



Town of Egremont

Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2023-2030

Prepared For:

Town of Egremont, MA

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Tighe&Bond

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Commonly Used Abbreviations	Definition
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
APR	Agricultural Preservation Restriction
ATC	Appalachian Trail Conservancy
BRPC	Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
DCR	Department of Conservation and Recreation
DCS	Division of Conservation Services
EEA	Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
ELT	Egremont Land Trust
FLP	Forest Legacy Program
GIS	Geographic Information System
MassDCR	Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
MassDEP	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
MassDFW	Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
MassDOT	Massachusetts Department of Transportation
MassGIS	Massachusetts Geographic Information System
MCP	Massachusetts Contingency Plan
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MVP	Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness
NHESP	Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
TNC	The Nature Conservancy

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SECTION 1

Section 1

Plan Summary

The town of Egremont is best known for its rural New England agrarian character. The town is comprised of a unique combination of forested hillsides, farm fields, winding rural roads, and its two historic villages. These aspects along with their small-town nature are continuously considered to be the most valued aspects by the residents of Egremont – and therefore, are the driving factors in their preservation efforts.

In addition to these valued aspects, Egremont has numerous significant natural features that have continued to influence open space and recreation planning. Such features as Prospect Lake, Smiley's Pond and the Karner Brook Area provide aquatic wildlife pristine habitat and facilitate opportunities for passive and active recreation. Areas like Jug End Reserve and Baldwin Hill similarly provide scenic natural areas for a vast variety of wildlife to thrive – while simultaneously creating recreational opportunities.

Egremont's Open Space and Recreation Plan has been developed in recognition of the fact that the Egremont's natural environment, active farmlands, scenic and historic resources and recreational amenities are integral to the community character and quality of life. To this end, the Plan is intended to document the Town's most valuable natural and community resources, and outline goals for their protection and enhancement. It includes a comprehensive inventory of the town's natural resources and protected area, including wildlife habitat, scenic views, open space, and farmland. The goals have been developed with public input, and the Seven-year Action Plan provides specific actions to meet these goals.

The Community Vision developed through the joint Comprehensive and Open Space and Recreation planning process, looks forward ten years:

In 2033, Egremont is a small rural New England town with citizens who value several core principles:

- Socioeconomic Diversity
- Historic and Cultural Resource Preservation
- Economic Vibrancy
- Open Spaces and Recreation
- Environmental Integrity

Guided by these principles, the town has created a balance of vibrant commercial enterprises, residential neighborhoods of varying density and character, farms, open spaces, vistas, recreational opportunities, and environmentally protected habitats.

This vision is expanded upon in Section 6.

This plan describes the OSRP planning process, including the public process for soliciting public input. Relevant context is provided in the opening chapters, including descriptions

of the Town in terms of its regional context, history, demographics, and growth and development patterns. This is followed by a discussion of the physical environment of the Town, its geologic origins as they influence soils and topography, a description of flora and fauna, water resources and primary environmental problems. The plan includes an update of the inventory of lands of conservation and recreation interest. Community goals are discussed, and the community's open space and recreation needs are analyzed. Based on all these considerations, a seven-year action plan is designed to implement the community's goals and objectives for open space and natural resource protection.

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SECTION 2

Section 2 Introduction

2.1 Statement of Purpose

This Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) presents a broad outline for the acquisition, management and stewardship of the town's open space and recreational areas to meet the goals identified through the planning process. This plan uses the 2001 OSRP as a base for general existing conditions, and updates demographics, environmental conditions, and the inventory of lands of recreational and conservation interest. Through the public process, the OSRP goals have been developed to meet the current and anticipated open space and recreation needs of Egremont through 2030. The action plan provided as Section 9 is intended as a guide for decisions and initiatives for the period 2023 – 2030.

The goals developed as part of the 2001 OSRP were:

- Encourage the protection and management of open space
- Preserve and support agricultural uses
- Preserve and improve the ecological integrity of sensitive natural environments and natural resources
- Preserve, maintain, and improve the quality of water resources
- Protect and preserve the character of Egremont's scenic rural roads
- Meet community needs for outdoor recreation facilities

These goals provided a roadmap for boards and organizations affiliated with the Town, with progress being made in many of the target areas throughout the years. One purpose of updating this plan is to note the progress of these actions and further identify new and continued strategies to manage the Town's open space and recreation goals.

In 2022, the Town commenced a joint Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan update process. As the natural environment is important to Egremont's character, visioning and public input for the Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan were conducted simultaneously to develop a consistent vision and to address the Comprehensive Plan issues that are intertwined with open space and recreation. Key goals and objectives from the Open Space and Recreation Plan are being incorporated into the open space and recreation, natural resources, and other related elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

The 2023 – 2030 Open Space and Recreation Plan establishes Egremont's goals and objectives for open space and recreation based on community input, recent accomplishments and experience and priorities. A few key terms used in this plan are defined below:

- Open space = all land (developed or not) that is managed primarily for conservation or recreation purposes
- Conservation land = areas that are protected due to their recognized natural, ecological, and/or cultural importance
- Recreational facilities = land used for purposes of recreation, such as sports fields, playgrounds, neighborhood parks, and public parks and greens
- Active recreational activities = outdoor recreational activities that require significant infrastructure, facilities, and management; examples include playgrounds, sports fields, and tennis courts
- Passive recreational activities = less structured outdoor recreational activities that require a minimum of facilities and development; examples include nature walks, fishing, canoeing and kayaking.

This plan also provides a basis for participating in various grants and programs, thus bringing funds that support the town's goals and objectives for open space and recreation. This plan will be submitted for approval by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Division of Conservation Services (DCS). When approved, Egremont will be eligible to participate in certain EEA-DCS grant programs. These include Conservation Partnership Grants, Drinking Water Supply Protection Grants, Local Acquisition for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grants, Landscape Partnership Grants, Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grants, MassTrails Grants and Federal Land and Water Conservation funds which will allow for future acquisition of lands and upgrades to recreational facilities.

Egremont has over 4,000 acres of permanently protected land. Over 1,200 acres are protected as farmland through the Agricultural Preservation Program. The Jug End Reservation is protected by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, and The Nature Conservancy. In addition, the federal government owns land associated with the Appalachian Trail corridor. Other key parcels have been protected through Conservation Restrictions acquired by the Egremont Land Trust, Appalachian Trail Conservancy and Berkshire Natural Resource Council.

2.2 Planning Process and Public Participation

2.2.1 Open Space and Recreation Plan Advisory Committee

The Open Space and Recreation Plan Advisory Committee is the primary Town organization responsible for developing the Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Selectboard appointed committee members with experience and interest in the various issues assessed through the open space and recreation planning process. The Conservation Commission is the Town board responsible for overseeing the progress on the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

2.2.2 Relationship to Comprehensive Plan

This plan update occurred simultaneously with the update of the 2003 Comprehensive Master Plan, with the initial survey and the four public forums focusing jointly on Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan issues. The planning process for the Open Space and Recreation Plan is closely linked with the community's comprehensive planning process.

Egremont hired Innes Associates Ltd. teamed with Tighe & Bond to concurrently update the Town's Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan. Both firms worked closely with volunteer advisory committees to develop the vision, goals, and action items for each plan.

The Comprehensive Plan presents a long-range vision based on Egremont's needs and characteristics. It considers land use and community design, economic development, municipal services and facilities, natural resources, cultural and historical resources, housing, transportation and transit as well as open space and recreation. The Open Space and Recreation Plan focus on open space, natural resources and recreation.

2.2.3 Stakeholder Interviews

Interviews were held with Town staff, department heads, and committees to discuss issues relating to the planning needs of Egremont and to gain a better understanding of the town needs and issues. Interviews were conducted with representatives from the following entities:

- Property Owner, Resident - Turner Farm Dairy & Maple Syrup
- Agricultural Commission
- Board of Health, Sustainability
- Green Committee
- Alford/ Egremont Cultural Council
- Greenagers
- Buildings & Grounds
- Water Department
- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Historical Commission
- Egremont Land Trust
- Sheffield Land Trust
- Committee for French Park Dog Park

2.2.4 Open Space and Recreation Planning Process

The public process for the Open Space and Recreation Plan was performed in coordination with the Comprehensive Plan. In July 2022, the Selectboard appointed the Open Space and Recreation Plan Advisory Committee. These members include:

- David Seligman (Chair)
- Ron Banks
- Ben Barrett
- Matthew Bersani
- Elia DelMolino
- Barbara Kalish
- Charles Miller
- Bill Tynan

The Open Space and Recreation Plan Advisory Committee held its initial meeting as a joint meeting with the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee on August 8, 2022 to discuss planning objectives, the planning process and schedule. As the Town was kicking off a new planning process, the initial focus of the Committee was on the planning process, including public engagement options (survey and public forums) to inform the process, and the Committee's involvement in encouraging public participation. The Committee continued to meet throughout 2022 and the first half of 2023. Once public input was received, the Committee reviewed the goals and objectives from the 2001 plan to revise them to meet the current needs.

To obtain community input, the committee established several steps:

- Community Surveys
- Community Forums
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Town Board/Department reviews
- Selectboard review and approval

2.2.5 Community Surveys

The surveys were open to the public through the Town's website via [surveymonkey.com](https://www.surveymonkey.com) (a copy of this survey instrument is provided in Appendix A). Town Staff and Committee members distributed notices of the surveys via the Town's website, newspaper articles, emails, social media and notifications by various community boards and organizations. Non-electronic versions of the survey were also available to the public, with paper copies provided at the Town Hall and Library. In addition to those locations, paper copies were available at both community forums. It should be noted that the surveys were designed to get a sense of the community's issues and needs but was not a formal "scientific" survey.

- Survey #1 was available from December 31, 2022 to January 28, 2023. The OSRP related questions focused on open space and recreational needs. This

survey received 268 responses. These responses were tabulated and analyzed. Tables reflecting the summary and tabulation of the surveys are included in Appendix A.

- Survey #2 was available from April 17, 2023 to May 7, 2023. The OSRP related questions focused on gaining feedback on the draft OSRP goals as well as the Community Preservation Act as a potential funding source. This survey received 100 responses. These responses were tabulated and analyzed. Tables reflecting the summary and tabulation of the surveys are included in Appendix A.

2.2.6 Community Forums

Updating the Open Space and Recreation Plan involved a broad public outreach and engagement process that included two forums to identify a vision for the future of Egremont and strategies for achieving it. Community Forums were advertised on the Town's website, social media, robocalls, fliers at public locations and outreach at the transfer station. Both community forums were held at the Mt. Everett High School in Sheffield. The community forums provided insight into Egremont's open space and recreation needs as summarized below:

- January 14, 2023 – This forum was an open house format. Approximately 108 people attended. A presentation was given at two times and provided an overview of the Comprehensive Plan and OSRP planning process, and discussed some existing OSRP conditions and previous goals and successes. Attendees then circulated to different stations providing comments on areas to preserve, enhance, enjoy and support. Generally, the participants voiced opinions on:
 - Preserving Egremont's rural character
 - Protecting Egremont's environmental resources
 - Balancing land acquisition for protection with keeping land available for appropriate development
 - Educating the public on farming practices and that farmland is private property
 - Enhancing water access and recreational opportunities
 - Providing safer biking and walking facilities
 - Developing a community center where the people of Egremont can hold public events
- March 11, 2023 – This forum built on the results of the community survey and Community Forum #1. Approximately 80 people attended. The participants circulated among three of five tables to discuss:
 - Housing
 - Economic development
 - Recreation
 - Land preservation, protection and stewardship
 - Historic preservation and future development

Attendees reviewed draft goals for each topic, and provided input on the goals and actions. Additionally, there was a mad-libs style exercise around the community's

vision for the town in the future (2033). Generally, the improvements that residents would like to see between 2023-2033 include:

- Create bike lanes and maintained sidewalks along main roads into town centers
- Protect environmental resources including through education of residents regarding land stewardship
- Support agriculture to keep farms viable
- Incentivize and promote climate friendly development

2.2.7 Town Board Reviews

Various other departments/boards have been invited to comment on the draft plan, including:

- Conservation Commission
- Planning Board
- Historical Commission
- Agricultural Commission

Letters of review have been received from the Conservation Commission and Planning Board and have been included in Section 10 of this plan.

2.2.8 Selectboard Review and Approval

The Selectboard is the approval authority for the Town and a public review by the Selectboard was scheduled and advertised for September 5, 2023 as part of the Selectboard regular meeting. Prior to the Selectboard meeting, the draft of the complete Open Space and Recreation Plan and a summary of the Plan was posted on the Town's website. Subsequent to the public review and comment, the Selectboard voted to APPROVE the Open Space and Recreation Plan on September 5, 2023.

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SECTION 3

Section 3 Community Setting

3.1 Regional Context

The town of Egremont is located in the southwest section of Massachusetts in Berkshire County. Its location in the southern Berkshires, its rural character and outdoor recreation opportunities have long made Egremont a popular location for vacationers and second homeowners, particularly from the New York metropolitan area. This ongoing trend of second homeowners from larger metropolitan regions increased in recent years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Densely populated areas such as New York City were hit the hardest by the pandemic and communities such as Egremont are sought after for their natural settings and lower population densities. This has led to an increased number of new full-time residents as well as second homeowners from New York City and other metropolitan areas.

Egremont's rural character is highlighted by valuable environmental and scenic resources. Forested areas in the town such as Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Management Area, extensive agricultural lands including Baldwin Hill, scenic roads, and critical watershed and wetlands habitat such as Karner Brook are highly treasured by residents. In recent decades a great deal has been accomplished toward the protection and management of farms, environmental resources and open spaces, spearheaded by both local and regional organizations and state and federal agencies. Since the 2001 Open Space and Recreation Plan Egremont has protected and preserved approximately 4,300 acres of land, including approximately 1,200 acres of farmland protected by Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR).

The Town encompasses approximately 18.96 square miles (12,135 acres), of which 18.84 square miles is land and 0.12 square miles is water. Egremont is bordered by the Massachusetts town of Alford to the north and Great Barrington to the east, Sheffield to the east and south, and Mount Washington to the south. The New York towns of Hillsdale and Copake lie along the western border. Egremont is approximately 24 miles south of Pittsfield, 47 miles southeast of Albany, 140 miles west of Boston and 135 miles north of New York City. Figure 1 in Appendix A shows the regional context for Egremont including its proximity to the New York City Metropolitan area.

As the key western access point into the Southern Berkshires from the very highly populated New York City metro area, Egremont is well positioned to participate in Berkshire County's strong tourism sector and second home market. These two economic sectors have been growing in importance in both the town of Egremont and Berkshire County as a whole.

Egremont's population increased through 1980, and has fluctuated up and down since 1980. The 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) census data shows Egremont's population increasing by approximately 250 persons (or approximately 20%) to 1,473, since 2020 (1,347 persons). Berkshire County population has been steadily decreasing

since 1970, with the 2020 population being 129,026. Egremont also typically sees an increase in summer tourists, which can bring in an addition 600 part-time residents.¹

Housing in Egremont is not expensive when compared to Boston, Hartford, and most importantly the New York metropolitan area. However, these areas have a much higher average income level than is generated in Berkshire County. What this means is that housing in Egremont is attractive to the New York City market and this influx of dollars into the local housing market is raising overall real estate prices, while creating an affordability challenge to many longtime town residents and families.

The town has historic rural New England Villages in both South and North Egremont which act as social and cultural hubs for the residents of the town. Additionally, Egremont is a "Right to Farm" community recognizing that farming is essential and valued, and provides fresh food, clean air, economic diversity, local employment, and open spaces. Much of the Town's farmland has been protected through the Massachusetts Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program.

While Egremont shares many of the characteristics of neighboring towns in Berkshire County, it stands apart in its agrarian nature, its dual historic villages, and its close-knit rural community.

3.2 Historical Overview

Egremont was permanently settled in 1730 by Dutch settlers who bought land from the Native American Indians of the Mahican tribe who lived near Jug End. Egremont was incorporated as a Town in 1775. Egremonters were very active in the American Revolution, and also fought in Shay's Rebellion². North Egremont – known as Little York until 1787 - was the first stop of the famous Knox Trail in Massachusetts.

By 1800, Egremont was a flourishing community, with gristmills, sawmills, and cider mills on its various brooks, a Congregational Church and eight taverns. When the Industrial Age began, small factories were established in South Egremont, strategically situated on the Turnpike between Albany and Hartford. By 1850, the population was 1,013. With the disappearance of much of the small industry in the late 19th and early 20th century, the population in Egremont steadily declined, shrinking to 441 in 1920. Population rose slowly but steadily in Egremont after 1920, due in part to the increased mobility offered by the automobile. Population has generally trended slowly upward slowly, with a few decreasing years. Since 2010, the population has grown from 1,225 to 1,473 in 2021.

Following historical development patterns, there are three concentrations of historic structures in Egremont, the largest being in South Egremont, followed by North Egremont and Egremont Plain. The South Egremont Village Historic District, placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, is a blend of historic residential, public, and commercial uses that serves as a social and economic center. It features traditional New England architecture and public buildings, a former church and parsonage, a popular restaurant

¹ Town of Egremont, Massachusetts Housing Needs Assessment, December 15, 2021, BRPC.

² Egremont Land Use Plan 1976

and various stores and businesses. The North Egremont Historic District, placed on the Register in 1989, is a smaller historic village that boasts many similar traits. Egremont Plain, and Egremont Plain Road follows Route 71, and travels adjacent to the Green River. Historically, Egremont Plain has been the heart of the community corridor and is surrounded by protected farmlands, and forested lands.

3.3 Population Characteristics

3.3.1 Total Population and Population Trends

Egremont is a relatively small and stable community with a strong contingent of longtime residents as well as significant numbers of seasonal, part time and newer residents. The year-round population has been growing since 2010. It is estimated that there are approximately 600 part-time residents.

According to the 2020 U.S. Federal Decennial Census, Egremont's population was 1,372 persons, which represented a 12% increase over the 2010 population. Egremont's population rate has not always followed the regional population trends; Berkshire County population has decreased by 4.4% since 2000. Egremont is one of two Southern Berkshire County communities seeing a population increase, while the totality of Berkshire County is seeing a steady decrease in population. Massachusetts overall has seen a 7.4% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

The UMASS Donahue Institute develops population projections for Massachusetts municipalities. The most recent population projections developed by the Donahue Institute are from 2018. Based on the 2018 modeled projects, Egremont's population was projected to decrease by 28.5% over the next 10 years. See Table 3-1 and Chart 3-1.

However, the population projection model used does not take into account the change to where people live and work spurred by the COVID-19 pandemic. Egremont has seen a steady increase in population over the last few years (2021: 1,473; 2022: 1,521), as people seek less densely populated areas.

TABLE 3-1

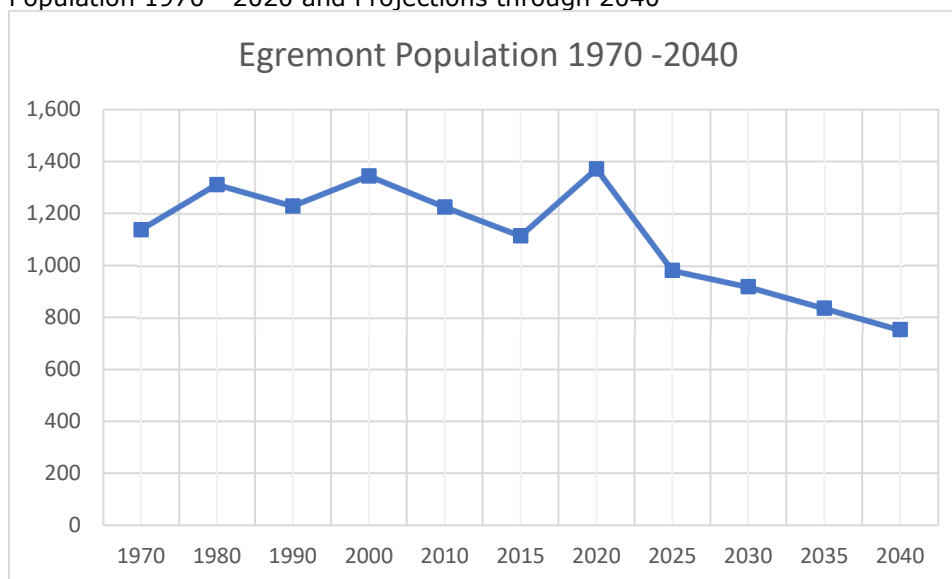
Town of Egremont
Population 1970 - 2020 and Projections through 2040

Year	Population	Percent (%) Change
1970	1,138	0%
1980	1,311	+15%
1990	1,229	-6%
2000	1,345	+9%
2010	1,225	-8%
2020	1,372	+12%
2025	981 (Projection)	-28%
2030	918 (Projection)	-6%
2035	836 (Projection)	-8%
2040	753 (Projection)	-9%

Sources: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020 U.S. Federal Decennial Census.
Population Projections for 2025-2040, Donahue Institute, University of Massachusetts,
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

Chart 3-1

Town of Egremont
Population 1970 - 2020 and Projections through 2040



Sources: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020 U.S. Federal Decennial Census.
Population Projections for 2025-2040, Donahue Institute, University of Massachusetts.

Although the population projections show a significant decrease in population for the foreseeable future, Egremont is currently seeing an increase in population. Furthermore, Egremont vision for the future includes the additional of more affordable

housing, which would also increase population. This recent population growth will continue to influence needs for open space and recreational amenities.

3.3.2 Population Density

Egremont has historically maintained an overall rural population density. With a total community area of 18.84 square miles, the overall density has varied from a low of 60.4 persons per square mile in 1970 to high of 72.8 persons per square mile in 2020 (See Table 3-2). If the post-COVID trends continue, Egremont could continue to see a population increase. As Egremont looks to the future, maintaining Egremont's rural and agrarian character will be a consideration in balancing development and land preservation.

TABLE 3-2

Town of Egremont
Population Density 1970 - 2020 (Persons Per Square Mile)

Year	Density
1970	60.4
1980	69.6
1990	65.2
2000	71.4
2010	65.0
2020	72.8

Sources: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020 U.S. Federal Decennial Census.

3.3.3 Age Distribution

The past three decennial census data on age distribution of the population provides a good picture of Egremont's population makeup. The over 55 co-hort accounts for greater than a third of the population based on the 2000, 2010 and 2020 census counts. The percentage of the population in the 0-4 age range grew significantly in 2020, likely due to younger families moving into more rural areas including Egremont. This is an ongoing population trend attributed to the pandemic.

TABLE 3-3

Town of Egremont
Population by Age Groups 2000 - 2020

Age Group	2000		2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0-4	45	3.3	36	2.9	139	9.4
5-9	73	5.4	42	3.4	30	2.0
10-14	76	5.7	75	5.3	54	3.7
15-19	68	5.1	30	5.0	52	3.5
20-24	47	3.5	44	4.4	156	10.6
25-44	302	22.5	179	14.6	221	15.0

45-54	268	19.9	214	17.5	236	16.0
55-64	197	14.6	262	21.4	223	15.1
65-74	154	11.4	178	14.5	191	13.0
75+	115	8.6	134	11.0	171	11.6
	1,345		1,225		1,473	
Median Age	47.4		53.5		49.3	

Source: 2000, 2010, 2020 U.S. Decennial Census

According to the 2020 U.S. Census American Community Survey, the Egremont's median household income is \$73,173. This is a 41.1% increase from the 2010 median household income of \$51,856. Egremont households have a higher median income than those in Berkshire County as a whole (\$59,230), but is less than the median state income of \$86,566.

3.3.4 Environmental Justice Population

In Massachusetts, an environmental justice population is a neighborhood where one or more of the following criteria are true:

- the annual median household income is 65% or less of the statewide annual median household income;
- minorities make up 40% or more of the population;
- 25% or more of households identify as speaking English less than "very well"; and
- minorities make up 25% or more of the population and the annual median household income of the municipality in which the neighborhood is located does not exceed 150% of the statewide annual median household income.

According to the Massachusetts 2020 Environmental Justice Populations interactive map, there are no Environmental Justice populations within Egremont. However, there is significant data which shows an aging demographic. A major portion of Egremont's population are 55 or older and with limited public transportation available (see Sections 3.4.2 and 3.4.4 for more information), individuals are heavily reliant on traveling by their own means. Additionally, an aging demographic will struggle to utilize the natural resources and recreation opportunities which Egremont provides unless there is adequate and accessible infrastructure.

3.4 Growth and Development Patterns

3.4.1 Patterns and Trends

As noted above, existing development follows the historical development patterns, with denser development centered along the villages, and residential development on larger lots throughout town. Much of the southwestern corner of Town is protected open space,

and the center of Egremont is active farmland. Land use is depicted on Figure 2 in Appendix A.

The University of Massachusetts projects that Egremont's population will decline to 981 persons by 2025, and continue to decrease in the following decades. The population projection for 2040 is 753. As noted, the Donahue Institute projections were completed in 2018 and do not reflect the uncertainty on Egremont's growth patterns resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Egremont has become more attractive as more people are able to work from home, and rural housing is being increasingly sought after by the larger metropolitan markets. While there has not been a significant increase in new housing development (according to the annual reports of the Building Inspector, 4 new dwellings were permitted in 2018, 5 in 2019 and 2020, and 9 new dwellings in 2021), some seasonal housing may be converted to full time residences.

3.4.2 Industry and Employment Trends

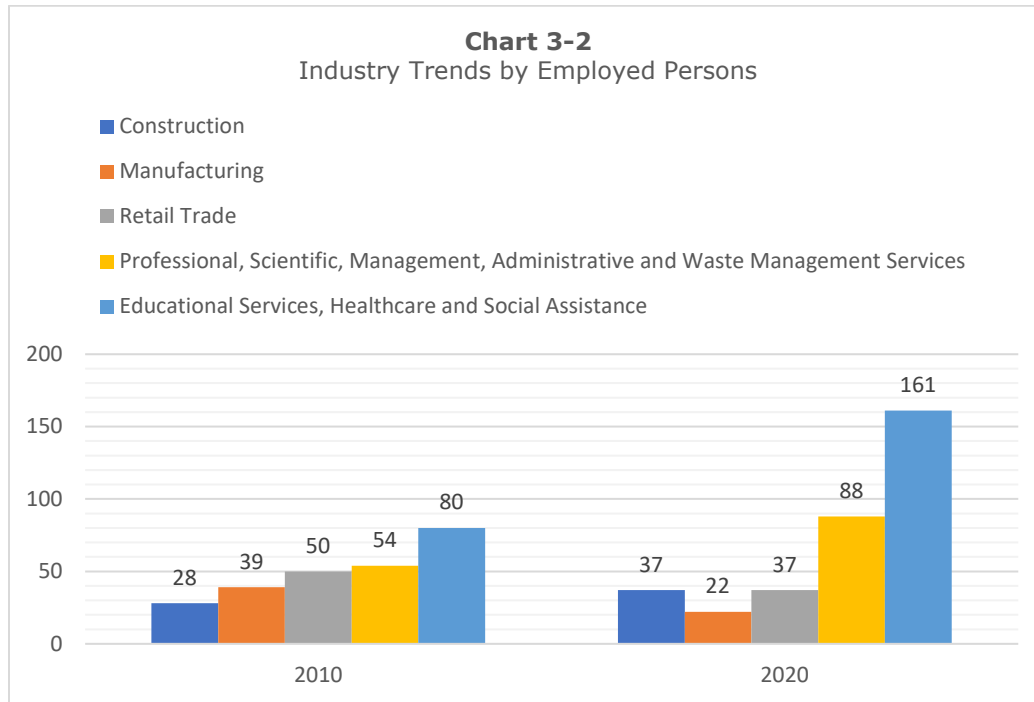
Comparison of the 2010 and 2020 U.S. Census data reveals an increase in overall employment. Table 3-4 summarizes Egremont's number of employed persons within their respective industries.

Table 3-4
Town of Egremont
Employed Persons by Industry

Industry	2010	2020
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	11	13
Construction	28	37
Manufacturing	39	22
Wholesale Trade	0	10
Retail Trade	50	37
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	8	7
Finance and Insurance, Real estate and rental and leasing	19	30
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative and Waste Management Services	54	88
Educational Services, Healthcare and Social Assistance	80	161
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, and Accommodation and Food Services	7	31
Other Services Except Public Administration	10	36
TOTAL	324	475

Source: 2010 U.S. Census ACS
2020 U.S. Census ACS

Further comparison of the 2010 and 2020 U.S. Census data reveals growth for three of the five major industries within Egremont. Chart 3-2 depicts these employment trends from 2010 to 2020. Significantly, employment growth in the educational services, healthcare and social assistance sector has doubled, while employment within the manufacturing and retail trade industries has dwindled since 2010.



Source: 2010 U.S. Census ACS
2020 U.S. Census ACS

3.4.3 Housing Trends

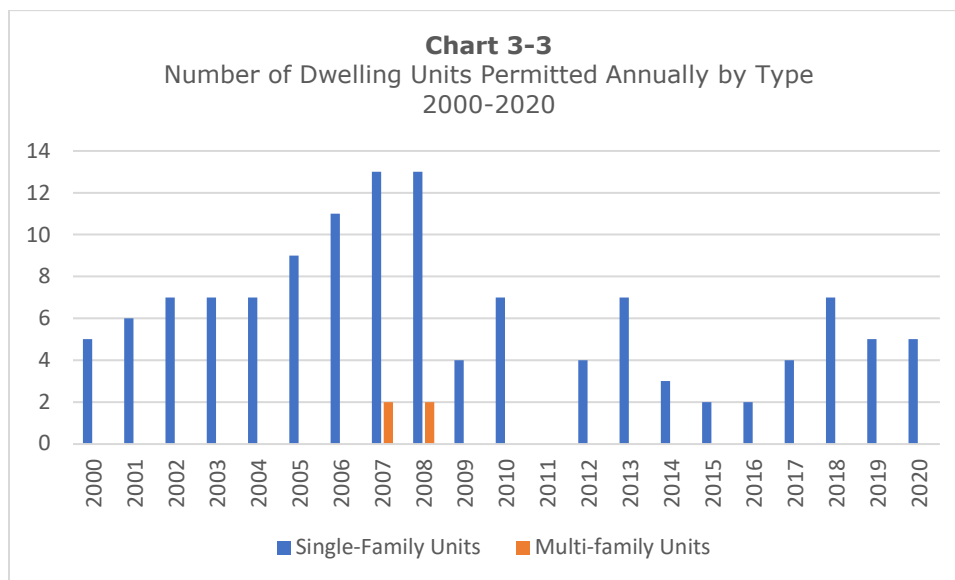
The population increased from 2010 to 2020 and the household size also increased from 2.11 persons per household to 2.5. Egremont's housing is predominately single-family dwellings with no new multi-family development within the last decade (See Chart 3-3). In the last dozen years, new development has occurred primarily in two forms:

1. 1,700-2,000 square foot single family homes along roadsides distant from the villages, with the minimum acreage and frontage allowed under zoning (1-acre lot, 150 feet frontage width);
2. Larger homes on larger lots set well back from the road accessed through private drives.

The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) conducted a housing needs assessment for Egremont in 2021³. According to the findings, over half of Egremont's housing stock is aging, with the majority of units being built prior to 1970, making them over fifty years old. The findings from this report show that there are 974 housing units, of which 614 units are occupied. Eighty-three percent (83%) of occupied housing units are owner-occupied, and owner-occupied housing is primarily single-family detached dwellings (89%).

Most of the housing stock on Egremont is single-family detached dwellings. Approximately 17% of occupied dwellings are occupied by renters. According to the BRPC Housing Assessment, fifty-four percent (54%) of renter households are housing cost burdened. Earn less than \$35,000 annually, and with the median gross rent estimated at \$1,050, many workers cannot afford housing in Egremont without being cost burdened. Housing cost burden is defined as housing costs that are at least thirty percent (30%) of household income, which is viewed as a sign of economic stress on households. Workforce housing has been an issue discussed throughout this planning process.

The potential for residential growth generated by Egremont's desirability as well as the Comprehensive Planning goal of providing affordable workforce housing should be considered when planning for the future. Most existing residential development in Town is detached single-family units. There are very few multi-family developments. Egremont has very few rentals, and housing had presented a challenge for young families to move to Egremont. Supporting Egremont's existing population and projected population with accessible open space and recreational facilities is important. The type of recreation programs and public facilities that the residents will desire can be expected to shift.



Sources: Massachusetts Housing Partnership, DataTown,
<https://mhpcenterforhousingdata.shinyapps.io/DataTown/#>

³ Town of Egremont, Massachusetts: Housing Needs Assessment 2021, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Egremont has unique challenges and limitations in regard to its developable land. All development within the municipality is served by private on-site wastewater disposal systems, which require adequate soils for soil absorption systems (leach fields). Much of Egremont's land is located on steep slopes, has shallow bedrock and has soils that are unsuitable for soil absorption systems.

Much of the potentially developable land in Town has been protected over the years. Hundreds of acres of active farmland have been protected through the Massachusetts Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program, rendering it undevelopable for residential use.

Egremont will need to balance its goals of increasing workforce housing with environmental protection.

3.4.4 Infrastructure

Transportation

Egremont has very limited public transportation available. Seniors (over the age of 55) and disabled residents from Egremont, Alford and Mount Washington can use Egremont's van service offered through Egremont's Council on Aging. The service area is limited to Southern Berkshire County and Pittsfield and operates Monday through Friday from 8 AM through 4 PM. Egremont has also received a Taxi and Limousine Grant to provide transportation service to seniors, veterans, disabled individuals and essential workers from Egremont, Alford and Washington. Trips can be state-wide and to select out-of-state communities including Albany and Hudson, New York and Sharon, Connecticut. The grant covers the cost of these rides which are used for trips to non-emergency medical appointments, groceries and food pantries, senior centers, job and job trainings, and adult care facilities.

Additionally, Egremont has recently agreed to participate in a micro-transit pilot program along with the neighboring communities of Great Barrington and Stockbridge. This program, known as the TriTown Connector runs seven days a week (7 AM through 8 PM on weekdays and 8 AM through 8 PM on weekends) and provides rides to almost any area within the three participating communities. The TriTown Connector is available for all residents and non-residents in the area and can be booked through a phone call or via a mobile application.

Route 41 is the main arterial road throughout the Town. Route 41 North provides access through Great Barrington, Alford, West Stockbridge, and Richmond then merges with Route 20 providing access to Pittsfield. Route 41 in Egremont provides a northeasterly connection to Route 7 through Great Barrington and into Lee for access to the Massachusetts Turnpike/ Interstate 90. To the South, Route 41 travels through Sheffield, and into the northeastern most community of Connecticut – Salisbury. Route 41 South merges with Route 23 West and provides an easy route into the neighboring New York community of Hillsdale.

Most of Egremont residents work outside of Town. Some residents operate businesses in Town, many within their homes. At home industry occupations include trade and services at all levels, and a variety of artisans. Route 41 provides the necessary means of transportation for the Town, which is heavily car dependent. The 2020 American

Community Survey estimates that out of the 814 workers 16 years or older, 82.3% travel by automobile, 77.6% of which travel alone and 53.1% of households owned two vehicles. The survey estimates that out of the 814 workers, 696 worked outside of home. Approximately 14.5% of residents worked from home, 22.9% worked in Egremont and 77.1% traveled outside of Egremont to work. Approximately 13.5% of residents worked outside of Massachusetts. The workforce in Egremont has an average commute of 36 minutes, while only 4.7% reported that they carpool.

Egremont continues to aim to preserve its scenic roads. Although it is a rural town which is dependent on automotive travel, there is a significant population of residents who enjoy using the road infrastructure for cycling, walking and running while absorbing the scenic views of the forested hillsides and farm fields. The aim of the Town is to preserve its rural aesthetics while improving safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Egremont has a Complete Streets Committee and has been awarded a grant through the Tufts Foundation to work with *WalkBoston* to improve the safety and accessibility of their roads for pedestrian use through infrastructure improvements projects. MassDOT is proceeding with a complete streets project along 0.7 miles of Route 23/41 from Creamery Road to North Undermountain Road in South Egremont. The design includes bicycle accommodation and continuous sidewalk, with improved pedestrian crossing opportunities.

Water

Egremont's Water Department maintains a public water system providing approximately 12 million gallons of water annually. There are approximately 178 service connections. Raw water is drawn from the Karner Brook Reservoir for treatment at the Water Treatment Plant (WTP), which is located off of Mount Washington Road in Egremont. Karner Brook Reservoir is a surface water source that was created by damming Karner Brook. The WTP is owned and operated by the Town of Egremont. Treated water enters the department's water distribution system via an 8-inch transmission main.

The Department maintains the following water infrastructure: Water distribution network of approximately 40,000 feet of water main; WTP with sand filters and clearwells; Raw Water Pump Station (RWPS) and the Karner Brook Dam. The Karner Brook Dam is a 50-foot long, 18-foot-high concrete and masonry gravity dam. The abutments consist of the exterior walls of concrete chambers. The RWPS is located on the upstream side of the Dam extending into the reservoir and dividing the spillway into a primary spillway section on the left and a higher-level auxiliary spillway on the right. An aluminum catwalk parallels the Dam's axis, providing access to the pump house and across the dam. The Dam is accessed from Mount Washington Road along a gravel driveway secured with a vehicle gate.

The Egremont water system does not have an emergency water supply source. However, a temporary, overland connection to the adjacent Great Barrington water system is possible between hydrants of the two systems located on South Egremont Road. The Great Barrington water system has a larger capacity and is able to provide water to Egremont in an emergency.

The Karner Brook Dam has been found to be in unsafe condition as defined by the Office of Dam Safety due primarily to severe cracking and displacement of concrete. The dam is

also being undermined by Karner Brook. Loss of the Dam would be catastrophic to the continued operation of the water system. The Town is assessing options, as the rehabilitation of the Dam is costly.

Wastewater

The Town of Egremont does not have a public sewer system. All development within town is served by private onsite wastewater disposal systems.

Broadband

In April of 2021 Fiber Connect of the Berkshires signed an agreement with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) to expand Fiber Connect's 1-gigabit-per-second fiber optic broadband service to remaining premises within Egremont. Fiber Connect is a local internet service provider (ISP) based in Egremont. Founded in 2014 to provide broadband service to underserved Berkshire towns. Fiber Connect currently serves subscribers in Egremont, Monterey, New Marlborough, and downtown Great Barrington with 1-gigabit fiber-optic broadband and phone service.

Working with the Selectboard, Egremont's Technology Committee, and MBI's staff this project provides high speed, high bandwidth, and low-latency internet access for all who want it. Construction to install the fiber optics for this expansion commenced in 2021. The grant monies of approximately \$2 million from MBI, along with Fiber Connect's own resources, allow Egremont to realize town-wide broadband service at no cost to the town. As of October 16, 2022, Egremont's Technology Committee posted on the Town's website that the Fiber Connect finished its deployment of fiber optic cable, providing 99% of Egremont's residents and businesses with service.

Additionally, internet providers in Egremont include Verizon.

3.4.5 Zoning

Egremont's Zoning Bylaw was established to meet the following objectives:

To prevent overcrowding of land; to secure safety from fire, flood, panic and other dangers; to conserve health; to lessen congestion in the streets; and to permit housing for persons of all income levels;

To facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water supply, drainage, sewerage, schools, parks, open space and other public requirements;

To conserve the value of land and buildings including the conservation of natural resources and the prevention of blight and pollution of the environment;

To preserve and increase amenities by the promulgation of regulations designed to:

- a. Protect the Town's areas of scenic beauty, its brooks, ponds, wetlands and water resources, and other significant environmental features;
- b. Minimize the adverse effects of development on natural resources and municipal facilities;

- c. Employ cooperatively the various measures taken by the Town's agencies, under diverse legislative authority, including the State Environmental Code, Wetlands Protection Act, Subdivision Control Legislation, and the State Building Code, for the preservation of the Town's existing rural character, open spaces, low density of population, and in the interests of the Town's orderly growth at deliberate pace.

The majority of the Town is zoned as the General District. The southwestern corner of Town is zoned the Jug End Residential district. The General District has a rural residential approach, allowing single-family and two-family dwellings by right and multi-family dwellings by special permit. Additionally, the Town has 5 different overlay districts including Floodplain, Wireless Communication, Adult Entertainment, Medical Marijuana and Large-scale Ground-mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation.

The required minimum residential lot area is 43,560 square feet or 1 acre for single family residential, while two and multi-family lots have a required minimum lot area of 2 and 2.5 acres respectively. Figure 3 is Egremont's Zoning map, which was developed in 2015 by BRPC.

Tighe&Bond

SECTION 4

Section 4

Environmental Inventory and Analysis

Section 4 describes Egremont's natural and cultural resources. Where existing resources have not changed since the 2001 OSRP, the descriptions provided in the 2001 plan are used herein.

