

## Town of North East, Village of Millerton Comprehensive Plan Survey Summary

**345 residents responded to the survey throughout the month of March, 2018.**

**This is a summary of the textual/open-ended questions asked in the survey.**

Q4 If you are a part-time resident, where is your other residence?

67 of the 95 respondents to this question (68%) answered New York City or one of the boroughs.

9 answered somewhere on Long Island. 5 answered New Jersey. 4 answered somewhere in Westchester County. 3 answered "county". 7 answered Greene County, Sharon CT, or another state.

**Questions 10 through 13 asked residents to use words or short phrases to describe different aspects of the town, its current condition, and future possibilities.**

Q10 What two things are the greatest strengths or assets of the Town and Village?

**Town:**

The word Beauty was used 78 times.

Rural or rural character was used 57 times including references to small-town atmosphere, bucolic, charm, quaintness, and other similar adjectives.

Community was used 47 times to describe aspects of both the entire population and specific groups working together for a common cause. It was also used to describe the communities openness to people from various locations and backgrounds.

Farming and other related agricultural uses were mentioned 41 times.

Various municipal services (Roads, library, etc.) - 35 times.

Location - 34 times

Open Space - 28 times.

Rail Trail - 21 times, with Recreation mentioned another 9 times.

Businesses in general and specifically the movie house were mentioned 17 times.

The adjective Local was used 18 times to describe various aspects of the town, usually combined with another key word included in this list.

**Village:**

In contrast to the town, the word Business was used 80 times in answers to this question, usually accompanied by the words local, small, shops, and restaurants. Also, the Movie House was mentioned 28 times as one particular business.

Similar to the town, the village's rural/small town character was mentioned 55 times as an important asset.

Community was also an important aspect mentioned 45 times, again often accompanied by the word Local, and referring to specific groups, or people in general.

Walkability was an additional important aspect of the village, not mentioned for the town, but mentioned 24 times for the village, with an additional 8 mentions of the downtown/main street character of the village, and 12 mentions of historic character.

The Rail Trail was mentioned 19 times, municipal services 17 times.

### Q11 What two things are weaknesses or challenges in the Town and Village?

#### **Town:**

In reference to the Town, shops, restaurants, and other words referring to types of businesses were used to describe weaknesses a total of 37 times. These terms were usually included in sentences that described a lack of diversity in types of businesses, or lack of businesses that catered to local residents as opposed to visitors. Specifically, the lack of a local grocery store was mentioned 10 times.

The second most cited weakness was land use regulations, mentioned 24 times as being outdated or ineffective.

Traffic, transportation, and parking problems were mentioned 23 times. Truck traffic seems to be a big issue.

The loss of farming operations or farmland was mentioned 22 times.

High taxes was mentioned 22 times.

Words describing some form of social division or friction between long term residents and newcomers were used 20 times.

Town government operations - 19 times

The lack of employment opportunities was mentioned 18 times.

Poorly maintained infrastructure, utilities, and lack of recreational opportunities were mentioned 17 times each. Internet was mentioned 8 times.

Housing affordability and variety was mentioned 15 times

Other terms used more than ten times when referring to town weaknesses were the separate town/village governments, apathy of residents, the physical condition of various private and public properties, the school system, and a lack of communication between local government and residents.

**Village:**

Similar to the town, the lack of diversity in the mix of shops, restaurants, and other businesses was at the top of the list of weaknesses with 85 mentions. The lack of a grocery store was specifically mentioned 8 times.

Traffic, Transportation, and parking issues came in second with 60 mentions.

Infrastructure was the third weakness seen in the village with 53 mentions. The lack of sewer was the most often mentioned weakness, seen as a limiting factor to further commercial growth. Internet was mentioned only once.

Social divisions scored high as a weakness in the village as well as the town, being mentioned 17 separate times.

Housing and property conditions were mentioned 16 times each.

Sidewalks were a larger weakness than in the town with 13 mentions.

