable (7)
- Complete streets
- Surrounded by open land
- More trees and green space – a perfect little village

#### Cultural Features

- We are a diverse population (ages, race, nationalities) (27)
- Friendly (12)

- Village is cultural center where locals and visitors interact
- Many create people and promote the arts (4)
- Library supported, is great
- Expanded cultural events (5)
- Community centered
- We have branding and town design
- Walkable and accessible (4)
- Safe
- Lots of young people and families (2)
- Culturally rich
- Village has maintained same vibe
- Village preserves buildings and has cohesive architecture (5)
- Annual feast on Century Blvd for everyone
- Beautiful and scenic (8)
- Beautiful Route 44 with parking in the back
- More medical/dental services
- No strip mall
- Images, signs celebrate towns history
- Adequate lighting in Village Center
- Sense of place (2)
- Transformative justice
- Buildings marked for community functions and use
- Preserved village charm (2)
- Well maintained buildings and properties (3)
- No socio-economic tensions
- Neighbors know each other (2)
- Police live as members of community
- Young people want to live here
- Opioid drug free

#### Recreation

- Keep movie house and bookstore
- Extend/More use of rail trail (8)
- Village square used for gatherings
- Recreation center, activities, and pool (6)
- Youth activities (6)
- More events (5)
- Access to trails and parks enhanced (2)
- Expand parks (4)
- Rudd Pond
- Playground in Village
- Great entertainment
- River walkway (3)

- Bikeable Village

#### Open Space

- Preserved open space (5)
- Preserved rural character/still rural (11)
- Beautiful open countryside with views protected (6)
- No sprawl

#### Farming/Agriculture

- Dairy farms reused as centers for agriculture
- Family farms (5)
- Young people can farm
- Wide variety of local products (5)
- Thriving and diverse crops (2)
- Encourage farming
- Farm co-packing
- We can access fresh food
- Preserve farmland
- Expand farmers market

#### Zoning

- Zoning helps all development to be consistent with rural and historic character
- Well designed traffic flow and parking
- Plantings in town
- Is flexible and progressive
- Concentrates business downtown
- Rezones pedestrian oriented areas to downtown
- 80' setbacks changed

#### Seniors

- They are not isolated but integrated (3)
- Have small bus for transportation
- Senior housing (4)
- Can age in place
- Multiple services for seniors
- Have a senior center

#### Government

- Merge North East and Millerton
- Prepared for all emergencies
- Shared services
- Maintain tax base