4.1 Geology, Soils and Topography

Egremont is a valley town set between the steep ridges of the Taconic Mountains to the south and west and low hills in Great Barrington and Alford to the east and north. Elevations range from 1893 feet above sea level on Mt. Fray to 684 feet on the Hubbard Brook floodplain along the Sheffield-Egremont Road. Gently rounded Baldwin Hill lies in the center of the mountains, offering views of the peaks and the lower-lying wetlands that surround it. The valley in which Egremont is located covers two distinct sub watersheds that drain the western mountain: the Green River and Karner Brook. The Green River cuts through the northeast corner of Town, and its relatively flat, gravel-rich flood plain fans out at the eastern Town line. Karner Brook flows from the Town of Mt. Washington and forms a flat, marshy flood plain that closes in at Smiley's Pond in the village of South Egremont, eventually flowing into Hubbard Brook. The varied topography of Egremont, from mountains to marshes, adds to its distinctive character.

4.1.1 Bedrock Geology

Egremont is in an ecoregion known as the Western New England Marble Valleys. This ecoregion has a less acidic geology than does the rest of the state, with areas of calcium-rich bedrock. Three types of metamorphic rock underlie Egremont. These deposits were altered in at least two separate mounting-building episodes. The more weather-resistant rocks remain at high elevations, and the rock more prone to erosion is found primarily in the valley. The three types of bedrock found in Egremont are schists, carbonate rock, and quartzitic rock.

Schists predominate in Egremont along the Taconic Range. These are composed of quartz and mica within a green phyllite. These are all rocks which were originally sediments, buried four miles underground. Chemical reactions caused by high temperatures and extreme pressure produced the minerals muscovite and chlorite, which give a glistening sheen to the rock.

Deposits of the carbonate rocks limestone and dolomite dominate much of the landscape in Egremont, and outcrops can be seen east of North Egremont and along the Sheffield border. The presence of limestone throughout much of central Egremont produces "sweet" or alkaline soils, which are favorable for crops and for many species that grow only in calcium-rich environments.

A narrow belt of Cheshire quartzite, a hard metamorphic rock, interbedded with dolostone, extends close to the easternmost border of Egremont, by Vossburg Hill. This formation is structurally similar to that of Tom Ball Mountain and Monument Mountain in Great Barrington. This glacial till is a yellowish-brown, somewhat coarse unconsolidated, unstratified layer of materials, plastered to the bedrock.

4.1.2 Surficial Geology

When glaciers advanced upon the Berkshires some 20,000 years ago, the ancient landscape already molded by folding and thrusting of bedrock, took on some significant refinements. The northwest/southwest alignment of the hills shows the path the glacier took as it scraped and eroded the bedrock and deposited a sandy-gravelly layer 0-90 feet thick on the land. As the glacier retreated, other deposits were left behind. Piles of gravel and sand and silt remain where the melting ice dropped them as kames or now-collapsed kettle holes and ice channels.

Near Jug End a streambed of these ancient melt waters consists of five feet of schistose pebbles. North of Harmon Marsh Pond on the Sheffield border the glacier left a terrace of calcareous pebbles 25 feet thick. In the ancient streambed of Karner Brook and Fenton Brook similar ice-contact deposits as well as lake floor deposits and alluvial fan deposits indicate the path of the glacier and that of eroded materials transported by more recent flows.

Other deposits of particular significance to hydrological studies lie along the Green River and then spread from Route 71 to West Plain Road in Great Barrington. This area of a few hundred acres is fairly shallow (15-25 feet) but contains great quantities of gravel, mostly schists, conglomerates and quartz. From the Great Barrington airport south, over Root Pond, across the Hubbard Brook watershed and into Sheffield, there extends an enormous area, five square miles of glacial outwash. This stratified drift contains gravel, well-sorted, indicating the possibility of a tremendous area for recharge for groundwater supplies.

4.1.3 Soils

Generally, most of the soil types in Egremont present some limitations on residential lot development. The western and southwest borders consist almost entirely of steep slopes of 15%-45%. The soils here are very thin and rock outcrops ubiquitous. Many soils on flatter ground are shallow to bedrock or have a hardpan at less than 30 inches. Fully a tenth of the Town has hydric soils, which may be fertile and level, but which are characterized by a seasonably high-water table. Rich gravel deposits underlie much of Egremont near streams and swamps, and these deposits add to the difficulties in siting septic systems because of the threat of groundwater contamination.

Soils of the *Taconic Macomber Association*, formed in glacial till derived from phyllite, cover much of the Taconic Range and, in Egremont, the entire western border with New York state and much of the southwestern line. Although the soils have moderate to moderately rapid permeability, the depth to bedrock can be less than 20 inches and there may be outcropping of bedrock as often as every 10 feet, particularly on the steep slopes.

Lanesboro-Dummersten Association soils are fairly deep soils formed in till derived from slate and phyllite. In Egremont they occupy steep slopes (over 15%-45%) along the western and southwestern borders. There is a hardpan in these soils at 30 inches and there is a perched water table for February and March. The main limitations of these soils for development are slope and slow permeability.

Framingham and *Farmington-Rock Outcrop Complex* soils cover much of Egremont both on gentle and steep slopes. These soils were formed in till derived from limestone and are rapidly permeable. There is, however, bedrock at less than 20 inches. The less steep Farmington Soils are suitable for use as hay and pasture. The northeast corner and the

southeast corner of Town are covered extensively with these stony soils and rock outcroppings, as is the areas between Mt. Washington Road and Route 23, north of Karner Brook.

Pittsfield Series soils were formed in glacial till derived from limestone and schist. They are stony, crumbly soils and fairly permeable to a hardpan at 30 inches. The less stony, less sloped Pittsfield Loam soils are suitable for cropland and development. There are scattered areas of Pittsfield soils across Baldwin Hill and east to Creamery Road.

In Egremont the wetland hydric soils include Halsey, Limerick, Kendaia, Lyons, Fredon, and some Saco and Winooski soils. There are all soils associated with a high-water table and/or streams and swamps. Some, such as Kendaia and Fredon, are also classified as prime agricultural soils because of their level topography and texture, but require some special management such as breaking up on the substratum or recontouring for proper drainage. Most of the Hubbard Brook watershed and Karner Brook watershed, as well as the area north and east of Marsh Pond, are covered with hydric soils. In concert with hydrophilic plants, these soils protect groundwater supplies and wildlife habitat and reduce flooding, among other functions.

Some of the soils of Egremont are classified as *prime agricultural soils* because they have the characteristic soil quality, growing season and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yield of crops economically. In Egremont, these soils include Kendaia, Fredon, Pittsfield loam, Warwick gravelly loam (mapped as Hoosic), Amenia silt loam, Hero fine sandy loam, and small amounts of Copake and Nellis and Stockbridge loams. These soils were all formed in glacial till which was derived from limestone or schist and phyllite. They occupy level to rolling areas in Town and are thus much less susceptible to erosion than other soils. As a local and regional resource, their value is obvious since these exceptional soils can be farmed continuously with less degradation to the environment. They produce the most food for the least effort and respond well to fertilizer and chemical applications without significant leaching. Typically, these soils also cover those areas of Town most likely to be developed for residential subdivisions. They are level (mostly), well drained, free of stones, and usually free of tree cover – all characteristics that make areas with these soils more easily developed. Prime agricultural soils are found particularly all along the Green River from Alford to the Great Barrington line, most of Baldwin Hill south and east to Creamery Road, some fields to the west of Route 41 and across the majority of old Jug End Resort (now part of the Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Management Area).

Areas of excellent drainage are often those areas most important to protect and to shield from development, particularly from contamination of the groundwater. Aquifers in association with ice-contact deposits are located within sand and gravel glacial outwash deposits which allow for excellent and rapid downward movement of water as well as upward movement of water the drinking water supplies. Figure 4 in Appendix A is a map of the Soils and Geologic Features of Egremont.

4.1.4 Landscape Character

By virtue of its valley location, Egremont is blessed with both breathtaking mountain views and quaint farm landscapes. From numerous points in Town one can view the unmistakable jutting profile of Jug End, as well as the Taconic crest, Mount Everett, and other surrounding mountains and foothills. In the valley, the village is characterized by

rolling farmland and numerous lakes, ponds, and streams. Protected areas of open space, including farmland along Baldwin Hill, help to maintain the rural and agrarian atmosphere for which Egremont is recognized. Forested areas such as Jug End, extensive agricultural lands, the Baldwin Hill Elm Tree, scenic roads, and critical watershed and wetlands habitat resources such as Karner Brook are treasured highly by residents.

4.1.5 Public Shade Trees

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws Title XIV, Chapter 87, Section 1 defines public shade trees as "All trees within a public way or on the boundaries thereof." Egremont's more densely developed areas, North and South Egremont, have healthy cover of public shade trees. Many of the roads in town are also lined with public shade trees. The Town is responsible for maintaining public trees in the cemetery, parks and on all other town properties. However, the majority of trees in public shade trees in town are not along existing rural roadways and not actively maintained. For proposed subdivisions, section VI, J of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land in Egremont, Massachusetts explicitly states that if existing public shade trees cannot be preserved, two public shade trees must be planted per one hundred (100) feet of frontage.

4.2 Water Resources

4.2.1 Surface Water

Egremont lies within the Housatonic River Watershed which spans approximately 1,498 square miles and approximately eighty communities from the Berkshire Mountains down through western Connecticut and empties into the Long Island Sound in eastern New York. The Green River, Fenton Brook, Karner Brook and Hubbard Brook are within the Housatonic Watershed. A small area along the western Town boundary falls within the Hudson River Watershed.

Karner Brook and the Green River are Egremont's two main flowing bodies of water. Karner Brook flows from the Town of Mt. Washington, draining from the Taconics in the southwest. The Brook then flows through a system of wetlands to Smiley's Pond, after which it flows through South Egremont Village and enters Sheffield, flowing into Hubbard Brook.⁴ At one time there were many threats to the health of Karner Brook, which is the source of the Town's water supply, including siltation and excess nutrients possibly due to lot development on slopes in the watershed. In an attempt to mitigate these threats, 7000 acres of the Karner Brook Watershed, including 5,700 acres in Egremont, were designated a State Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in July 1992. According to the ACEC Program Guide, "The formal designation of an ACEC...directs state environmental agencies to take actions to preserve, restore, and enhance the resources of [the] ACEC."⁵ The Karner Brook ACEC contains over twenty state-listed rare species, three varieties of significant natural communities, including calcareous wetlands and acidic rocky summits, and critical fisheries habitat. Karner Brook and its tributary Fenton Brook are classified as a Class A, Outstanding Resource Waters, with flow during seasons with

⁴ *An Assessment of Land Use Activities and Nonpoint Source Pollution in the Housatonic River Watershed*, BRPC, 1999

⁵ *ACEC Program Guide*, June 1993

normal rainfall at approximately 100,000 gallons a day.⁶ Fenton Brook flows into Karner Brook just north of Mt. Washington Road. Karner Brook is part of the Hubbard Brook watershed, which is in turn part of the Housatonic River Watershed that extends throughout most of the southern portion of Berkshire County.

The other major flowing body of water in Egremont, the Green River, is also a tributary of the Housatonic. The Green River rises in the Taconic Mountains of eastern New York State, passing through Alford and then flowing through the northeast corner of Egremont, passing through North Egremont and Egremont Plain on its way to Seekonk Brook in Great Barrington.⁷ The Green River can be accessed off of Route 71 in Egremont, through the land owned by the Egremont Land Trust and protected through a Wildlife Conservation Easement held by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW). The Green River can also be accessed for recreation from Route 23, Boice Road, Rowe Road, Pumpkin Hollow Road and West Plain Road. Portions of the Green River and its Riverfront have been identified as important habitat by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) and is widely used by fishermen. The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife stocks the river with Brown and Rainbow Trout.

Egremont has a fair number of small lakes and ponds, many of which are buffered by wetlands. The largest body of open water in Egremont is Prospect Lake, a shallow (14 foot) warm water lake of 58.6 acres, with fairly extensive year-round and seasonal housing development on its western shore. The lake abuts Prospect Lake Road, allowing informal public access although it is not developed as such. The Town is working with the new campground owners to develop public access to Prospect Lake.

Other bodies of water in Egremont include Smiley's Pond, Marsh Pond, and Harmon Marsh Pond. Smiley's Pond is a shallow, dammed area of about 20 acres that supports flourishing beaver, muskrat, otter and turtle populations. Smiley's Pond has a problematic flourishing invasive water chestnut growth which is being addressed by the State with plans for annual hand pulling. The man-made pond is slowly reverting to a natural vegetated state. Despite its proximity to three well-traveled roads (Rt. 23, Mt. Washington Rd., and Rt. 41), this pond provides birdwatchers with many opportunities for waterfowl sightings.⁸ Marsh Pond, the largest natural pond within the Karner Brook watershed, originally covered 70 acres, but is now approximately 40 acres.⁹ It is an important groundwater recharge area. Harmon Marsh Pond is a private pond of 8 acres, half of which are in Sheffield. Figure 5 in Appendix A depicts Egremont's water resources.

4.2.2 Flood Hazard Areas

The 100-year floodplain areas are regulated under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act. Many of the rivers in Egremont, including Karner Brook, the Green River and Hubbard Brook have 100-year floodplain that extends along the riverfront. Near Karner Brook,

⁶ *The Karner Brook Watershed: A Proposal for Nomination as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern*, 1991

⁷ *Assessment of Land Use Activities and Nonpoint Source Pollution in the Housatonic River Watershed*, BRPC, 1999

⁸ Ibid

⁹ *The Karner Brook Watershed: A Proposal for Nomination as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern*, 1991.

floodplain areas stretch along and across Mount Washington Road, including near Jug End Fen and Smiley's Pond. The 100-year floodplain of the Green River extends hundreds of feet wide along its length, near North Egremont Village and Egremont Plain. Marsh Pond also has a floodplain that extends outside the boundaries of its associated wetlands.

4.2.3 Wetlands

Wetland resources areas border many of the streams and rivers in Egremont, including much of the lower Fenton and Karner Brooks watersheds and all along Hubbard Brook. Wetlands also extend north and west of Marsh Pond. Smiley's Pond is surrounded by marshes that provide an important habitat, including for marshland bird species. These wetlands experience seasonal flooding and high-water tables most of the year. Their soils and the hydrophilic vegetation act as sponges to absorb floodwaters and to release these waters slowly, thereby decreasing chances for downstream peak flows. The part of the Karner Brook ACEC that lies in Egremont contains approximately 700 acres of wetlands.¹⁰

Jug End Fen, a peaty calcareous fen in the Mount Washington Road Valley, is an example of an extremely rare type of natural community in Massachusetts. At least 30 state-listed species of plants and animals are found in calcareous fens. The survival of this area is dependent on the health of Karner Brook. Jug End Fen is surrounded by protected land owned by the DFW and the Nature Conservancy. Townhouse Hill Fen, now known as Baldwin Hill Fen, is a calcareous fen located on the southern slopes of Baldwin Hill that is protected by land owned by the Egremont Land Trust.¹¹ The Town has a very active Conservation Commission which works directly with private landowners and state and federal agencies to preserve and restore Egremont's wetlands.

4.2.4 Aquifer Recharge Areas

Because of Egremont's varied geological conditions, groundwater is found in widely differing conditions, depths and quantities. The schistose bedrock along the western and southern borders generally does not yield large quantities of water to wells, averaging 5 gallons per minute. The limestone and dolostone bedrock of much of the northern section of Town and the quartzite rock of the eastern part may produce excellent yields to wells depending upon the size and frequency of faults and fractures within those rocks. Some wells in the bedrock aquifer have produced up to 300 gallons per minute, although the median is usually 9 gallons per minute. Further, the surficial deposits in Egremont may provide significant groundwater yields. The Karner Brook watershed to Smiley's Pond and the entire Hubbard Brook watershed might produce up to 40 gallons per minute. The probability of such high yields depends on the actual extent of the underlying carbonate bedrock with its high solution porosity and on the capacity of the surficial deposits to allow surface waters to filter down to the bedrock with ease. Large deposits of coarse gravel within the glacial outwash of silt, sand, and gravel will naturally yield greater quantities to drilled wells. Areas of recharge where the bedrock aquifer receives replenishing surface waters tend to be gravel deposits at the base of hills, particularly the Karner Brook watershed, below the northeast slopes of Baldwin Hill, and directly west of Vossburg Hill.

¹⁰ *The Karner Brook Watershed: A Proposal for Nomination as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern*, 1991.

¹¹ Ibid

In addition, all wetland areas at the base of slopes serve as recharge areas to underground aquifers, large and small.

Because of the proximity of groundwater to the surface of the land, septic systems can be difficult to site and maintain. Septic systems if not properly sited and maintained can impact private wells. In the past, a cluster of wells in North Egremont were impacted by aging septic systems. This issue was addressed. Drinking water well issues are primarily bacteria contamination which could be septic system related, poor well construction/maintenance, flooding of well head, or natural causes (beaver, geese, livestock around wellhead). There are isolated areas throughout Town where wells are being impacted by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and stormwater. Recent testing has identified PFAS in the Town Hall well.

4.3 Vegetation

With a diversity of upland, wetland, and open field habitats, Egremont supports numerous types of vegetation. Within the Karner Brook watershed alone there are 41 species of trees, 20 species of shrubs, 63 herbaceous species, 9 species of ferns, and 28 species of clubmosses and horsetails. Twenty-four of these plant species are listed as Endangered, Threatened, or of Special Concern by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.¹²

4.3.1 Upland Vegetation

Approximately 60% of the land in Egremont is forested. Much of this forest is found in the steep upland areas that are difficult to clear for agriculture or development. Forest types in Egremont include mesic northern hardwoods, rich mesic forest, and rock outcrop communities.

A transitional hardwood forest community characterizes the upper slopes of Egremont. Common tree species include sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), black Oak (*Quercus nigra*), and white pine (*Pinus strobus*). White ash (*Fraxinus americana*), yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), and American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) are less common than in the northern hardwood forest found farther north. Cool, moist, shady hollows may have stands of eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), with spinulose wood fern (*Dryopteris spinulosa*) Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), long beech fern (*Thelypteris phegopteris*), and polypody fern (*Polypodium vulgare*) growing underneath. Thickets of mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) grow in some areas, blooming with pink-and-white flower clusters in early summer. The understory may also contain hobblebush (*Viburnum alnifolium*) and striped maple (*Acer pensylvanicum*).^{13 14 15}

¹² *The Karner Brook Watershed: A Proposal for Nomination as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern*, 1991.

¹³ Laubach Rene. *A Guide to Natural Places in the Berkshire Hills*, Stockbridge, MA 1997

¹⁴ Weatherbee, Pamela and Garrett Crow, "Natural Plant Communities of Berkshire County, Massachusetts," *Rhodora*, Vol 94, pp. 171-209, 1992.

¹⁵ Conversations with Frank Lowenstein, Berkshire Office of the Nature Conservancy, 2/1/2000.

One significant forest community found in Egremont is rich mesic forest, with moderately moist, nutrient-rich soils. This community has a tall, full tree canopy and a sparse subcanopy and shrub layer, as well as an unusually diverse community of herbs and spring ephemerals that can include more than 100 different species. Sugar maple dominates this community, with white ash, basswood (*Tilia americana*), bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), black birch (*Betula lenta*), yellow birch, red oak, and American beech also common. Hop-hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*), musclewood (*Carpinus caroliniana*), and nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*) are smaller trees commonly found in rich mesic forest. The herbaceous layer of rich mesic forest is made up of large numbers of ferns, sedges, lilies, and buttercups, which thrive on the thick layer of litter that builds up on the forest floor. Spring ephemerals, which flower in early spring before the canopy shades the forest floor, include wild leek (*Allium tricoccum*), toothwort (*Dentaria diphylla*), Dutchman's breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), trout lily (*Erythronium americanum*), and spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*). Other typical herbaceous species include blue cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*), round-leaved hepatica (*Hepatica nobilis* var. *obtusa*), wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*), large-flowered bellwort (*Uvularia grandifolia*), red trillium (*Trillium erectum*), waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum virginianum*), ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*) and bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*). Ferns include maidenhair fern (*Adiantum pedatum*) Goldie's fern (*Dryopteris goldiana*), and glade fern (*Diplazium pycnocarpon*).^{16 17 18}

Acidic rock outcrop communities are found on Jug End Mountain, where harsh conditions and lack of soil prevent the growth of trees. Low shrubs dominate these areas, with grasses, sedges, and a few herbaceous species forming a secondary component. Rock outcrop communities include plants usually found only in open areas, as well as species common to the surrounding forest. Characteristic shrubs and herbaceous species include little bluestem grass (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), poverty grass (*Danthonia spicata*), Pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pensuslvanica*), rock harlequin (*Corydalis sempervirens*), shrub oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*) and blueberries (*Vaccinium pallidum* and *V. angustifolium*). Trees include pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*) and oaks (*Quercus* spp.)¹⁹

Where old fields have fallen into disuse and returned to forest, white pines (*Pinus strobus*) birches (*Betula* spp.) and occasionally Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) take over as second-growth woodland. In many areas in Egremont where poor soils with hardpans or ledge have contributed to the end of cropping certain fields, extensive forests of white pines with understories of partridgeberry, viburnum (*Viburnum* spp), wintergreen (*Galuthra procumbens*), and clubmosses have developed. However, often the understory is made up of invasive exotic species, such as Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), shrubby honeysuckles (*Lonicera* spp.), and Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus obiculatus*). Abandoned farmland has gradually filled with species like thistles, blueberries, ragweed,

¹⁶ Weatherbee, Pamela and Garrett Crow, "Natural Plant Communities of Berkshire County, Massachusetts," *Rhodora*, Vol 94, pp. 171-209, 1992.

¹⁷ Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, *Natural Community Fact Sheets*, "Rich Mesic Forest," 1997.

¹⁸ Conversations with Frank Lowenstein, Berkshire Office of the Nature Conservancy, 1/31/2000.

¹⁹ Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, *Natural Community Fact Sheets*, "Rocky Summit/Rock Outcrop Communities," 1999.

goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*), and spirea. Sumacs and dogwoods as well as asters and bedstraws establish themselves as the fields undergo succession.

4.3.2 Wetland Vegetation

One of the most unique plant communities in Massachusetts is the calcareous fen, exemplified in Egremont as Jug End Fen in the Mount Washington Road valley, and Baldwin Hill Fen on Baldwin Hill. Calcareous fens are open, peaty wetlands with cold, alkaline groundwater that seeps or flows from a calcareous (calcium-rich) mineral substrate. Sedges, grasses, broadleaved herbs, and shrubs dominate these wetlands. Common species include American sedge (*Carex astocarpa*), white beak-rush (*Rhynchospora alba*), porcupine sedge (*Carex hystricina*), yellow sage (*Carex flava*), Grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia glauca*), common horsetail (*Equisetum avense*), fen cotton-grass (*Eriophorum viridi-carinaatum*), and autumn, hoary, and silky willow (*Salix serissima*, *S. candida*, *S. sericea*).²⁰

Significant portions of the wetlands in the Jug End Reservation are wet meadows, which have been maintained through human intervention (cutting trees). Vegetation in these areas is characterized by a rich variety of sedges and forbs. Woody shrubs such as willows, dogwoods (*Cornus spp.*), and Spiraeas are also often present.²¹

Prospect Lake houses a community of water plants that grow in a moderately alkaline environment, including Potamogeton spp., Ceratophyllum demersum, Najas flexilis, Elodea canadensis, and others. With a pH above 9.0, Smiley's Pond is even more alkaline, supporting a variety of uncommon species adapted to these conditions.²²

At least 57 state listed rare species of plants and animals occur in calcareous wetlands (30 of these occur in calcareous fens), making them one of the most important natural communities in Massachusetts. The most severe threat to these areas is alteration in the quantity or quality of the groundwater that feeds them, alterations that are often the result of development in sensitive areas. Calcareous areas in Egremont and Sheffield depend on the quality of the water that comes from calcareous bedrock and glacial till in Mount Washington and nearer areas of glacial outwash.²³ The calcareous areas in Egremont are at least partially protected by the Karner Brook ACEC.

Rich mesic forest communities are home to at least eleven species of rare plants, most of which are herbaceous species and/or spring ephemerals. Threats to this community include fragmentation and isolation due to logging or development. Rich mesic forest is especially vulnerable to logging because opening up the canopy often allows invasive species to take hold and crowd out fragile herbaceous species. Soil disturbance can disrupt

²⁰ Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, *Natural Community Fact Sheets*, "Calcareous Fens," 1990.

²¹ *Final Management Plan, Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Management Area*, DEM, 1996.

²² Weatherbee, Pamela and Garrett Crow, "Natural Plant Communities of Berkshire County, Massachusetts," *Rhodora*, Vol 94, No. 878, 1992, pp. 171-193.

²³ Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, *Natural Community Fact Sheets*, "Calcareous Fens," 1990.

the nutrient and water availability requirements of rich mesic plants. The community is scarce outside of the calcareous bedrock areas of the Berkshires.²⁴

The Green River is a site rich with rare species unique to the southern Berkshires, including rare trees and forbs found in floodplains.^{25 26}

4.4 Fisheries and Wildlife

4.4.1 Upland Species

The mountainous, forested areas in Egremont provide ideal habitat for many large mammals, including black bear, bobcat, deer, fisher, coyote, and beaver. Other inhabitants of the forest landscape include small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, game birds, songbirds, and migratory birds. South-facing acid summit/rock outcrop communities provide good habitat for snakes and cliff-dwelling species. The rocky areas of Jug End are also home to bat hibernaculæ that house five species of bats.

Egremont's forests are home to many species of woodland birds. Wild turkeys and ruffed grouse are two of the larger birds that live on the ground in the woods and woodland edges. Other ground-dwellers include the dark-eyed junco, veery, wood and hermit thrushes, white-throated sparrow, and ovenbird. Oaks, beeches, maples, and birches provide nest sites for birds such as rose-breasted grosbeak, scarlet tanager, American robin, red-eyed vireo, least flycatcher, blue jay, brown creeper, and many species of wood warblers. Birds that prefer to nest in hollows and cavities in the trunks of trees include downy, hairy, and pileated woodpeckers, yellow-bellied sap-sucker, northern flicker, tufted titmouse, black-capped chickadee, and red-breasted and white-breasted nuthatches.

Many birds and small mammals prefer edge habitats and meadows, which Egremont has in abundance due to its agricultural history. The grasshopper sparrow, a species of Special Concern, is one example of a bird that requires this type of environment, patchy grassland with bare ground and bunch grasses such as poverty grass, bluestem, and fescue.²⁷ Keeping old fields open through mowing may encourage these species.

4.4.2 Wetland Species

Wetlands in Egremont support a variety of amphibians and reptiles, waterfowl, and water-loving mammals such as beaver, muskrat, otter and raccoon.²⁸ Two salamanders and two turtles within the Karner Brook ACEC are designated of Special Concern by the

²⁴ Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, *Natural Community Fact Sheets*, "Rich Mesic Forests," 1997.

²⁵ Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, cover letter, 11/29/99.

²⁶ Conversation w/ Frank Lowenstein, Berkshire Office of the Nature Conservancy, 1/31/2000.

²⁷ Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, *Natural Community Fact Sheets*, "Grasshopper Sparrow," 1986.

²⁸ *Egremont Open Spaces & Recreation Plan*, 1988

Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.²⁹ Both Karner Brook and the Green River provide habitat for wild trout, and the Green River is also home to the longnose sucker, a State species of special concern.³⁰ The Green River is stocked annually by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife with native brook trout as well as introduced rainbow and brown trout.

A Guide to Natural Places in the Berkshire Hills describes Smiley's Pond as one of the best places in the Berkshires to view waterfowl and other birds. It has also been identified by the Massachusetts Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area. It is one of very few places in the Berkshires to view common moorhens, cootlike birds that nest there in May. Other waterfowl that frequent the pond include Canada goose, black duck, mallards, green-winged and blue-winged teals, wood ducks, belted kingfisher, black terns, and great blue heron. Birds that prefer wet habitats visit here as well and include yellow warbler, common yellowthroat, red-winged blackbird, common grackle, Virginia rail and swamp sparrow.³¹

Muskrat and beaver also dwell in Smiley's Pond and the upstream wetlands, as do turtles. The pond is a habitat for frogs and toads, including spring peepers, bullfrogs, green frogs, and American toads.

4.4.3 Rare and Endangered Species

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) has identified several areas in Egremont as habitat for state-listed wildlife. The Karner Brook stream corridor and the Jug End Fen area, along with Marsh Pond, provide important habitat for plant and amphibian species. Other designated areas include wetlands adjacent to French Park, an area south of Hickory Hill Road, along a portion of Green River and at the Baldwin Hill Fen. Egremont's marshes and ponds, cold water streams, springs, and lakes provide habitat for state-listed birds, salamanders and turtles.

Ridgetop pitch pine/scrub oak and rock outcrop communities such as found in Jug End are important habitat for upland species. These areas provide habitat for rare plants and reptiles and (historically) the endangered Indiana Bat, which has not been seen in Massachusetts since 1939.

Table 4-1 shows the most current Massachusetts Endangered Species Act list as of September 2022. There are a total of forty-one (41) species of both flora and fauna including amphibians, birds, fish, insects, mammals, reptiles and vascular plants.

²⁹ *The Karner Brook Watershed: A Proposal for Nomination as An Area of Critical Environmental Concern*, 1991.

³⁰ *Water Resources of the Housatonic River Basin: Water Use and Hydrology*, DEM, 1999.

³¹ Laubach, Rene. *A Guide to Natural Places in the Berkshire Hills*, Stockbridge, 1997.

Table 4-1 List of Egremont's Massachusetts Endangered Species³²

Common Name	Scientific Name	Taxonomic Group	MESA Status	Most Recent Observation
Jefferson Salamander (complex)	<i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum</i>	Amphibian	Special Concern	2017
Yellow-banded Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus terricola</i>	Bee	Threatened	2020
Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Bird	Threatened	1978
American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	Bird	Endangered	2008
Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	Bird	Endangered	1955
Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	Bird	Special Concern	2008
Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Bird	Endangered	1991
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Bird	Endangered	2007
King Rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>	Bird	Threatened	1965
Dion Skipper	<i>Euphyes dion</i>	Butterfly/Moth	Threatened	2008
Longnose Sucker	<i>Catostomus catostomus</i>	Fish	Special Concern	1970
Eastern Small-footed Bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Mammal	Endangered	2016
Little Brown Bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Mammal	Endangered	2016
Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Mammal	Endangered	2005
Indiana Myotis	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Mammal	Endangered	1935
Tricolored Bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Mammal	Endangered	2016
Wood Turtle	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Reptile	Special Concern	2019
Downy Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia pubescens</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	1986
Hairy Wood-mint	<i>Blephilia hirsuta</i>	Vascular Plant	Endangered	1990
Smooth Rock-cress	<i>Boechera laevigata</i>	Vascular Plant	Special Concern	2020
New England Northern Reed Grass	<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i> ssp. <i>inexpansa</i>	Vascular Plant	Endangered	2009
Fen Cuckoo-flower	<i>Cardamine dentata</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	1998
Handsome Sedge	<i>Carex formosa</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	2010

³² Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Common Name	Scientific Name	Taxonomic Group	MESA Status	Most Recent Observation
Dioecious Sedge	<i>Carex sterilis</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	2020
Fen Sedge	<i>Carex tetanica</i>	Vascular Plant	Special Concern	2012
Autumn Coral-root	<i>Corallorhiza odontorhiza</i>	Vascular Plant	Special Concern	2021
Matted Spike-sedge	<i>Eleocharis intermedia</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	Historic
Slender Cottongrass	<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	2014
Labrador Bedstraw	<i>Galium labradoricum</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	1987
Great Blue Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Vascular Plant	Endangered	2017
Gattinger's Panic-grass	<i>Panicum philadelphicum ssp. gattingeri</i>	Vascular Plant	Special Concern	1989
Leafy White Orchid	<i>Platanthera dilatata</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	1857
Drooping Speargrass	<i>Poa saltuensis ssp. languida</i>	Vascular Plant	Endangered	2010
Hill's Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton hillii</i>	Vascular Plant	Special Concern	2008
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Vascular Plant	Special Concern	2021
Yellow Oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	2021
Great Laurel	<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	2004
Capillary Beaksedge	<i>Rhynchospora capillacea</i>	Vascular Plant	Endangered	2011
Canadian Sanicle	<i>Sanicula canadensis</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	2020
Narrow-leaved Vervain	<i>Verbena simplex</i>	Vascular Plant	Endangered	Historic
Culver's-root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Vascular Plant	Threatened	2018

Figure 6 in Appendix A depicts Plant and Wildlife Habitat, including Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in Egremont.

4.4.4 Wildlife Corridors

Egremont has protected significant wildlife corridors, particularly in the southern part of Town. Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Management Area, the Appalachian Trail Corridor, and lands under conservation restrictions provide acres of protected connective corridors for wildlife passage. The Karner Brook and Green River corridors also provide corridors for wildlife passage. Future land acquisition by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Egremont Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy can further connect existing protected lands to minimize habitat fragmentation from new development.

4.5 Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

4.5.1 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

The Karner Brook Watershed was designated a State Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in 1992 because of the unique scenic, environmental, and cultural resources it contains. The Karner Brook ACEC is home to over twenty state-listed rare species, three varieties of significant natural communities, including calcareous wetlands and acidic rocky summits, and critical fisheries habitat. It also contains some of the most scenic landscapes in Massachusetts, with a wide diversity of wooded mountains, rolling hills, open fields, streams, ponds, and wetlands.

Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Management Area

Within the Karner Brook ACEC lies the Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Management Area (SR-WMA). The Jug End SR-WMA was created on the site of the former Jug End Resort in 1993, with the purpose of conserving its natural and historic resources and protecting the water quality of Fenton Brook. The State intends the property to be used for passive recreation, scientific research and environmental education, and historic preservation of buildings on the site.³³ The Massachusetts Landscape Inventory designates this area as "Noteworthy" for its scenic qualities.³⁴

Farmland and Baldwin Hill

Agriculture has long been part of Egremont's identity and continues to add to its scenery and economy. The physical center of Egremont is also the agricultural center of town, with the extensive farms that blanket Baldwin Hill. Clusters of farmland also exist along the eastern town line. Farmland along Route 41 in South Egremont, some of it protected by conservation restrictions, forms an agriculturally productive and scenic entry into South Egremont.

The Baldwin Hill area includes highly productive agricultural land on both sides of Baldwin Hill Road, from North Egremont Village to South Egremont Village. This area is still home to several working farms. Much of the farmland in the Baldwin Hill area has been protected through the APR program. The scenic vistas of and from the top of Baldwin Hill, including the Baldwin Hill Elm Tree, are some of the most distinctive landscapes in Massachusetts, and are identified as such in The Massachusetts Landscape Inventory.

Streams, Lakes and Wetlands

Set within the mountains and surrounded by woods or farms, Egremont's lakes, streams, and wetlands add to the scenic beauty of the area. The Green River corridor is designated as "Noteworthy" in the *Massachusetts Landscape Inventory*.³⁵ Ponds and lakes such as Smiley's Pond and Prospect Lake are treasured for the opportunities they provide to view migrating waterfowl. The town's wetlands support a variety of colorful flora and fauna.

³³ *Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, Final Management Plan for Jug End SR-WMA*, 1996.

³⁴ *The Massachusetts Landscape Inventory*, DEM, 1982.

³⁵ *Ibid.*

Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

There are many scenic areas throughout the Town, including the Baldwin Hill Elm tree, mountain views, historic farmsteads, farm fields, and stone walls. Opportunities for viewing the scenic areas in Egremont can be found along most of the roads that wind through this community. Roads with scenic features include Route 41, Jug End Road, Baldwin Hill Road, Townhouse Hill Road, Route 71, Guilder Hollow Road, Shun Toll Road, Boice Road, Rowe Road, Sheffield Road and Millard Road. All roadways serve recreational purposes as well as transportation use, to varying degrees. For the Town's roadways, especially non-numbered routes, it is important that all uses of roads, including recreational, be considered in maintenance and planning.

One of the more unique natural and cultural areas is Jug End, which supports passive and active recreational opportunities, while preserving the historical and cultural heritage of the area. The Jug End State Reservation & Wildlife Management Area, which was a former recreational resort, provides wildlife refuge, scenic views, and access to the Appalachian Trail. Jug End is a destination for avid hikers and nature enthusiasts.

Egremont's two villages are listed as Historic Districts on the National Register of Historic Places. The South Egremont Village District was listed in 1984 and the North Egremont Village District in 1989. The Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS), a Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) inventory database and mapping system, identifies 84 inventoried properties in the South Egremont Village District, which extends along Main Street, Sheffield Road, and Button Ball Lane. Two of the properties within this district are protected by preservation restrictions: Mt. Everett Academy, originally built in 1830, and the South Egremont School, constructed in 1880.

The North Egremont Village District has 44 inventoried properties, primarily near the intersection of Route 71 / Egremont Plain Road and Prospect Lake Road. The Elm Court Inn, constructed in 1790, and the North Egremont Store, built in 1848 have unique cultural and historical value.

4.5.2 Environmental Challenges**Climate Change**

Over the period covered in this OSRP, climate change presents the largest and most serious challenge. Climate change is exacerbating the environmental challenges noted below, resulting in changing habitats that favor invasive species, which are outcompeting native species and changing Egremont's landscape.

Water Quality Issues

Table 4-2 provides the classification of waters in Egremont from the Final Massachusetts Integrated List of Waters for the Clean Water Act 2018/2020 Reporting Cycle. Waters with identified impairments include Prospect Lake, Karner Brook and Hubbard Brook, as noted below.

TABLE 4-2

Town of Egremont
Integrated List of Waters

Waterbody (ID)	Size (Miles)	Category	Impairment
Fenton Brook (MA21-35)	2.4	Category 2	N/A
Karner Brook (MA21-38)	2.3	Category 2	N/A
Unnamed Tributary	1.5	Category 2	N/A
Mill Pond	10 (Acres)	Category 3	no uses assessed*
Karner Brook (MA21-39)	2.3	Category 4c – TMDL not required	Dewatering
Prospect Lake (MA21084)	59 (Acres)	Category 4c – TMDL not required	Curly-leaf Pondweed; Non-Native Aquatic Plants
Hubbard Brook (MA21-15)	9.4	Category 5 – Waters requiring a TMDL	Curly-leaf Pondweed; Eurasian Water Milfoil; Myriophyllum Spicatum

Source: Final Massachusetts Integrated List of Water for the Clean Water Act 2018/2020 Reporting Cycle (<https://www.mass.gov/doc/final-massachusetts-integrated-list-of-waters-for-the-clean-water-act-20182020-reporting-cycle/download>)

* At Mill Pond (also known as Smileys Pond), MassWildlife is conducting a water chestnut removal project and noted the presence of two invasive water lilies.

In recent years, wells in various parts of town have been found to be contaminated. One cause of this problem is failed septic systems that leach untreated waste into groundwater. Egremont is particularly susceptible to this problem due to a high-water table and soil types that do not often “perk” well. Recently PFAS has been identified in the Town Hall well. PFAS is increasingly being identified in the environment.

Egremont has many dirt roads. These roads should be maintained to minimize erosion and impacts to water resources.

Karner Brook is a critical water resource both because it provides the town water supply and because it is habitat for rare species. Rehabilitation of the Karner Brook Dam will require careful planning and implementation to minimize impacts to downstream habitat.

Hazardous Waste Sites

Egremont has no active hazardous waste sites and all Release Tracking Numbers (RTNs) have been closed. Many of the closed sites were the result of #2 heating oil releases. Two sites in Town have Activity and Use Limitations (AULs). An AUL covers a capped landfill at a former Gun Club within the Jug End State Reservation and WMA. The second AUL is at the former South Egremont Mobil station at 51 Main Street and restricts the property use to commercial and industrial uses.

Landfills

There are no active landfills in Egremont. The Town has two inactive sites: a landfill capped in 1998 located on Phillips Road, and the Jug End State Reservation Dump, which has been inactive since 1995³⁶. The Jug End State Reservation Dump is the capped landfill with the associated AUL noted above. Egremont does have an active transfer station and recycling center, which is located on Egremont Plain Road, and is open four days a week.

Erosion and Sedimentation

Erosion and sedimentation challenges for the Town are primarily caused by impacts from residential development and the thirty-five miles of dirt and gravel roads, some of which are private. The public roads are maintained by the Town's Highway Department. The 2001 Massachusetts Unpaved Roads BMP Manual, prepared by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, provides Best Management Practices (BMPs) for maintaining gravel roads including BMPs for addressing erosion and sedimentation.

Erosion and sedimentation from residential construction activities are monitored by the Town's Conservation Commission, who review new projects for compliance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Stormwater Standards, when applicable. The Conservation Commission works with property owners on any compliance concerns and enforces any violations.

Chronic Flooding

The FEMA mapped 100-year floodplain areas are most likely to experience flooding. While much of the 100-year floodplain is undeveloped, floodplain along the Green River, Karner Brook and at Smiley's Pond impact roadways. According to the 2022 Town of Egremont Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness and Hazard Mitigation Plan, flooding in Egremont occurs most frequently in the following areas:

- Boice Road and Rowe Road at intersection with Green River
- Locust Hill Road in Great Barrington causes flooding in Green River upstream
- Karner Brook and Sheffield Road
- Mount Washington Road and Jug End Road
- Shun Toll Road west of Route 71
- Taconic Lane
- Blunt Road

Recent (December 2023) storm events swelled the Green River causing closures of Rowe Road and Pumpkin Hollow Road.

