



TOWN OF NEWBURY PLANNING BOARD

2006 COMMUNITY SURVEY

SURVEY FACTS

Total Surveys Mailed = 1,767
 Number of Completed Returns = 462
 Total Response Rate = 26%

1. Why do you feel Newbury is a desirable place to live? (Check all that apply)

- 85% a. Small town atmosphere
- 85% b. Uncrowded and quiet living conditions
- 74% c. Outdoor recreation opportunities
- 65% d. Mt. Sunapee State Park beach and ski area
- 85% e. Lakes
- 3% f. Employment opportunities
- 12% g. School system
- 58% h. Friendly people
- 32% i. Community spirit
- 84% j. Scenic and unpolluted natural environment
- 12% k. Housing affordability
- 13% l. Accessible commute to employment opportunities
- 25% m. Family ties or connections
- 4% n. Other(s): Please specify:

N = 462

2. Over the next ten years, how strongly would you like to see Newbury be each of the following in the future: (Check a category for each letter)

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N=
a. Be primarily a rural residential community	68%	20%	8%	3%	1%	455
b. Encourage home occupation/cottage industry	17%	30%	39%	9%	6%	440
c. Encourage development of seasonal residences	13%	23%	30%	22%	12%	441
d. Encourage factory outlet business	2%	6%	11%	22%	59%	441
e. Encourage commercial/information age/service industry	4%	20%	31%	17%	28%	433
f. Encourage non-polluting, light industry	9%	24%	21%	21%	25%	444
g. Encourage outdoor recreation related business	27%	42%	20%	5%	6%	445
h. Encourage tourist related business	15%	40%	27%	11%	8%	434
i. Not encourage any business or industry	17%	11%	26%	26%	20%	406
j. Other(s): Please specify:						

3. How strongly do you feel about the following alternative patterns for future commercial development in Newbury? (Check a category for each letter)

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N=
a. Scattered throughout town	3%	13%	19%	32%	34%	425
b. Focused within or adjacent to village centers	14%	38%	18%	14%	15%	423
c. Along Route 103	18%	35%	19%	12%	15%	420
d. Along Route 103A	2%	9%	15%	36%	39%	425
e. Along Route 103B	3%	9%	16%	32%	34%	411
f. Concentrated in commercial center(s) located outside village centers	9%	27%	25%	18%	21%	422
g. No further commercial development	20%	12%	27%	24%	17%	404
h. Other(s): Please specify:						

4. How strongly would you support the development of the following types of commercial uses in Newbury in the future? (Check a category for each letter)

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N=
a. Professional offices	19%	52%	19%	6%	4%	440
b. Light industry	6%	25%	24%	24%	21%	438
c. Heavy industry	1%	0%	5%	31%	62%	437
d. High tech industry	6%	25%	27%	20%	22%	437
e. Auto service and repair	3%	24%	39%	20%	15%	441
f. Gas stations	4%	21%	33%	23%	19%	443
g. Retail sales & service	6%	41%	27%	14%	12%	426
h. Personal services (barbers, laundries, hairdressers, etc.)	10%	48%	31%	6%	6%	444
i. Restaurants	26%	48%	17%	5%	4%	443
j. Cottage industry/home occupations	13%	41%	34%	7%	5%	441
k. Motels/inns/bed and breakfasts	9%	38%	31%	14%	8%	439
l. Shopping centers	3%	12%	17%	31%	38%	439
m. Farms	39%	40%	16%	3%	2%	431
n. Ski area expansion	17%	24%	22%	16%	21%	443
o. Marina & marine services	14%	36%	29%	13%	8%	434
p. No new development of commercial uses	17%	14%	25%	24%	20%	391
q. Other: Please specify:						

5. Would you support the creation of additional scenic views of Lake Sunapee through some selective clearing along the highways and/or construction of roadside turnouts?

43% a. Yes
50% b. No
7% c. No opinion
N = 409

6. Should All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) be prohibited from public hiking trails?

80% a. Yes
12% b. No
8% c. No opinion
N = 455

7. Should Newbury adopt a public policy to “Retain and Maintain” its rural dirt roads or adopt a policy to pave the rural dirt roads?

66% a. Retain and maintain the rural dirt roads
24% b. Pave the rural dirt roads
10% c. No opinion
N = 460

8. Presuming that further residential development will occur, which of the following types of residential development would you like to see develop in Newbury in the future? (Check a category for each letter)

Type of Residential Development	Throughout	Village	Rural Areas	Shorelines	Nowhere	N =
a. Single family residences on individual lots	76%	7%	14%	2%	2%	430
b. Cluster housing with single family homes on reduced lots with the balance preserved as open space	26%	15%	22%	1%	36%	431
c. Two family residences	16%	26%	8%	0%	50%	425
d. Accessory apartments	25%	22%	6%	0%	46%	426
e. Multi-family residences	7%	22%	4%	1%	66%	426
f. Multi-family residences in Cluster Developments with preservation of open space	13%	12%	16%	1%	58%	435
g. Mobile Homes on individual lots	4%	1%	15%	0%	80%	447
h. Mobile homes in parks	1%	1%	7%	0%	90%	446