Recreation and other social interaction opportunities were mentioned 10 times.

Town government operations were mentioned as a weakness 7 times.

All the other weaknesses mentioned for the town were mentioned 5 times or fewer for the village, if at all.

Q12 Write two words/phrases to describe the current community character in the Town and Village.

**Words used to describe the current state of the Town:**

Beauty, Beautiful, Bucolic	34 times	Village	3
Rural	33	Aging	2
Friendly	18	Atmosphere	2
Small Town	14	Blue Collar	2
Charming	11	Business	2
Scenic, Scenery	11	Development	2
Farm, Farmland, Agricultural	9	Houses	2
Country, Countryside	8	Isolated	2
Quiet	7	Mix	2
Natural	6	Nice	2
Open Space	6	Outsiders	2
Peaceful	5	Pleasant	2
Quaint	5	Safe	2
Landscape	4	Sense of Community	2
Local	4	Suspicious	2
Community	3	Willingness	2

**Words used to describe the current state of the Village:**

Charming	22 times	Quiet	3
Friendly	21	Rural	3
Quaint	17	Strong	3
Businesses	15	Walkable	3
Community	10	Antiques	2
Historic	10	Artsy	2
Small Town	10	Atmosphere	2
Vibrant	8	Bustling	2
Beautiful, Attractive	7	Clean	2
Welcoming	5	Crowded	2
Character	4	Intimate	2
Shopping	4	Locals	2
Divided	3	Spirit	2
Lively	3	Visitors	2

Q13 Write two words or phrases to describe what the community character of the Town and Village should be in 15 years.

**Words used to describe the desired future state of the Town:**

Agrarian, Agricultural, Farm	28 times	Active	3
Rural	24	Jobs	3
Community	15	Natural	3
Beautiful, Bucolic	14	Supportive	3
Open Land, Space	9	Accessible	2
Thriving	9	Green Energy	2
Friendly	8	Innovative	2
Vibrant	7	Integrated	2
Charming	6	Opportunities	2
Scenic	6	Productive	2
Welcoming	6	Progressive	2
Affordable	4	Quaint	2
Businesses	4	Quiet	2
Destination	4	Robust	2
Local	4	Strong	2
Small Town	4		

**Words used to describe the desired future state of the Village:**

Charming	18 times	Cultural	3
Businesses	17	Destination	3
Vibrant	15	Inclusive	3
Local, Locals	13	Quaint	3
Village	11	Walkable	3
Friendly	8	Attractive	2
Stores	8	Bustling	2
Welcoming	8	Character	2
Shopping, Shops	7	Food	2
Thriving	7	Green	2
Community	6	Growth	2
Center	4	Integrated	2
Historic	4	Interesting	2
Parking	4	Maintained	2
Small Town	4	Nonexistent	2

Old Town	2	Revitalized	2
Progressive	2	Rural	2
Prosperous	2	Sewer System in Place	2
Protected	2	Sustainable	2
Rail Trail	2	Young	2

Q16 Are there any types of businesses that you would NOT want to see in North East or Millerton?

<b>Type of Business</b>	<b># of responses</b>	<b>% of responses</b>
Chain	43	23.63%
Big Box Stores	32	17.58%
Antique Stores	26	14.29%
Dollar Stores	23	12.64%
Businesses	21	11.54%
Fast Food	19	10.44%
Shops	15	8.24%
Pollution	12	6.59%
Chemical	6	3.30%
Gas Stations	6	3.30%
Junk, Junkyards	6	3.30%
Adult Entertainment	5	2.75%
Environmental	5	2.75%
Manufacturing	5	2.75%
Mining	5	2.75%
Large Scale	3	1.65%
Art Galleries	2	1.10%
Commercial	2	1.10%
Family Dollar	2	1.10%
Gambling	2	1.10%
Mavis Tire	2	1.10%
Power Plant	2	1.10%