Environmental Equity

Access to recreational opportunities and open space is an environmental equity concern. There is ample open space and passive recreational opportunities throughout Town. The main recreational space in Town is French Park, which is located in proximity to the village of North Egremont. French Park has facilities and equipment geared for all ages and a variety of interests, including: an adult fitness playground, basketball, pickleball, tennis and volleyball courts, a baseball field, an equestrian ring, and a playground as well as

³⁶<https://www.mass.gov/doc/list-of-inactiveclosed-landfills-dumping-grounds-in-massachusetts-june-2023/download>

picnic facilities, trails, a fenced-in dog park, and a pollinator garden. The pavilion, restroom facilities, and parking areas are handicapped accessible. South Egremont Village is in proximity to the Appalachian Trail and the Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Management Area.

Development on Steep Slopes

Recent technological advances have made it easier to place buildings on steep slopes that would have been undevelopable before. The Town has seen homes built in prominent places such as the ridge west of Prospect Lake. A subdivision with almost 25% slopes was carved out of the south side of Egremont before the creation of the Jug End SR-WMA, and now has eight homes built on it. Hilltop development like this has environmental as well as scenic impacts. Steeper areas often have thin soils and rocky outcrops that make them more sensitive to the impacts of construction and development and more prone to erosion. The roads leading up to these structures may increase runoff on these fragile soils and contribute to erosion as well.

Invasive Species

Invasive plants are species (non-native) that outcompete native species for habitat. Many invasives were originally planted as ornamentals or in hedgerows, and now thrive in forest, old field, and wetland habitats. Species that invade the understory of forests, choking out spring ephemerals and tree seedlings include Japanese barberry, Oriental bittersweet, and non-native honeysuckles. Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) and Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) are herbaceous species that often invade the forest from roadside edges. Japanese knotweed is particularly difficult to eradicate once established. Another problematic roadside invasive species is wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*). Wetland invasives include purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and common reed (*Phragmites australis*). Methods to control the spread of these species vary, usually involving multiple cuttings and occasionally selective application of herbicide, but some (including purple loosestrife) are almost impossible to eradicate once they are established. Many of these species spread fastest in areas where disturbance has occurred, such as roadsides, abandoned fields, right-of-way corridors, and ditches.³⁷

Forest Diseases and Insect Threats

Beech bark disease is a widespread killer of American beech in the Northeast. The disease is caused by a fungus, *Nectria ditissima*, spread by the beech scale insect, *Cryptococcus fagisuga*. The fungus invades the bark, girdling the trees and causing significant mortality and timber defect. Outbreaks may be controlled by environmental factors, such as low temperatures, and predators such as the ladybird beetle. Insecticides are sometimes used on ornamental trees to prevent infestation with the scale insect, but disease in forest stands cannot be controlled at a reasonable cost.³⁸

Beech leaf disease is a newly described disease associated with a foliar nematode species, *Litylenchus crenatae*. The disease causes damage to a tree's leaves, leading to reduced vigor and can eventually lead to tree mortality. There are currently many unknowns

³⁷ Weatherbee, Pamela, Paul Somers, and Tim Simmons. *A Guide to Invasive Plants in Massachusetts*, Mass. Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, 1998.

³⁸ USDA Forest Service, *Forest Insects & Disease Leaflet 75*, "Beech Bark Disease", willow.ncfes.umn.edu/fidl-beech/fidl-beech.htm.

associated with this disease. As of July 2022, beech leaf disease has been identified in 83 communities in Massachusetts, including Egremont.

Emerald ash borer is a small, invasive beetle that is devastating to all ash tree species in Massachusetts. The emerald ash borer has been identified in Egremont and some ash trees are dying from the infestation. Since 2019 when the Emerald ash borer first appeared in this area, there remain no healthy, untreated ash trees. The entire state of Massachusetts is currently part of the national quarantined zone, limiting the movement of all hardwood firewood, and green wood products, nursery stock, and any plant materials from any ash species in an effort to stop the spread of the beetle.

The hemlock wooly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) is an insect that infests hemlock trees in the Northeast. The adelgid, believed to be introduced from Asia, sucks sap from young twigs, reducing or preventing new tree growth. Defoliation and tree death can occur within several years.³⁹ The Forest Service is currently exploring control through the introduction of natural insect predators.⁴⁰

4.5.3 Biomap 3 – Critical and Core Habitat Areas

The Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game's NHESP and the Nature Conservancy's Massachusetts Program developed BioMap3 as a tool to help protect the state's biodiversity in the context of projected effects of climate change. BioMap3 updates land use cover, NHESP's rare species and natural community data and incorporates an enhanced Aquatic Core component based on thousands of aquatic field samples. BioMap3 provides local and regional scaling, identifying regionally significant resources, and integrates new climate resilience data, including the Nature Conservancy's Resilience and Connected Network analysis and aquatic climate change refugia. BioMap3 identifies large, well-connected, and intact ecosystems and landscapes across the Commonwealth, incorporating concepts of ecosystem resilience to address anticipated climate change impacts. BioMap3 provides a framework for protection and stewardship of those lands and waters that are most important for conserving biological diversity in Massachusetts and includes habitat restoration resources for restoring and managing habitats to remove invasive species, restore natural processes, mitigate changes to water quality or quantity, and address other threats. It was created with an objective set of analyses to identify species habitats and intact ecosystems across the state that are critical for biodiversity and that, if protected, will enhance ecological resilience to climate change and other threats.

A town-specific BioMap3 report is included as Appendix C, which was intended to support conservation planning efforts. This report summarizes the Core Habitats and Critical natural Landscapes within Egremont. Areas of Core Habitat may include Aquatic, Forest, Priority Natural Communities, Rare Species, Vernal Pool and Wetland Cores. Critical Natural Landscapes associated with each Biomap Core include buffers of Aquatic Cores, Wetland Cores and Landscape Blocks. In Egremont, there are 9 Core Habitats totaling 5,016 acres and 12 Critical Natural Landscape area totaling 5,123 acres. Figure 7 in

³⁹ USDA Forest Service, *Pest Alert*, "Hemlock Woolly Adelgid" www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/fhp/palerts/hemlock/hemlock.htm

⁴⁰ McClure, Mark, Scott Salom, and Kathleen Shields, USDA Forest Service, *FHTET 96-35I*, "Hemlock Woolly Adelgid", 1996.

Appendix A includes the locations of the BioMap3 Core Habitats and Critical Natural Landscapes for Egremont.

4.5.4 Unique Features

Egremont has many historic, recreational and natural unique features that contribute to the community character. Figure 8 in Appendix A identifies key unique features in Egremont, including the historic villages, the Appalachian Trail, French Park and the Baldwin Hill Elm Tree.

Section 5

Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Open space protection can provide multiple benefits to a community's economy, quality of life, and environmental resources. It provides connection to the community's history while providing passive recreational opportunities for its residents and visitors. Some farmers need large areas of open space on which to raise their crops and support their operations.

"Open Space Protection" as used in this plan refers to measures which prevent, in the "permanent" or long-term, conversion of the land to a use other than for open space or recreation. Land is considered permanently protected if the property's development rights are held for conservation purposes by a public or private entity such as a local land trust. Recreation lands are similarly considered permanently protected for recreational purposes if the development rights are held for such purpose by a public entity. Certain public and non-profit conservation lands, including lands that have been dedicated to such uses as conservation or recreation use by deed or Town Meeting, are protected under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the State Constitution. Article 97 lands are considered permanently protected, as any change in use requires a process, including a two-thirds vote of the legislature and protection of land of equal or greater value.

Protected parcels are those parcels that are considered permanently protected from development. Protected lands include land owned by the federal and state government specifically for conservation and open space purposes, lands owned by the Town and acquired for conservation and recreation purposes and held by the Town Conservation Commission, as well as private land owned by a conservation organization or that has been permanently protected through Conservation Restrictions (CRs), Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APRs), or Wildlife Conservation Easements (WCEs). Since the 2001 OSRP, hundreds of acres have been permanently protected through a combination of state acquisitions, CRs, APRs, and WCEs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts also owns and maintains recreational and open space lands in Egremont. These parcels are primarily associated with Jug End Reservation and Karner Brook Wildlife Management Area. These resources are managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Department of Fish and Game and are considered to be permanently protected.

The federal government, under the U.S. Department of the Interior, also holds significant conservation and recreation areas in Town associated with the Appalachian Trail Corridor. In addition, private conservation organizations including the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, Greenagers, and the Egremont Land Trust hold land through town.

The Town of Egremont owns the extensive French Park, which provides both recreational and open space resources.

Table 5-1 and Figure 9 include the permanently protected open space lands in Egremont.

TABLE 5-1

Protected Open Space Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Site Name	Owner	Owner Type	Grants	Public Access	Size (Acres)
Appalachian Trail Conservancy	Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC)	Public (Nonprofit)		Y	20
Appalachian Trail Corridor	US DOI	Public (Federal)		Y	336.6
Appalachian Trail Corridor	Maggio Patricia B	Private		N	6.1
Appalachian Trail Corridor	Van Zon Adrian	Private		N	0.9
April Hill Conservation Center CR	Greenagers, Inc.	Private (Nonprofit)		N	32.4
Baldwin Hill BNRC APR	Turner land Nominee Trust	Private		N	188.6
Baldwin Hill Farm APR	Burdsall Richard H Priscilla R et al	Private		N	179.4
Baldwin Hill Road CR	Kellerman McCain Shapiro	Private		N	50.9
Barrett Woods West	Berkshire Natural Resources Council	Land Trust		Y	124.7
Bow Wow Woods	Greenagers	Private		Y	55
Chase APR	Chase George B and Anne L	Private		N	0.7
Chase George B APR	Chase George B and Anne L	Private		N	272.4
Cliff CR	Cliff Ursula	Private		N	122
Conservation Area	Egremont Land Trust	Land Trust		Y	9.9
Conservation Area	TNC	Land Trust		Y	6
Curtiss SLT APR	Curtiss Jonathan Q	Private		N	12.1
Delmolino Edward A III APR	Delmolino Edward A III	Private		N	128
Demairo CR	Demairo Constantine and Pauline	Private		N	2.5
Dolomite Ledges WMA	MassDFG	Public (State)		Y	85.5
Egremont Land Trust	Egremont Land Trust	Land Trust		Y	57.3
Tree Farm APR	Tank Acres LLC	Private		N	24.6
French Park	Town of Egremont	Public (Local)		Y	145.2
Ginsberg CR	Ginsberg	Private		N	84.2
Indian Line Farm	Community Land Trust in the Southern Berkshires, Inc.	Land Trust		N	15.4
Jug End Fen WCE	TNC	Land Trust		Y	81.6
Jug End Fen WMA	MassDFG	Public (State)		Y	245.8
Jug End Preserve	TNC	Land Trust		Y	25
Jug End Road Conservation Area	TNC	Land Trust		Y	7.3

Site Name	Owner	Owner Type	Grants	Public Access	Size (Acres)
The Nature Conservancy - Jug End CR	TNC	Land Trust		Y	49.5
Jug End State Reservation	MassDCR	Public (State)		Y	20.1
Jug End State Reservation and WCE	Town of Egremont	Public (Town)	FLP	Y	213
Jug End State Reservation and WMA	MassDCR	Public (State)		Y	1169.7
K and L CR	K and L Nominee Trust	Private		N	8.9
Karner Brook Cohen CR	Cohen Stephen L	Private		N	24.4
Karner Brook Park	Egremont Land Trust	Land Trust		Y	0.15
Kellogg AFT APR	Kellogg Mary-Margaret	Private		N	49.5
Mount Everett State Reservation	MassDCR	Public (State)		Y	107.7
North Egremont WCE	Egremont Land Trust	Land Trust		Y	21.5
North Egremont WMA	MassDFG	Public (State)		Y	82.6
Proctor Farm APR	Proctor Charles W and Ellen J	Private		N	269.7
Wolfe	Frank A Wolfe Realty Trust	Private		N	80.9

Data: MassGIS 2023

FLP = Forest Legacy Program

There is an approximately 7-acre parcel of land that is town-owned off Route 71 along the Alford town line. MassGIS has labeled this property as unknown protection. The deed for this parcel (Book 423 Parcel 20) indicates that this parcel was granted to the Town of Egremont for conservation purposes.

The Town also has three cemeteries:

- Hillside Cemetery, 177 Egremont Plain Road
- Riverside Cemetery, 230 Egremont Plain Road
- Town House Hill Cemetery, Town House Hill Road and Phillips Road

Land subject to short-term taxation approaches (Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B) are not considered permanently protected since they merely provide a right of first refusal to the local community to acquire them if they are to be removed from Chapter status and sold. Many properties in Egremont are enrolled in the Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B programs, which discourage owners from changing the use of the parcel but do not technically protect it.

The location and ownership status of open space in Egremont is shown on Figure 9 in Appendix A.

TABLE 5-2

Town of Egremont
Protected Open Space Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest – by Owner

Owner	Parcels	Acreage
Appalachian Trail Conservancy	4	25.98
Berkshire Natural Resources Council, Inc.	1	50
Commonwealth of Massachusetts	20	1,715.4
Egremont Land Trust	7	77.1
Town of Egremont	7	477.3
Greenagers, Inc.	3	154.1
Mt. Everett Cemetery Association	1	2.77
The Nature Conservancy	10	170.22
United States of America	6	95.2
Conservation Restrictions	14	291.5
Total Agricultural Preservation Restrictions	18	1,205.5
Total	91	4,265.1

5.1 Agricultural Program Parcels

5.1.1 Chapter Lands

According to the Town’s assessors data⁴¹ there is a total of 87 parcels in Egremont are enrolled in either the Chapter 61, Chapter 61A, or Chapter 61B program. The program eases the tax burden of land ownership for forest and agricultural uses, respectively, and also imposes penalties if the use of the land changes within a time period of 10 years. While it provides an incentive for keeping land in open space, Chapter status is not considered fully protective, as the gain from selling the land often outweighs the tax penalty incurred. However, Chapter lands in Egremont make up approximately 2,870 acres, and are therefore a significant portion of the Town’s open space inventory. There are 9 parcels totaling 188 acres under Chapter 61 (Forest) designation; 66 parcels totaling 2,360 acres under Chapter 61A (Agriculture); and 7 parcels totaling 319 acres under Chapter 61B (Open Space and Recreation). These parcels are listed below in tables 5-3 – 5-5.

⁴¹ Assessors data was filtered using Department of Revenue land use codes 16, 17, 18, 600s, 700s, & 800s

Table 5-3
Chapter 61 Parcels

Owner	Parcel	Acreage
HAECKEL, BRIGID FLYNN, TR	090/010.0-0000-0754.0	43.7
BLUE BEAR LLC	090/010.0-0000-0782.D	10.5
KIFAR ZAYDEE CORP	090/002.0-0000-0874.B	8.9
GINSBERG, LOIS & MARCUS STEVEN, TRUSTEES	090/004.0-0000-0052.F	15.1
BURDSALL, SUSAN	090/008.0-0000-0696.A	30.1
BURDSALL, SUSAN	090/008.0-0000-0697.C	50
WEXLER, MARJORIE	090/009.0-0000-0355.0	11.8
KIFAR ZAYDEE CORP	090/010.0-0000-0026.A	13
BEST, BILLIE	090/010.0-0000-0979.0	5
Total		188

Table 5-4
Chapter 61A Parcels

Owner	Parcel	Acreage
TURNER, PAUL J & WILLIAM H	090/002.0-0000-0017.B	194.70
HEYMAN, JEANNOT B. ESTATE OF	090/002.0-0000-0277.0	14.00
MILLIKIN, KERRY T, TR	090/003.0-0000-0066.A	21.51
BISCHOFF, URSULA E, ESTATE OF	090/004.0-0000-0035.0	41.14
COBDEN FAMILY NOMINEE TRUST	090/004.0-0000-0125.0	19.40
VINING, THEODORE & EILEEN	090/004.0-0000-0236.0	7.07
RING, FRANK	090/004.0-0000-0287.0	30.00
VINING, THEODORE F	090/004.0-0000-0483.0	22.18
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/008.0-0000-0073.D	38.89
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/008.0-0000-0317.A	62.60
TURNER, PAUL J & WILLIAM H, TRS	090/008.0-0000-0934.B	7.75
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/009.0-0000-0036.B	39.23
PROCTOR FAMILY NOMINEE TRUST	090/009.0-0000-0103.0	9.59
CASE, MENUKA	090/009.0-0000-0230.0	17.93
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/009.0-0000-0370.0	5.22
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/009.0-0000-0370.A	12.93
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/009.0-0000-0370.D	18.97
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/009.0-0000-0555.0	4.04
STEINER, THOMAS D	090/009.0-0000-0695.0	144.55
BERLE, LILA W	090/010.0-0000-0096.E	63.00
STEWART, SHAILAH & SOURIS, CHRISTOPHER	090/010.0-0000-0144.C	7.23
PERSICO, EMILIO	090/010.0-0000-0144.H	16.00
RAWLINGS, STEPHEN HAYNES	090/010.0-0000-0471.A	22.55
ROSENSWEIG, RICHARD	090/010.0-0000-0735.0	4.70
BARTHOLF, JOHN C & ELEANOR A TR	090/010.0-0000-0823.0	43.00
HYATT, KIMBERLEY C	090/004.0-0000-0252.D	49.06
STEIGER, JOAN C & JEFFREY H	090/003.0-0000-0218.A	6.75
SHAPIRO, DAVID A	090/003.0-0000-0218.C	10.80
BURDSALL FAMILY RLTY TRUST	090/009.0-0000-0697.0	173.67
BURDSALL FAMILY RLTY TRUST	090/009.0-0000-0697.H	5.61
BERLE, LILA W	090/010.0-0000-0096.D	10.75
MEADOWVIEW REALTY TRUST	090/002.0-0000-0001.A	14.18

Table 5-4
Chapter 61A Parcels

Owner	Parcel	Acreage
PECK, GREGORY& LELAND	090/002.0-0000-0493.0	5.08
LADD, PAUL E	090/003.0-0000-0088.A	41.17
MCLAUGHLIN, CHRISTINE	090/003.0-0000-0600.0	20.00
VINING, THEODORE F	090/004.0-0000-0662.0	5.10
BURNS, CATHERINE & PAUL	090/005.0-0000-0948.A	4.33
TURNER, PAUL J & TURNER, WILLIAM H	090/008.0-0000-0934.0	90.00
PROCTOR, RHETT W	090/009.0-0000-0103.D	47.66
PROCTOR, RHETT W	090/009.0-0000-0103.E	221.09
GROSS, CHARLOTTE NRT	090/010.0-0000-0903.2	3.10
ROSENSWEIG, RICHARD J	090/010.0-0000-0907.A	9.10
PECK, LELAND & GREGORY	090/002.0-0000-0001.H	55.04
BEINECKE, FREDERICK W	090/002.0-0000-0277.A	10.80
BARRETT, WILLIAM F III, PETER BARRETT	090/002.0-0000-0874.1	2.03
BARRETT, WILLIAM F III, PETER BARRETT	090/002.0-0000-0874.2	5.62
KIFAR ZAYDEE CORP	090/002.0-0000-0874.5	8.04
KIFAR ZAYDEE CORP	090/002.0-0000-0874.6	7.55
KIFAR ZAYDEE CORP	090/002.0-0000-0874.7	7.37
KIFAR ZAYDEE CORP	090/002.0-0000-0874.8	25.70
BARRETT, WILLIAM F III, PETER BARRETT	090/002.0-0000-0874.A	5.61
SNYDER, MJ, ESTATE OF	090/003.0-0000-0074.0	57.90
BISCHOFF, URSULA E, ESTATE OF	090/004.0-0000-0035.A	54.95
HOLLMANN, FREDERICK W, TRUSTEE	090/004.0-0000-0049.0	48.50
GINSBERG, LOIS & MARCUS STEVEN, TRUSTEES	090/004.0-0000-0052.G	65.48
BERLE, LILA W	090/010.0-0000-0175.0	83.40
BARTHOLF, JOHN C. & ELEANOR ADAMS	090/010.0-0000-0823.A	21.50
BARRETT FAMILY NOMINEE REALTY	090/001.0-0000-0760.A	80.20
REYNOLDS, JULIA	090/002.0-0000-0001.0	64.00
TURNER, PAUL J & TURNER, WILLIAM H, TRS	090/003.0-0000-0950.0	50.00
PECK, DONNA	090/004.0-0000-0076.0	8.90
CURTISS, JONATHAN Q	090/005.0-0000-0948.0	22.82
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/009.0-0000-0370.B	24.09
BEATRICE HOLDINGS, LLC	090/009.0-0000-0370.C	21.03

Table 5-4
Chapter 61A Parcels

Owner	Parcel	Acreage
TANK ACRES LLC	090/007.0-0000-0942.0	25.03
BERLE, LILA W	090/010.0-0000-0129.0	18.20
TOTAL		2,360

Table 5-5
Chapter 61B Parcels

Owner	Parcel	Acreage
VAN ZON, ADRIAN	090/004.0-0000-0478.0	12.98
VAN ZON, ADRIAN	090/004.0-0000-0620.0	91.05
SLUTSKY, ADAM	090/010.0-0000-0313.A	27.48
KAYE, WILLIAM	090/010.0-0000-0393.0	59.60
CLIFF, WALTER C & URSULA	090/005.0-0000-0190.0	40.66
KAYE, WILLIAM	090/010.0-0000-0394.A	9.72
ALVA FARMHOUSE LLC	090/004.0-0000-0761.0	77.81
TOTAL		319

Lands under the Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B designation afford the Town the right of first refusal. Therefore, even though these parcels are not permanently protected at present, they are a bit closer to being protected than most privately held properties. This is sometimes considered temporary protection. Some of the Chapter 61A lands have been permanently protected through the APR program as described below.

5.1.2 Agricultural Preservation Restriction

Much of Egremont's farmland has been protected through the APR program, which acquires development rights from farmers and requires that the land continue to be actively farmed in perpetuity. Approximately 1,205 acres of agricultural lands have been protected under the APR program.

Much of the protected land is around, and includes Baldwin Hill. This includes Proctor Farm and Turner Farm.

TABLE 5-6

Town of Egremont
APR Lands

APR	Acreage
Baldwin Hill Farm APR	368.0
Chase George B APR	273.1
Curtiss SLT APR	12.1
Delmolino Edward A III APR	128.0
Tree Farm APR	24.6
Kellogg AFT APR	49.5
Proctor Farm APR	269.3
Wolfe	80.9
Total	1,205.5

5.1.3 Forest Legacy Program

Karner Brook Ridge includes 213 acre of land protected through the Forest Legacy Program (FLP), the conservation program administered by the U.S. Forest Service in partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts DCR Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry. This property provides protection of public water supplies, scenic views and critical wildlife habitat. Because it was designated a federal Forest Legacy area, it qualified for a federal grant, supplemented by a state grant, and the land was then transferred to the Town of Egremont. As part of the deal, the town agreed to place a permanent conservation restriction on three abutting town lots, making a total of 325 mountainside acres to be preserved in perpetuity.

5.2 Conservation Restrictions/Land Trusts

Privately-owned parcels with conservation restrictions are the result of voluntary conveyance of development rights to a public agency and non-profit conservation organizations empowered to hold such restrictions.

The Egremont Land Trust is active in protecting land in Egremont. Their mission is to preserve the rural character of Egremont, and undoubtedly the most important part of this mission is land conservation. They accomplish this through purchase of ecologically, aesthetically, or agriculturally significant land, particularly parcels under immediate threat of development. Egremont Land Trust also uses Conservation Restrictions to acquire development rights of key parcels. Working side by side with other organizations within Egremont and the region such as BNRC and TNC, Egremont Land Trust has acquired hundreds of acres in Egremont.

Conservation Restrictions protect over 700 acres. Many of these parcels are held by or are under the co-management of the Department of Fish and Game, Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the Egremont Land Trust (ELT).

Conservation Restrictions include land protected along Karner Brook, along the Appalachian Trail corridor and at Jug End. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) owns several parcels near Jug End, including a nearly 17-acre property abutting Jug End Fen and a 36-

acre parcel near the Jug End SR-WMA. TNC's charter prevents them from conveying a property to anyone other than another conservation organization, so in effect these properties are permanently protected.

5.3 Private Recreation Parcels

Egremont has two main private recreational ownership groups, the Catamount Ski Resort, a large four-season recreational facility that straddles the Egremont/Hillsdale, New York town line and Greenagers, the non-profit youth organization which primarily focuses on environmental education and community development.

Catamount Ski Resort

Catamount Ski Resort, the largest private recreational facility in Egremont, is a premier facility providing winter and summer recreation opportunities for the Berkshires and Catskills areas. The resort boasts eight chair lifts, and newly constructed zip-line and aerial adventure course, which provides active recreation for all age groups and skill levels. Recently revamped, the resort has a new lodge and expansive snow making capabilities. It provides Egremont and the region with recreational and economic opportunities.

Greenagers

Although primarily an environmental education and youth workforce training organization, Greenagers actively participates in trail management for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Residing on nearly 100 acres of conservation land centered around April Hill Farm Conservation and Education Center located in South Egremont, this organization often hosts workshops and classes on all things farming, conservation, and outdoor exploration.

5.4 Public Parcels

Federal

The presence of the Appalachian Trail within Egremont establishes a dynamic relationship between the town and the federally managed mountain range. The United States Department of the Interior owns approximately 337 acres of land conserved for the Appalachian Trail corridor. The National Park Service, United States Forest Service, and the nonprofit Appalachian Trail Conservancy manages the trail corridor and the trail is maintained with the assistance of non-profit organizations such as Greenagers and other local and regional trail clubs. Parcels are open to the public for passive recreation.

The Appalachian Trail cuts through the southeastern end of Egremont, descending from Jug End Mountain and continuing through Sheffield. Only hiking is allowed on the Appalachian Trail, which is used year round, but most extensively during the summer months.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Commonwealth's Department of Conservation and Recreation and Department of Fish and Game combined own approximately 1,715 acres. The Jug End Fen, Jug End State Reservation, and Mount Everett Reservation make up the majority of these parcels. These lands are held for conservation and passive recreational opportunities for hikers and nature enthusiasts.

Part of the State's goal in acquiring the Jug End SR-WMA was to provide opportunities for low-impact passive recreation on the site, including hiking, hunting, fishing, trapping, picnicking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and nature study. The management plan for the property includes recommendations for a main trail, plus loop side trails, with hiking and snowshoeing allowed on all trails, and cross-country skiing on "appropriate trails." Horseback riding and mountain biking are limited to the main loop trail from June 1 to September 30, to minimize damage during wet seasons.

Town

Egremont owns a limited number of park and conservation lands. French Park is a key recreational and open space resource. In addition, there are two cemeteries, a parcel adjacent to Jug End State Reservation and conservation land off Route 71. Other land with open space and recreational value include land owned by the Water Department for water supply protection. The Water Department land is land that has been identified to be protected as part of the Forest Legacy Grant, which protected 213 acres of land in Jug End.

TABLE 5-7
Municipal Conservation
and Recreation Lands

Town Ownership	Acres	Management Agency	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Type of Grant	Public Access	Zoning	Degree of Protection
French Park	145.2	Selectboard as Trustees of the Park	Active and passive recreation (see paragraph below for amenities)	Good	High (active and passive) Continued uses; accessible trails	Community Forest Stewardship	Y	General	Permanent
Jug End	213	Selectboard	No amenities	Undeveloped	High (passive) Hiking trails adjacent to Jug End State Reservation and WMA	Forest Legacy	Y	General	Permanent
Mt Washington Road	17	Selectboard	Open Space/ No amenities	Undeveloped	Low (passive) None water supply protection	N/A	N	General	Moderate (to be permanently protected as part of Forest Legacy Grant)
Mt Washington Road	95	Selectboard / Water Department	Water Supply/ No amenities	Undeveloped	Low (water supply protection) None water supply protection	N/A	N	General	Moderate (to be permanently protected as part of Forest Legacy Grant)
Conservation land off Route 71	7.1		Open Space/ No amenities	Undeveloped	Potential Passive – parking/trail	N/A	N	General	Permanent
Total 477.3									

Source: Annual Report of the Town Offices Fiscal Year 2021, MassGIS Open Space Data 2022.

French Park is the multi-use recreational area owned by the Town of Egremont. The park is 145 acres and was established in 1965 as a donation from Mabel French Champion. The Board of Selectmen are the designated Trustees of the Park. The park operations are financed through a trust set up when the park was donated. Its facilities include a community garden, dog park, an outdoor theater, baseball diamonds, playground equipment, volleyball, tennis courts, a pickle ball court, a basketball court, and picnic facilities in the summer; ice skating, cross-country skiing, sledding and snowshoeing in the winter; and nature study, hiking, and hunting year-round.

The park has handicapped parking and handicap accessible restrooms. There are picnic and play equipment that are handicap accessible; however, there is no accessible path to the play equipment. Also, there are no accessible trails.

5.5 Significant Parcels for Future Protection

As noted above, the parcel identified as the Egremont Wildlife Refuge area is not permanently protected. This is a prime open space area which is home to many important species of flora and fauna within the Town and is adjacent to the Green River. This parcel should be considered for permanent protection.

Lands currently held under the Chapter 61, 61A and 61B programs should also be considered for protection through APR, Conservation Restrictions or other avenues. There are considerable acreage within these programs that could help connect existing open space and protect farmland and conservation land. Land protection should be focused on properties that can connect existing conservation and recreational resources, provide wildlife corridor connections and support and protect the integrity of critical habitats.

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SECTION 6

Section 6 Community Vision

This Open Space and Recreation plan update was initiated as part of a joint community planning effort that also includes a Comprehensive Plan. Community surveys and public forums characterized this process and provided significant public input into the planning process. Input and outcomes of this broad community planning effort served as the basis for developing this update.

The development for this specific plan update involved a multi-step, interactive approach:

- Review of the previous Open Space and Recreation Plan
- Inventory and assessment of the actions taken since 2001 regarding open space and recreation facilities and improvements
- Assessment of the status of the previous action plan recommendations
- Analysis of the community surveys and public forums input
- Updating of the inventory of lands of conservation and recreation interest
- Consultation with various community organizations and town departments regarding open space and recreation issues
- Drafting of the update and review of the draft by the OSRP Advisory Committee
- Public hearing, review, and approval by the Conservation Commission
- Public hearing, review, and approval by the Selectboard

6.1 Public Input and Involvement

Public input was vital to the development of this plan. Input from the public was obtained through two community surveys and two community forums.

6.1.1 Community Questionnaires

Community Questionnaire #1

The first community questionnaire aimed to identify the main concerns and issues related to open space and recreation. This questionnaire received 268 responses. The results of the questionnaire include:

Question 1: Of the goals below, which do you think are the most important related to the Town's open space? (Pick up to three which have the highest priority for the next 5-10 years.) The response, in order of most votes were:

Table 6-1
Q1 Results

Goal	Responses
Preserve and restore natural resources	192
Protect undeveloped areas	159

Maintain and improve existing recreational opportunities	137
Expand and improve public access to open space and recreation areas	101
Create connections between existing public open space areas	47
Develop new recreation opportunities or program	46

Question 2: What kinds of improvements are necessary to improve/increase your access to existing Town open space facilities? Choose all that apply.

Table 6-2
Q2 Results

Improvement Type	Responses
More/better signage	128
More/better parking	105
More/better publicity	79
More/better bike lanes	79
More/better sidewalks	71
More/better bike racks	24
More/better hours	8

Question 3: Do you think the following groups have sufficient recreational opportunities?

Table 6-3
Q3 Results

Group	Yes	No
Preschoolers	146	49
Grade School Children	140	54
Teenagers	79	120
Adults	152	58
Senior Citizens	112	103
Families	137	57
Disabled	28	160

The survey noted that there are limited recreational opportunities for teenagers and disabled, and senior citizens could use more opportunities.

Question 4: What would you most like to see additional public dollars spent on for recreation?

Table 6-4
Q4 Top 5 Results

Recreational Opportunities	Responses
Trails – pedestrian/hiking	179
Canoe/kayak access	159
Outdoor swimming	134
Outdoor skating	103
Bike lanes	79

Question 5: What would you most like to see additional public dollars spent on for conservation areas? Please choose your top three priorities.

Table 6-5
Q5 Top 5 Results

Conservation Opportunities	Responses
River and stream protection	145
Wildlife protection areas	120
Community gardens	76
Wetlands boardwalk	63
Scenic vista protection	59

Community Questionnaire #2

Community Questionnaire 2 focused on gauging support for the proposed OSRP goals. This questionnaire received 100 responses. Responses indicated that there is public support for the goals as proposed, and as now included in this plan.

Questionnaire #2 also included a question regarding support of the Community Preservation Act.

Funding sources are important to be able to implement action items to meet the Open Space and Recreation Plan goals. The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a tool to help municipalities preserve open space and historic sites, create affordable housing, and develop outdoor recreational facilities. The CPA is funded through a surcharge of not more than 3% of real estate taxes, and the State distributes additional funds to CPA communities. Community preservation monies are raised locally through the imposition of a surcharge of not more than 3% of the tax levy against real property. Contrary to a common misconception, the CPA surcharge does not raise the tax rate; it assesses a surcharge on property tax bills after they have been calculated based on the community's current tax rate. Municipalities must adopt CPA by ballot referendum.

Example: A home is assessed at \$350,000. After subtracting the first \$100,000 in residential property value (this is an optional and very popular CPA exemption), the homeowner's net value to be surcharged equals \$250,000. After applying Egremont's current tax rate of \$7.93 per \$1,000, the amount subject to the CPA surcharge would be about \$2,000. With a 1.5% CPA surcharge applied, the CPA surcharge for this homeowner would be approximately \$30 per year.

Of respondents: 61% would support the CPA, 23% required more information and 15% would not support the CPA. It should be noted that Egremont voters previously voted against the CPA. While the survey results indicate support for the CPA, and funding from the CPA could be used to address the goals of this OSRP, more education and outreach on the CPA program would be needed if it were to be brought to Town Meeting for a vote.

6.1.2 Public Forums

The first public forum was held on January 14, 2023, with approximately 108 attendees. Input of areas of importance related to Open Space and Recreation included:

- Preserving Egremont's rural character
- Protecting Egremont's environmental resources
- Balancing land acquisition for protection with keeping land available for appropriate development
- Educating the public on farming practices and that farmland is private property
- Enhancing water access and recreational opportunities
- Providing safer biking and walking facilities
- Developing a community center where the people of Egremont can hold public events

The second public forum was held on March 11, 2023. This forum, which was attended by approximately 80 people, built on the results of the community survey and Community Forum #1. Approximately 80 people attended. The participants circulated among three of five tables to discuss:

- Housing
- Economic development
- Recreation
- Land preservation, protection and stewardship
- Historic preservation and future development

Attendees reviewed draft goals for each of the five topics, and provided input on the goals and actions. Generally, the improvements that residents would like to see between 2023-2033 include:

- Create bike lanes and maintained sidewalks along main roads into town centers

- Protect environmental resources including through education of residents regarding land stewardship
- Support agriculture to keep farms viable
- Incentivize and promote climate friendly development

6.2 Open Space and Recreation Goals and Objectives

The primary purpose of this plan is to continue the effort to achieve the objectives of preserving, protecting and expanding the existing natural, agricultural, and cultural resources, and maintaining available recreational opportunities that make Egremont such a beautiful community in which to live and play.

The Community Vision developed through the joint Comprehensive and Open Space and Recreation planning process, looks forward ten years:

In 2033, Egremont is a small rural New England town with citizens who value several core principles:

- Socioeconomic Diversity
- Historic and Cultural Resource Preservation
- Economic Vibrancy
- Open Spaces and Recreation
- Environmental Integrity

Guided by these principles, the town has created a balance of vibrant commercial enterprises, residential neighborhoods of varying density and character, farms, open spaces, vistas, recreational opportunities, and environmentally protected habitats.

Specifically, the Town has achieved the following outcomes:

Housing. New housing options have improved affordability and economic diversity in the community while preserving open space, historic buildings, and town character.

Zoning and Permitting. New tools allow for a broader range of economic activities while still maintaining the Town's rural quality.

Village Character and Open Spaces. The two mixed-use villages and surrounding rural areas have been preserved, including protecting open lands, views and historic buildings as well as the town's environmental and cultural resources.

Farming. The farming community is supported and sustainable farming practices are encouraged.

Environment. Residential development has been done in harmony with environmental integrity. Recognizing the present and future effects of climate

change, the Town has worked to mitigate those effects through preservation of environmental assets and the promotion of sustainable practices throughout the community.

Recreation and Community. Recreational opportunities and community participation have been enhanced through public access to waterways, mountains, and woodlands; promotion of safe pedestrian and cycling use along its roadways and within its two mixed-use villages; and a community space where citizens can interact and hold events.”

In support of this vision, and through the input from the public process, the following six overarching OSRP goals were developed:

- Preserve and improve the ecological integrity of sensitive natural environments and natural resources
- Protect and preserve the Egremont’s scenic and historic character (Egremont’s scenic rural roads, historic structures)
- Target open space acquisition for connectivity, resiliency and ecological value.
- Preserve and support local farms
- Provide recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities
- Provide for safe bicycle and pedestrian transportation options

These goals address the community needs for protecting and enhancing ecological, scenic and historic resources; protecting and supporting farms; providing recreational opportunities for all today and in the future; and providing safe, non-vehicular, connections throughout Town.

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SECTION 7

Section 7

Analysis of Needs

Egremont's community character is linked to its natural environment, agricultural resources and protected open space. Egremont has significant areas of protected lands including the Jug End Reservation, the Appalachian Trail corridor, and farmland protected through the APR program. Opportunities for water access and safe and accessible bike and walking paths are needs to support Egremont's residents.

7.1 Summary of Resource Protection Needs

Through the OSRP planning process, the following resource protection needs were identified:

- The residents of Egremont have expressed a desire to maintain Egremont's rural nature and protect open space resources. However, some people feel as though enough land has been protected in town and that additional land protection is not needed and would prefer to keep the lands available for the tax rolls and for potential development. Egremont has successfully protected hundreds of acres of open space, including farmland. Most recently, Egremont Land Trust, Sheffield Land Trust and Greenagers worked together to protect 54 acres known as Bow Wow Woods. In future years, the focus on land preservation and acquisition should be on opportunities for connections among open space properties to provide for wildlife corridors as well as for off road trail connections.
- Hundreds of acres of farmland have been protected through the APR program. Farms are an important component of Egremont's community character and are highly valued. Unprotected farmlands should be considered for protection through the APR program.
- Protection and stewardship of environmental resources was identified as an important issue. Opportunities for stewardship include controlling invasive species on municipal properties, installing pollinator gardens and rain gardens, and encouraging use of alternatives to chemicals in gardening and farming practices. There is also a need to educate the public to understand how their actions can impact the environment and provide feasible ways residents can be better stewards of the land.
- Resiliency continues to be a concern as climate change has the potential to impact Egremont through potential for droughts, flooding, wildfires and heat impacts. Resiliency should be considered in land protection.
- The municipal water supply is from Karner Brook Reservoir, which is an impoundment created by the Karner Brook Dam. The dam has been found to be in Unsafe condition as defined by the Office of Dam Safety rating guidelines due primarily to severe cracking and displacement of the concrete and potential undermining caused by the downcutting of Karner Brook downstream. Rehabilitation of the dam is needed.

7.2 Summary of Community/Recreation Needs

One important goal was the need for safer pedestrian and bicycle transportation options. This includes sidewalks in key areas such as in the north and south Egremont and bike lanes that can connect the villages to key areas of town including French Park, and some of the key trails and to the regional bike network in the area.

- Through the first questionnaire it was identified that teenagers and those with disabilities had limited recreational opportunities in Town. This highlights a need for recreational programming targeted at teenagers and planning for accessible trail systems to provide opportunities for disabled and aging population. Adding accessible trails will also help residents to be able to continue to enjoy not only the recreational but the open space resources within the town.
- Provide for safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities along key roadways. There is a desire for sidewalks and bike lanes or bike paths to provide better and safer recreational and non-vehicular transportation options. However, there is also a desire to keep the rural character of Egremont and limit roadway widths. Key roadways should be identified for the addition of sidewalks and bike lanes, primarily within the village centers. Signage and roadway markings encouraging drivers to share the road are more appropriate for the more rural roadways.
 - MassDOT is proceeding with a project to reconstruct 0.7 miles of Route 23/41 from Creamery Road to North Undermountain Road to create a "complete streets" design in South Egremont. The design concept is to reconstruct the roadway to a consistent 32 ft width to allow for a bicycle accommodation and to provide one continuous sidewalk, with improved crossing opportunities to better accommodate pedestrian movements.
- Gaining public access to water resources, including Prospect Lake and the Green River, is a major need of the community. A recent agreement between the Town and the new owner of the campground at Prospect Lake allows for 10 public parking spaces and access to the Prospect Lake. For Green River, there is public access off of Route 23, Boice Road, Rowe Road, Pumpkin Hollow Road and West Plain Road, as well as land off of Route 71 that provides access to the River, but this access could be better formalized through signage, upgrade driveway and designated parking.
- Provide a community meeting place. There is no place within Egremont where larger groups can come together for meetings or gatherings. Creating an indoor space that can be used for public meetings, indoor recreational programming, and other gatherings was identified as a need.

