

## **Plymouth Master Plan - Public Workshop June 16, 2015 - Plymouth Senior Center**

**The following raw notes represent a summary of the comments made by participants. They will be the key ingredient in the draft vision statements discussed by the Planning Board at their August 6 meeting.**

### **Downtown businesses, locally owned**

Money stays in community - concern about Tenny Mtn Hwy - parking for businesses is issue - local ownership creates loyalty to area - vacancies are an issue - turnover concern - downtown businesses that are multi-generational tend to stay longer - entertainment district is vibrant - easy transportation access drives shoppers elsewhere (competition for small businesses downtown) - multi-national corps do not have buy-in to community - TIF (Tax Increment Financing) district - attention to detail (appearance/promotion) - idea of buy local - commercial viability may be restricted by zoning - market as a destination - not too many stoplights

### **Ease/Lack of Access**

Transport Central access - when tourism is high, village district is not used by locals - alternative way to get around town? - more ped/bike traffic - TenMtn not being used as much because of safety issues - parking is an issue - ? what if flow continued as opposed to stopping? - neighborhoods are being used to get around town center - Concord Trailways access to Concord and other areas - Others, not parking issue - signage is prohibitive/not welcoming/not directive enough - employee issues with parking - important to have anchors like post office - PSU shuttle system - Senior transportation access public unaware

### **Mix downtown and rural**

Access to activities/hiking - important to not have specific delineation, but not interested in 'sprawl' either - - Plymouth Mtn. Buck's park open to public - enhances life and spirit of community - river front is untapped resource for community - downtown if more appealing because of 'green' trees/ even in parking (shade), bringing in the rural area to downtown - Zones are distinct but are within a small area -

### **Rural - natural beauty/ local foods**

Ag land may be needed in the future and is threatened by development - food from long distances is concern - local ag activities - local farmers and markets for them are positive - river is one of most important resources - public access is important for access and knowledge-aquifer - storm water is concern ( where?) better zoning ? Clarity about what are conservation lands vs. areas that want to be developed - neighborhoods

### **Sense of community /small town feel**

People are real - multi-generational in activities and youth oriented - preserving and leveraging the 'personality' of the community (flavor) - people know one another which is unique - combination and variety of opportunities and sense of preserving what is known - finding opportunities to rent - people help one another with issues and are able to connect one another when needed - historical development of downtown /architecture - caring for one

another - people are connected, fund raising, and acting on initiatives - ground the MP vision statement in caring about both the environment and people - MP should demonstrate the care for env/people - economic development is important but is not the driver of the MP vision - a blend of opportunities - approachability is value that important - gateway to white mountains - small scale - people communicate because they are on foot interacting and facilitates social interaction that creates sense of community - sitting and congregation is important - connectivity between area within the town - breaking up areas within community so that people can't walk from place to place disconnects people - important to hire local kids in stores, makes connections for other resources - 'amazing' place to live - PSU giving tours of downtown - public seating

### **Connection to PSU and what it brings to event/ cultural/ intellectual**

Concerts, plays and events, student events are great for the community - communication between PSU and town, difficult to become involved - HS is improved by having PSU available, collaboration - strong cultural offerings in town - well promoted larger events, could do more to promote other events within PSU - liaison between town and PSU would be helpful - students could be resource for town - students contribute to businesses, collaboration with (service learning coordinator/what can PSU do to work with community) - PSU is working to integrate volunteers with academics, eco-learning garden etc. - people move to area because of PSU - provides youth that is lacking in other areas of the North Country -

### **Outdoor recreation and trails**

Wonderful ConsCom - some resources are not protected, but being used by public (no formal arrangement for continued use) - conversion of current use can be used for purchase of easements - cultural events - use of amphith. Lunchtime concerts, variety of outdoor activities - economic driver for kayaking, hiking, bring people to area - skate park has been a good option for kids in the community - artwork - pool parks/rec. is well supported? - signage and promotion of trails is needed to get people to use more - Livermore falls natural area - rail to trail would be a good addition and access point - require communication to use, not a good source of outreach so that people know what is available and how to get there - TennMtn ski area is enjoyed - lack of fields for anyone outside schools - cross/country skiing thru school is groomed and available to public - Plymouth is center for greater outdoor recreational opportunities in the region - need mapping of activities

### **Downtown center/ business, library (walkability of area)**

Anchors like the post office keep downtown vibrant - Hardware store is 'wonderful' - cultural events - largest employers are in village (PSU, hospital, HS) - patterns of use are different for different people in town - easy to walk within center and not a long distant from one end to the other - multiple activities in one trip - a lot of non-auto traffic - not a lot of sidewalks in side roads (conflict between uses on side streets) - school 'drop off' is issue - shifts start at same time as schools?? - So Main Street is walkable but doesn't extend beyond central area -

### **Educational system**

Variety of offerings - headstart is available, young families and underserved individuals have access to opportunity - working families are able to benefit from activities after school -

seniors can take courses at PSU (just pay fees, resident of NH) - advantage of leadership within education for long period of time - marketing of a system that spans all ages is a good opportunity for community.

#### OTHER ISSUES:

Housing choice is limited - rental stock is limited - safety is not an issue - finding housing, students and seniors - lack of housing for seniors or those needing assistance - continuity of housing - neighborhoods have issues with maintaining as 'family/local', being purchased for student housing, forcing people out (increasing) - deeds are an issue, boundary lines are not accurate (realtor) - aesthetic issues with homes - energy efficiency has been a community imitative - plan or guidelines for building uses and efficiency practices - sense of pride about accomplishments - sustainability of resources, food, housing, local businesses - maintain a solid tax base to be able to service the needs of the community -

NEXT STEPS : Planning Board generally meets on the first Thursday at 6:30 PM to work on the Master Plan. Additional Master Plan Committee members are desired to work with the Planning Board. The public is encouraged to attend. A survey will be sent about "HOW" to achieve the desired vision. Additional focus session discussions will be held on specific topics. Info will be posted to the website as we go along.