9. How strongly do you feel about the following alternative patterns for future light industrial development in Newbury? (Check a category for each letter)

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N=
a. Scattered throughout town	3%	7%	15%	27%	48%	426
b. Focused within or adjacent to village centers	4%	25%	21%	18%	32%	417
c. Along Route 103	9%	31%	20%	11%	29%	420
d. Along Route 103A	1%	8%	12%	28%	52%	426
e. Along Route 103B	2%	10%	14%	26%	49%	419
f. Concentrated in light industrial park(s) located outside village centers	12%	31%	16%	12%	29%	425
g. No further light industrial development	23%	13%	28%	16%	20%	415
h. Other(s): Please specify:						

10. Newbury currently has a voluntary recycling program for paper, cardboard, aluminum and glass. Should it be mandatory?

62% a. Yes
32% b. No
6% c. No opinion
N = 452

11. Should Newbury initiate recycling of tin cans even if the costs would exceed the revenues?

44% a. Yes
42% b. No
13% c. No opinion
N = 450

12. Assuming the local property tax would support the acquisition and maintenance of any new recreational facility, how strongly would you support the town pursuing the following types of additional recreational facilities? (Check a category for each letter)

Recreational Facility	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N=
a. Softball/baseball	14%	35%	32%	10%	9%	434
b. Basketball court	10%	34%	35%	11%	10%	430
c. Volleyball court	7%	24%	44%	15%	10%	432
d. Tennis court	12%	34%	32%	12%	11%	437
e. Wind surfing launch site	5%	23%	41%	17%	14%	431
f. Boat launch for residents	24%	38%	20%	9%	9%	435
g. Picnic area	22%	47%	18%	5%	8%	436
h. Band stand	16%	40%	27%	9%	8%	427
i. Additional beach area	20%	31%	23%	14%	12%	430
j. Multi-purpose recreation area	15%	34%	31%	10%	10%	426
k. Ice skating	14%	38%	31%	9%	8%	435
l. Shuffleboard	3%	18%	47%	19%	13%	429
m. Horse shoes	4%	20%	48%	15%	11%	429
n. Hiking and cross country ski trails	34%	41%	14%	6%	5%	437
o. Bike paths	31%	40%	16%	6%	6%	438
p. Parking improvements at existing trail heads	17%	43%	26%	7%	7%	428
q. Land acquisition for recreational use	23%	35%	22%	11%	10%	424
r. No recreation facilities needed	6%	7%	26%	26%	35%	393
s. Other(s): Please specify:						

13. Currently Newbury has a library committee and a beautification committee. What other ideas do you think would promote a sense of community? Please check each of those you would support implementing.

- 42% a. Strategically located bulletin boards around Town
- 30% b. A parents and/or citizens organization to administer town athletic programs
- 62% c. A small periodic Town Newsletter similar to the Bradford Bridge
- 30% d. An outing club to plan and foster tourist and local community activities
- 29% e. Periodic community information discussions on local current events sponsored by the Town boards and community organizations
- 56% f. Cultural events like concerts or lectures
- 17% g. More use of local cable for announcements
- 28% h. Increased use of E-Mail communications
- 40% i. Expanded use of Town Website
- 49% j. Regular articles in newspapers
- 5% k. Other(s): Please specify:

N = 462

14. Blodgett Landing is the only area of Town currently served by a sewer system. Would you support the Town providing sewer collection and treatment facilities, for which operations and maintenance would be paid by the users, for any of the following areas:

Area	Reason(s)	Yes	No	No Opinion	N =
a. Newbury Center	Protect lake water quality; accommodate growth needs	64%	21%	16%	335
b. South Newbury Village	Protect Andrew Brook and the aquifer	50%	25%	25%	351
c. Shores of Lake Sunapee	Protect lake water quality	61%	22%	18%	357
d. Shore of Chalk Pond	Protect lake water quality	49%	25%	26%	347
e. Shore of Lake Todd	Protect lake water quality	49%	24%	27%	346
f. No additional areas		30%	33%	37%	149
g. Do not know		29%	23%	49%	70
h. Other: Please specify:					

**The option to check if you are a resident resulted in only a handful, so we decided to not total them separately.

15. Would you support the use of your tax dollars to purchase property or easements for the following purposes? (Check one for each letter)

Purpose	Yes	No	Uncertain	N =
a. Conservation	73%	15%	13%	448
b. Recreation	56%	25%	18%	440
c. Scenic Views	45%	39%	15%	433
d. Trail systems	61%	24%	15%	439
e. Historic Preservation	64%	16%	20%	439

16. Would you support the use of local property taxes to build a community center which could support activities and programs for a wide variety of community organizations serving all age groups?