7.3 Management Needs, Potential Change of Use

Farming has been an integral part of Egremont's history and local farms are an important part of Egremont's character and landscape. Farms in Egremont also support regional resiliency by providing a local source of food. Egremont is a right-to-farm community, where the community recognizes that farming is an essential and valued activity, which provides fresh food, clean-air, economic diversity, local employment, and open spaces to all the citizens of Egremont. Egremont encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agriculture-based economic opportunities, and protects farmlands within the community by allowing agricultural uses and related activities to function in harmony with the community, town agencies and others. However, there are some residents who have expressed concerns about farming practices. Also, as many farms are protected through

the APR program, many assume that the lands are also open to the public for access, which is incorrect. This is an area of conflict between farmers and residents. Better education of residents related to the importance of farming, the best management practices used by farmers as well as better education and signage that farmland, while protected, is not automatically publicly accessible.

7.4 Consistency with State Plans

The Commonwealth's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Division of Conservation Services spearheads the state's consideration of open space and outdoor recreation needs, policies, and programs. A major planning tool is the Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). The most recent SCORP is entitled *Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2017*.

The 2017 SCORP report identifies the recreational resources and the needs in the state and identifies the gaps in order to better focus recreational funding. Surveys included a web-based survey, a phone survey and a survey targeted to select middle and high school students. The goals and objectives of the SCORP are:

- Access for underserved populations.
- Support the Statewide trails initiative (including filling the gaps of existing trail networks and ensuring that trails are fully accessible to people with disabilities).
- Increase the availability of water-based recreation.
- Support the creation and renovation of neighborhood parks.

The specific needs identified in Egremont are consistent with the state needs outlined in the SCORP, especially with regard to connecting existing trails, the need for accessible trails, and increasing the availability of water-based recreation.

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SECTION 8

Section 8 Goals and Objectives

While many of the goals contained in the 2001 Open Space Plan are still important and continually need to be addressed, the public process and input received during this planning process has resulted in a reassessment of how those goals relate to this updated Open Space and Recreation Plan. Safe and accessible connections such as walkways/sidewalks and bike lanes/paths are a high priority to provide recreational resources and connections from residential areas to villages and local and regional amenities.

Section 6 stressed the importance of continuing to support Town farms, to protect and enhance Egremont's natural, scenic and cultural resources, and to provide recreational resources for all including access to key water resources. Many people noted the amount of permanently protected open space. Future protection of open space lands should be focused on providing connections for wildlife corridors and off-road access. Maintenance and stewardship of existing facilities and resources should also be considered.

The overall goal and the ensuing goals and objectives outlined in this section resulted from comments made throughout the public participation process (including community questionnaire responses and community forums), and a review of the 2001 Open Space Plan.

2023-2030 OSRP Goals

1. Preserve and improve the ecological integrity of sensitive natural environments and natural resources
2. Protect and preserve the Egremont's scenic and historic character (Egremont's scenic rural roads, historic structures)
3. Target open space acquisition for connectivity, resiliency and ecological value.
4. Preserve and support local farms
5. Provide recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities
6. Provide for safe bicycle and pedestrian transportation options

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Preserve and improve the ecological integrity of sensitive natural environments and natural resources.

1. Protect natural resource areas (such as aquifers, floodplains, ponds, streams, vernal pools, and wetlands) through appropriate and enhanced land use controls.
2. Communicate the need and techniques for improving the natural environment.

Goal 2: Protect and preserve Egremont's scenic and historic character (Egremont's scenic rural roads, historic structures).

1. Maintain and improve scenic roads, including gravel roads.

2. Promote rehabilitation of historic structures.

Goal 3: Target open space acquisition for connectivity, resiliency and ecological value.

1. Target land for acquisition based on ecological connectivity, including wildlife corridors and opportunities to connect with existing conservation lands.
2. Incorporate resiliency and ecological integrity in land use decisions.
3. Improve access to the water resources including Prospect Lake and the Green River.

Goal 4: Preserve and support local farms.

1. Encourage use of the APR Program and other available funding programs to protect the limited remaining farmland
2. Work with farmers to remove impediments to farming and identify opportunities to support farmers.
3. Encourage environmentally sensitive farming practices.

Goal 5: Provide recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities.

1. Improve and maintain the Town's existing passive and active recreational resources - Enhance access and usability of passive recreation areas through parking improvements, signage, and trail development.
2. Promote public-sponsored recreational opportunities.
3. Improve accessibility when upgrading facilities.

Goal 6: Provide for safe bicycle and pedestrian transportation options

1. Expand community-wide and regional non-motorized connectivity.
2. Provide links to natural and cultural attractions around Town.

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SECTION 9

Section 9

Seven Year Action Plan

9.1 Accomplishments (2001-2023)

The 2023-2030 Action Plan was based to a large degree on the successful completion of the 2001 OSRP's Action Plan. Many successes were achieved including:

- Recent protection of Bow Wow Woods
- Egremont Land Trust has successfully protected key properties
- Karner Brook Park developed by Egremont Land Trust
- Agricultural Preservation Restrictions used to protect hundreds of acres of farmland
- Forestry Legacy Program used to protect hundreds of acres of forests
- Jug End fen restoration
- Implemented zoning provisions for common driveways
- Catamount Ski Area has diversified to year-round activities
- Trailhead parking provided at Jug End
- Green River access improved with ELT acquisition of property off Route 71
- Community Forest Stewardship grant from DCR funded the first year's implementation of the French Park Forest Management Plan, including stewardship practices such as: invasive species treatment and removal, a complete survey and delineation of Park boundaries, creation of educational or interpretive signage, trailblazing, and infested/weakened tree removal.

While not complete, this list of accomplishments highlights the major accomplishments that have been affected as a result of the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan. What follows is the 2023-2030 Action Plan, which provides guidance and direction for the maintaining, preserving and improving open space and recreation facilities and properties that support Egremont's character. The 2023-2030 Action Plan lists numerous proposed actions, some of which would be undertaken by the Town while others would be supported by the Town, but undertaken by partners.

9.2 Seven-Year Action Plan (2023-2030)

In accordance with the guidance from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, this plan lays out an action plan for the next seven years. Implementation of this plan, like all community-driven plans, will need to be a joint effort among many parties. Refer Appendix A, Map 10 for the Egremont Action Plan figure.

Goal 1: Preserve and improve the ecological integrity of sensitive natural environments and natural resources.

1. Protect natural resource areas (such as aquifers, floodplains, ponds, streams, vernal pools, and wetlands) through appropriate and enhanced land use controls.
2. Communicate the need and techniques for improving the natural environment.

Metrics:

- Fewer invasive species on public lands
- More environmentally sensitive landscaping on residential properties

Goal 1 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Mitigate erosion in known problem areas such as on Prospect Lake Road and improve drainage on gravel roads	Local/ Chapter 90 funds/		X		Long-Term	Highway Department	
Educate residents on environmentally sensitive gardening and farming practices, including proper use of herbicides and pesticides.	Local			X	Long-Term	Greenagers	Agricultural Committee, Local School District
Develop an invasive species management program on public lands.	Local/ MassWildlife Habitat Management Grant Program/ Vol	X			Long-Term	Conservation	Grants Administrator, ELT, Greenagers

Goal 1 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Assess, prioritize and implement recommendations from the MVP workshops (2022).	MVP Planning & Action Grants		X		Long-Term	Planning	Grants Administrator, Conservation, Highway Department, Health, Green Committee
Use demonstration pollinator garden at French Park as demonstration project for residents. Provide information to residents on pollinator gardens.	Local/ Plant Something Bee- eautiful program	X			Medium	Greenagers	Highway Department
Improve stormwater education and expand community outreach about environmental issues	Local	X			Medium	Greenagers	Planning, Conservation
Educate the public on invasives controls.	Local		X		Medium	Conservation	Greenagers
Assess deicing options to protect water quality	Local		X		Medium	Highway Department	
Encourage NetZero construction.	Local	X			Medium	Planning, Building	
Promote use of native drought resistant plant species in new developments and	Local	X			High	Planning, Green Committee	

Goal 1 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Town landscaping projects.							

Goal 2: Protect and preserve Egremont’s scenic and historic character (Egremont’s scenic rural roads, historic structures).

1. Maintain and improve scenic roads, including gravel roads.
2. Promote rehabilitation of historic structures.

Metrics:

- Number of scenic gravel roads
- Number of historic structures rehabilitated

Goal 2 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Create a bylaw to protect and preserve Egremont’s historic inventory (demolition delay)	Local	X			High	Historic Commission	Planning, Selectboard
Create a scenic roads bylaw to enhance protection of scenic roadways.	Local		X			Planning	Highway Department, Selectboard
Implement Road Stream Crossing Management Plan to repair or replace stream crossings at bridges and culverts to address flooding and aquatic connectivity.	Local/ MassDOT Small Bridge Program; DER Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant		X		High	Highway Department	Planning & Conservation Dept.

Goal 2 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Educate owners of historic buildings on potential funding sources for rehabilitation.	Local / MHC		X		High	Historic Commission	Selectboard
Update the inventory of historic sites and structures.	Local/ MHC Survey and Planning Grants		X		Long-Term	Historic Commission	

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SECTION 10

Goal 3: Target open space acquisition for connectivity, resiliency and ecological value.

1. Target land for acquisition based on ecological connectivity, including wildlife corridors and opportunities to connect with existing conservation lands.
2. Incorporate resiliency and ecological integrity in land use decisions.
3. Improve access to the water resources including Prospect Lake and the Green River.

Metrics:

- New acres of protected land that provide connectivity.
- Access to water resources

Goal 3 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Develop a local dedicated funding source for acquisition and maintenance of open space and recreation facilities such as the Community Preservation Act.	Local		X		Long-Term	Selectboard	Conservation, Planning, ELT
Provide access to Smiley's Pond (Mill Pond) for passive recreation.	Local/ State		X		Long-term	MA DFG	Audubon Society
Work with property owner to obtain public access to Prospect Lake	Local	X			High	Selectboard	

Goal 3 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Identify important linkages between existing open space for potential acquisition or other control.	Local/ The Conservation Partnership Grant Program / Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant			X	Long-Term	ELT	Conservation, Selectboard
Identify, facilitate and support access to the Green River.	Local/ New England Forests and Rivers Fund	X			Medium	ELT, MA DFG	
Establish a Greenway Corridor along the Green River.	Local/ The Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund			X	Long-Term	ELT	
Incorporate Open Space Residential / Cluster Development option for subdivisions.	Local/ Rural Community Development Initiative Grants		X		Long-Term	Planning	
Educate community of conservation restriction options for private landowners	Local/ Conservation Partnership Program	X			Long-Term	ELT	

Goal 3 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Evaluate Chapter lands for recreational and conservation value before releasing the Town's rights to acquire.	Local			X	Long-Term	Conservation, Selectboard, ELT	

Goal 4: Preserve and support local farms.

1. Encourage use of the APR Program and other available funding programs to protect the limited remaining farmland
2. Work with farmers to remove impediments to farming and identify opportunities to support farmers.
3. Educate the public on farming practices and the Right-to-Farm community to minimize friction between farmers and neighbors.

Metrics:

- New acres of active farmland
- Number of local opportunities for farmers to sell their goods

Goal 4 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Support farmers through public education on "right-to-farm". Educate the public about the value of farming and the day-to-day operations.	Local	X			High	Agricultural Committee, Selectboard	
Educate the public that farmland is private and not necessarily publicly accessible. Add signage to key areas and information on Town website.	Local	X			Long-Term	Agricultural Committee, Selectboard	
Work with Community Land Trust Concept/ APR Program to establish land tracts for working farms.	Local/ MDAR Grant	X			Long-Term	Agricultural Committee	Egremont Land Trust

Promote markets for local farm products.	Local/ Buy Local Grant Program		X		Long-Term	Agricultural Committee	
Support efforts to create and promote "agri-tourism"	Local / Farm Viability Enhancement Program (FVEP) /APR Improvement Program (AIP)	X			Long-Term	Selectboard	
Encourage participation in the Berkshire Grown program to promote locally-grown products.	Local	X			Long-Term	ELT, Berkshire Grown	
Encourage farmer's notice to abutters prior to certain activities, such as use of fertilizers or pesticides.	Local / Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program (AEEP)	X			Long-Term	Agricultural Committee	
Educate residents of the meaning and purpose of APR and Chapter 61, 61A and 61B programs.	Local	X			Long-Term	Agricultural Committee	

Goal 5: Recreational facilities and programs that address the needs of all Egremont residents are provided.

1. Improve and maintain the Town's existing passive and active recreational resources - Enhance access and usability of passive recreation areas through parking improvements, signage, and trail development.
2. Promote public-sponsored recreational opportunities.
3. Improve accessibility when upgrading facilities.

Metrics:

- Addition of recreational amenities and opportunities
- Addition of accessible paths and facilities

Goal 5 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Provide accessible trails and places.	Local/ MassTrails Grants	X			High	Selectboard	ELT, Greenagers
Conduct a Master Plan of French Park to identify upgrades or new facilities to meet the Town's needs.	Local		X		Long-Term	Selectboard as Trustees of French Park	Selectboard
Improve access via trails on already conserved/preserved lands	MassTrails Grants / Vol	X			High	ELT	
Identify a location and plan for a community center/performance/meeting center.	Local/ Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program			X	Long-Term	Selectboard	

Goal 5 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Monitor progress of OSRP Action Plan with annual meeting.	Local	X			High	Selectboard	Conservation

Goal 6: Provide for safe bicycle and pedestrian transportation options

1. Expand community-wide and regional non-motorized connectivity.
2. Provide links to natural and cultural attractions around Town.

Metrics:

- Number of miles of sidewalks/walking paths
- Number of miles of marked bike lanes and facilities

Goal 6 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Coordinate and collaboration between trail organizations to create an interconnected system	Local/ MassTrails Grants		X		Long-Term	Conservation	Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), ELT, MassDCR/DFW, Greenagers
Create bike lanes and sidewalks along main roads into town centers	Local/ Complete Streets		X		High	Highway Department	MassDOT
Enhance safety regulations and enforcement. More consistent policing of roadways and speed limits.	Local	X			High	Police	

Goal 6 Proposed Actions	Fund Source	Plan Years			Priority Rank	Lead Responsibility	Additional Responsible Parties
		1-3	3-5	5-7			
Provide marked bicycle lanes/shared lanes (sharrows).	Local/ Complete Streets/ Shared Streets and Spaces Grant	X			Long-Term	Selectboard	Highway Department, MassDOT, Grants Administrator
Post "Share the Road" signs in frequently used areas to notify visiting drivers of pedestrians, hikers, and cyclists. Co-site w/ existing signs	Local/ Complete Streets		X		High	Highway Department	MassDOT
Develop and implement Sidewalk Master Plan to identify which roads should have sidewalks/walking paths (Village Centers, French Park to Prospect Lake).	Local/ Complete Streets/Shared Streets and Spaces Grant			X	High	Planning	Highway Department, Selectboard
Be "A Trail Friendly" Town - A.T. Community	Local			X	Long-Term		https://appalachiantrail.org/explore/communities/
Incorporate "Complete Streets" concepts as streets are improved.	Local/ MassWorks Infrastructure Program/ Complete Streets Funding Program	X			Long-Term	Highway Department	Planning, Selectboard

Section 10 Public Comments



TOWN OF EGREMONT

171 Egremont Plain Road

P.O. Box 368

Egremont, MA 01258-0368

Phone 413-528-0182 ext 10 fax 413-528-5465

email: tegremont@egremont-ma.gov

September 8, 2023

TO: Tracey Adamski
Tighe & Bond

RE: Egremont's draft Open Space & Recreation Plan

The Egremont Selectboard reviewed the draft Open Space & Recreation Plan at its meeting on September 5, 2023.

The plan, developed in tandem with the update of the Town's Comprehensive Plan, is inclusive, comprehensive and clear. The Board particularly likes the Seven Year Action Plan showing a time frame for action and responsible parties.

Sincerely,
For the Egremont Selectboard


George McGurn,
Chairman

EGREMONT CONSERVATION COMMISSION

OSRP Review Letter

The Egremont Conservation Commission reviewed the Open Space and Rereation Plan Draft and provides this letter of review as required by the OSRP Planning Guidelines.

The Commission finds that the new OSRP draft does a compelling job of identifying the resources as well as the challenges for the Town of Egremont for the period 20223-2030. In identifying those resources and challenges, the OSRP provides a comprehensive base upon which the Town can consider, plan, and implement decisions affecting the well-being of Egremont for its citizens over the next decade, and can serve as an essential tool in the Town's Comprehensive Plan implemtation. Culminating in a matrix of more than forty Action Items, the OSRP effectively addresses agricultural, recreational, and environmental priorities for the Town.

While the OSRP is impressive in the scope of its vision and the breadth of its recommended actions, the Conservation Commission expresses its concern over the matter of monitoring the action plan and ensuring that the various goals and objectives are being met, as well as questions as to how to respond and address matters where they are not being met. Although the State's Guidelines indicate that overall responsibility for the OSRP rests with the Conservation Commission, the Commission lacks the resources and the authority to fulfill Goal 5's Proposed Action namely to "Monitor progress of OSRP Action Plan with Annual Meeting." The Conservation Commission clearly cannot "monitor the progress" of more than forty action items with a host of agencies responsible for their implementation, nor do we have the authority to call and conduct an annual meeting in the Town to review progress. The Open Space and Recreation Plan Guidelines from the State say that "Each year, the community...should evaluate implementation activities of the previous year and revise the Action Plan accordingly. This will make the formal five-year update an easier task."

We suggest that the appropriate mechanism for monitoring progress, addressing any lack of progress, and preparing updates to the Plan lies with the Select Board, and we suggest that the Select Board consider establishing a small Oversight Committee whose sole functions would be to implement that annual review and to prepare for the formal five-year update. (Note that the OSRP Advisory Committee has completed its work and is not constituted in such a manner as to be able to fulfill this function.) The Town should seek grant funding to pay the costs of implementation, which would include setting up benchmarks and regular reporting from each of the named responsible Lead groups. Ideally, a monitoring report would be provided each year at the annual Town Meeting. Doing so would keep the OSRP in the consciousness of the citizens and help to ensure that actual progress is being made. We are not aware of what measures are being taken in the other Massachusetts municipalities to monitor and oversee their Open Space and Recreation plans, but it would be useful to the Town of Egremont to investigate possible models for this purpose.



September 15, 2023

Melissa Cryan, Grant Programs Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) has reviewed the Draft *Town of Egremont Open Space and Recreation Plan 2023-2030* (OSRP). There are several aspects of the plan that are consistent with the *Sustainable Plan for the Berkshires (original-2014, latest update 2019)*, the region-wide plan for Berkshire County and also the Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP, 2017).

- The Sustainable Plan for the Berkshires identified encouraging municipalities to reflect conservation frameworks in new or updated plans. The town should be commended for updating both the Master or Comprehensive Plan and Open Space Plan.
- The OSRP identifies priority conservation areas (such as the Green River Corridor) that would expand or provide linkages with existing protected open space areas in the region. The Karner Brook ACEC (designated in 1992) in Egremont is a high priority area for continued conservation. Protecting large contiguous areas are key to maintaining wildlife habitat and corridors for species migrations, all the more important as the impacts of climate change continue to evolve.
- The OSRP highlights the need to engage and educate private landowners about land stewardship and state incentive programs, stormwater issues, proper pesticide and herbicide use, and invasive species. During the outreach program, many property owners indicated a willingness to learn more about how they could manage their lands for wildlife or meet other conservation goals.
- The OSRP identifies the need to increase the Town's recreational opportunities open to residents with mobility limitations, Teens, and Older Adults. The Town should identify specific programming that targets each of these populations. Egremont has an aging population, and it will be important to be able to offer outdoor recreational facilities that seniors can access.
- The OSRP utilizes updated natural resource data from the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, including BioMap3.
- The OSRP notes interest in updating Town bylaws such as a demolition delay bylaw, adoption of scenic byways, Community Preservation Act, and a Clustered subdivisions ordinance

The BRPC commends the Town of Egremont for its planning efforts and encourages the Town to continue to pursue opportunities to protect the region's natural resources, expand outdoor recreational opportunities and sustain a high quality of life.

Sincerely,

Seth Jenkins
Senior Community Planner

Jared Kelly, Chair
Egremont Planning Board
Egremont, MA 01258
planningbrd@egremont-ma.gov
413.528.0182

Attn: David Seligman, OSRP Committee and Conservation Commission Chair

October 3, 2023

Subject: Support for Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2023-2030

Dear David,

Thank you for providing the Planning Board with a draft of the OSRP for 2023-2030.

Having reviewed the plan, the Egremont Planning Board voted unanimously in support of the OSRP. We found it to be consistent with the planning objectives of the town.

We thank you for all of the work and dedication that went into its creation.

Best regards,

Jared Kelly

Chair, Egremont Planning Board



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Maura T. Healey
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Rebecca L. Tepper
SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000
Fax: (617) 626-1081
<http://www.mass.gov/eea>

November 16, 2023

Tracy Adamski
Tighe & Bond
53 Southampton Road
Westfield, MA 01085

Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Adamski:

Thank you for submitting the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan for Egremont to this office for review and compliance with the current Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. This plan has been conditionally approved through November 2030. Conditional approval will allow the town to participate in DCS grant rounds through November 2030, and a grant award may be offered to the town. However, no final grant payments will be made until the plan is completed.

Once the following items are addressed, your plan will receive final approval:

1. Introduction – the Planning Process and Public Participation section should describe how the survey was made available in non-electronic formats for people without access to computers or for those that aren't comfortable using them.
2. Population Characteristics – information on the town's industries and employment trends must be added.
3. Water Resources – information on the town's watershed(s) should be included.
4. Vegetation – a section on public shade trees must be added.
5. Fisheries and Wildlife – a section on wildlife corridors must be added.
6. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments – any unusual geologic features and cultural and historic areas in the town must be added.
7. Environmental Challenges – issues with hazardous waste sites, landfills, erosion, chronic flooding, sedimentation, and environmental equity must be added. Environmental equity refers to looking at the distribution of open space and recreation resources in the town and identifying any gaps in access to them.
8. Section 5 – a table of town-owned conservation and recreation properties must be added with columns on management agency, current use, condition, recreation potential, type of grant (if

- any) used to purchase and/or renovate the property, public access, zoning, and degree of protection. Any Chapter 61 land and Conservation Restrictions must be listed in Section 5.
9. Action Plan – the funding source column should list specific grants that could fund the goal/objective, don't state only "grant".
 10. Letters of Review – a letter from the Chief Municipal Officer must be included.
 11. Maps – the Water Resources map should label surface water bodies and include watersheds and the Inventory map should include Conservation Restrictions and denote ownership.
 12. ADA – this section is missing required elements. Were the facility inventory forms from the Workbook used? If not, they must be. More information on the ADA section can be found in the [Open Space and Recreation Planner's Workbook](#) Appendix G.

Congratulations on undertaking such an important task! Please contact me at melissa.cryan@mass.gov if you have any questions or concerns, and I look forward to reviewing your final plan.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cryan

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor

APPENDIX A

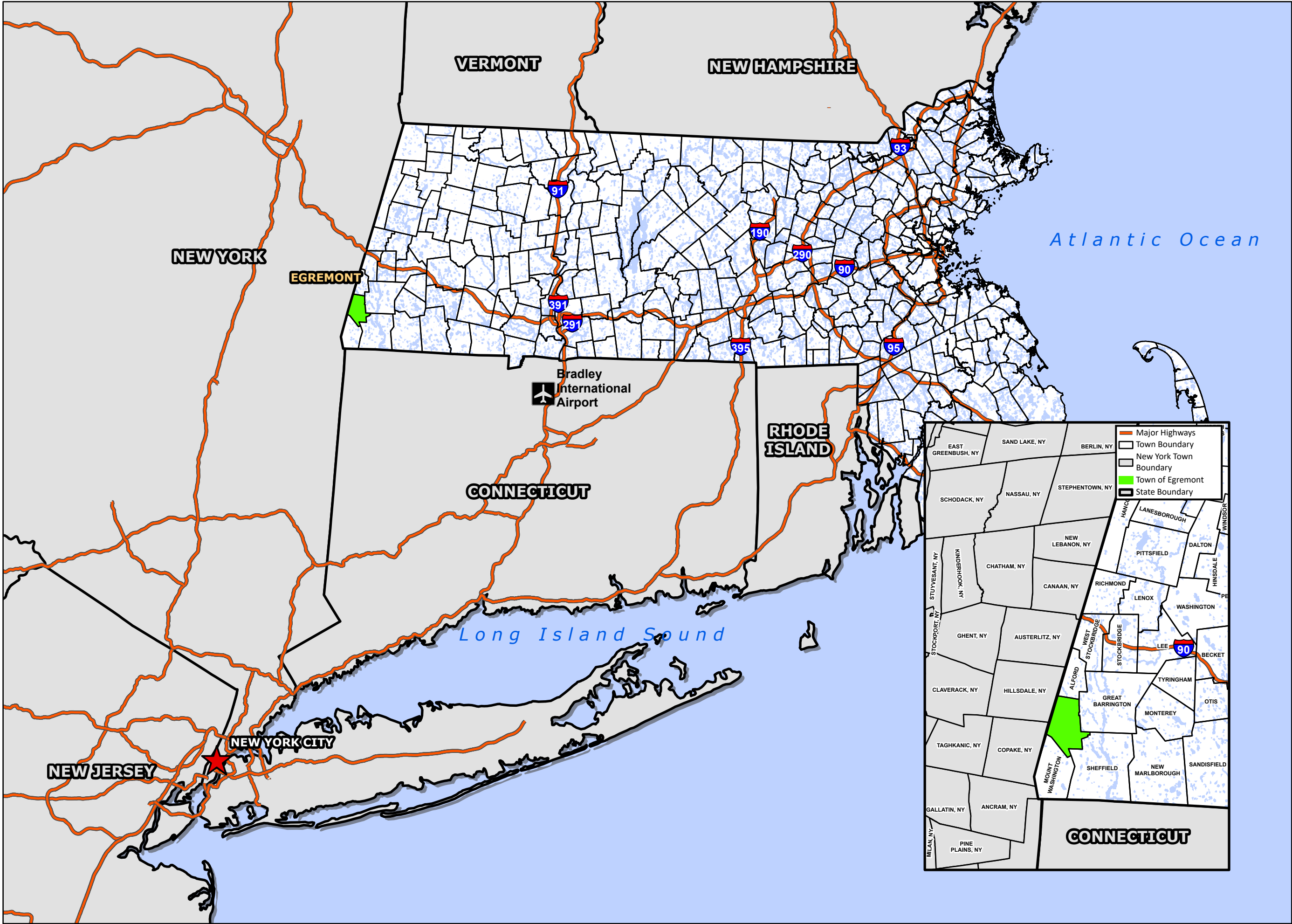


FIGURE 1
REGIONAL CONTEXT

LEGEND

- ★ New York City
- Major Highways
- Town Boundary
- Town of Egremont
- Waterbodies
- State Boundary

LOCUS MAP

0 50,000 100,000
Feet

1:1,200,000

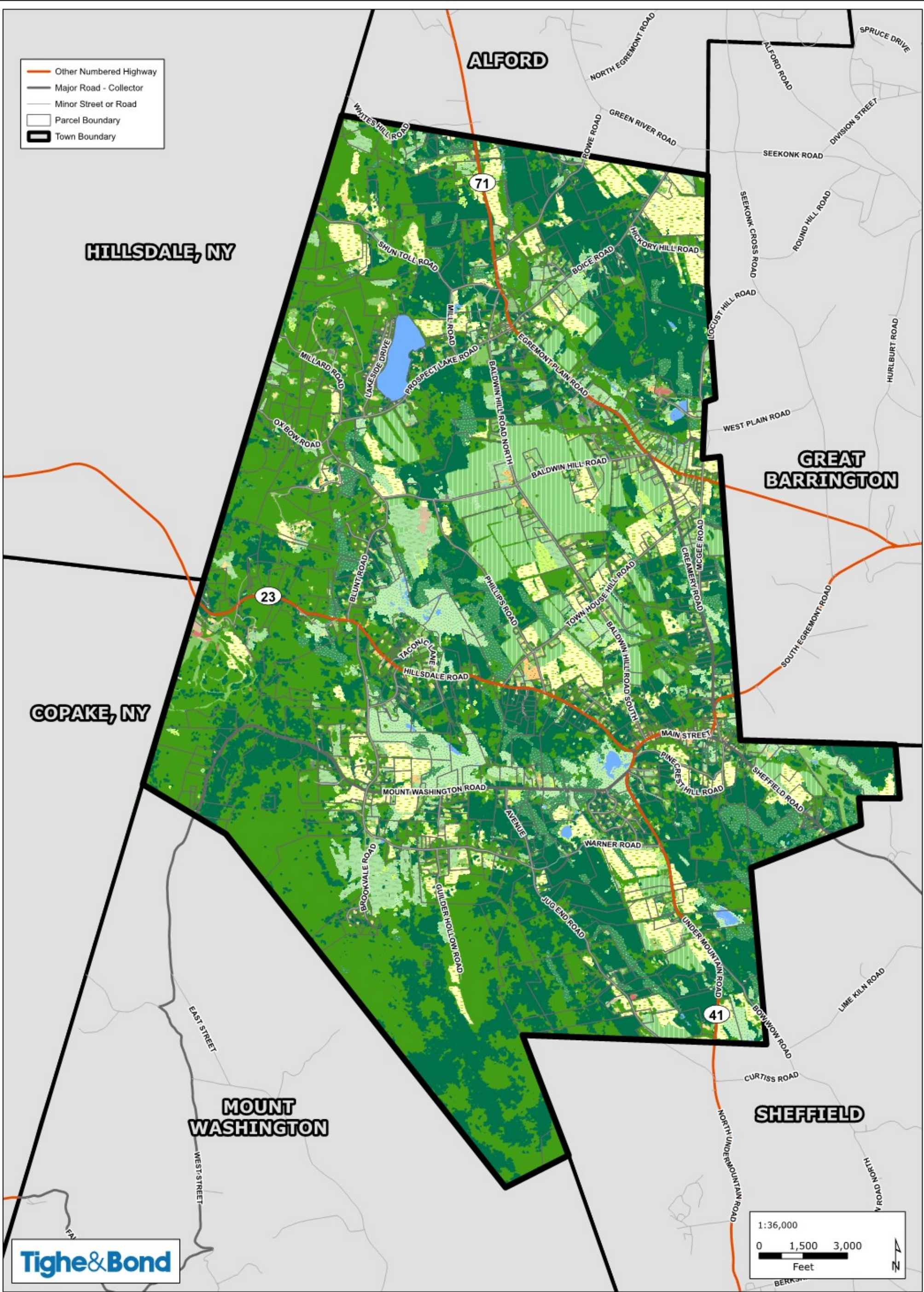
NOTES

1. Data provided by MassGIS.

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

April 2022

Tighe&Bond



Tighe&Bond

LEGEND

Residential	Right-of-way	Evergreen Forest	Non-forested Wetland
Commercial	Cultivated	Grassland	Water
Industrial	Pasture/Hay	Scrub/Shrub	
Mixed Use	Developed Open Space	Bare Land	
Other Impervious	Deciduous Forest	Forested Wetland	

**FIGURE 2
LAND USE**

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

April 2022

1. Data provided by MassGIS.
2. Parcels (FY 2021) downloaded from
MassGIS and are approximate.

FIGURE 3

Egremont Zoning Map

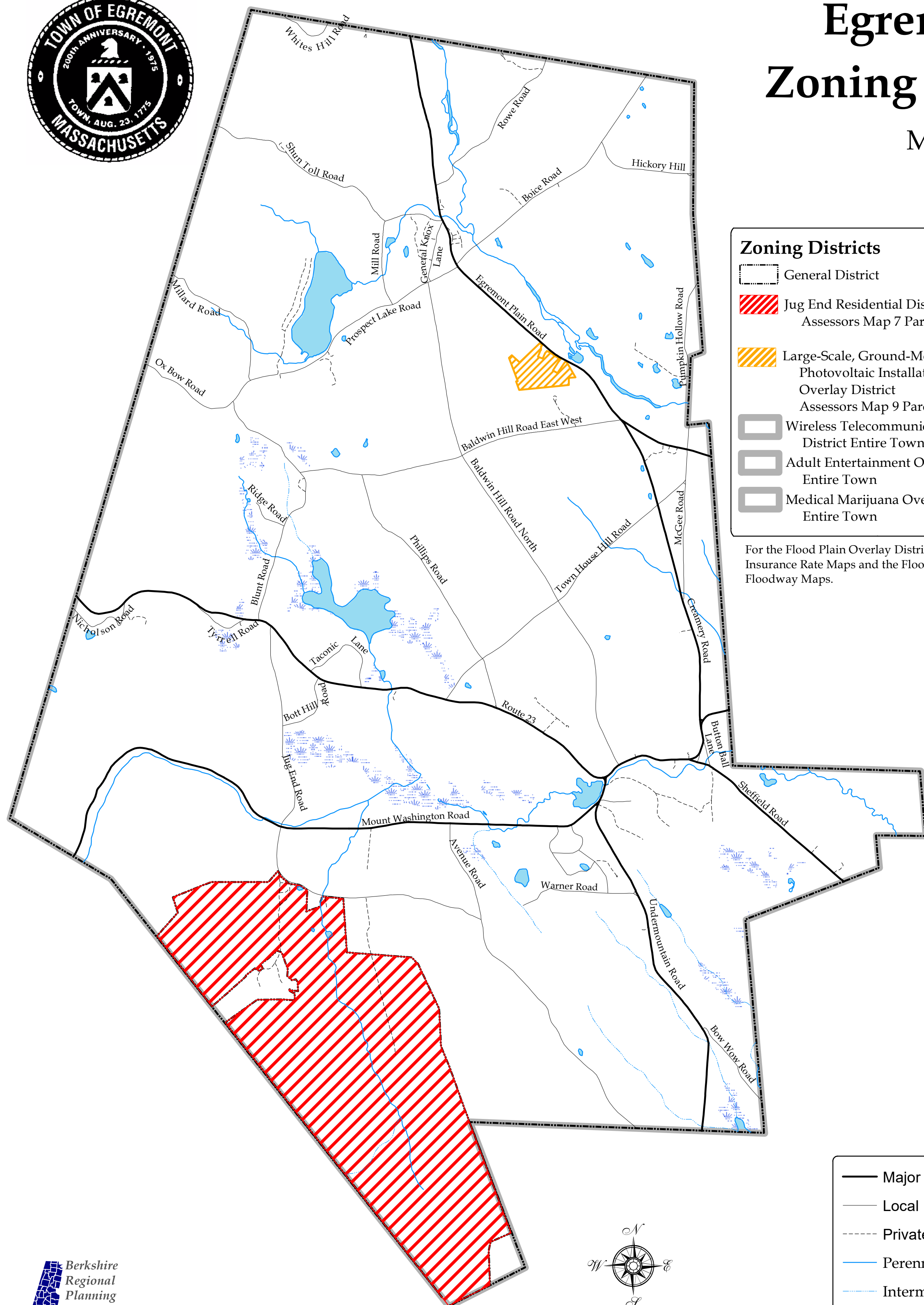
May 2015



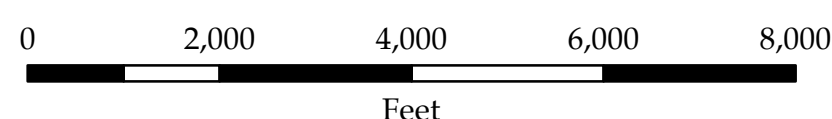
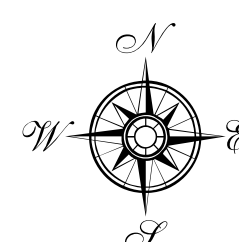
Zoning Districts

-  General District
-  Jug End Residential District
Assessors Map 7 Parcel 278
-  Large-Scale, Ground-Mounted, Solar Photovoltaic Installation (LGSPI) Overlay District
Assessors Map 9 Parcel 0004
-  Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District Entire Town
-  Adult Entertainment Overlay District Entire Town
-  Medical Marijuana Overlay District Entire Town

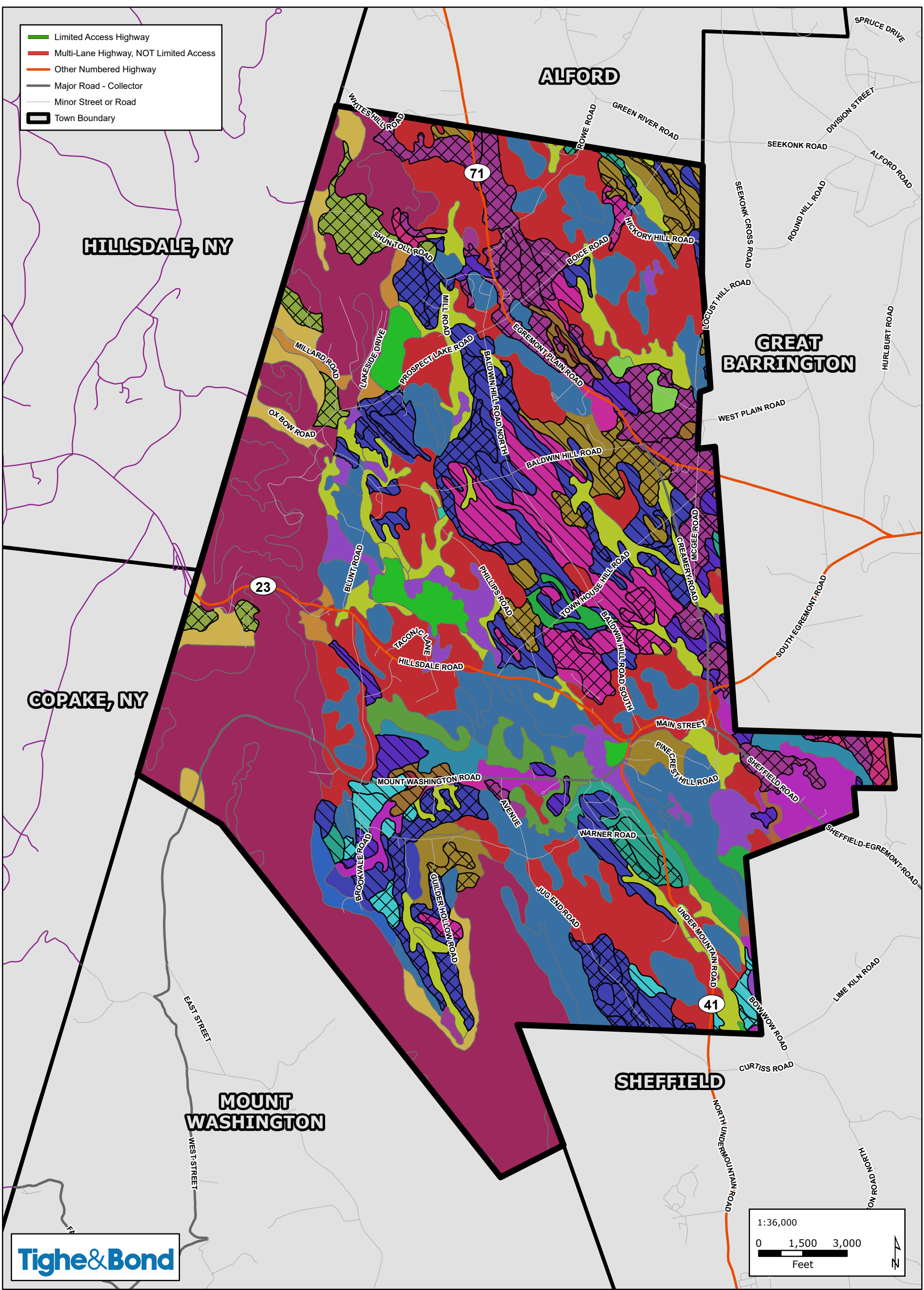
For the Flood Plain Overlay District see the Flood Insurance Rate Maps and the Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps.



-  Major Road
-  Local Road
-  Private Road
-  Perennial Stream
-  Intermittent Stream
-  Lake / Pond
-  Marsh / Wetland



Prepared by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, May 2015 for the Egremont Planning Board



LEGEND

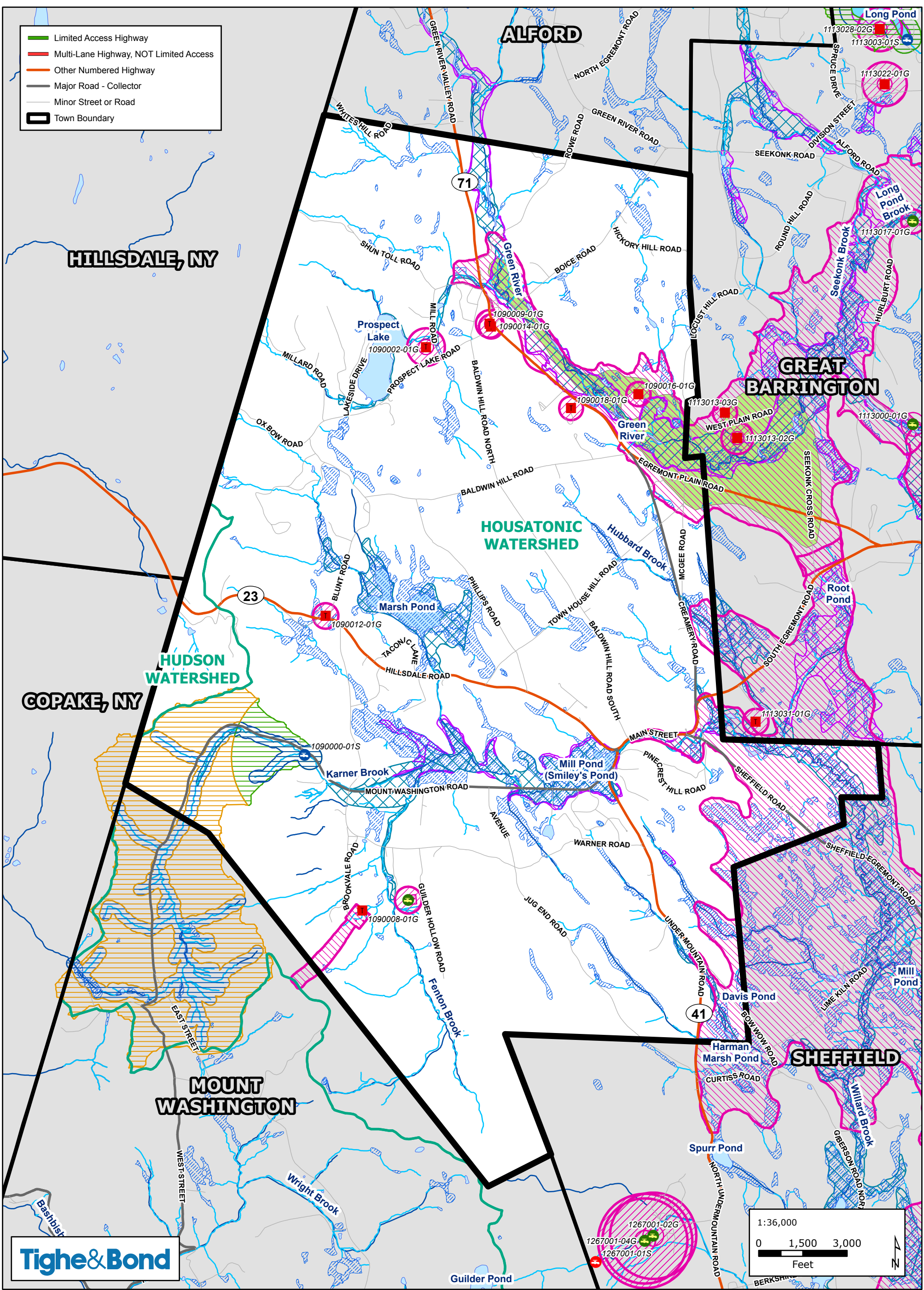
Amenia silt loam	Hadley silt loam	Pits
Brayton silt loam	Halsey fine sandy loam	Pittsfield and Nellis loams
Copake fine sandy loam	Hero loam	Pittsfield loam
Cwater	Hoosic gravelly fine sandy loam	Saco silt loam
Deerfield loamy fine sand	Kendaia silt loam	Stockbridge gravelly silt loam
Farmington loam	Lanesboro-Dummerston association	Taconic-Macomber association
Farmington-Rock outcrop complex	Limerick silt loam	Udorthents
Fredon fine sandy loam	Lyons mucky silt loam	Winooski silt loam
Fullam-Lanesboro association	Natchaug and Catden mucks	All areas are prime farmland
Groton and Hinckley soils	Nellis loam	Farmland of statewide importance

**FIGURE 4
SOILS AND GEOLOGIC FEATURES**

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

April 2022

1. Data provided by MassGIS and NYGIS



- LEGEND**
- Emergency Surface Water
 - Community Public Water Supply - Surface Water
 - Community Public Water Supply - Groundwater
 - Non-Community Non-Transient Public Water Supply
 - Non-Community Transient Public Water Supply
 - Hydrologic Connections
 - Stream/Intermittent Stream

- Public Surface Water Protection Area (Zone A)
- Public Surface Water Protection Area (Zone B)
- Public Surface Water Protection Area (Zone C)
- DEP Approved Wellhead Protection Area (Zone I)
- DEP Approved Wellhead Protection Area (Zone II)
- DEP Interim Wellhead Protection Area (IWPA)

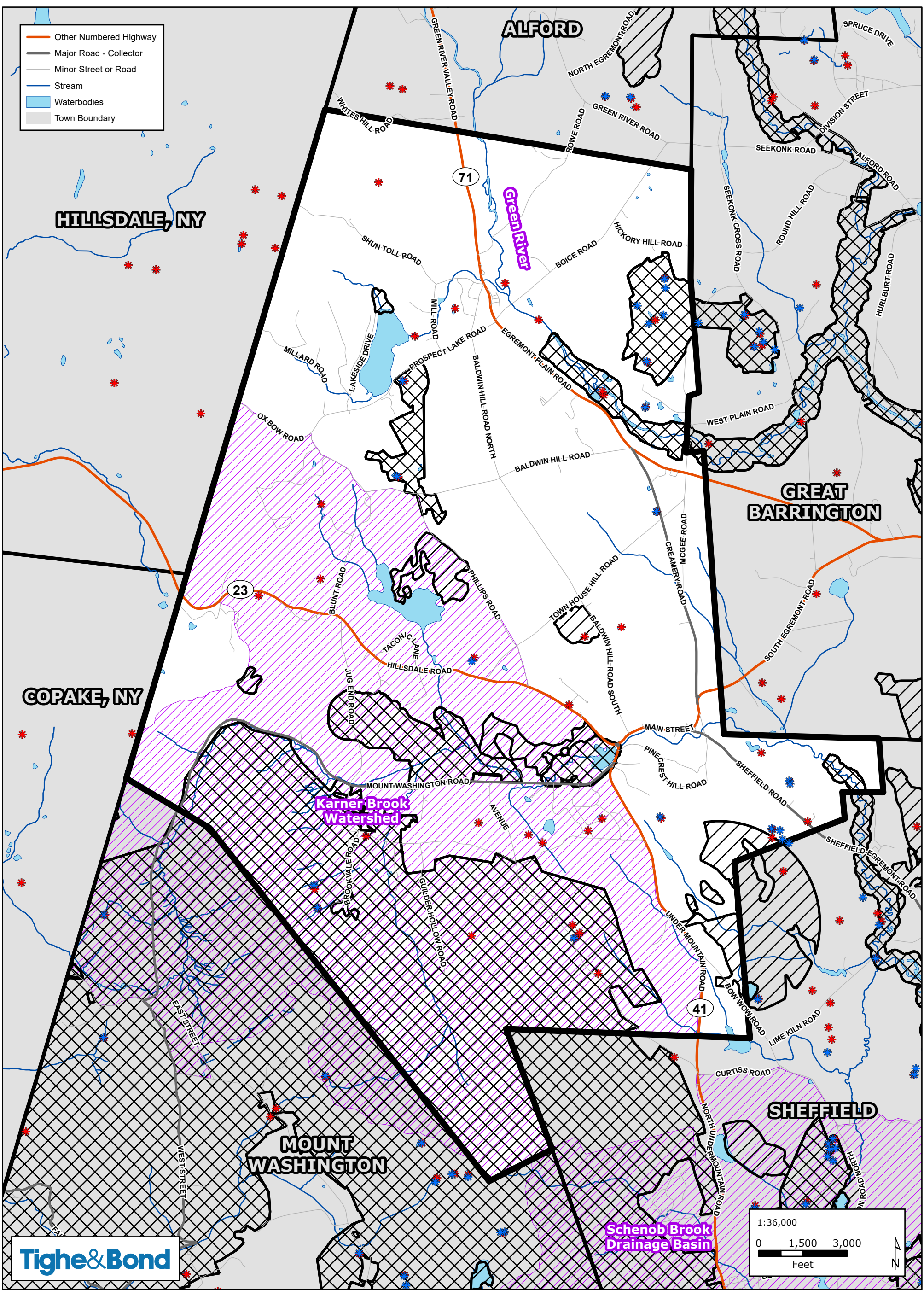
- MassDEP Inland Wetlands
- Public Surface Water Supply (PSWS)
- Water Bodies
- Potentially Productive Medium Yield Aquifer
- 100 Year Flood Zone
- 500 Year Flood Zone
- Major Watershed Boundary

**FIGURE 4
WATER RESOURCES**

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

December 2023

1. Data provided by MassGIS.



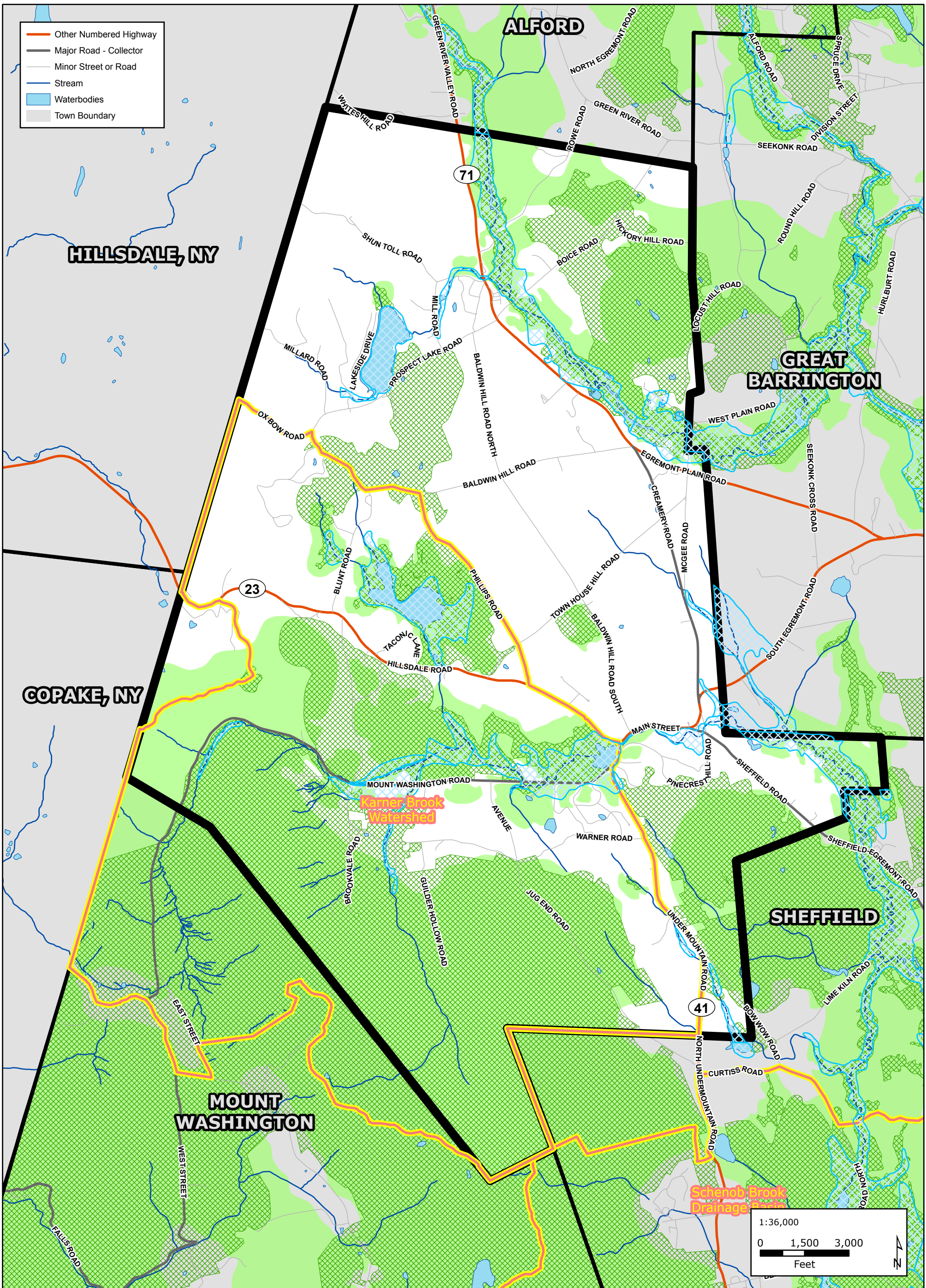
- LEGEND**
- NHESP Certified Vernal Pools
 - NHESP Potential Vernal Pools
 - NHESP Priority Habitats for Rare Species
 - NHESP Estimated Habitats for Rare Wildlife
 - Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)

**FIGURE 6
PLANT & WILDLIFE HABITAT**

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

April 2022

1. Data provided by MassGIS.



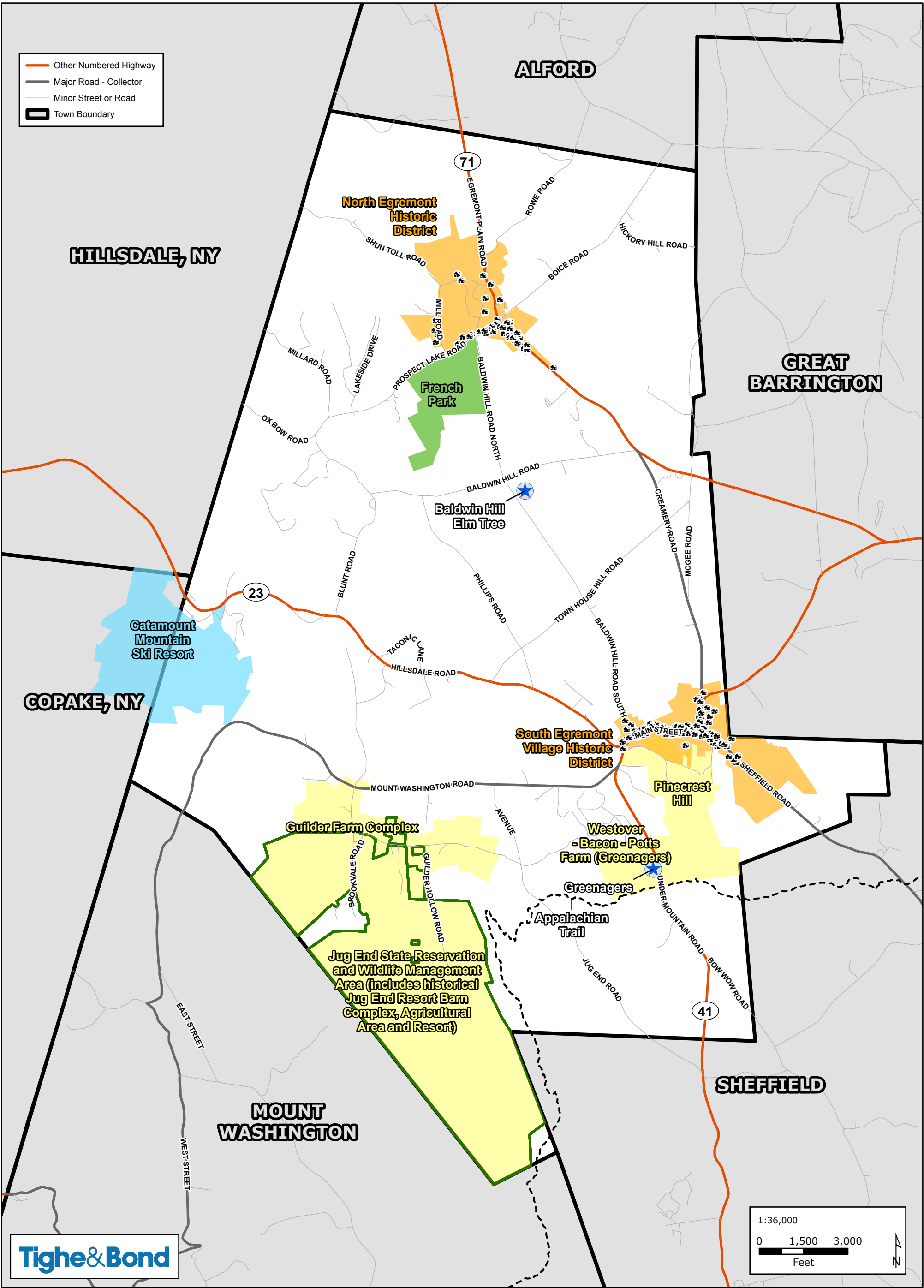
- LEGEND**
- BioMap3 Core Habitat
 - BioMap3 Critical Natural Landscape
 - Area of Critical Environmental Concern
 - 100-Year Flood Zone

Tighe&Bond

**FIGURE 7
BIOMAP HABITATS AND
NATURAL LANDSCAPES**
Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

July 2023

1. Data provided by MassGIS.



Tighe & Bond

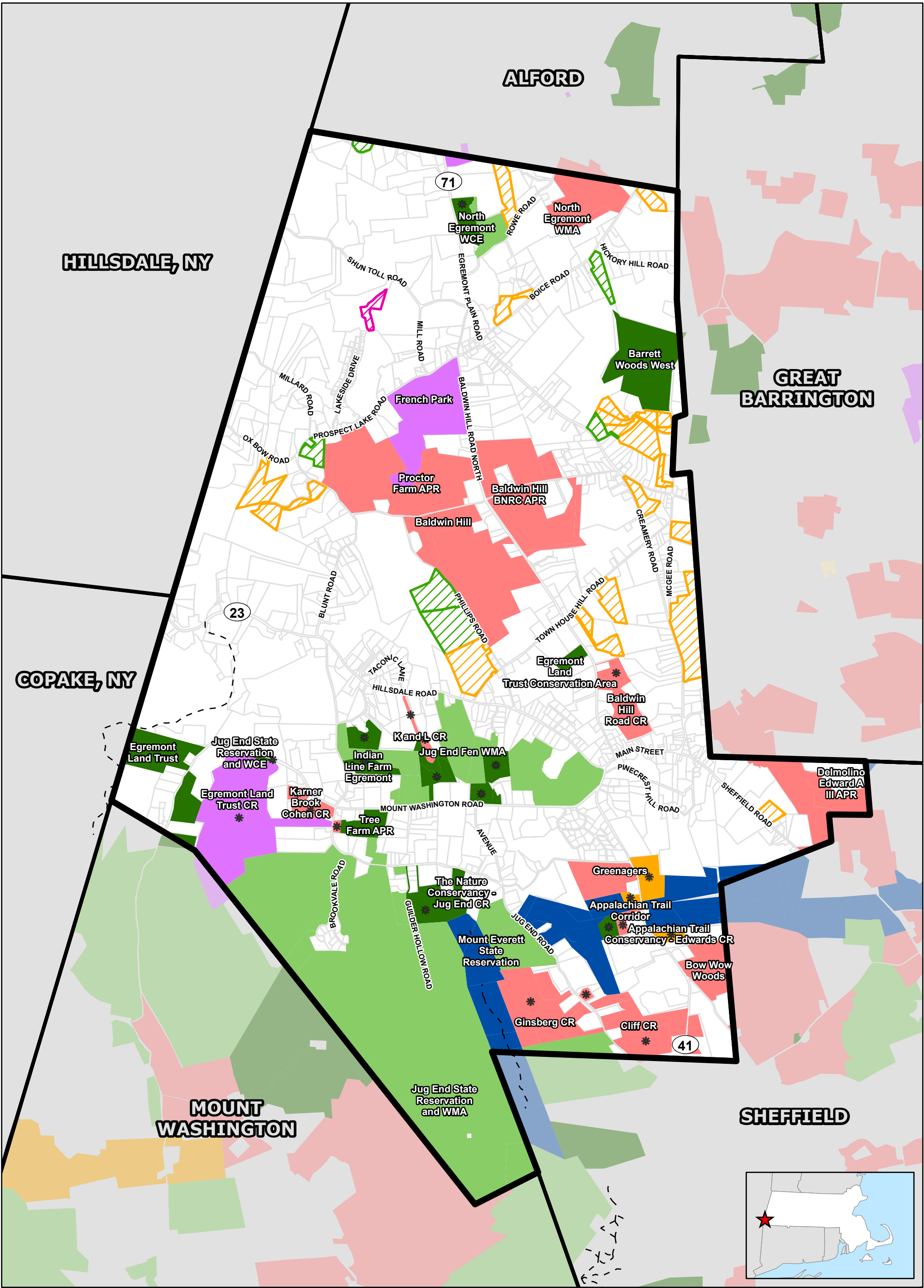
- LEGEND**
- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| | National Register of Historic Places | | French Park |
| | Unique Location | | National Register of Historic Districts |
| | Appalachian National Scenic Trail | | Mass Historic Inventory Areas |
| | | | Catamount Mountain Ski Resort |
| | | | Jug End State Reservation and Wildlife Area |

**FIGURE 8
UNIQUE FEATURES**

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

July 2023

1. Data provided by MassGIS.
2. Parcels (FY 2021) downloaded from
MassGIS and are approximate.



LEGEND

* Property Protected by Conservation Restrictions

-- Track or Trail

Federal

Land Trust/Conservation Organization

Municipal

Nonprofit

Private

State

Other

Chapter 61 Forestry

Chapter 61A Agriculture

Chapter 61B Recreation

Parcel Boundary

Town Boundary

1:36,000

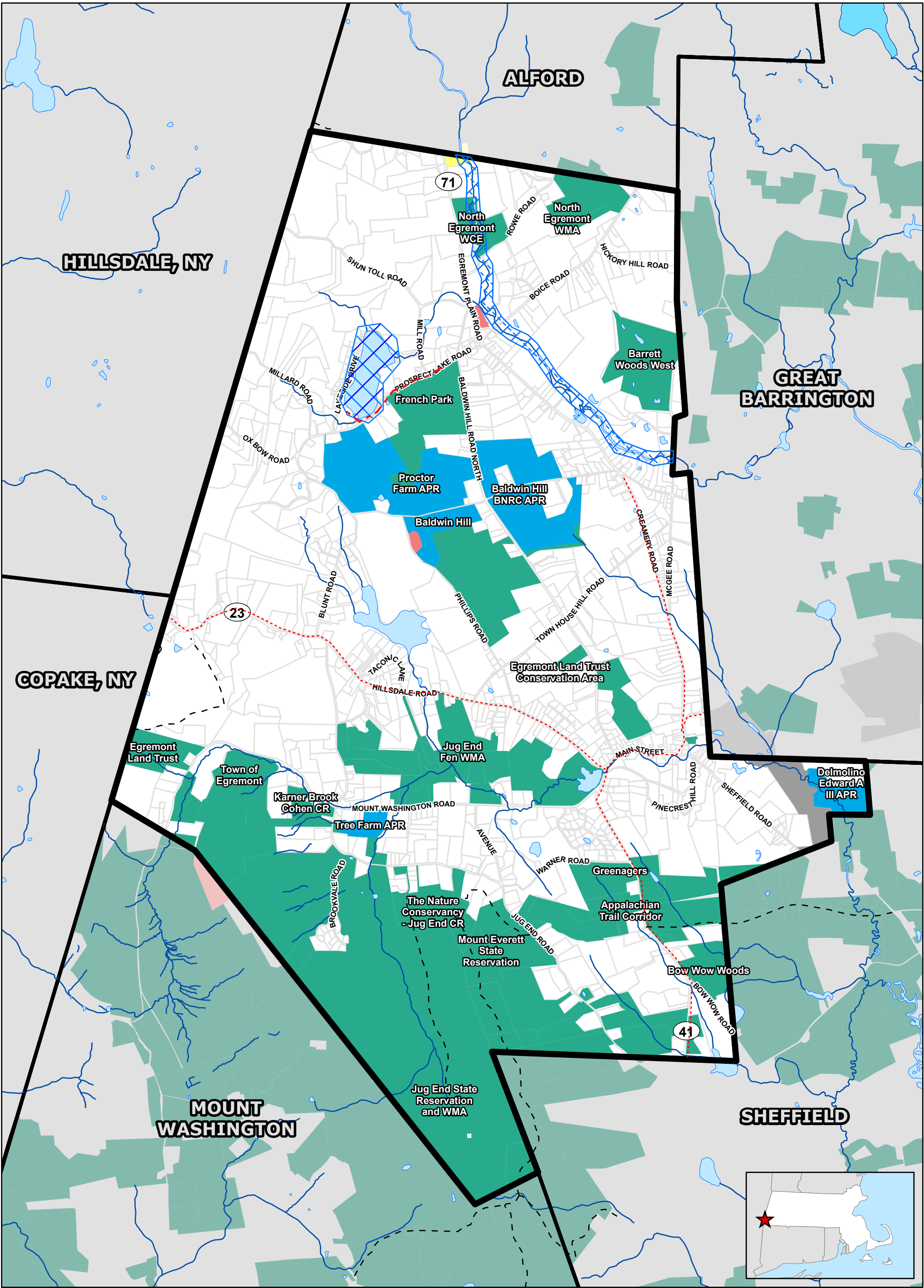
0 1,500 3,000 Feet

N

FIGURE 9
OPEN SPACE & CHAPTER 61

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

March 2025



LEGEND

— — Track or Trail

— Stream/Intermittent Stream

Water Bodies

Public Surface Water Supply (PSWS)

In Perpetuity

Term Limited

Limited

Unknown

None

APR Property

Parcel Boundary

Town Boundary

Improve Water Access

Bike Lanes

Potential Connections

FIGURE 10
ACTION PLAN

Town of Egremont
Open Space & Recreation Plan
Egremont, Massachusetts

July 2023

APPENDIX B

22126 – Egremont
Comprehensive Plan and OSRP Update
Last updated February 5, 2023

Comments on the Boards from the First Public Workshop

1 Data: Housing and Affordability in Egremont

- Why is there no data her? (Pointing to Housing stock by year built for the last two groups of years)
- This is the A number one issue. How we support creative solutions to housing crisis is the question.
- How can Egremont prevent the main cause of US housing crisis/bankruptcy/homelessness and poverty: illness and short-term crises?
- Look for opportunities to convert existing properties to affordable housing – affordable housing should have the same aesthetic & quality standards as are usual in the town
- Looking to explore affordable housing and attract diversity in our community – both/and...protect land and affordable housing YEAH construct (sp?)
- More affordable housing is needed but should be done w/o rezoning for “development” and no multilevel units and with maintaining rural character
- Where are existing structures that could be used for affordable housing?
- Keep Egremont an affordable community for future generations
- Workforce housing! Yes! Affordable housing for workers!
- The answer is clearly No! This (affordable housing) should be very high on the list of town’s priorities
- No housing development
- No housing developments. Preserve historic buildings
- Answer: No . Too much land has become Land Trust, i.e. buildable land
- What resources are available to treat hunger in Egremont?
- Limit building of ALL new homes: Egremont has enough housing.
- In order to keep our natural resources, I would like to see multi-family structures* built rather than stand-alone housing. I.e, a small, pretty cluster of buildings for all ages and economic categories. *no higher than 203 stories +- in keeping with our New England style. P.S. I support land conservation, which is why I prefer clustered, multi-family housing.
- #41 is Monthly Housing Costs Owner Households: Create affordable utilities options, Create renewable utilities options.

1 Data: Egremont’s Workforce – no comments

1 Data: Population and Municipal Budget

- What Would Happen if so many people put their land in Chapter 61, 61A, 61B that our tax base would be compromised? Who’d be left to pay taxes?

2 Preserve

- Preserve rural character of Egremont.
- Why do we need a North & South Egremont? Why can't we just be EGREMONT??
- Please develop plan for invasive species mitigation. Bittersweet in particular is killing our trees.
- Please develop plan for Spongy Moth mitigation.
- Preserve dirt roads + rural atmosphere. Resist suburban development.
- Create connectivity between open spaces/protected land for wildlife corridors.
- Address major issue of invasive plant species and educate community about natives.
- Lack buildable/affordable land because of "Land Trust" has become too much.
(2)
- Impt.
 - 1 Wildlife corridor +
 - 2 Climate change +
 - 3 Eliminate invasive species (as much as possible)
- Support and donate to Eg Land Trust – working on the corridor!
- Establish an education program and experiments for large scale organic farming. Bring in guest speakers that have been successful in these areas.
- Measure organic life in soil as a baseline and to measure success in preservation of environmentally sensitive areas.
- Test and measure ground surface and well water to ensure safety for people and wildlife diversity.
- 22. Figure 9 Open Space Map: Rename APR Land to reflect true ownership. APR definition vs. public use
- 8. Filling in Karner Brook watershed with houses – means water table rising in other places
- Pass a demolition delay to preserve the historic character of the town. (Mindful development)
- As relates to not stopping village development – WE NEED HOUSING FOR EVERYONE. Kudos to housing committee for trying to come up with creative, affordable ideas.
- The town should not be preserved in amber. Building, particularly for affordable housing, absolutely needs to happen. How much and where are the central questions.
- No noisy recreation vehicles on conserved land eg ATV's, snowmobiles
- Prohibit hunting on public lands. Post – No guns! Or other weapons
- Keep land available for housing that working families can afford
- Important to preserve Phillips Rd as an old dirt walking path – the Baldwin Hill Loop is a treasure
- We must preserve the small town feel of N + S Eg, limit buildings, keep open spaces + protect land, lakes from overbuilding. Keep Egremont SMALL + BEAUTIFUL!

- #2. The map is wrong – there is no large park in So. Eg. Village on the No. side unless it is the fire dept. (#41)
- Don't overuse conservation resources by promoting recreational use + tourism
- 2003 preserving the land, low home density. The last thing I want Egremont to be is a minim Gt. Barrington
- [Several comments]
 - Wildlife corridor s- yes
 - Addressing climate change – yes
 - NO WATER PRIVATIZATION
- Why are there carve outs for land for houses filling in Karner Brook watershed?
- Keep population density in mind when considering affordable housing solutions – keep Egremont rural w/ open spaces, no high-rise construction
- Make community aware of PFOS damage to our water supply: near town have to be proactive in protecting water ways!
- #3 Preserve this area
 - Scenic
 - Ecologically important
 - Wildlife corridor
 - Agricultural
 - Recreational
 - Important for all above reasons
- Slow the growth
- Preserve wetlands – do not fill in with houses etc. Parking for houses fills in also
- Support goals of 2003 Master Plan!
- Preserve our forests/open areas + create workforce housing by allowing development in concentrated areas.
- Commercial – have distinct zones – no special permits – too discretionary – no mix of commercial in residential area (except villages)
- Preserve rural character. Why do residents choose to live here?
 - Beauty of landscape
 - Historic villages
 - Views
 - Quiet roads
- Protect scenic roads
- Get rid of invasives = more native plants/animals; prettier roads
- *Independent research studies (not Telecom sponsored) on the impact of 5G technology (towers) on local pollinators and plants. This should happen before granting permission for any more towers!
- Is the community aware of the amt. of chemical fertilizers being used agriculturally + and also on private lands. Shouldn't we look at preservation of resources in terms of use of chemicals?

2 Preserve: Map of Open Space and Chapter 61

- #3 is south of Appalachian Trail Corridor and west of Bow Wow Woods
- #8 is Jug End Fen WMA, above Mount Washington Road
- #22 is Baldwin Hill BNRC APR
- #41 is Main street, just below Town Park
- Not numbered: Blue Rider Stables – six parcels: 3 outlined and 3 with asterisks, just west of Egremont Land Trust APR

2 Preserve: Map of Biomap Habitats and Natural Landscapes

- #3 is brook/stream heading northwest from town boundary at north Under Mountain Road

3 Enhance

- Outdoor swimming, skating, canoeing, kayaking, Ping Pong (pavilion)
- Plan & zone to avoid Rt 7 (Stockbridge Road) type of growth
- Our recycling & composting program are exemplary. Spread the word
- Ice skating rink, swimming, kayaking...more outdoor activities for everyone
- Make villages denser & more lively. More housing in N. Eg. Village & S. Eg. Village
- Need bike lands that double as walkways.
- Diversity of age & race. How do you propose to solve this “problem”?
- Gathering places
 - Town Beach
 - Community Ctr
 - Planned activities that make use of our outdoor spaces – ie softball + tennis leagues
- Invasive plant species area major problem in our existing conserved land – what are we going to do about this? Protecting more land is great, but need a plan to better manage existing protected land.
- Combo bike-pedestrian land connecting North + South Egremont (Rt 71 – Creamery Road – Rt 23) so we can travel to/from without driving
- Many more community gardens and orchards and food forests
- Permaculture!
- Make an effort to stop speeding in N. Egremont village. Limit commercialism in both villages
- Caution around electrification to protect pollinators + wildlife
- Protect our pollinators, wire our connections everywhere, please!
- Speed cameras! (good revenue source)
- Permaculture. Encourage farming that does not have pesticides or herbicides. This protects animals and human ground water. Increase biodiversity.
- Keep the character of the town which has attracted so many to relocate here.
- Community gathering spot in N. Egremont center.
- The 2003 Master Plan points are still good.
- Preserve our nature. Preserve our waters, ground water, healthy ecosystem
- Speed bumps on Buttonball Lane
- Community space – for dancing, parties, games
- Look to repurchase the church on Main Street in South Egremont. It is a quintessential New England structure + NEVER should have been allowed to be purchased by a private homeowner. The church is a hallmark of Egremont and the town should convert it to community property.
- Striping of rural roads either center line or side. Unlit roads at night, hard to see
- Affordable housing we need more around town. Time to move beyond NIMBY
- Senior housing ie. condo’s etc. for people who want to downsize or not capable of doing yard work – locals or out of state
- Save our remaining dirt roads
- [Several comments]

- Broad band town wide
 - Historical plaques
 - Water quality
- Plant more pollinators + keep forests strong + healthy
 - 3. More public parking – or at least signage relevant thereto – at Prospect Lake, please. Is there a walking oath around the Lake?
 - The geologies of South Village – No. side of 23 is ledge , so side of 23 is brook – you cannot expand septic fields!
 - Change zoning bylaws to encourage cluster housing, leaving more open space. Single house on 3 or 5 acres of mowed lawn is ridiculous!
 - Community center needed
 - Speed bumps for Sheffield Road in South Egremont (Pinecrest – Button Ball Lane intersect.
 - Sidewalks on 23 west to Terra Ferma for young families in developments
 - Small community meeting place (eg So. Egremont church)
 - Creating workforce housing in part by acquiring existing buildings and homes for that purpose
 - No subdivision on Phillips or anywhere!
 - So. Egremont Village: 5-9 + No. Egremont Village 1, 5, 2, 3. More pedestrian + bike paths, please!! And in the “commercial” areas of each village, signage to clearly delineate parking.
 - South Egremont
 - Highly hazardous speeding
 - Posted limit at Sheffield Road (by intersection of Pinecrest and Buttonball) is 25 mph, and over bridge is 20 mph – vehicles of all types incl. heavy vehicles go 50 mph + many times per day
 - Residents and visitors of all ages walk these streets
 - I’ve been nearly hit many times
 - Traffic calming through villages (speed bumps, police presence, etc.)
 - No right turn signs on Buttonball Lane (and Rt 23 _ Sheffield Road)
 - Sidewalks for village centers
 - Senior housing for those living in town who wish to stay
 - W/o church – need place for community meeting
 - What has been accomplished since the 2001 plan? Same question for the 2003?
 - Traffic calming, Bike paths
 - No parks – had chance with Egremont fun land, golf club
 - Increase diversity of residents. Maplewood, NJ has a Community Coalition on Race, which helped integrate their town w/ professionals who could afford to live there. We could do the same thing. Contact + ask them how they did this.
 - We will lose young families and service industry workers (and open space) without suitable rental housing and connective transportation
 - No. Egremont: Need a bike + pedestrian path from N. Egremont village (5) to Beach area at Prospect Lake (2)
 - Egremont block parties meet our neighbors

- Get rid of the neon sign at town Hall (Seconded!!)
- Need a community center
- Catamount lights should be off after closing
- Avoid commercialism keep Egremont SMALL + BEAUTIFUL
- I suggest a hall/community center (e.g. Mettabee Farm of Lenox CC) for workshops, dances, lectures, yoga, etc. to strengthen community bonds and draw young people to the village(s).
- What happened to affordable housing??
- Egremont needs to have hunters ask permission to access private property – current reg says property owners needs to sign property per state law
- Keep historic villages intact while adding businesses.
- More parking
- Make sure we use fiber to the premises (no wireless antenna)
- We need affordable housing!
- We need sidewalks and lower speeds on Route 71
- Town regulations prohibiting the use of engine brakes on Rts, 71, 23 and 41
- Town-wide program to remove invasive plant species and plant natives
- The survival of our restaurants, and of Fairview Hospital depends on staffing. There is very little rental housing for these people. We need to fix this problem.

3 Enhance: North and South Egremont

- No comments

4 Enjoy

- Access to Prospect Lake
- Protection of the Guilder Farm Complex + Enhancement to emphasize the historic relevance
- The 2003 Master Plan mission is still good.
- Love French Park + Jug End Reserve. Wish we had a town beach + more organized activities ie softball teams + tennis leagues
- Like the idea of organized sports. Also basketball courts
- Would love Prospect Lake access. Used to do day passes – no longer available
- Reduce farm fertilizer, herbicide, and pesticide run off into other properties and water supply
- Test surface ground and well WATER for safety PFAS, herbicides and other contaminants
- French Park Dog Park is actually major destination for people/dogs from many towns in surrounding areas. Great sense of community! More attention to other ways to create similar kinds of community.
- Better access to Prospect Lake – offer similar setting as Lake Munsford in GB! (In addition to the campground access)
- Swimming + non-motorized boat access to Prospect Lake
- Make exercise stations for folks of all ages
- Help the pollinators!!! More flowers and food please! Less antennas
- There is a lack of soccer fields in Berkshire County – add youth/adult soccer fields
- Sidewalk or walking path from N. Egremont County Store to Town Hall
- Swimming and beach access to Prospect Lake
- Outdoor pool
- Plan for organic growth instead of forced resulting in Berkshire Mall experience
- Easy/convenient Prospect Lake access for kayaking!!
- Accessible trail at French Park
- Major issue with invasive species blocking access to Green River on ELT property on 71 – Mountain trail to river
- Bylaw (general) BAN leaf blowers
- Access to Prospect Lake
- Important to preserve rural character including unpaved roads (Gen. Knox Lane + Phillips Rd.)
- Town Beach Access to Prospect Lake (Ditto!!)
- More walkable areas including better connection between parts of Egremont esp. walking/biking.
- Prospect Lake access
- Farmer's Market to help our community
- Sidewalks along Rte 23 to get into town
- Safe public access to Prospect Lake
- Eg needs a large meeting space so we don't have to go to Mt. Ev. School.
- Need access to Prospect Lake
- [Several ideas]

- Maintain hiking trails
 - Have bike lanes
 - More swimming
- Prospect Lake for ALL
 - Don't allow big investors to make Egremont the next "Hamptons"
 - Egremont village needs play space, recreation fields, walking area!
 - Access to Prospect Lake
 - Re-establish the French Park committee. Add swings + equipment for adults to enjoy.
 - More trails in French Park. Take care of the invasive growth of the forest in FR. We need a designated NICE place to swim at Prospect Lake
 - Bocce courts at French Park!
 - Let's host/enable "Music in the Park" events, please! (French Park) 2-4 and maybe a holiday or winter festival in the Villages or at French Park
 - Make sure residents who own river frontage understand that the Green River itself is public land. People can swim or wade anywhere in the river.
 - Swimming and kayaking in Prospect Lake
 - River access without being accosted by abutting land owners.

4 Map: Unique Features

- #1: South Egremont (to left of 5)
- #2: Curve of Main Street to Creamery Road
- #4: Intersection of Main St. with Sheffield Rd.
- #5: South Egremont (to right of 1)
- #6: Center of triangle formed by Blunt, Phillips and Hillsdale
- Can funds be secured to help inoculate the Baldwin Hill Elm? Too precious to lose!
- Proper and safe parking on Baldwin Hill
- Build a flat trail like the rail trail in Hillsdale
- Some recognition of Chair Factory area on Hillsdale Road?
- The goals of the 2001 Plan are still viable. Keep them in the forefront.
- Not all open space should be "developed" or managed – keep some in reserve for future central park
- Is Marsh Pond public or private? Need attention!
- Small civic spaces in the village proper (#2)
- #1 Protect green spaces in the village including forest open spaces.
- Very valuable – conserved corridor or properties so that native plants + animals aren't isolated.
- Keep unpaved roads. Don't widen them. Don't pave them
- #4 This omits (I think) path along Karner Brook to Mom's parking lot – a major benefit for South Village, otherwise sparse in public spaces.
- Make the pollinator garden a destination like the Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls
- #4 Lighting & sidewalks in Village of Sheffield Rd. Complete streets
- #5 Look for ways to better connect North + South Egremont.