46% a. Yes
36% b. No
18% c. No opinion
N = 449

17. What would you propose the Town do with the following public buildings?

Public Building	Maintain	Renovate	Tear Down	Sell	N =
a. Veterans' Hall (Newbury Center)	41%	36%	12%	11%	322
b. Safety Services Building (Newbury Center)	73%	20%	2%	5%	338
c. Old Town Hall (South Newbury)	48%	32%	3%	17%	300
d. Hearse House (South Newbury)	50%	16%	6%	28%	262
e. Grange Hall (South Newbury)	48%	23%	4%	26%	284
f. Sherman Hall (South Newbury)	51%	18%	4%	27%	272
g. Old Highway Department Garage (South Newbury)	22%	6%	16%	22%	305

18. How would you rate each of the following public services? (Check one for each letter.)

Public Service	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion	N =
a. Fire Protection	27%	40%	5%	1%	27%	438
b. Fast Squad	26%	25%	3%	1%	45%	422
c. Police Protection	27%	44%	8%	2%	19%	440
d. Summer Road Maintenance	24%	50%	13%	5%	9%	442
e. Winter Snowplowing	36%	45%	8%	2%	9%	440
f. Transfer Station	41%	42%	7%	2%	8%	441
g. Recycling Service	18%	38%	24%	6%	13%	434
h. Library Service	47%	27%	3%	0%	23%	440
i. Senior Services	2%	8%	8%	6%	76%	425
j. Recreation Services	4%	23%	17%	10%	46%	424
k. Management of Town Government	15%	38%	16%	4%	27%	427
l. Cemetery Services	9%	22%	5%	1%	63%	430
m. School System	7%	22%	11%	4%	55%	427

19. How strongly would you support the adoption of additional local regulations to protect scenic views around the lakes and ponds in Newbury by screening building development on the hillsides which is visible from the lakes and by implementing design controls? (Check a category)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N=
58%	20%	12%	5%	5%	442

20. Should Newbury provide more public beaches on its lakes?

<u>39%</u>	a.	Yes
<u>48%</u>	b.	No
<u>13%</u>	c.	No opinion

N = 458

21. If yes to question #21, which lake or lakes?

<u>43%</u>	a.	Lake Sunapee
<u>23%</u>	b.	Lake Todd
<u>14%</u>	c.	Chalk Pond
<u>20%</u>	d.	Mountain View Lake

N = 376

22. For affordable housing opportunities, the Town currently permits mobile homes on individual lots, multi-family dwellings, accessory apartments, and a density bonus in Cluster Developments for affordable housing. Do you think the Town provides sufficient opportunities for affordable housing?

<u>67%</u>	a.	Yes
<u>8%</u>	b.	No
<u>25%</u>	c.	No opinion

N = 452

23. Are you a: (Check one.)

<u>52%</u>	a.	Year-round resident & property owner
<u>34%</u>	b.	Part-time or seasonal resident & property owner
<u>11%</u>	c.	Nonresident property owner
<u>1%</u>	d.	Year-round resident, non-property owner
<u>1%</u>	e.	Other (Please specify):

N = 464

24. How many years have you lived in town? (Check one.)

<u>24%</u>	a.	Less than 5 years
<u>32%</u>	b.	5 years – 15 years
<u>23%</u>	c.	16 years – 30 years
<u>21%</u>	d.	More than 30 years

N = 439

25. If you are a Newbury landowner, what is the amount of land you own in Newbury? (Check one.)

<u>46%</u>	a.	Less than 2 acres
<u>29%</u>	b.	2 acres – 4.99 acres
<u>17%</u>	c.	5 acres – 19.99 acres
<u>4%</u>	d.	20 acres – 49.99 acres
<u>1%</u>	e.	50 acres – 99.99 acres
<u>4%</u>	f.	More than 100 acres

N = 450

26. What age bracket do you fall within? (Check one.)

<u>0%</u>	a.	Under 25 years old
<u>8%</u>	b.	25 - 39 years old
<u>32%</u>	c.	40 - 54 years old
<u>32%</u>	d.	55 - 64 years old
<u>28%</u>	e.	Over 65 years old

N = 458

27. Which of the following best describes your employment status? (Check one)

<u>4%</u>	a.	Homemaker
<u>52%</u>	b.	Working full-time
<u>12%</u>	c.	Working part-time
<u>30%</u>	d.	Retired
<u>0%</u>	e.	Unemployed
<u>1%</u>	f.	Other: Please describe:

N = 472

28. Do you have children at home who fall into the following categories? (Check all that apply)

<u>5%</u>	a.	Preschool
<u>4%</u>	b.	Kindergarten
<u>13%</u>	c.	Grades 1-8
<u>10%</u>	d.	Grades 9-12
<u>68%</u>	e.	No school-age children at home

N = 482

29. From the map below, please identify the number of the quadrant where you live or where your property is located:

I live in quadrant #:

1	89 – 19%
2	83 – 18%
3	34 – 7%
4	65 – 14%
5	53 – 11%
6	24 – 5%
7	34 – 7%
8	39 – 8%
NR	34 – 7%
5&8	1 – 0%
8&4	2 – 0%
4&5	1 – 0%
7*8	1 – 0%
8&4	2 – 0%