- i.e. Some public gathering in South Egremont
- In between places to gather

5 Support

- Historic chair factory – Preservation Smiley’s
- Wetland overlay (Coopers, Tuller ppty) Protection needed Karner/S. Egr
- IT Incubator in Egremont
- E. Village Inn Russell Becker
- Use the option to purchase chapter land when it becomes available
- [Series of notes]
 - Bus route/turn around
 - Water Dept. – conundrum (sp.?)
 - Recycle station/upgrade
 - Mt. Everett/merge w/ MMtn.
 - Housatonic River Worry
 - Open space vs. housing needs
- We need 2 zoning districts:
 - The 2 villages
 - Rural
 - 2003 goals still great!
- Careful planning for local control over solar arrays – use already developed land only and have local benefit \$
- Develop priorities for small civic spaces within the Historic Districts.
- Road safety for pedestrians, bikers, those w/ mobility issues, speeding
- No mix of commercial with residential except in villages
- Getting rid of invasives – public advocacy
- Commercial mixed use in Villages (Agree!)
- Provide affordable housing in a way that respects the rural nature of the Town + utilizes existing structures
- ADU’s not to be used for short term rentals.
- Make more of an effort to slow traffic in N. Eg. Village. Keep the historic integrity of the villages
- Rental housing for hospitality, healthcare, and other workers.
- Connect housing to N. + S. Egremont and Great Barrington
- Small business but not large-scale businesses, keep in character with historic villages
- Home occupations by special permit with no external evidence of business use. No other commercial in residential areas except villages.
- Have restrictions on cell towners. Have their levels tested randomly.
- Keep trees as part of the Town Plan – as they are removed, they should be replaced.
- Worried about commercial sprawl on Rte 23 west of village. New zoning to protect residential character.
- Water! Incorporate work done by Water Study Commission in Comp Plan
- More housing + sidewalks for young families

- If our restaurants and hospitals are going to be operative, we need housing for their workforce!
- No short term rentals – in residential areas. 6 mos rental minimum
- How to preserve open spaces while creating workforce housing – in part by acquiring existing buildings for workforce housing
- Preserve character. No more than 2-story buildings and 2 family use
- Bring back N. Eg. Zip code

22126 – Egremont
Comprehensive Plan and OSRP Update
Last updated April 10, 2023

Comments on the Boards from the Second Public Workshop

This is a record of the input received at the public workshop on March 11, 2023. Votes for each vision statement, goal, or action are indicated in parenthesis. The structure of the workshop led to overlapping comments; such overlaps may be consolidated in the next stage of the planning process. The highest vote(s) in each category is highlighted.

VISION BOARDS

Note: Most of the station numbers were lost when the vision boards were removed from the walls. Some were damaged by water/snow during transport.

Board 1

In 2033, Egremont is special because a strong peaceful town with a sense of community. (5)

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve open spaces and the mechanisms, such as land trust, to make that happen. (2)

We enjoy increased opportunities for cluster housing (allowing for open space around housing) ~~at~~ or other schemes and promote zoning changes. (2)

As a community, we gather at French Park, fire station, and town hall **for** multiple events.

Our favorite place is top of Baldwin (view), General Knox Lane (place for people to walk), and Jug End Road (cool temperatures in summer). ~~because~~

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was climate change, hazard mitigation, mechanisms to implement ideas. (2)

Board 2

In 2033, Egremont is special because of natural and unspoiled beauty, open space.

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve viable farms, preserved land, affordable housing.

We enjoy increased opportunities for access to Prospect Lake (2) **at** Jug End, parks in general.

As a community, we gather at French Park **for** community days.

Our favorite place is Baldwin Hill, French Park **because** views etc.

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was better roads, affordable housing, employment opportunities for next generation (4)

Board 3

In 2033, Egremont is special because of a diverse community with good practical planning, affordable housing. (3)

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve small scale, rural character.

We enjoy increased opportunities for quality social services **at** home and ‘around town.’

As a community, we gather at outdoor (natural) venues (lakes, parks) **for** communing with friends and nature.

Our favorite place is new community center **because**

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was housing, planning with retention of historic character, with stable revenues and strong financial management. (1)

Board 4

In 2033, Egremont is special because maint. sense of place, beautiful, access to the outdoors and nature, people, sense of community, welcoming (1)

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve rural quality, open land and views, preserved our historic buildings, create a pedestrian safe environment. (3)

We enjoy increased opportunities for outdoor activity, community interaction **at** (?) citizen involvement.

As a community, we gather at the transfer station, French Park **for**

Our favorite place is Baldwin Hill, French Park, AT **because**

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was providing a place to gather, maint. sense of place, organizing committee to plan events and maximize use of town facilities (3)

Board 5

In 2033, Egremont is special because affordable housing (condos) for all demographics, meeting community gathering center/daily or events; i.e. Fire Station (North Egremont) Station Annex (2)

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve French Park(s), Prospect Lake, Farm Land Right of Way

We enjoy increased opportunities for access to Prospect Lake, Community Center **at** balance between development opp. to preserve public spaces, condos (1)

As a community, we gather at new community center/Jug End for hikes **for** ALL

Our favorite place is Home!!, French Park, Jug **because**

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was Housing

Board 6

In 2033, Egremont is special because the people that are drawn to live here.

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve the existing open space/preserved land that we currently have.

We enjoy increased opportunities for cultural interaction, greater diversity **at** in population, opportunity for more small businesses in villages, and affordable housing. (1)

As a community, we gather at community center, religious institutions **for**

Our favorite place is Prospect Lake to swim **because** there is community access.

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was preserving open space while creating affordable housing. (1)

Board 7

In 2033, Egremont is special because values traditional/historic aesthetic, rural and small and welcoming, land preservation, supports agriculture, welcoming and friendly, strong volunteer spirit, well organized. (1)

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve the library, the schoolhouse, French Park, historic records, agricultural lands , Chapter 61/61A, right to farm, rural character.

We enjoy increased opportunities for aging in place, affordable housing, sustainable/green opportunities **at**

As a community, we gather at April Hill, Jug End, French Park, Town Hall, Dog Park, Transfer Station, Moms, the Barn **for**

Our favorite place is all the above **because**

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was affordable housing, aging in place (2)

Board 8

In 2033, Egremont is special because our preserved open spaces, High Road access, and sense of community.

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve accessible open spaces.

We enjoy increased opportunities for passive and active recreation and community gathering spaces **at** our town parks and affordable housing.

As a community, we gather at Prospect Lake, Jug End, French Park and our new community center **for** arts , recreation, social gathering, school and family activities.

Our favorite place is Prospect Lake, French Park, Baldwin Hill , and Downtown **because** variety of outdoor activities and sense of community.

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was preservation and generating to pay for planning and implementation.

Board 9

In 2033, Egremont is special because relatively undeveloped rural character.

We are pleased the Town of Egremont worked to preserve see above, open space, farmland.

We enjoy increased opportunities for access to trails/ spaces/ opportunities for recreation **at** places such as French Park, Prospect Lake.

As a community, we gather at ? **for** no consensus, no real gathering place.

Our favorite place is French Park, Jug End, Baldwin Hill **because** trails, open space.

The most important challenge in 2022 that we addressed by 2023 was access for all income levels, open space, preservation of character. (2)

GOALS AND ACTIONS BY STATION

Goals and actions are grouped by station. Where the placement of a vote is unclear, it has been attributed to the closest goal or action. Where a number on the action goal sticker appeared to be overwritten, the number that appeared the clearest was chosen. Although action votes should have been numbered, not all were; the vote was attributed to the closest written action. A few people used a goals sticker on an action and vice versa. Some people were creative about the voting rules by putting votes for two different actions on a single sticker. All votes were counted.

The top three goals and the top five actions at each station are highlighted. Responses in the top three/five that received the same number of votes are also highlighted.

Station A: Housing

Original draft goals

- Support the creation of housing that is affordable to a variety of income levels.
Comments: A-1, Group 1: Yes! (1)
- Permit (through zoning) housing typologies that support people of different ages and household sizes.
Comments: A-1, Group 1: Yes!

Goals: Questions for Discussion - Comments

Housing is linked to the strength of economic development and the growth of the tax base. Where in Egremont would additional housing be appropriate?

- Station A-1: N. Egremont (Elm Court Inn, Sweetwater Inn), new options

The type of housing needed can change as people age. What types of housing are missing from Egremont? Where would this type of housing be most appropriate?

- Station A-1: Single level dwelling, ADUs – for home health aid residence/ elder can live in ADU and rent own house

Housing can be affordable by design (smaller dwelling units and smaller parcels) rather than because of subsidies (state and federal programs). Would some of the options shown be appropriate for Egremont?

- Station A-1: Yes, cluster housing and middle housing.

Goals by Station

- Station A-1: Group 1

1. Repurposing existing structures to meet the need of specific housing needs.
(8)

2. Workforce housing, multifamily housing, financial assistance (loans, grants) to renovate homes to age in place. (9)
 3. Encouraging private funding for affordable housing and educating private owners/buyers of mechanisms to do so. (3)
- Station A-1: Group 2
 4. #1 above.
 5. To provide aging in place opportunity – provide assistance for daily living - social services to be able to stay in your own home. (1)
 6. No entry.
 - Station A-1: Group 3
 7. An affordable housing plan with timetable. (4)
 8. Leverage bylaws to maximize “ADU” for “in-place” and long term rentals. (1)
 9. Build plan for net zero. (6)
 - Station A-2: Group 1
 1. Adjacent to main roads and services; near downtown so people can walk to food, P.O., library, etc., near Rte 23 and Rte 41, near the transfer station (additional goal)
 2. Aging in place; affordable (done in keeping with character and surrounding neighborhood); assistance with shoveling/mowing (HOA); Community Land Trust; Fits with surroundings aesthetically; cluster. For placement, see #1. (additional goal) (3)
 3. Stay in keeping with the character and the neighborhood; different styles to be appropriate with the location; convert existing buildings like Inn at Sweetwater and Elm Court to housing; convert single-family into multi; Include worker housing not just “income based” affordable; look to private funding/foundations (residents) for all income levels. (additional goal)
 - Station A-2: Group 2
 4. Deed restriction programs for homebuyers created out of workforce housing. (4)
 5. Ensure affordable housing remains as such and prioritizes within local employment radius.
 6. No entry.
 - Station A-2: Group 3 – None.

Housing Actions by Station

- Station A-1: Group 1 – None. (1 vote for blank #5))
- Station A-1: Group 2
 6. Investigate existing properties such as the Red Barn Main St. Egremont; Sweet Water Inn; Sheffield Road white house and barn for sale. (5)
 7. No entry.
 8. ADUs long-term rental only. (1)
 9. Cluster housing for affordable housing and workforce housing. (20)
 10. Senior housing aging in place for residents. (4)
- Station A-1: Group 3
 11. Amend by-laws to allow for affordable housing (overlay district). (5)
 12. Establish a housing plan and schedule for housing and worker housing. (3)
 13. Support for 're-configuring homes' for aging in place. (1)
 14. Consider tax incentive policies to encourage workforce/affordable. (4)
 15. Move toward net-zero environmental impact. (6)
- Station A-2: Group 1
 1. Zoning changes to define affordable housing component and to allow cluster housing w/ setback. (4)
 2. No entries for 2-5.
- Station A-2: Group 2
 6. Review bylaw to encourage conversion and addition to new. (3)
 7. Create a fund and funding sources to support conversion, mid-income housing, downpayments (foundations and other private sources). (6)
 8. Ensure that Egremont has entities to ? address aging in place and affordability. (5)
 9. No entries for 9 and 10.
- Station A-2: Group 3
 11. Implement deed restriction plan (a la Vailly, CO) that ensures home-buying pool for local employees increases over time. (6)
 12. No entries for 12-15. One vote for blank #14.

Station B: Economic Development

Original draft goals

No comments on the original draft goals from either station.

Goals: Questions for Discussion - Comments

- No additional comments

Goals by Station

- Station B-1: Group 1
 1. Support all types of agriculture for viable farms – conventional to organic, large to small. (8)
 2. Add a restaurant back in North Egremont and make sure that businesses and gathering spaces have sufficient parking (especially with the changes happening associated with the Complete Streets work). Make use of the Old Egremont Club. (additional) (4)
 3. Allow mail order and internet businesses. Allow retail by special permit with limits to make sure that there is not too much traffic, there is sufficient parking and it fits with the neighborhood. Short-term rentals should be called out. *Refine special permit process. (additional)
- Station B-1: Group 2
 4. Support increasing the commercial corridors on Rte. 23 and Rte. 7. (3)
 5. Support agri-tourism (small-scale). (1)
 6. Recognize that workforce housing is key to economic development. (5)
- Station B-1: Group 3 – None.
- Station B-2: Group 1
 1. Solve for preserving home space.
 2. Zoning for retail business in villages. (1)
 3. Home occupations w/o external disruption (evidence of business activity).
- Station B-2: Group 2
 4. Zoning for retail business made easier, or alternative business type.
 5. Selective zoning for non farming commercial/industry to promote jobs/economic growth on large parcels. (1)
 6. Create walking and biking accessibility to town centers. (10)
- Station B-2: Group 3
 7. Promote better internet access across town. (4)
 8. No 8 or 9.

Economic Development Actions by Station

- Station B-1: Group 1
 1. Work with Community Land Trust Concept to establish land tracts for working farms. (5)
 2. Create apartment living (small scale building and/or repurpose existing structures) on Main St S. Egremont (or N. Egremont) which create a population to support a greater variety of businesses/services. (1)
 3. Create community center. (5)
 4. Create town-wide bike paths (to connect N. and S. Egremont and other destinations like Great Barrington). (3)
 5. Home businesses but with forethought/regulations to regulate parking, noise, number of people. (5)
- Station B-1: Group 2: None.
- Station B-1: Group 3: None.
- Station B-2: Group 1
 1. Establish village districts for economic development. (2)
 2. Community center, performance/meeting center. (11)
 3. Size 'tax' to keep businesses appropriate size.
 4. Promote small-scale enterprise with local customers. (4)
 5. Examine "by-right" uses in key areas (villages).
- Station B-2: Group 2
 6. Create bike lanes and maintained sidewalks along main roads into town centers. (15)
 7. No 7-10.
- Station B-2: Group 3: None.

Station C: Recreation

Original draft goals

No comments on the original draft goals from either station.

Goals: Questions for Discussion - Comments

What additional recreational needs can be met by French Park?

- Station C-1: Pickle-ball.

Goals by Station

- Station C-1: Group 1
 1. No hunting in recreational areas (2). Committee that organizes recreational activities. (additional) (2)
 2. Access to Prospect Lake for all Egremonters. (additional) (3)
 3. Interconnection of trails, better traffic control, and safer pedestrian connection. (additional) (1)
- Station C-1: Group 2
 4. Consider a river walk in South Station [South Egremont?] – in progress. (1)
 5. Establish long-range ‘fund’ for private donation.
 6. Reconsider Community Preservation act (funding). (3)
- Station C-1: Group 3
 7. Relocate the above [#3] and connect S. Egremont Village to AT, April Hill, Jug End. (2)
 8. Improve access via trails on already conserved/preserved lands. (3)
 9. Improve information and promotion of outdoor rec resources e.g., town page that lists these resources.
- Station C-2: Group 1
 1. Bike paths/safety – park and sidewalk, safety vests, Main St. patrolling. (4)
 2. Facilities – easy access/ Enclose pavillion, – avail. 4 seasons and elec. Improve for bikes. (2)
 3. Signage 4 bikes re: safety. (2) (image of sharrows markings at top of page)
- Station C-2: Group 2
 4. Improving existing recreational structures and repurpose for new ideas.
 5. Enhance bike and e-bike, and pedestrian safety with enforcement and safety regulations. (8)
 6. Repair existing Prospect Lake access if possible. Add canoe and kayak storage on Prospect Lake. (12)

- Station C-2: Group 3: None.

Recreation Actions by Station

- Station C-1: Group 1
 1. Permits to hunt in designated recreational areas/permission to enter pvt. Prop.
 - Create a town committee the plans and implements rec. activities ie tennis tourn, ball games, etc.
 2. Continued work on creating beach and boat access to Eg. Res. (8)
 3. Walkways/paths for pedestrians adj. to roadways. (6)
 4. More consistent policing of roadways and speed limits. (10)
 5. Coord. and collaboration between all trail orgs. to create an interconnected system. (6)
- Station C-1: Group 2
 6. Additional children's recreation/play area.
 7. Incrementally begin a river walk at Karner Brook. (8)
 8. Schedule transportation to-from recreation sites (lake/French Park).
 9. Charging stations (French Park/Library). (1)
 10. Be "A Trail Friendly" Town ("At community?" w/Trail placed amenities (info/grille for cooking and graded spot). (1)
- Station C-1: Group 3
 11. Blank
 12. Identify and facilitate and support access to river swimming (Green River).
 13. Parking places to provide more/better access to rec. areas (sidewalk from French Park to Prospect Lake :: more access). (5)
 14. Identify and promote access for winter snow shoeing and X-country on public and private land. Benches or hut for skating area.
 15. Maintain and steward existing rec. areas.
- Station C-2: Group 1
 1. More bike safety signs on road surface. (4)
 2. Curtains/ pavilion to curb weather probs.
 3. Establish bike paths/ share with foot paths. (2)
 4. Review ADA compliance at French Park.
 5. No entry.
- Station C-2: Group 2: None.
- Station C-2: Group 3: None.

Station D: Land Preservation, Protection, and Stewardship

Original draft goals

Preserve and support local farms.

- Station D-2: Yes

Preserve and improve the ecological integrity of sensitive natural environments and natural resources.

- Station D-2: Yes: rid specific invasive species (bittersweet, multiflora rose, Japanese barberry and knotweed)

Focus open space acquisition.

- Station D-2: Some yes/ some no (selective areas (1)

Protect and preserve the Egremont's scenic and historic character (Egremont's scenic rural roads, historic structures).

- Station D-2: Yes

Goals: Questions for Discussion - Comments

Where is land stewardship most needed? What stewardship activities are needed?

- Station D-2: Rid specific invasives to save trees.

What are the key environmental resources that need better protection? Who are our partners?

- Station D-2: Trees from invasives, rivers and streams, wetlands

Goals by Station

- Station D-1: Group 1
 1. Promote awareness of conservation restriction options for private land. (additional) (1)
 2. Invasive removal plan for public space. (2)
 3. Pollinator plan for public space.
- Station D-1: Group 2
 4. Create access to preserved land for education, stewardship, enjoyment. (e.g. Smiley's pond, farmland, Marsh Pond, and Prospect Lake (8)
 5. Protect biological health of land from toxic chemicals and.
 6. Create a program to monitor and mitigate the carbon footprint of the town. (1)
- Station D-1: Group 3

7. Investigate ways to combine land preservation with affordable housing acreage. (6)
 8. Land stewardship for invasives/ fallen trees, i.e. clear timber next to trails. (3)
 9. Preserving wildlife corridors relating to land preservation. (x)
- Station D-2: Group 1
 1. Rid specific invasive species (bittersweet, multiflora rose, Japanese barberry and knotweed). (3)
 2. Control road run-off (both dirt and paved) to protect rivers and streams.
 3. Master plan for new tree development to replaces dying trees. (4)
 - Station D-2: Group 2
 4. Farmland, access to Prospect Lake for public use, public access through rural roads to create corridors and adjacent to vistas and signage, wildlife corridors. (2)
 5. Roadsides including in the winter using brining rather than broadcasting salt to reduce runoff; maintain water quality; increase pollinator habitat (including roadside wildflowers); Information for the public on how to address insect infestations, invasives; Education about pollinators, invasives, proper use of herbicides and pesticides (proper application) including talks by town and partners; work with state to revive swimming hole at Jug End. (8)
 6. Water, Karner Brook watershed, wildlife corridors, forests, wetland, agricultural land, replanting trees.
 - Station D-2: Group 3: None

Land Preservation, Protection, and Stewardship Actions by Station

- Station D-1: Group 1
 1. Educate community of conservation restriction options for private landowners. (6)
 2. Plan for addressing invasive mitigation and pollinators with funding. (10)
 3. Conservation bylaws to address Egremont community needs.
 4. Encouraging renewable energy production with open space visual prevation [preservation?]. (4)
 5. No entry.
- Station D-1: Group 2
 6. Create educational plan for awareness and best management practices for land stewardship specifically mitigating chemical use and greenhouse gas. (10)
 7. Develop a protocol for access to preserved lands included Smiley's Pond, Phillips Road, etc. (5)
 8. No 8-10. One vote for 8.

- Station D-1: Group 3

11. Land – forest fire protective measures/ i.e. tinder next to trails. (4)

12. No 12-15.

Station E: Historic Protection and Future Development

Original draft goals

Develop regulations for new development, including additions, and significant rehabilitation that respond to the need to protect and preserve natural resources and adapt to climate change. (1)

Goals: Questions for Discussion - Comments

Many communities are beginning to incorporate measures to adapt to the effect of climate change into development standards and design guidelines. Is this of interest to Egremont?

- Station E-1. Yes!*

Goals by Station

- Station E-1: Group 1
 1. Incentivize and encourage home ownership and long term rentals rather than short term rentals. (additional) (12)
 2. Amend zoning bylaws to permit by-right greater density housing while maintaining balance with Egremont's historical and rural character. (additional) (8)
 3. Incorporate energy efficiency guidelines into zoning laws for construction. (additional) (6)
 - Promote net zero developers and builders.
- Station E-1: Group 2
 4. Preserve the inventory of historic buildings and features. (4)
 5. Further pres. of hist. dist. (1)
 6. Aesthetic consistency. (1)
- Station E-1: Group 3
 7. Maintain review by historical commission. (2)
 8. Maintain historic integrity while allowing adaptation to future needs res/businesses. (2)
 9. All in favor of #4 – encourage climate change reducing initiatives/incentives. (3)

Historic Protection and Future Development Actions by Station

- Station E-1: Group 1
 1. Amend zoning bylaws. (1)
 2. Create incentives for home ownership and long term rentals. (3)
 3. Promote net zero developers by consulting with them and create incentives. (1)

4. Energy efficiency as requirement for RFPs for public contracts. (3)
 5. Create a bylaw to protect and preserve our historic inventory. (5)
- Station E-1: Group 2
 6. Establish a minimum standard for energy efficiency and renewable materials for new construction and renovation. (5)
 7. No entry.
 8. Create design guidelines for new construction incl. fencing. (2)
 9. No 9 or 10.
 - Station E-1: Group 3
 11. #4 Creating a town body to research, educate, implement climate friendly alternatives. (5)
 12. Incentivizing climate friendly alternatives and finding funding and helping with the process. (4)
 13. Implement stretch code.
 14. Educating the public.
 15. No entry.

NOTES ON SCRAP PAPER

Note: Not all stations used the scrap paper which was available for taking notes prior to writing on the Goals and Actions boards. No votes are associated with these notes, but it is possible to see how the notes were repeated or built upon in the boards above.

Station A-1 Housing

First sheet

- 1. Where could housing go?
 - Town Hall site
 - Sweet Water Farm
 - Elm Court Inn
 - Red barn in S. Egremont
 - Repurposing existing structures (Sweet Water Farm and Red Barn)
- 2. What type of housing is missing and where would be this best located?
 - Workforce housing
 - Multifamily housing
- Debt forgiven loans to help folks stay in place or do necessary improvements
- Challenges of older houses that are 2 levels
 - Single level housing impt. for elders (located close to walking and shopping services and to transportation services)
 - Possibly to build ADUs and older folks move in and rent their homes
- 3. Would some of the options be appropriate for Egremont?
 - Cluster housing yes
 - Main Street housing ok

Station A-2 Housing

First sheet

- Make multi-family housing as of right.

Second sheet

Actions

- \$ for people to do downpayments
- Community funds
- Location 1

- Adjacent to main thoroughfares/roads
 - Access to services
 - Near “downtown” so people can walk to services – library, food, post office
 - Route 23 and Route 41 for
 - Near the transfer station
- 2
 - Cluster
 - Aging in place
 - Affordable – done in keeping with character of surroundings
 - Whether there is a HOA to do shoveling/mowing
 - Community Land Trust
 - Fits with surrounding aesthetically
 - Placement – see #1
 - Convert existing buildings like Inn at Sweet Water and Elm Court to housing
 - Convert SFR to multi
 - Encourage multiple ADU
 - Not just new construction – focus on convert existing buildings to affordable
 - Look to private funding for mid-range support
- Want to have all income levels
- 3
 - Stay in keeping with character of neighborhood
 - Different styles to be appropriate for different locations
 - Look at sustainable in how built
 -

Third sheet

- 1. Historical Commission pays attention to historic structures and landscape.
- 2. Land Trust helps with open space.
- 3. Historic character of town ? is disappearing.

Station B-1: Economic Development

First sheet

- We have so much land
 - How to incentivize the use of large tracts of land for local food production?
 - And educate folks on how to utilize how land can be.

- *Work w/ Community Land Trust concept to establish land tracts for working farms.
- *Walkable community services
 - w/ electric charging stations
- #2 What's missing?
 - N. Egremont has growth potential
 - Shared work spaces
 - Community Center
 - Bike paths
 - Speed laws
- Home based businesses? Yes, but w/ ? forethought on parking and regulations, noise, music, people
- How do we attract new generations?

Second sheet

- 1. Support all types of agriculture for viable farms – conventional to organic, large to small.
- 2. Add restaurant in North Egremont.
 - Make sure businesses and gathering spaces have sufficient parking (especially with the change happening with the current road work)
 - Make use of Old Egremont Club.
- 3. Retail.
 - Allow mail order
 - Retail by special permit allowed with limits to make sure that not too much traffic, there is sufficient parking, and fits with the neighborhood
 - Any other home-based occupation to be called-out – short-term rentals
- 1. Natural and unspoiled beauty
 - Open space
 - Viable farms
- 2. Preserved land – affordable housing
- 3. Swimming and access – Prospect, Jug End, Parks in general

Station C-1: Recreation

First sheet

1.

- 4. Community days – French Park
- 5. Baldwin Hill, views, French Park
- 6. Better roads, affordable housing, employment opp. for next gen.

Station B-2 Economic Development

First sheet

- Find and buy community center
- Zoning changes – affordable, higher density housing

Station D-1: Land Preservation, Protection, and Stewardship

First sheet

- 1. Where should land be preserved?
- Make the preserved land to be accessible –
 - Education
 - Stewardship
 - Nature enjoyment
- Smiley’s Pond – one member wants to see more bird watching
- Phillips Road – for walking, nor paved (has old forest, wetland now habitat) let’s not develop
- Marsh Pond – has no public access, becoming more marshy and less pond
- Green Riever dorridor
- Karner Brook
- *Prospect Lake*
- *Teaching folks on best practices for how to care for land
 - Invasives
 - Dangerous chemicals

Goals

- Identify threatened areas
- We want to address carbo footprint
 - Develop list i.e. greenhouse gas emissions
- Water quality/PFAS
- Preserve farmland

Station C-1: Recreation (Marked as D-2 and subject matter is D)

First sheet

- 1. Farmland, access to Prospect Lake for public use, public access through rural roads to create corridors and adjacent to vistas and farmland, provide signage
 - Wildlife travel corridor
- 2. Roadsides – including in winter, using brining rather than broadcasting salt
 - Maintain water quality
 - Increasing pollinator habitat (including roadside wildflowers)
 - Information for public on how to address insect infestations
 - Information for public on how to address invasive species
- Educational talks by town and partners
 - Education about above pollinators, invasives, proper use and limitations of herbicides and pesticides
- Encourage state to mandate public access where appropriate
- Work with state to explore swimming hole at Jug End that used to exist
- 3. Water, Karner Brook watershed, wildlife corridors and forest fuel, wetlands, agricultural land, trees (replanting)

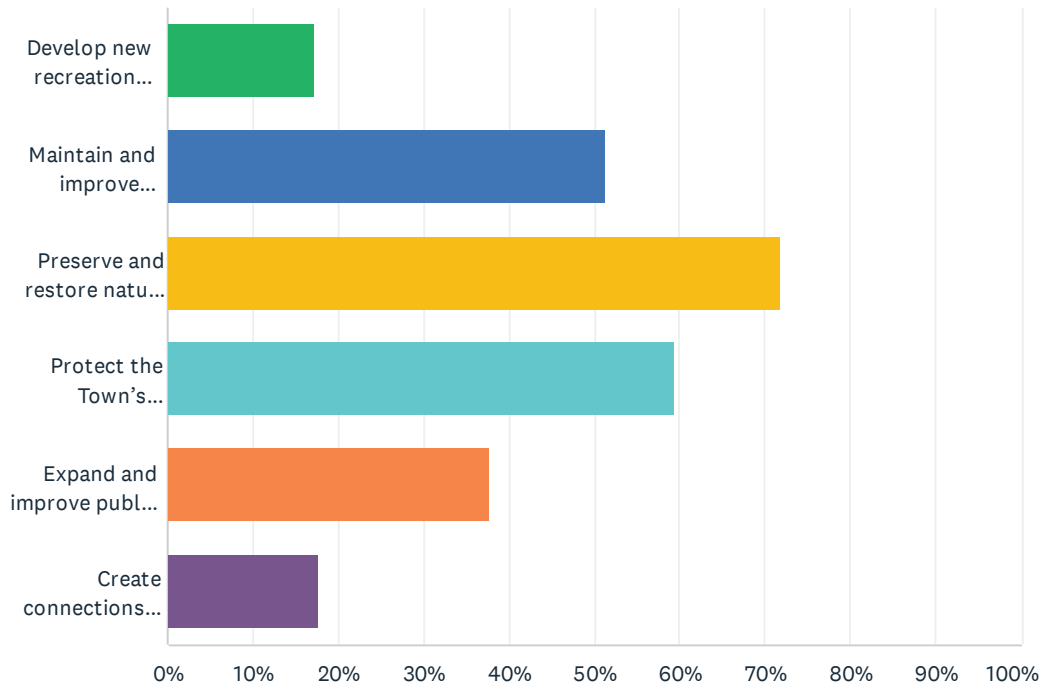
Station E-1: Historic Protection and Future Development

First sheet

- Zoning – right or spec permit –
 - Loosen up spec permit reqs for denser housing (by right)
 - Balance char. with future housing development
- Amend zoning bylaws to permit by right greater density housing while maintaining balance w. Egremont’s historical and rural character
- Incorporate energy efficiency guidelines into zoning laws of any construction

Q1 Of the goals below, which do you think are the most important related to the Town's open space? (Pick up to three which have the highest priority for the next 5-10 years.) Note: This question requires an answer.

Answered: 267 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Develop new recreation opportunities or programs.	17.23%	46
Maintain and improve existing recreational opportunities.	51.31%	137
Preserve and restore natural resources.	71.91%	192
Protect the Town's undeveloped areas.	59.55%	159
Expand and improve public access to open space and recreation areas.	37.83%	101
Create connections between existing public open space areas.	17.60%	47
Total Respondents: 267		

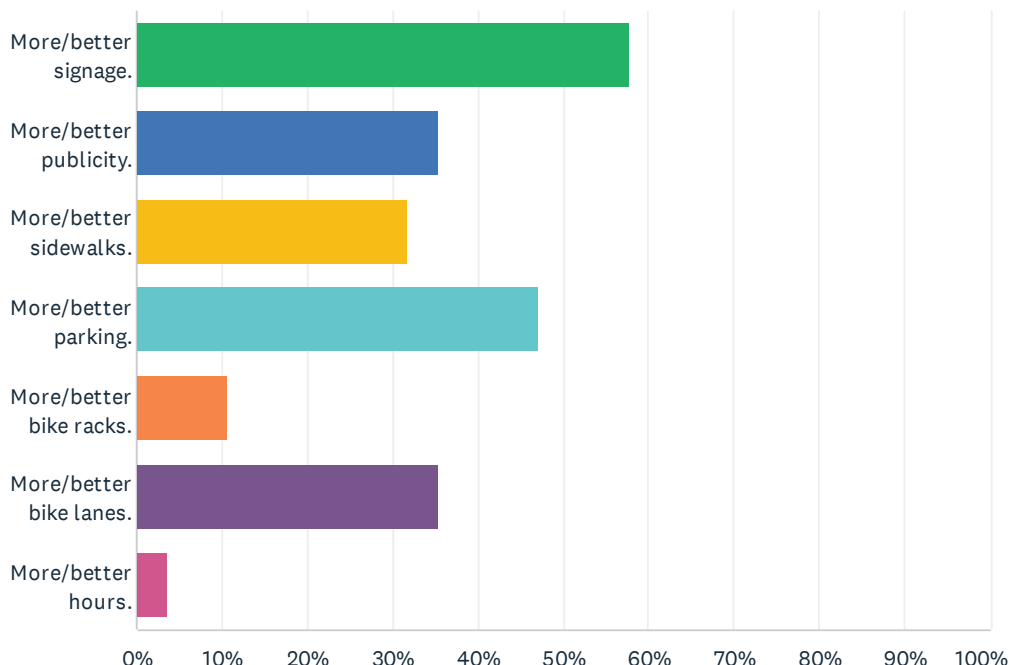
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	wildlife corridors between existing open space	2/2/2023 4:50 PM
2	preserve rural quality and beautiful views	2/2/2023 10:07 AM
3	Protect exiting farmland from development	2/2/2023 9:22 AM
4	Prospect Lake safe public access	2/1/2023 11:05 AM
5	Keep Philips Road green and the Baldwin Hill loop beautiful	1/29/2023 8:52 PM
6	Protect the night skies through lighting bylaws.	1/29/2023 7:39 AM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1

7	Maintain existing opportunities for recreation	1/26/2023 9:59 PM
8	Improve access of Egremonters to Prospect lake	1/25/2023 12:32 PM
9	Would love more bike and jogging trails plus naturalist tours	1/25/2023 8:49 AM
10	Somehow make Prospect Park more accessible. Right now, it's just a rich man's toy.	1/23/2023 2:43 PM
11	connect old trolley track trails to downtown S. Egremont	1/23/2023 2:18 PM
12	access to prospect lake	1/23/2023 12:07 PM
13	A river walk in town	1/22/2023 7:55 PM
14	Build/install tower nature birdwatching tower at the highest point in French Park above the tree line for a phenomenal panoramic view	1/22/2023 1:32 PM
15	Plant trees throughout French Park open area (as one pulls in) to create a green zone and shade	1/21/2023 9:20 PM
16	River walk	1/20/2023 12:51 PM
17	Access to, and parking for, Prospect Lake	1/14/2023 2:57 PM
18	Organic farming and Protecting the ground and well water.	1/14/2023 2:08 AM
19	Figure out how to responsibly use the sizable land area that is protected.	1/13/2023 2:15 PM
20	Find a way to provide real and safe and public access to Prospect Lake.	1/13/2023 12:10 PM
21	Preserve old growth forests and dirt roads	1/13/2023 9:44 AM
22	More land protected for small farmers	1/11/2023 7:07 PM
23	South Village public spaces	1/11/2023 2:34 PM
24	Egremont is starting to look like the suburbs. It's losing its beautiful rural qualities. We don't need more tennis courts and pickle ball. People live here because they love this right to farm community for its rolling hills and pastoral qualities. Increase the lot minimum to two acres and keep the open rural qualities like Lincoln and Groton have.	1/10/2023 7:54 AM
25	Provide better access for those with physical limitations	1/7/2023 6:58 PM
26	Mitigate auto traffic and recreation and community life in general will thrive	1/5/2023 9:51 PM
27	Preserve Philips Road as it is!	1/4/2023 2:35 PM
28	Keep Egremont Small & Beautiful	1/4/2023 12:57 PM
29	Lake access is awful. A fishing dock, easy access, and good parking would be great!	1/4/2023 12:17 PM
30	Update the attached map to show the newly ELT Bow Wow Woods acquisition.	1/4/2023 9:22 AM
31	Prospect lake access is most important.	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
32	create protected connections whether public or private lands	12/31/2022 12:42 PM

Q2 What kinds of improvements are necessary to improve/increase your access to existing Town open space facilities? Choose all that apply.

Answered: 223 Skipped: 45



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More/better signage.	57.85%	129
More/better publicity.	35.43%	79
More/better sidewalks.	31.84%	71
More/better parking.	47.09%	105
More/better bike racks.	10.76%	24
More/better bike lanes.	35.43%	79
More/better hours.	3.59%	8
Total Respondents: 223		

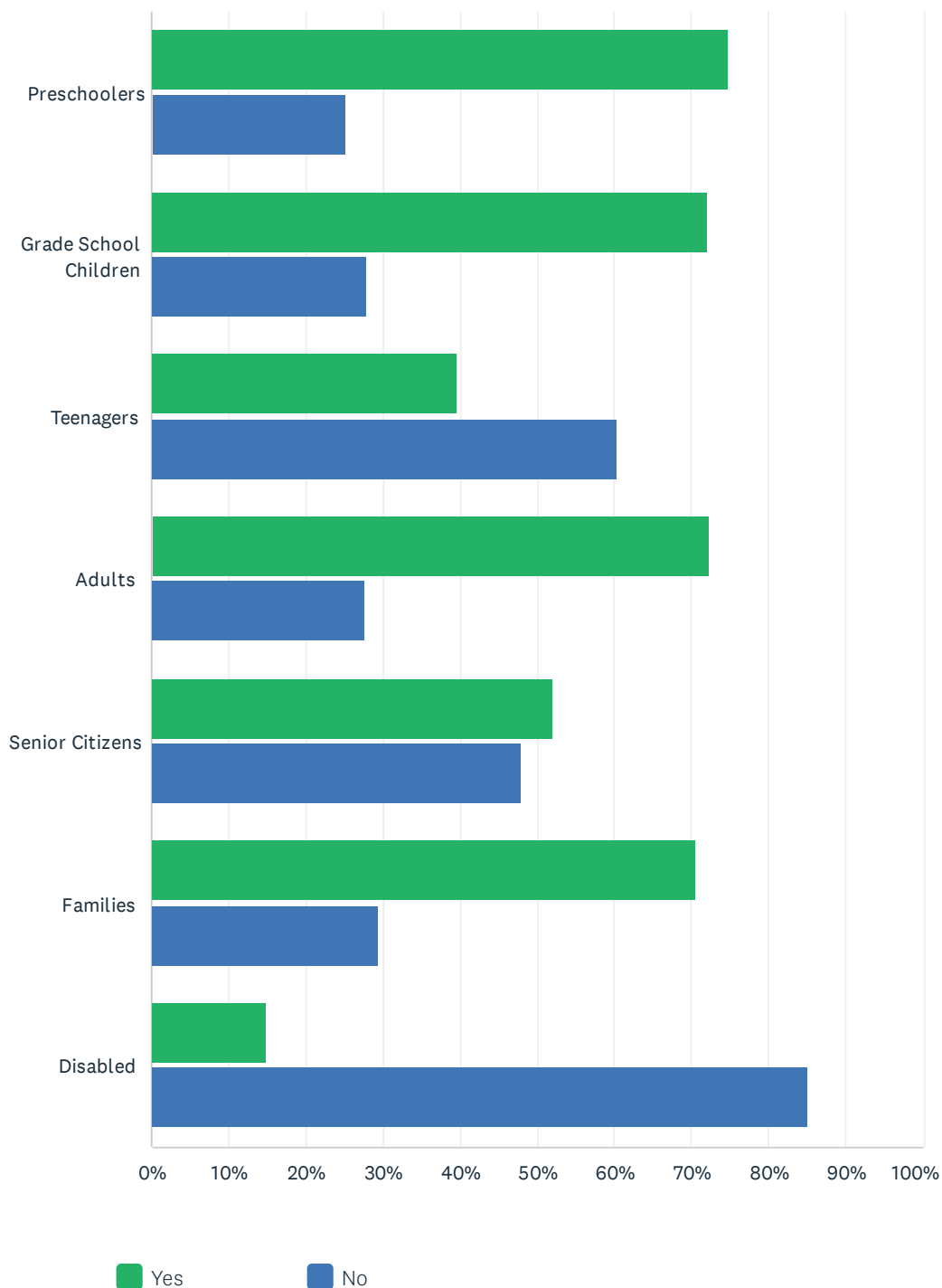
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Pave parking area at Library	2/3/2023 7:56 PM
2	none	2/2/2023 4:50 PM
3	Make lands available for hunting & fishing	1/31/2023 8:45 PM
4	Better access to Prospect Pond	1/30/2023 7:49 PM
5	why do you assume we need "MORE/BETTER"? how about maintain what we have.	1/29/2023 7:39 AM
6	Create a beach at Prospect Lake and create meaningful access to it.	1/28/2023 4:32 PM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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7	Not necessary	1/28/2023 1:29 PM
8	Private open land, such as already protected farm and wood land , must be acknowledged as private property.	1/28/2023 12:15 PM
9	Particularly for access to Prospect Lake	1/27/2023 7:50 AM
10	Improve public access to Prospect Lake	1/26/2023 9:59 PM
11	Access to the lake	1/26/2023 1:57 PM
12	Jogging paths. We go to the rail trail generally	1/25/2023 8:49 AM
13	Access to Prospect Lake is presently dreadful.	1/23/2023 2:43 PM
14	speed bumps in downtown S. Egremont	1/23/2023 2:18 PM
15	More public campsites	1/23/2023 10:17 AM
16	Public canoe/kayak access to Prospect Lake. Public beach area for swimming at Prospect Lake.	1/23/2023 9:19 AM
17	Sidewalk extension to Egremont Heights Road. Skating rink in French Park	1/22/2023 1:32 PM
18	Trail maintenance	1/22/2023 10:33 AM
19	Access to Prospect Lake very limited and unclear.	1/20/2023 11:51 AM
20	Better public access to prospect lake	1/13/2023 10:09 PM
21	Lake access	1/13/2023 5:32 PM
22	Education on access and responsible use/visiting.	1/13/2023 2:15 PM
23	better places to be able to walk	1/13/2023 12:29 PM
24	My vote is to maintain what we have and preserve as much as possible.	1/13/2023 12:10 PM
25	None	1/13/2023 11:12 AM
26	Create more walking trails	1/13/2023 9:44 AM
27	keep ahead of any maintenance issues.	1/9/2023 11:16 AM
28	Provide better access for those with physical limitations	1/7/2023 6:58 PM
29	ADA Compliant areas	1/7/2023 6:58 PM
30	Better accessibility for Prospect Lake through improvements at road and boat launch	1/6/2023 6:37 PM
31	Auto traffic diversion, calming	1/5/2023 9:51 PM
32	Repair boardwalk that gives access to creek connecting to Prospect Lake	1/5/2023 11:34 AM
33	perhaps not sidewalks, but clearing ways for pedestrians	1/4/2023 2:35 PM
34	Potable water at French park.... Try tapping into the land up the hill from the dig park	1/4/2023 1:56 PM
35	all good here	1/4/2023 9:59 AM
36	Current access to Prospect Lake for Egremont residents is nearly nonexistent. This is a travesty.	1/4/2023 9:58 AM
37	Town website	1/4/2023 9:22 AM
38	Parking for Prospect Lake	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
39	Nothing i think it's great	1/3/2023 5:30 PM
40	ADA Mobility improvements	1/3/2023 11:32 AM

Q3 Do you think the following groups have sufficient recreational opportunities? (Y/N)

Answered: 229 Skipped: 39

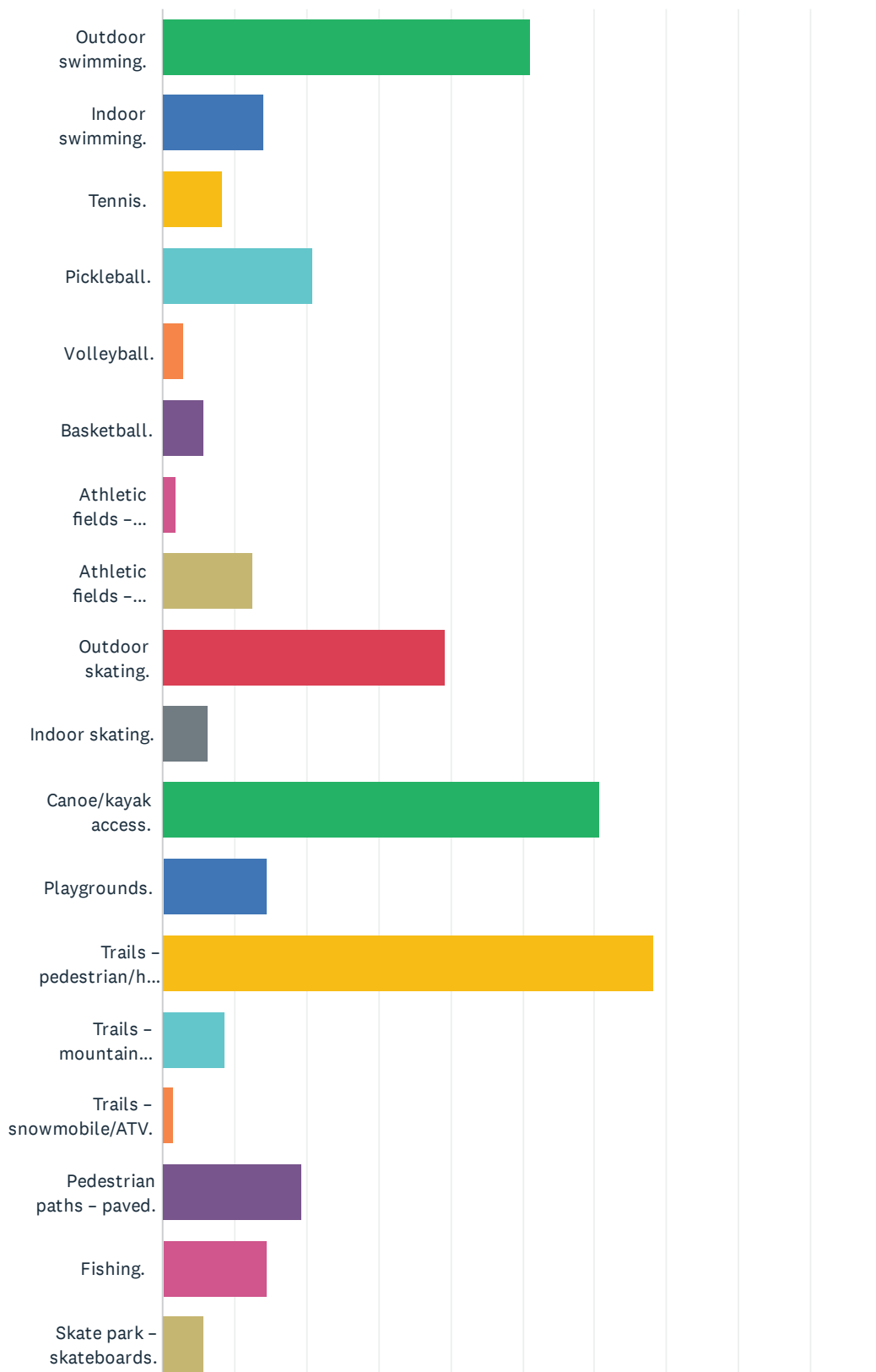


Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1

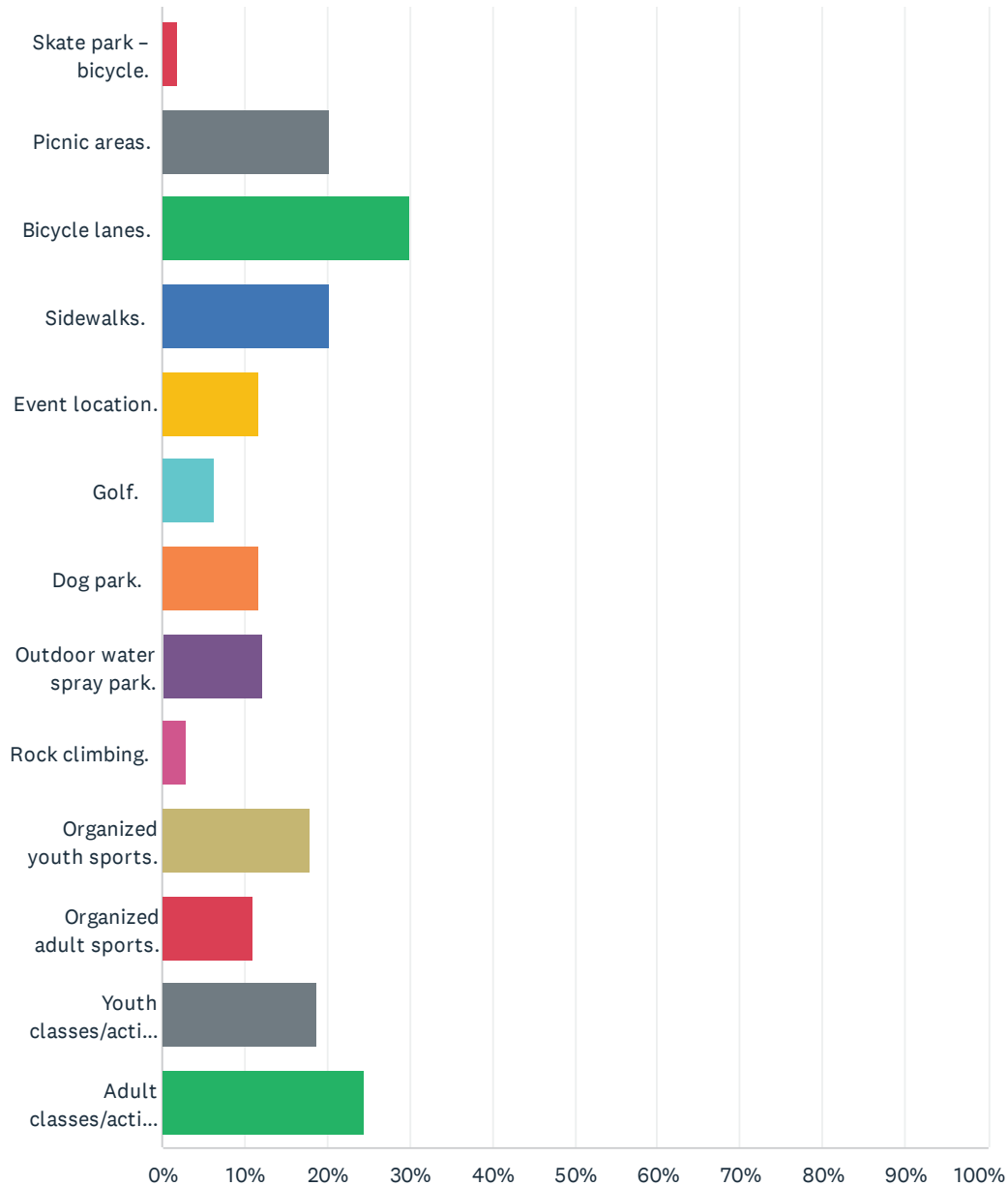
	YES	NO	TOTAL
Preschoolers	74.87% 146	25.13% 49	195
Grade School Children	72.16% 140	27.84% 54	194
Teenagers	39.70% 79	60.30% 120	199
Adults	72.38% 152	27.62% 58	210
Senior Citizens	52.09% 112	47.91% 103	215
Families	70.62% 137	29.38% 57	194
Disabled	14.89% 28	85.11% 160	188

Q4 What would you most like to see additional public dollars spent on for recreation? Choose all that apply.

Answered: 262 Skipped: 6



Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan: Community Questionnaire 1



Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1

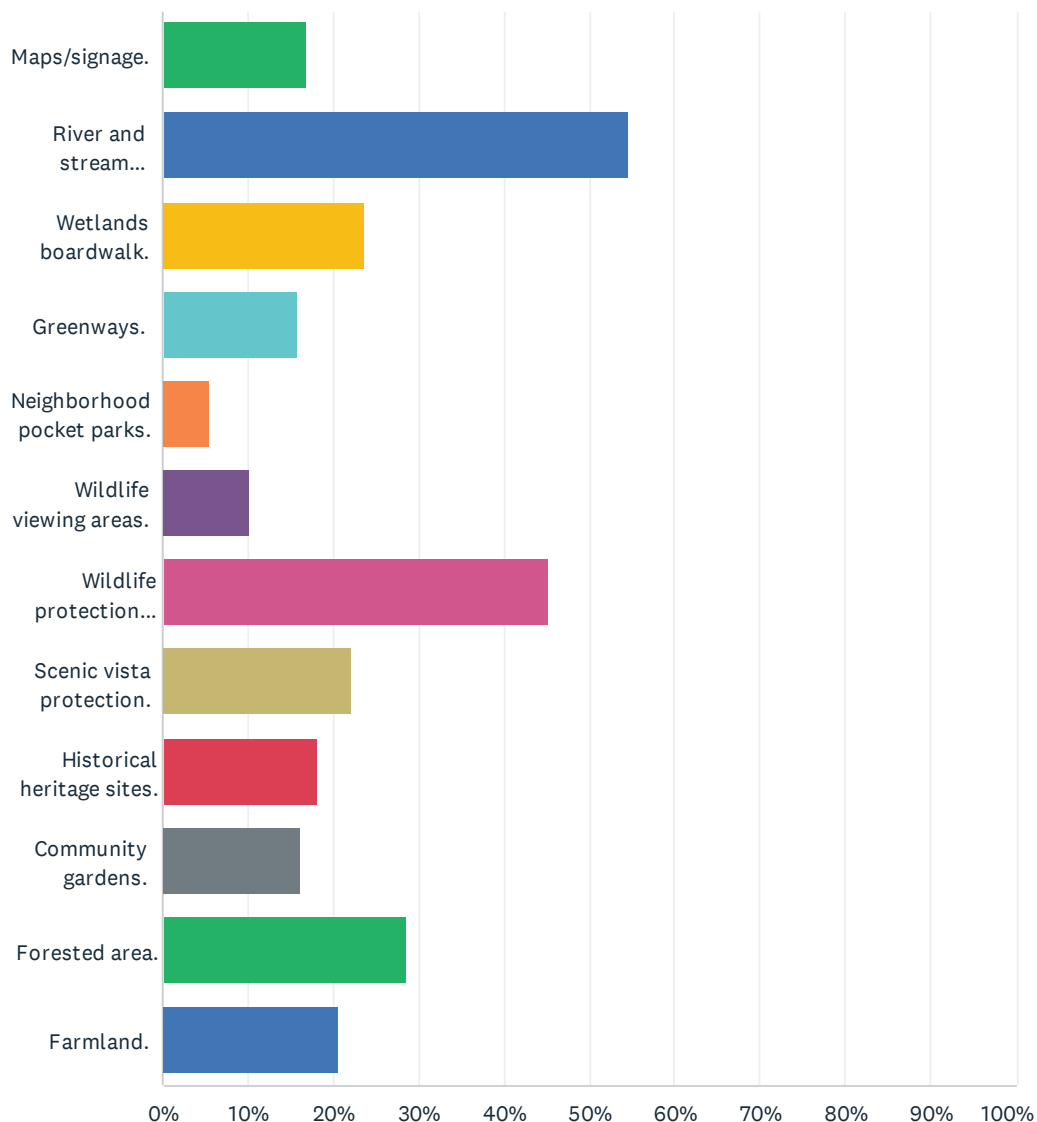
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Outdoor swimming.	51.15%	134
Indoor swimming.	14.12%	37
Tennis.	8.40%	22
Pickleball.	20.99%	55
Volleyball.	3.05%	8
Basketball.	5.73%	15
Athletic fields – diamonds.	1.91%	5
Athletic fields – multi-purpose.	12.60%	33
Outdoor skating.	39.31%	103
Indoor skating.	6.49%	17
Canoe/kayak access.	60.69%	159
Playgrounds.	14.50%	38
Trails – pedestrian/hiking.	68.32%	179
Trails – mountain biking.	8.78%	23
Trails – snowmobile/ATV.	1.53%	4
Pedestrian paths – paved.	19.47%	51
Fishing.	14.50%	38
Skate park – skateboards.	5.73%	15
Skate park – bicycle.	1.91%	5
Picnic areas.	20.23%	53
Bicycle lanes.	30.15%	79
Sidewalks.	20.23%	53
Event location.	11.83%	31
Golf.	6.49%	17
Dog park.	11.83%	31
Outdoor water spray park.	12.21%	32
Rock climbing.	3.05%	8
Organized youth sports.	17.94%	47
Organized adult sports.	11.07%	29
Youth classes/activities.	18.70%	49
Adult classes/activities.	24.43%	64
Total Respondents: 262		

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1**

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	these are all active use that require developed infrastructure; why is public money not being allocated towards preservation and maintenance of existing open and public spaces? Development is not the direction that open space management should be taking.	2/2/2023 4:50 PM
2	Prospect Lake should be accessible to all Egremont residents	2/2/2023 10:07 AM
3	Prospect Lake safe public access	2/1/2023 11:05 AM
4	Cross Country Skiing in French Park	1/29/2023 8:52 PM
5	Lake access	1/29/2023 9:10 AM
6	improved access to Prospect Lake.	1/29/2023 7:39 AM
7	Indoor tennis	1/28/2023 5:13 PM
8	Limit expenditure of public funds for these activities	1/28/2023 2:24 PM
9	None	1/28/2023 1:29 PM
10	a small park in south egremont village	1/28/2023 1:18 PM
11	Town of Egremont should do the snow removal on sidewalks.	1/28/2023 12:15 PM
12	Ping pong at French Park	1/26/2023 9:59 PM
13	more access to Prospect Lake.	1/26/2023 10:22 AM
14	Guided nature experiences	1/25/2023 8:49 AM
15	access to Prospect Lake	1/23/2023 2:43 PM
16	it is a shame that we pay for Prospect Lake and don't even have access to it . We need a beach!!!	1/23/2023 2:18 PM
17	Access to Prospect Lake for canoes & kayaks.	1/23/2023 10:17 AM
18	outdoor ping pong pavilion	1/23/2023 9:19 AM
19	A community center	1/22/2023 7:55 PM
20	For fire safety, education and recreation: a tower/lookout at the highest point in French Park.	1/22/2023 1:32 PM
21	Indoor walking option in cold or poor weather.	1/13/2023 2:15 PM
22	Access to Prospect Lake	1/13/2023 12:10 PM
23	Soccer fields	1/11/2023 2:34 PM
24	An indoor communal meeting space	1/10/2023 3:44 PM
25	Indoor event location	1/7/2023 6:58 PM
26	Hunting	1/6/2023 11:01 AM
27	All good, but priority seems making it possible to move around safely by bike and foot. In particular make dedicated routes -- with barriers from cars and trucks -- to Great Barrington	1/5/2023 9:51 PM
28	Please note that the town already has a dog park---we don't need another one!	1/4/2023 3:58 PM
29	Do note that while I appreciate the open spaces available to us, there can never be too many. We also need access to Prospect Lake.	1/4/2023 2:35 PM
30	It seems lie all of Egremont is a walking path and thing in that category is a bit of a waste.	1/4/2023 1:56 PM
31	leave it natural	1/4/2023 9:59 AM
32	Perhaps repurpose the baseball field at FP dog Park area to summer outdoor event space foe summer months (ie concerts, movies,plays, cultural events	1/4/2023 9:22 AM

Q5 What would you most like to see additional public dollars spent on for conservation areas? Please choose your top three priorities. Note: this question requires an answer.

Answered: 266 Skipped: 2



Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Maps/signage.	16.92% 45
River and stream protection.	54.51% 145
Wetlands boardwalk.	23.68% 63
Greenways.	15.79% 42
Neighborhood pocket parks.	5.64% 15
Wildlife viewing areas.	10.15% 27
Wildlife protection areas.	45.11% 120
Scenic vista protection.	22.18% 59
Historical heritage sites.	18.05% 48
Community gardens.	16.17% 43
Forested area.	28.57% 76
Farmland.	20.68% 55
Total Respondents: 266	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Prospect Lake safe public access	2/1/2023 11:05 AM
2	Hunting Lands	1/31/2023 8:45 PM
3	It would be great to have a Rail Trail through Egremont like the one that is in Hillsdale.	1/30/2023 10:15 PM
4	Develop a Dark Skies scenic viewing area.	1/29/2023 7:39 AM
5	plus river & stream protection and historical heritage sites	1/28/2023 1:29 PM
6	parking	1/28/2023 1:18 PM
7	Byways such as iconic Phillips Road	1/28/2023 12:15 PM
8	Wetland and floodplain protection	1/26/2023 4:17 PM
9	protection/introduction of native plants and elimination of invasives	1/26/2023 3:12 PM
10	I am in favor of right to farm but I am greatly distressed that we are still allowing very dangerous chemicals into our precious land and waters.	1/26/2023 12:31 PM
11	I live in downtown and need a car to go hiking. What a shame! Connect the dots!	1/23/2023 2:18 PM
12	public campsites	1/23/2023 10:17 AM
13	protected natural corridors and connections	1/23/2023 9:19 AM
14	The town (and groups of volunteer citizens) need to cut vines off trees along roads. Nothing's been done. We've lost MANY that could have been avoided. PLANT NEW TREES ALONG ROADS. Step in a stop illegal deforestation that's been going on (one situation abuts Eliz. Bledsoe. Trees on the corner BHR and Blunt Road along the road.were beautiful. Cut "by accident" and we called the conservation board when it happened asking for replanting. Nothing done!	1/21/2023 9:20 PM
15	River walk along the brook in South Egremont	1/20/2023 11:51 AM
16	upgraded rivers and streams lead to many other possibilities. protection areas for wildlife and forests will push back against development which is encroaching faster than preservation can compete with.	1/16/2023 6:55 PM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1

17	Cleaning of culverts that are breeding grounds for mesquitos	1/14/2023 7:57 AM
18	Support of Organic Farming. Protecting ground and well water.	1/14/2023 2:08 AM
19	Access to prospect lake	1/13/2023 10:28 AM
20	Stop filling wetlands & watersheds	1/11/2023 2:34 PM
21	"Conservation areas" are to protect nature, not to put more people in them.	1/10/2023 7:54 AM
22	Farmland that is not using harmful pesticides	1/5/2023 9:23 AM
23	Improviing access to Prospect Lake	1/4/2023 2:35 PM
24	I'd like to have a policy in place where horse riders realize that farming is a business and they don't have carte Blanche to ride where they want	1/4/2023 1:56 PM
25	moratorium on building. Keep Egremont GREEN	1/4/2023 12:57 PM
26	Natural wildlife corridor connections	1/2/2023 6:41 PM
27	protected natural corridors and connections	12/31/2022 12:42 PM

Q6 Comprehensive plans are often about the balance between preservation and change. In thinking about the experience of living in Egremont now, what aspects of that experience do you want to preserve?

Answered: 186 Skipped: 82

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	open space and recreation	2/3/2023 8:03 PM
2	I would preserve natural areas - forest and farmland, lakes and ponds.	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
3	Preserve our forests and farmlands	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
4	town form of government, right to farm, open space and forested lands, South Egremont Village School	2/3/2023 2:58 PM
5	open space, a distinctively New England small rural villages without urbanized influences (e.g., urban-type businesses, over developed infrastructure like hardscaping, traffic lights	2/2/2023 4:55 PM
6	Greenspace including forest, fields and waterways.	2/2/2023 3:00 PM
7	the town as it exists with an exception for new businesses that can preserve the character of the town	2/2/2023 11:31 AM
8	rural character and unpaved roads	2/2/2023 10:16 AM
9	Maintain existing undeveloped land and land currently used as farmland. Apart from the North and South Villages and along Hillsdale Road, Egremont has historically been predominantly rural and agricultural. That has been and is continuing to be lost. We need to preserve what we have left.	2/2/2023 9:46 AM
10	Undevelopable property	2/2/2023 9:16 AM
11	PRESERVING NATURAL ENVIROMENT	2/1/2023 2:30 PM
12	rural character,	2/1/2023 11:31 AM
13	Undeveloped areas	2/1/2023 11:12 AM
14	For a local person to be able to exist and survive in this small town	1/31/2023 9:18 PM
15	How to maintain the "small town" atmosphere	1/31/2023 4:03 PM
16	zoning for businesses not to be able to set up next to residencies	1/31/2023 11:26 AM
17	I would like the brook preserved that runs through Egremont town.	1/30/2023 10:25 PM
18	Open space and farming	1/30/2023 8:00 PM
19	Community spirit	1/30/2023 7:04 PM
20	A balance between perservag and change can be made.	1/30/2023 4:47 PM
21	Farmland, streams and rivers	1/30/2023 1:47 PM
22	undeveloped land and viewsapes	1/30/2023 10:47 AM
23	Municipal services	1/29/2023 10:36 PM
24	Existing forests and quiet roadways	1/29/2023 8:58 PM
25	Natural beauty, open space, local commercial businesses, restaurants, shops	1/29/2023 8:21 PM
26	Open space and recreation	1/29/2023 8:16 PM
27	healthy ecosystem	1/29/2023 3:49 PM

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28	The beauty and access to the existing open space.	1/29/2023 2:30 PM
29	Parks and trails	1/29/2023 9:49 AM
30	Preserve the historical character of Egremont. And the small village vibe- don't allow too many businesses/commerce to enter and lose the cozy feel of the village.	1/29/2023 9:44 AM
31	It rural, farming atmosphere	1/29/2023 9:29 AM
32	Outdoor trails	1/29/2023 8:56 AM
33	Old growth forests, existing walking routes Ex. Baldwin Hill loup, dirt roads, undeveloped land	1/29/2023 8:51 AM
34	just about everything. I think the opening of th 2003 Master Plan pretty much says it all and should be re-cycled.	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
35	Natural and scenic resources	1/29/2023 6:12 AM
36	all water ways, i.e. streams, bogs, lakes, rivers	1/29/2023 5:31 AM
37	Nature, open lands, protect from invasive species, more polinator plants, local species	1/28/2023 10:51 PM
38	The open spaces and outdoor access	1/28/2023 10:39 PM
39	Farmland	1/28/2023 10:07 PM
40	Access to hiking trails	1/28/2023 9:06 PM
41	Nature	1/28/2023 7:48 PM
42	affordability for those working locally	1/28/2023 6:05 PM
43	Nature areas	1/28/2023 5:59 PM
44	The nice balance between bucolic and community, access to amenities	1/28/2023 5:23 PM
45	Attempts to "preserve" things always fail; future generations do what they want and ignore the "preservations."	1/28/2023 4:43 PM
46	the rural nature of the town, current zoning	1/28/2023 4:24 PM
47	quiet rural character	1/28/2023 2:33 PM
48	The goals of the 2003 Master Plan. Conserve open space; protect wildlife corridors and scenic views such as mountain, hillsides & ridgelines; preserve historical features; maintain quaint, rural small town attributes and feel	1/28/2023 2:04 PM
49	protection of personal property rights with regards to real estate.	1/28/2023 1:48 PM
50	protection of open spaces; waterways	1/28/2023 1:25 PM
51	I have been part of Egremont since I was born in 1934. From 1934 to 1954 Egremont was an Eden. I was a farmhand on Baldwin Hill Farm until I left for other job opportunities in 1958. I have lived by the old time values that I learned on the farm throughout my life. I would like those values understood and valued by people new to the community.	1/28/2023 12:40 PM
52	The beauty of the natural surroundings	1/28/2023 12:24 PM
53	open space	1/28/2023 12:05 PM
54	Rural nature	1/28/2023 9:24 AM
55	Preservation of natural areas in perpetuity. No further construction.	1/27/2023 9:42 PM
56	Protection from commercial store chains	1/27/2023 6:15 PM
57	community	1/27/2023 2:24 PM
58	Friendly, open, accessible, beautiful, non-urban	1/27/2023 7:59 AM
59	Rural environment	1/27/2023 12:29 AM
60	Preserve the rural character, that feeling which attracts others to Egremont. Preserve low traffic, Keep roadways uncluttered with advertisements and signage. Replant trees whenever	1/26/2023 10:30 PM

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trees are removed along town roadways. Allow growth to take place organically, not forced by growth promoted as a perceived necessity.

61	Natural surroundings and vistas and farmlands	1/26/2023 10:20 PM
62	Natural and cultural resources	1/26/2023 9:33 PM
63	Hiking and walking trails	1/26/2023 8:11 PM
64	Rural atmosphere	1/26/2023 7:40 PM
65	open spaceCreate safe	1/26/2023 4:35 PM
66	open spaces and wildlife preservation	1/26/2023 3:38 PM
67	Open space	1/26/2023 10:26 AM
68	I would like to see dirt roads preserved as much as is feasible. These are a viable option for walkers in a town with hardly any sidewalks and sometimes very fast traffic.	1/26/2023 10:18 AM
69	Historic, New England quaintness	1/26/2023 10:17 AM
70	The architecture, wildlife and authenticity.	1/26/2023 9:54 AM
71	Historic character and culture of both villages	1/26/2023 7:24 AM
72	Living in nature	1/25/2023 8:56 AM
73	Preserve being rural	1/25/2023 8:18 AM
74	I want to preserve the natural beauty that exists.	1/24/2023 5:45 PM
75	French Park and Prospect Lake	1/24/2023 4:20 PM
76	Trails at French Park	1/23/2023 4:49 PM
77	Woodlands, Lakes, Walking trails, sports(tennis, baseball, etc.) no overdevelopment	1/23/2023 2:51 PM
78	I want to preserve the sense of community by creating a center where people can meet, play, get together. We should have bought the golf course or church!	1/23/2023 2:32 PM
79	Open space	1/23/2023 1:00 PM
80	Access to water	1/23/2023 10:31 AM
81	Rural character, low population, low traffic volume, clean air, clean water, quietude, sense of community from having long time neighbors (not short term rentals), no large scale businesses (especially not chain stores), keep commercial uses separate from residential uses outside of villages, prevent commercial sprawl, protect scenic dirt roads/stone walls/roadside trees, support small scale buildings and New England architecture in new buildings in villages, 2 story height limit on buildings, support goals of 2003 Master Plan.	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
82	OPEN SPACE PROTECTION	1/23/2023 9:44 AM
83	Preserve open spaces and farm land, do not overdevelop. But set aside some land for low-income housing so this community does its part in addressing the shortage of housing.	1/22/2023 8:04 PM
84	Natural beauty	1/22/2023 3:17 PM
85	Smallness	1/22/2023 1:48 PM
86	Scenic beauty, quiet, wildlife, park, trails	1/22/2023 1:38 PM
87	Rural feeling	1/22/2023 11:43 AM
88	Historical sites and forests.	1/22/2023 11:00 AM
89	The community feel, the open spaces.	1/22/2023 10:55 AM
90	The farm/rural/forested areas.	1/22/2023 10:37 AM
91	All the open space that now exists should remain. If private land is up for sale, the Town should buy it or the ELT should step in. STOP allowing building in the tree line.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM

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92	Historical sites, nature	1/20/2023 12:56 PM
93	Socio-economic diversity; historic buildings; Egremont School; year round community presence	1/20/2023 11:52 AM
94	Open spaces, conservation areas, population density	1/19/2023 11:58 AM
95	Open land	1/18/2023 10:48 AM
96	wildlife and forested areas. rivers and streams. I	1/16/2023 7:05 PM
97	Rural quality	1/16/2023 6:52 PM
98	Very rural	1/15/2023 4:37 PM
99	Open spaces, undeveloped land, farmland and historical features	1/15/2023 9:06 AM
100	Quiet community where growth does not infringe upon or impact the quiet, safety, and peace of home.	1/14/2023 3:14 PM
101	The open beauty of the landscape	1/14/2023 9:30 AM
102	Rural characteristics, less development of natural lands	1/14/2023 8:12 AM
103	Agricultural feeling of the community	1/14/2023 8:10 AM
104	Non commercial environment, limited development,	1/13/2023 11:22 PM
105	Open space, scenic views and historical sites	1/13/2023 10:32 PM
106	our rural nature	1/13/2023 7:47 PM
107	Small town charm	1/13/2023 7:26 PM
108	Historic locations, open spaces, public access to views	1/13/2023 5:42 PM
109	Open space	1/13/2023 5:15 PM
110	Quiet, low light pollution,	1/13/2023 4:02 PM
111	wildlife especially endangered (bog turtle)	1/13/2023 3:24 PM
112	Selective open spaces, vistas, managed buildout.	1/13/2023 2:25 PM
113	WATER RIGHTS. The land and habitats. Vistas and farmland.	1/13/2023 12:14 PM
114	Opportunities and areas designed for locals, most places that locals once loved are being ruined by tourists polluting and crowding. Maybe more monitoring and cameras at preserved/protected areas.	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
115	open space, wildlife habitat	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
116	Trails	1/13/2023 11:15 AM
117	Rural feel	1/13/2023 11:03 AM
118	Open space	1/13/2023 10:29 AM
119	The rural nature of the town and preservation of forests. Limit new development.	1/13/2023 9:52 AM
120	natural and cultural/historic resources	1/11/2023 7:24 PM
121	Rural open spaces	1/11/2023 7:15 PM
122	Village centers with space for community activities	1/11/2023 3:08 PM
123	The green spaces, Prospect Lake	1/11/2023 3:05 PM
124	Wildlife areas, walking trails, unpaved roads (e.g., Phillips Rd.)	1/10/2023 5:04 PM
125	Safety! We love the quietness of Egremont and would like to keep large crowds at bay.	1/10/2023 11:48 AM
126	Playgrounds and parks	1/10/2023 11:19 AM
127	Native plants and trees. Natural waterways. Historic sites. Cultural Opportunities. Recreational	1/10/2023 10:58 AM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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Opportunities.. The wonderful sense of community.

128	Scenic quality, compact development patterns, historic preservation, and preserving open space	1/10/2023 10:35 AM
129	open spaces, wildlife areas	1/10/2023 10:34 AM
130	I want to preserve the quite, rural quality.	1/10/2023 8:04 AM
131	Small town life in both North and South Egremont, preservation of the center of both villages, keeping many open spaces undeveloped, supporting local farms	1/9/2023 11:18 PM
132	Small town feel with lots of protected space	1/9/2023 11:41 AM
133	Egremont's small town feel	1/9/2023 11:22 AM
134	Open Space. Untouched Nature.	1/8/2023 7:45 PM
135	Open space	1/8/2023 7:20 PM
136	Rural feeling	1/8/2023 7:15 PM
137	Slow-paced lifestyle and sense of community	1/8/2023 5:15 PM
138	Natural resources such as open land, traffic control and resources available to senior citizens.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
139	The right to farm; public access to green spaces, water and wildlife protection and management	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
140	preservation	1/7/2023 2:56 PM
141	Sense of community in south Egremont village	1/7/2023 8:47 AM
142	as much farmland and open space as possible	1/6/2023 8:08 PM
143	I would like to see some plan to decide how much housing, limit deforestation and limit the amount of woodlands that can be developed.	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
144	Would like to maintain the small village feel	1/6/2023 2:22 PM
145	Historic Resources	1/6/2023 12:56 PM
146	Bucolic, residential, very small town character of Egremont	1/6/2023 11:09 AM
147	Keep old growth forests from being cut down by developers.	1/5/2023 10:26 PM
148	Do not privatize town water or any other natural resource/Skilled workers/Darkness/Quiet/Farmland /Wildlife/Ability to walk & bike safely in a time of rising auto traffic/Privacy--no electronic surveillance/Reliable power grid--versus private generators	1/5/2023 10:09 PM
149	wild areas	1/5/2023 11:40 AM
150	Small scale and open areas of natural beauty or historic significance	1/5/2023 9:37 AM
151	the wildlife habitat	1/5/2023 9:30 AM
152	Nature	1/5/2023 7:23 AM
153	The dog park is amazing and the playground excellent. Love the walks/hikes in French Park & Jug End	1/4/2023 10:01 PM
154	Relative untouched natural spaces, not crowded spaces,	1/4/2023 7:35 PM
155	Parks and outdoor recreation	1/4/2023 5:49 PM
156	Its quiet rural character	1/4/2023 4:23 PM
157	Natural and cultural resourced	1/4/2023 3:52 PM
158	the natural beauty and rural nature of the town; prevent development that is not in line with these values	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
159	Wetlands	1/4/2023 2:06 PM
160	Lush landscape, biodiversity	1/4/2023 1:37 PM

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161	Forests, parks, wildlife conservation	1/4/2023 1:16 PM
162	The small town feel of the place, restrictions on over-building, keeping the historic value of the town a priority	1/4/2023 1:07 PM
163	The historical feel is wonderful. Preserve a lot of open, green space.	1/4/2023 12:24 PM
164	Public access to green spaces	1/4/2023 11:46 AM
165	charm and house preservation and restoration	1/4/2023 10:51 AM
166	forests ...farmland natural habitats	1/4/2023 10:05 AM
167	I think it's pretty ideal now. I would like to see the natural areas preserved as possible.	1/4/2023 10:04 AM
168	Historical heritage	1/4/2023 9:45 AM
169	Rural environment with climate stability and enhanced educational and cultural venues	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
170	Open areas for walking and enjoying nature	1/4/2023 9:16 AM
171	The rural aspect of the town.	1/4/2023 9:11 AM
172	Landscape health, including good and plentiful water, ecological balance.	1/4/2023 8:26 AM
173	Greenspaces	1/4/2023 8:09 AM
174	Wildlife habitat	1/4/2023 7:36 AM
175	Non commercialized like GB! Governance over Air B&B calls us of our outdoor spaces, trash, altering properties. over Air B&B	1/4/2023 6:37 AM
176	.	1/4/2023 5:56 AM
177	Keep open spaces, parks we have, improve Jug End	1/3/2023 10:26 PM
178	Rural environment, access to recreational space	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
179	country quality	1/3/2023 6:14 PM
180	The vista on the top of Baldwin Hill	1/3/2023 6:12 PM
181	The trails and forests , wildlife	1/3/2023 5:31 PM
182	Rampant change has already tipped the balance to the point that preservation of Egremont's small town values is on the brink of extinction.	1/3/2023 12:58 PM
183	Historic character, small town connectedness	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
184	The quality of a small New England Town	1/3/2023 10:43 AM
185	open green spaces	1/2/2023 6:23 AM
186	Natural environment	12/31/2022 11:13 AM

Q7 Comprehensive plans are often about the balance between preservation and change. In thinking about the experience of living in Egremont now, what aspects of that experience do you want to change?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 92

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	safer bicycle ad walking areas	2/3/2023 8:03 PM
2	Egremont residents should have better access to Prospect Lake for boating and swimming.	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
3	Better access to Prospect Lake	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
4	more business development, demographic shift away from aging population, affordable and workforce housing	2/3/2023 2:58 PM
5	needs to be more support and opportunity for local families to continue in area	2/2/2023 4:55 PM
6	I would like to make the town more walkable through modestly lit sidewalks and pathways.	2/2/2023 3:00 PM
7	emphasize importance of native plants and wildlife	2/2/2023 10:16 AM
8	While we should preserve the rural character of the outer areas of the town, the villages need development. Commercial businesses should be encouraged in the two villages, especially south village. The re-build of 23 will help that with new sidewalks, but we need more parking and ability for business to come into the existing buildings without the special permit hoops everyone is forced to go through.	2/2/2023 9:46 AM
9	Implement sidewalks on dark country roads with heavy foot traffic.	2/2/2023 9:16 AM
10	PRESERVING WHAT WE HAVE	2/1/2023 2:30 PM
11	protection and expansion of green spaces Eliminate invasive species	2/1/2023 11:31 AM
12	Would like to have an outdoor place to swim -Prospect Lake?	2/1/2023 11:12 AM
13	The town needs to support/encourage new small businesses and have more lenient zoning and building codes so younger families can afford to settle in Egremont.	1/31/2023 9:18 PM
14	We really need to attract more businesses to the area especially along Rt. 23. I am not sure how to maintain the small town atmosphere while growing businesses, but there can be a balance.	1/31/2023 4:03 PM
15	to have thriving small businesses in the south village and public transportation.	1/31/2023 11:26 AM
16	I would like a rail trail if possible. A pedestrian walking path like the one that is in Hillsdale.	1/30/2023 10:25 PM
17	Creative thinking for more accessible housing for working people and elderly. Like vest pocket development of cottages tastefully tucked in here and there.	1/30/2023 8:00 PM
18	More affordable housing so all ages can live here	1/30/2023 7:04 PM
19	Unsightly junk cars and other old non-working equipment to be removed from residents yards	1/30/2023 4:47 PM
20	signage/access to trails for hiking and connect open areas for public access for hiking and biking	1/30/2023 1:47 PM
21	less state involvement in sidewalks and curbing	1/30/2023 10:47 AM
22	Open space and recreation	1/29/2023 10:36 PM
23	More development in the village center	1/29/2023 8:58 PM
24	I'd like to see more opportunity for art, culture, recreation, food, local shops creating a sense of community, neighborhood and 'place'	1/29/2023 8:21 PM

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25	Make it more affordable for the people who grew up here and want to buy/own; tighter control of the bylaws - can we continue to survive as a sleepy community? We don't want to have to worry about being overtaken by solar, for instance.	1/29/2023 8:16 PM
26	change farming to organic farming	1/29/2023 3:49 PM
27	Increasing access to some of our resources, particularly Prospect Lake. Egremont is not unique in our need for affordable housing but I strongly believe that without much more of it, our town, as beautiful as it is, will wither.	1/29/2023 2:30 PM
28	affordable housing, more diverse population	1/29/2023 1:19 PM
29	Community Gardens	1/29/2023 9:49 AM
30	Be careful that the businesses that are allowed to open in Egremont have an added value for the residents. Restaurants and food shopping would be helpful and not detract from the feel.	1/29/2023 9:44 AM
31	I wish we could have more dirt roads. I miss the ones that have been paved over. :(	1/29/2023 9:29 AM
32	Additional recreational facilities	1/29/2023 8:56 AM
33	Prevent housing development, preserve more land as protected	1/29/2023 8:51 AM
34	not much.	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
35	Inability to walk or bike safely	1/29/2023 6:43 AM
36	Affordable housing both apartments/condos and single family dwellings.	1/29/2023 5:31 AM
37	More protection of natural resources	1/28/2023 10:51 PM
38	Better repair of roads and clean up of dead trees	1/28/2023 10:39 PM
39	More public swimming	1/28/2023 10:07 PM
40	More low cost housing	1/28/2023 9:06 PM
41	More affordable housing	1/28/2023 7:48 PM
42	just being Egremont,not north or south with different zip codes.....just creates confusion	1/28/2023 6:05 PM
43	A more vibrant village center	1/28/2023 6:02 PM
44	No hunting at jug End Reservation	1/28/2023 5:59 PM
45	I would like it to be more safely walkable. It's dangerous to walk on the roads and the other option are hiking trails.	1/28/2023 5:23 PM
46	Same answer as question 6.	1/28/2023 4:43 PM
47	remove/clean up blighted properties	1/28/2023 2:33 PM
48	I support the goals of the 2003 Master Plan	1/28/2023 2:04 PM
49	access to ponds for non-invasive engagement (swimming, non-motorized boating)	1/28/2023 1:25 PM
50	See above.	1/28/2023 12:40 PM
51	Need for more affordable housing	1/28/2023 12:24 PM
52	municipal services	1/28/2023 12:05 PM
53	A more vibrant village	1/28/2023 9:24 AM
54	More communal activities. We need to be more of a community	1/27/2023 9:42 PM
55	Economic development	1/27/2023 6:15 PM
56	younger residents involvement	1/27/2023 2:24 PM
57	More families/children	1/27/2023 7:59 AM
58	More vibrant town center/South Egremont	1/27/2023 12:29 AM
59	Change the thinking that growth and change are necessary. No evidence supports this. Many	1/26/2023 10:30 PM

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empty store fronts and malls exist when money and growth are the driving force. Stay small and viable; don't think we have to get bigger. Any growth should be sustainable, evolving from need, not merely growth for growth's sake.

60	Stop butchering trees, use of qualified arborists	1/26/2023 10:20 PM
61	More thriving and welcoming villages	1/26/2023 9:33 PM
62	Need more access to prospect lake	1/26/2023 8:11 PM
63	More opportunities for working people to live in Egremont	1/26/2023 7:40 PM
64	Create safe walking and bike conditions along town roads	1/26/2023 4:35 PM
65	Area needs more low income housing for young persons.	1/26/2023 3:38 PM
66	more business so that young people have a reason to stay and make this their home.	1/26/2023 10:35 AM
67	Public access to Prospect Lake, safe, for boating, fishing and swimming	1/26/2023 10:26 AM
68	More emphasis on preservation and less on development.	1/26/2023 10:18 AM
69	More access, sidewalks, easy access	1/26/2023 10:17 AM
70	For people to be less rigid. Be open to change for the better.	1/26/2023 9:54 AM
71	The reliance on neighboring towns and villages for a community meeting places	1/26/2023 7:24 AM
72	More protected bike and jogging trails,	1/25/2023 8:56 AM
73	More protected land, wildlife and adult nature learning opportunities	1/25/2023 8:18 AM
74	I would like more trails and areas that are preserved to allow human access and enjoyment via paths and trails. Also more community based activities.	1/24/2023 5:45 PM
75	Services such as sewer and garbage pick up	1/24/2023 4:20 PM
76	Public access to lake	1/23/2023 4:49 PM
77	More community events for fun and pleasure	1/23/2023 2:51 PM
78	we need access to public spaces (without using a car - not everybody - young and old - can drive) AND we need social housing so that our police men/teachers/ nurses/ waiters can live here	1/23/2023 2:32 PM
79	Land use	1/23/2023 1:00 PM
80	Protect scenic value of mountaintops, allow ADU's only for long term rentals not short term to add to workforce housing stock, require special permits for short term rentals and minimize the number allowed in town so neighborhoods don't become essentially motel districts, allow commercial uses only in designated areas with clear regulations on setbacks and other impacts (visual, sounds, smells, etc.) rather than be discretionary by special permit so residential areas are protected	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
81	DOWNTOWN (RT 23) UPGRADE	1/23/2023 9:44 AM
82	Create a community center so there is a place for the community to meet and host activities for people of all ages.	1/22/2023 8:04 PM
83	Create safer better access to natural beauty while strengthening the sense of community. Create more walkable and bicycle-able main roads to link us all together year round	1/22/2023 3:17 PM
84	Overdevelopment	1/22/2023 1:48 PM
85	There no longer seems to be a place for senior activities other than lunch at the Barn inn. Would be nice if there was a place where seniors and others could participate in exercise, art making, lectures, and other activities.	1/22/2023 1:38 PM
86	Fortify business opportunities in the villages	1/22/2023 11:43 AM
87	Make the roads more safe for bikers and pedestrians. Add bike lanes on Jug End Road, creamery rd and Rte 71. Create a shared space for music and festivals like a band stand or	1/22/2023 11:00 AM

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gazebo at French Park. Add more benches and a gazebo to the town green in So. Egremont for celebrations like Memorial Day, July 4, Town's anniversary and Veterans Day.

88	The need to over develop	1/22/2023 10:55 AM
89	More trees. Replacement. Access to French Pond. It's crazy that for all these many years. there's no access and whatever access by the docks was not built properly and failure to maintain. More public access to April Hill and other areas (like Bown Wow Road. Town and ELT need to be proactive in saving land from contruction and deforestation.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM
90	More business friendly, kid friendly	1/20/2023 12:56 PM
91	Opportunities for denser housing (condos, multifamilies, cluster housing, etc); friendlier business environment (ease of permitting); more vibrant South Egremont village; more parking in South Egremont	1/20/2023 11:52 AM
92	A more vibrant South Egremont Main Street, internet access	1/19/2023 11:58 AM
93	We need more activity in the village of Egremont; see below; we need to preserve as much open land as possible/make it possible for farmers to continue their way of life.	1/18/2023 10:48 AM
94	I realize that commerce is important to the survival and health of Egremont but my preference is to preserve the natural resources we have and perhaps to enrich in small ways the commerce: for example--a restaurant or two.	1/16/2023 7:05 PM
95	Nothing	1/15/2023 4:37 PM
96	I'd like to see cluster housing for low income families tastefully done.	1/15/2023 9:06 AM
97	The major change would involve parking and access to Prospect Lake.	1/14/2023 3:14 PM
98	Egremont is in danger of becoming a rarified retirement community for wealthy people. They are the ones that often get involved in planning processes like this so you end up with a vision that attracts more of the same. How do you change that?	1/14/2023 12:11 PM
99	More active involvement from residents . Affordable housing needed snd transportation for workers	1/14/2023 9:30 AM
100	Ability to access Prospect Lake for swimming and kayaking	1/14/2023 8:12 AM
101	Stronger villages	1/14/2023 8:10 AM
102	Swimming and non motorized boat access to Prospect Lake	1/13/2023 11:22 PM
103	Increased affordable housing options, well planned commercial growth on Main Street	1/13/2023 10:32 PM
104	People who move here need to be given a pamphlet describing how best to fit in with the town and the natural environment. Where to walk, how to walk on roads, to not burn leaves, etc. So many people are not aware how different country life is. They often leave their poop bags by the side of the path or road? What are they thinking? (or not?)	1/13/2023 7:47 PM
105	Walkability and lighting in villages	1/13/2023 7:26 PM
106	Unfriendly environment for new business in the village, encouraging businesses to open in the village,	1/13/2023 5:42 PM
107	More room to walk on the roads.	1/13/2023 5:28 PM
108	More recreational facilities	1/13/2023 5:15 PM
109	Entice more retail such as restaurants	1/13/2023 4:02 PM
110	limiting private land sales (parcels) and promoting contiguous conservation areas	1/13/2023 3:24 PM
111	Buildout, density, planned community.	1/13/2023 2:25 PM
112	Increase affordable housing.	1/13/2023 12:14 PM
113	Add more signage of laws and protections, listing consequences. Maybe even add cameras to monitor activity.	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
114	sidewalks on heavily traveled streets, we have lots of walkers and lots of cars on main arteries	1/13/2023 11:39 AM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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115	Increase affordable housing in the villages	1/13/2023 11:03 AM
116	Build on what is already here -- improve and expand French Park	1/13/2023 10:29 AM
117	Improve access to nature. Celebrate farming	1/13/2023 9:52 AM
118	Land use	1/11/2023 7:24 PM
119	More vibrant village life with more diversity	1/11/2023 7:15 PM
120	Restore community buildings in villages	1/11/2023 3:08 PM
121	Access to the lake for residents to swim, canoe, kayak, fish (summer and winter) quiet enjoyment	1/11/2023 3:05 PM
122	Provide an indoors place where groups can meet	1/10/2023 5:04 PM
123	Better maintenance and publicity/signage for recreation areas	1/10/2023 11:19 AM
124	Increasing the safety and enjoyment of our neighborhoods by prohibiting hunting in our neighborhoods and open spaces such as French Park.	1/10/2023 10:58 AM
125	Your question is misleading. One option is to maintain existing conditions, and that is my preference.	1/10/2023 10:35 AM
126	Real access to the lake. Not an overgrown lot that opens to marsh.	1/10/2023 8:04 AM
127	Some provision made for affordable housing, encourage more small businesses to open in South and North Egremont, enforce speed limits on Route 23 and 71, use the former Elm Court Inn in North Egremont as the site of another restaurant if the space can be	1/9/2023 11:18 PM
128	More conservation for the sake of nature and not necessarily for human access	1/9/2023 11:41 AM
129	make it more affordable to live here	1/9/2023 11:22 AM
130	Over use of ugly signs. A few wooden signs is good. Lots of metal signs with lots of verbiage is useless and ugly.	1/8/2023 7:45 PM
131	Access to preserved land	1/8/2023 7:20 PM
132	More land for affordable housing	1/8/2023 7:15 PM
133	When new housing needs to be built, avoid clear cutting all the trees from the lot. I understand the need to have trees a safe distance from the home and power lines but to clear-cut simply for convenience is a poor choice.	1/8/2023 5:15 PM
134	Greater diversity through affordable housing, public access to Prospect Lake, Community Meeting Center.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
135	Access to affordable housing, public and safe access to Prospect Lake into perpetuity, a community meeting space.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
136	more young people and families	1/7/2023 8:47 AM
137	more public access to Prospect Lake	1/6/2023 8:08 PM
138	I would like to see a development plan that limit's development to certain areas and increase the amount of acreage for development. And a plan of what areas are residential and what areas are rural and woodlands. Alford had a five acre limit for housing not just road frontage.	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
139	Would like to have more community events that are open to all age groups and people are more inclusive and inviting to second home owners	1/6/2023 2:22 PM
140	ELIMINATE HUNTING NEAR HOMES. Such as in Pinecrest Hill	1/6/2023 12:56 PM
141	Create business zones to encourage small commerce; provide funds to support vibrant village centers	1/6/2023 11:09 AM
142	Improve downtown. Attract new business, create a space where community can gather other than the firehouse.	1/5/2023 10:26 PM
143	More affordable housing/ Less car culture — anything to reduce dependence on cars and promote walking and biking /Better management of traffic, speed bumps PLEASE	1/5/2023 10:09 PM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1**

144	access to Prospect Lake	1/5/2023 11:40 AM
145	Encourage small scale development in the north and south villages, density, walkable.	1/5/2023 9:37 AM
146	The use of harmful and toxic pesticides (especially Glyphosate) on all the surrounding farmland. I love the farming but hate the use of pesticides.	1/5/2023 9:30 AM
147	More facilities for older kids, more sports programs & maybe wildlife workshops where kids can learn about conservation.	1/4/2023 10:01 PM
148	some of the open spaces seem to just be mowed but aren't being used, like the ball park by dog park. This seems like a waste of time and money.	1/4/2023 7:35 PM
149	Better parking/access/services to/at Prospect Lake and other rec areas	1/4/2023 5:49 PM
150	Better control of speeding traffic, more sidewalks for pedestrians, especially on the busiest roads-Prospect Lake Rd., Boice Rd., Rt 71.	1/4/2023 4:23 PM
151	I'd like town to focus on growth that's earth and human centered -- I'd like to see change that respects nature and our tiny part in it even more	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
152	Entitlement	1/4/2023 2:06 PM
153	More community events	1/4/2023 1:37 PM
154	Speed limits and enforcement	1/4/2023 1:16 PM
155	Access to Prospect Lake, get rid of the neon sign at the town hall	1/4/2023 1:07 PM
156	Sidewalks in town	1/4/2023 11:46 AM
157	better signage to nature walks	1/4/2023 10:51 AM
158	stop using salt on our roads to preserve water and trees	1/4/2023 10:05 AM
159	See above. I think something needs to be done about residents' access to Prospect Lake--something better than a tiny opening with virtually no parking and a weed-and-brush infested "entryway."	1/4/2023 10:04 AM
160	More traffic calming and constant traffic policing	1/4/2023 9:45 AM
161	Rewritten bylaws pro serving the esthetic elements of historic buildings and properties. Enhanced "downtown" property standards reflecting our shared values (ie standards of maintenance)	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
162	Easier safe access for bicyclists	1/4/2023 9:16 AM
163	Low income housing should be a priority.	1/4/2023 9:11 AM
164	Public consciousness of the importance of natural resources	1/4/2023 8:26 AM
165	More affordable housing	1/4/2023 8:09 AM
166	Resident Access to extended hours & oportunities.	1/4/2023 6:37 AM
167	.	1/4/2023 5:56 AM
168	Access to Prospect Lake	1/3/2023 10:26 PM
169	Prospect Lake beach access with parking	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
170	Public Access to Prospect Lake	1/3/2023 6:12 PM
171	I would love a pool at French park!!!!	1/3/2023 5:31 PM
172	Recent major changes has made Egremont inaccessible to the working class.	1/3/2023 12:58 PM
173	Bring affordable housing and different mix of people to the town ; Economic development	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
174	I would like to see development of spaces that can bring towns people together such as a community center and town beach	1/3/2023 10:43 AM
175	find ways to decrease and eventually halt use of chemicals on both public lands and on private farms	1/2/2023 6:23 AM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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176	More active town center in South Egremont	12/31/2022 11:13 AM
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Q8 Villages are a common component of New England towns, and often a town will have more than one village, each with its own identity. A thriving village often combines many uses, including businesses, residences, gathering spots, places of natural beauty, and components unique to each community (including arts, culture, and history). How do you define a thriving village?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 96

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	A thriving village promotes community, including access to natural areas, local businesses (in proportion to the size of the village), community gathering spots (both indoors and outdoors, and recreation areas.,	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
2	the right combination of homes, places of public gathering, natural beauty and business in proportion to our size, so that commercial activities do not overwhelm the others. AND allowing for diversity among our residents, including socioeconomic diversity (i.e., affordable and workforce housing).	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
3	population balanced in age and inclusivity, economic opportuniess for residents, scenic and publicly accessible open spaces and forested lands, a community center, affordable housing (owned and rented), well run government sevicees, access to quality education for youth and adults	2/3/2023 2:58 PM
4	combinations of (6) and (7) above	2/2/2023 4:55 PM
5	Community gathering spaces.	2/2/2023 3:00 PM
6	Everything you said in the paragraph above, but we have little of that in our villages. There are few meeting places apart from the library and possibly Mom's restaurant. Walkability and parking are missing (though walkability will improve soon in the south village) and business are very hard to start with our current zoning bylaw	2/2/2023 9:46 AM
7	Accessible to all.	2/2/2023 9:16 AM
8	Needs retail	2/2/2023 6:49 AM
9	Appropriate buisneses, restaurants, general store etc	2/1/2023 11:31 AM
10	All of the above aspects	2/1/2023 11:12 AM
11	A community that balances the needs and wants of all under a well valanced budget	2/1/2023 11:06 AM
12	Years ago, we knew everyone in the town & the business owners etc were your neighbors. The local businesses supported the local community and visa versa. We need to support local businesses who want to come into our towns and encourage the town to make it easier for these opportunities to happen.	1/31/2023 9:18 PM
13	All of the above (I would add: businesses that support one another, helping those who can't afford fix their homes on main roads so they are attractive and well-kept; places to gather and get to know residents)	1/31/2023 4:03 PM
14	with a variety of small businesses and walkways and street lighting	1/31/2023 11:26 AM
15	I would define it as one with stores, cafes, a library and perhaps an inn -- all within walking distance of each other. A Main Street with businesses that draw the townspeople as well as tourists. With working wifi.	1/30/2023 10:25 PM
16	A place that people can casually connect, coffee shop, etc.	1/30/2023 8:00 PM
17	Thriving small businesses next to many housing options and services	1/30/2023 7:04 PM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1**

18	Balancing business and residential need for services and places of natural beauty can be achieved.	1/30/2023 4:47 PM
19	Cooperation and shared vision for maintaining the strongest common elements including places of natural beauty, supporting the arts and all local businesses, working together to support local farms	1/30/2023 1:47 PM
20	a small center with a few stores supplying local needs	1/30/2023 10:47 AM
21	A supportive community, protecting environment and inclusive in housing and opportunity going forward	1/29/2023 10:36 PM
22	Walkable commercial area	1/29/2023 8:58 PM
23	I guess that my response above speaks to my definition of a thriving community and my hope that Egremont will evolve in this direction, offering opportunity for creative endeavors, for art, for gathering places, local cafes/food/food trucks, local sustainable	1/29/2023 8:21 PM
24	Inclusive, collaborative, communicative, creative, happy, affordable to all	1/29/2023 8:16 PM
25	One which has some combination of all of the above.	1/29/2023 2:30 PM
26	gathering place	1/29/2023 1:19 PM
27	Shops eateries and green public spaces with places for kids to play and hang out	1/29/2023 9:49 AM
28	Common places, parks/natural beauty, gathering spots easily accessible to all	1/29/2023 9:44 AM
29	One with an active school house, a post office and a bank. Perfect!	1/29/2023 9:29 AM
30	Can't say	1/29/2023 8:56 AM
31	It should ha b e an indoor space for: arts, gathering, meetings, AV presentations, exhibits	1/29/2023 8:51 AM
32	thrive is based on the natural growth - which must occur because the land can support it. The south village, a national register historic district, is built on ledge, with a brook on the south side. Thrive should mean the preservation of the existing structure for home bound businesses. The geology will not allow increased buildings. I find the use of the word "thriving" here to be ill difined and quite frankly, not really in keeping with the methodology of growing a "New England" town.	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
33	A balance between all of these	1/29/2023 6:12 AM
34	Stores to stay open later.	1/29/2023 5:31 AM
35	Where all the elements work together allowing for individual choices.	1/28/2023 10:39 PM
36	Eateries. Walkability	1/28/2023 10:07 PM
37	One with places that people happily go to to interact.	1/28/2023 9:06 PM
38	As above	1/28/2023 7:48 PM
39	A place that puts priorities to the locals!	1/28/2023 6:05 PM
40	Gathering spot	1/28/2023 6:02 PM
41	Engagement of its peoplev	1/28/2023 5:59 PM
42	Community activities, shopping and restaurants that are a destination as well as easy for the community to gather.	1/28/2023 5:23 PM
43	One that people living there believe is thriving. Make it easy for peopl;e to thrive and they will. Don't try to control it.	1/28/2023 4:43 PM
44	walkable, particularly south village	1/28/2023 2:33 PM
45	Historical Egremont, pre- pot dispensaries and related	1/28/2023 2:04 PM
46	A place where diverse, multi use development is encouraged	1/28/2023 1:48 PM
47	multi-generational gathering spaces with access for the very young as well as elders	1/28/2023 1:25 PM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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48	More services and businesses. Two are in the process of closing as we speak.	1/28/2023 12:40 PM
49	Many people make up a community. Diversity is important. It is important to have affordable housing and still protect the beauty of the natural surroundings.	1/28/2023 12:24 PM
50	caring for one another	1/28/2023 12:05 PM
51	One that offers services and opportunities that meet daily needs.	1/28/2023 9:24 AM
52	A welcoming community center for everyone to meet, learn, socialize, exercise	1/27/2023 6:15 PM
53	one that embraces primary & secondary, young & old	1/27/2023 2:24 PM
54	Friendly, easy personal connection, small business/service	1/27/2023 7:59 AM
55	Busy mixed use town center	1/27/2023 12:29 AM
56	Where homes are lived in, the lights are on at night. Where a business exists it can be sustained by the residents of the community.	1/26/2023 10:30 PM
57	Pedestrians shopping more retail	1/26/2023 10:20 PM
58	Pedestrian space, shops and restaurants	1/26/2023 9:33 PM
59	Same combination of uses as listed above/ residences, small business, cafes or gathering spots, easy to moderate trails with handicap/ stroller use,	1/26/2023 8:11 PM
60	Exactly that	1/26/2023 7:40 PM
61	A nice place to call home	1/26/2023 4:35 PM
62	A space for all age groups and beliefs to grow and play.	1/26/2023 3:38 PM
63	We need a gas station or two and/or charging stations.	1/26/2023 10:35 AM
64	One that has all of those elements.	1/26/2023 10:26 AM
65	Community gathering spots and stores with essential items.	1/26/2023 10:18 AM
66	Hubs and meeting spots, with businesses, gardens to walk through and sit in and stores, cafes, etc.	1/26/2023 9:54 AM
67	An engaged community to address a broad spectrum of local issues	1/26/2023 7:24 AM
68	Walkable collection of relevant businesses/services	1/25/2023 8:56 AM
69	A thriving village holds gatherings and events for the community that allows access to all.	1/24/2023 5:45 PM
70	Neighbors that respect each other	1/24/2023 4:20 PM
71	Walking access to shops and parks	1/23/2023 4:49 PM
72	One that is important and safe and interesting--that the people care about.	1/23/2023 2:51 PM
73	having a town center for common activities and area where town people can meet, play and enjoy their company	1/23/2023 2:32 PM
74	A balanced mix of uses.	1/23/2023 1:00 PM
75	Businesses with parking spaces, safe sidewalks for all.	1/23/2023 10:31 AM
76	preserved and well maintained buildings with mixed use	1/23/2023 10:23 AM
77	Mix of residences and commercial uses, small retail stores serving local population needs, sidewalks with buildings close to sidewalks and parking behind buildings to maintain quaint look of streetscape, cohesive feeling as created by holiday decoration scheme in South village now, keeping everything small scale	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
78	ONE THAT WORKS TOGETHER TO FORM COMMUNITY BY HOSTING EVENTS AND SUCH	1/23/2023 9:44 AM
79	A village has an identity that its inhabitants can relate to through a central hub that includes shops and post office but needs a community center to bring people together and provide them with group activities.	1/22/2023 8:04 PM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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80	The level of happiness amongst the locals, make it a town good for locals and you'll have a great place to visit, make it a great place for visitors and risk local identity erosion.	1/22/2023 1:48 PM
81	Walkable	1/22/2023 11:43 AM
82	A village that comes together to help out residents and share common experiences such as music and art.	1/22/2023 11:00 AM
83	A place where residents are welcome and easy to access	1/22/2023 10:55 AM
84	All of the above and a school.	1/22/2023 10:37 AM
85	It's fine the way it is. we don't need any more businesses in either village other than a cafe/coffee place like Sarah's Place.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM
86	A place where people want to go out of their way to get to, to shop, spend time outdoors, be active	1/20/2023 12:56 PM
87	Mix of residential, commercial, and recreational; walkable; mix of business types; gathering places, public and private; aesthetically pleasing	1/20/2023 11:52 AM
88	One that provides many opportunities to interact given that we are a rural community and one that is welcoming to visitors. A vibrant village space of restaurants and retail. Villages can find culture nearby.	1/19/2023 11:58 AM
89	I view this as an urgent problem if we want to be able to attract younger people and families to Egremont. We need more activity in the village of Egremont; we need to attract retail--coffee shops, restaurants, book store, cinema, clothing store, etc. The village of Millerton should be our model. The current village of Egremont feels dead and also looks quite desolate.	1/18/2023 10:48 AM
90	I agree with the description above.	1/16/2023 7:05 PM
91	Places were people gather to shop, eat or do other things communally.	1/16/2023 6:52 PM
92	A few small, successful businesses	1/15/2023 4:37 PM
93	North Egremont seems to be a "bedroom" community without much village feel. South Egremont has enough businesses to have that feeling of a real village. It's lovely just the way it is!	1/15/2023 9:06 AM
94	I don't believe this is particularly important for Egremont beyond what currently exists along with a respectable establishment for a light breakfast and lunch.	1/14/2023 3:14 PM
95	Balance of homes and convenient small businesses	1/14/2023 2:31 PM
96	A working village invites people to stop not just drive through. We need more reasons for people to stop and enjoy the village. We lost the public golf course, the coffee shop just closed. the church is in questionable shape -- not sure what the identity is beyond the sign that says it is historic.	1/14/2023 12:11 PM
97	Community involved and represented. Ability for young families to live and work here	1/14/2023 9:30 AM
98	Supporting local business, focusing on safety, encouraging diversity	1/14/2023 8:12 AM
99	A defined village center with residences and resources (stores, cultural center)	1/14/2023 8:10 AM
100	I see neighboring Great Barrington as that village, and I wouldn't mind keeping our town sleepy and able to partake of the other benefits if GB	1/13/2023 11:22 PM
101	Walkable commercial area/Main Street, eateries, shops, outdoor recreation, cultural offerings	1/13/2023 10:32 PM
102	places to congregate and share without cars zooming 2 feet from you. A walkable village. I define it also as above. But our town is fine without all those components. Keep the PO vibrant and as it is	1/13/2023 7:47 PM
103	It's vitality. Sidewalks, lighting and usability	1/13/2023 7:26 PM
104	One in which resident friendly businesses and gathering spaces are encouraged	1/13/2023 5:42 PM
105	Businesses and gathering spots.	1/13/2023 5:28 PM
106	People using it	1/13/2023 4:02 PM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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107	A small community with large, protected surrounding areas that are full protected (not developed)	1/13/2023 3:24 PM
108	A place people frequent for need and or by choice.	1/13/2023 2:25 PM
109	preservation of the town center. improvre shabby buildings	1/13/2023 12:40 PM
110	All of the above	1/13/2023 12:14 PM
111	Copious opportunity for local businesses and people to buy and sell goods without chains, as well as communal festivities.	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
112	a good blend of local businesses and at least one spot that is more of a town square, which would encourage people to linger, which would build community sensibility and help the abutting shops get more traffic	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
113	Healty mix of activites listed	1/13/2023 10:29 AM
114	One that is mindful of climate change, the needs of a variety of groups and resists efforts on the part of developers to suburbanize an old town.	1/13/2023 9:52 AM
115	Needs a place where people can gather together	1/11/2023 7:24 PM
116	Cafes, shops, pedestrians	1/11/2023 7:15 PM
117	All of these features	1/11/2023 3:08 PM
118	Easy access, restaurants retail,, coffee houses, retail, postal servcies, walkable sidewalks	1/11/2023 3:05 PM
119	All of the above - especially places to gather and support for community efforts to conserve the natural beauty	1/10/2023 5:04 PM
120	A schoolhouse!	1/10/2023 11:48 AM
121	One where there is "life" - coffee shops, people visible walking, places to sit and visit	1/10/2023 11:19 AM
122	I agree with the definition as outlined above.	1/10/2023 10:58 AM
123	Sense of place, unique to that village. That is based on the values of village residents and those in the immediate vicinity.	1/10/2023 10:35 AM
124	A thriving town has thriving shops, outdoor seating areas, businesses, sidewalks, and is pedestrian friendly.	1/10/2023 8:04 AM
125	I agree with what is written in this blurb. Can't add anything else!	1/9/2023 4:05 PM
126	A place that is accessible for all people regardless of age, ability or financial status.	1/9/2023 11:41 AM
127	walkability, both in terms of sidewalks and things to walk to	1/9/2023 11:22 AM
128	Open community (town owned and accessible) space combined WITH appropriate business activity.	1/8/2023 7:45 PM
129	A place for the community to gather as above	1/8/2023 7:20 PM
130	Gathering places or stores for residents and visitors to experience our village life	1/8/2023 7:15 PM
131	All of the above plus a strong sense of community.	1/8/2023 5:15 PM
132	A center which provides a meeting place through cafe, bakery, book store, post office within scale.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
133	A butcher, a baker, a candlestick maker. Don't forget the Spirit shop and a lovely town square to gather.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
134	make new businesses welcome	1/7/2023 2:56 PM
135	A few essential shops, an opportunity to walk on errands and see/converse with neighbors along the way	1/7/2023 8:47 AM
136	Both of our villages have all they need, altho NoEg could use a restaurant. No further businesses are needed in SoEg. If the Town Hall "campus" could be called a 3rd village, it should be more attractive.	1/6/2023 8:08 PM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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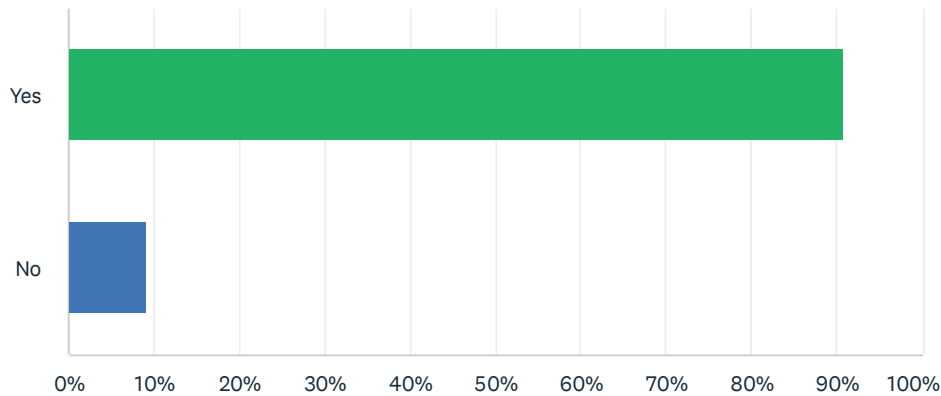
137	I define a village as a planned area of clustered homes , not a sprawl of unplanned development.	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
138	A walkable village to access a variety of local businesses.	1/6/2023 12:56 PM
139	Services and shops available, but not overdone relative to town character; polish in the appearance of the village; mix of businesses, pedestrian pathways, and public gathering spaces	1/6/2023 11:09 AM
140	A coffee shop where people can meet. Affordable housing for mixed income diversity.	1/6/2023 9:53 AM
141	It has pleasant places for residents to gather to learn, experience arts and socialize.	1/5/2023 10:26 PM
142	A place where people can congregate and meet basic needs -- library, post office, food shops, etc	1/5/2023 10:09 PM
143	One where residents can afford to stay into old age.	1/5/2023 11:40 AM
144	As described above.	1/5/2023 9:37 AM
145	A meeting spot for people together and have coffee/tea or cocktails in the evening.	1/5/2023 9:30 AM
146	A community that comes together socially & helps neighbors out.	1/4/2023 10:01 PM
147	One that brings people together, has events periodically, attracts folks of all ages, community dinners like we used to have at the South Egremont Church	1/4/2023 7:35 PM
148	a thriving blend of the above mentioned.	1/4/2023 5:49 PM
149	well, North Egremont doesn't cut it--the dump is our gathering place	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
150	Start with community pride and with community pride	1/4/2023 2:06 PM
151	Good demographic mix, appealing to younger residents	1/4/2023 1:37 PM
152	Walkable main streets, thriving businesses, pocket parks, cafes,	1/4/2023 1:16 PM
153	Walking distance to general store and PO, sidewalks, neighborhood where neighbors know one another	1/4/2023 1:07 PM
154	Restaurants, places for pedestrians to walk, local shops, crafts, historical feel.	1/4/2023 12:24 PM
155	As above	1/4/2023 11:46 AM
156	balance between commerce and green open spaces in the village, i.e. village green or park	1/4/2023 10:51 AM
157	all of the above	1/4/2023 10:05 AM
158	A place to gather that includes a parklike setting, stores with more than tourist-oriented goods, and meeting places.	1/4/2023 10:04 AM
159	Ability to walk through safely, and families of various ages	1/4/2023 9:45 AM
160	Egremont needs a community center, ideally in the South or North Village. To support a wide range of gatherings for all ages, groups and interests.	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
161	Walkable, and active both during and outside of business hours	1/4/2023 8:26 AM
162	The ability for pedestrians to engage in activities	1/4/2023 8:09 AM
163	Natural beauty, history and small businesses	1/4/2023 7:36 AM
164	A thriving village has a community gathering place that is the hallmark of community commerce & networking. Town hall has the space, perhaps some can be converted.	1/4/2023 6:37 AM
165	.	1/4/2023 5:56 AM
166	Places for community, not just antique stores and tourist shops and real estate offices	1/3/2023 10:26 PM
167	A place of community and commerce where all can gather	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
168	shared community/ cultural space and activity	1/3/2023 6:14 PM
169	I define a thriving village has offering affordable housing for young families and elderly couples, recreational opportunities, local affordable shopping for necessities.	1/3/2023 12:58 PM

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170	Each village should be walkable, with access to a mix of services and amenities, accessible to anyone via diff. modes of transportation	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
171	A village that has a small town center that provides places to congregate and take care of simple requirements such as milk and eggs and small boutique shops with noninvasive parking	1/3/2023 10:43 AM
172	Useful shops.	12/31/2022 11:13 AM

Q9 Is having thriving village centers (North Egremont and South Egremont) important to you?

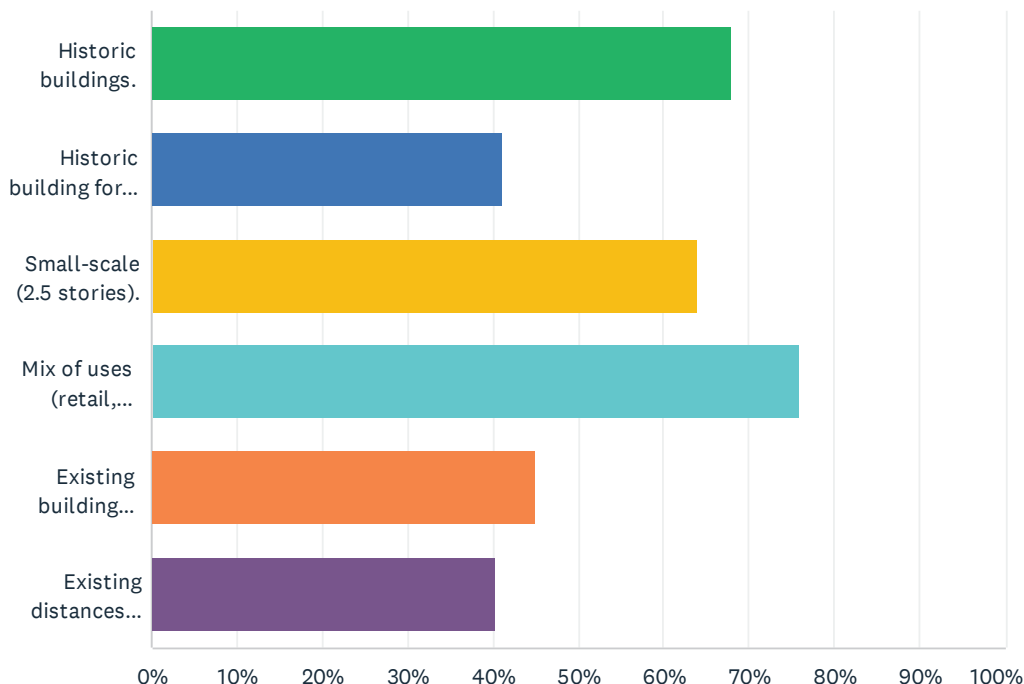
Answered: 227 Skipped: 41



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	90.75%	206
No	9.25%	21
TOTAL		227

Q10 What would you like to preserve in the village of North Egremont? (Choose all that apply.)

Answered: 216 Skipped: 52



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Historic buildings.		68.06%	147
Historic building forms (roof pitch, relationship of facades to street, relationships between facade components).		41.20%	89
Small-scale (2.5 stories).		63.89%	138
Mix of uses (retail, restaurant, inn, residential, etc.).		75.93%	164
Existing building setbacks from the street.		44.91%	97
Existing distances between buildings.		40.28%	87
Total Respondents: 216			

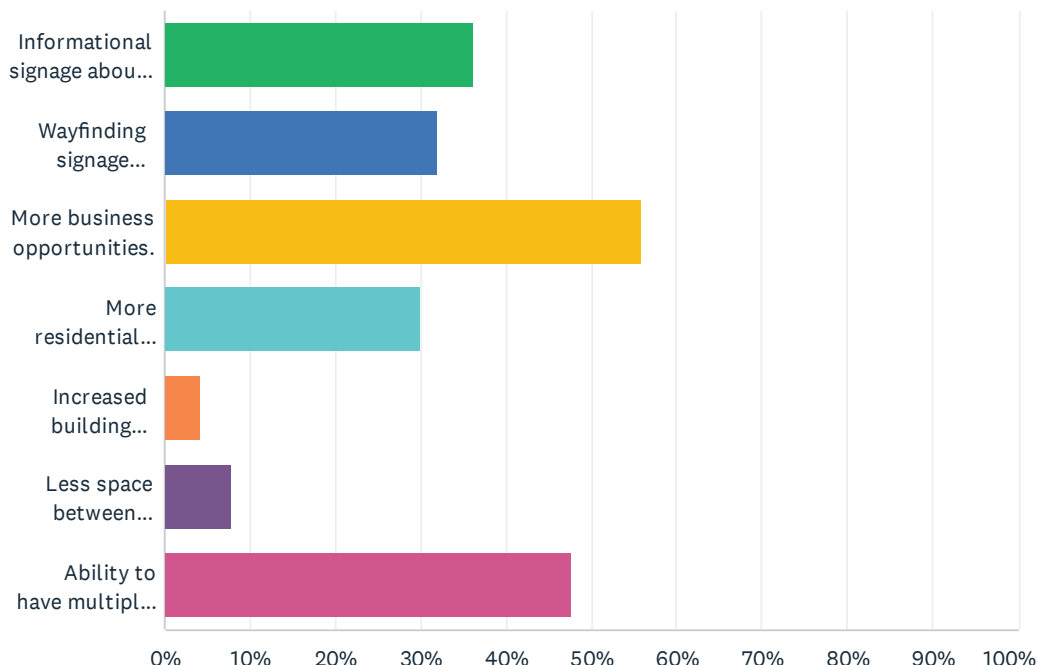
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Limited Zoning	1/31/2023 9:18 PM
2	How about a small community of small homes with very small yards and some common gardens.	1/30/2023 8:00 PM
3	Church for community gathering	1/29/2023 3:49 PM
4	As the non-conforming pre-existing structures now present in both villages go against present bylaws, I do not support change in the bylaw to conform to non conforming lots.tructed	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
5	What can you do? The buildings are already there.	1/28/2023 12:40 PM

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6	Where is it?	1/24/2023 4:20 PM
7	public water & septic system	1/23/2023 9:57 AM
8	Green river access and banning pool water removal from the Green River under existing wetlands jurisdiction	1/22/2023 1:48 PM
9	Avoid new businesses. We are a small town. It's been that way throughout.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM
10	Permit setback close to road, like other historic buildings. Current zoning requires 40 feet - too much; most buildings non-conforming.	1/20/2023 11:52 AM
11	I don't think we need a thriving village center in North Egremont. I believe the focus should be South Egremont.	1/19/2023 11:58 AM
12	sidewalks and open green spaces that actually help you do more than just go one specific place, conduct business and leave, we have very few spots that encourage community interaction	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
13	There is nothing in North Egremont to have a relationship between. If this means more building... NO.	1/10/2023 8:04 AM
14	Wouldn't apply resources here. Focus on South Egremont.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
15	I don't think of North Egremont as a "village." as described above.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
16	not sure	1/4/2023 7:35 PM
17	More....	1/4/2023 5:49 PM
18	no new building seems necessary; focus should be on South Egremont where infrastructure exists	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
19	Potable water	1/4/2023 2:06 PM
20	Keep building materials natural (ie.no vinyl)	1/4/2023 1:07 PM
21	Bylaws must be updated to define village districts with more appropriate standards of lots, setbacks and infrastructure.	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
22	A cohesive plan that allows housing density, safe ways to walk/bike, better lighting, sidewalks.	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
23	It would be nice if the center of North Egremont had more than 1 inn and a general store with a place for people to come together	1/3/2023 10:43 AM

Q11 What would you like to change in the village of North Egremont? (Choose all that apply.)

Answered: 163 Skipped: 105



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Informational signage about the history of the village.	36.20%	59
Wayfinding signage directing people to other destinations in Egremont.	31.90%	52
More business opportunities.	55.83%	91
More residential opportunities.	30.06%	49
Increased building heights (2.5-4 stories).	4.29%	7
Less space between buildings along the street.	7.98%	13
Ability to have multiple buildings and uses on deeper lots (example, business in front; residential in rear).	47.85%	78
Total Respondents: 163		

#	WHAT DO YOU THINK IS MISSING FROM NORTH EGREMONT?	DATE
1	businesses that are less oriented towards tourism, second- and week-end home clientele	2/2/2023 4:55 PM
2	Sidewalks and lighting.	2/2/2023 3:00 PM
3	We never go to North Egremont	2/1/2023 11:12 AM
4	Nothing - its an old country town :-)	1/31/2023 9:18 PM
5	A coffee shop.	1/30/2023 10:25 PM
6	Critical mass. Most houses are too spread apart.	1/30/2023 8:00 PM

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7	Restaurant	1/30/2023 7:04 PM
8	Signing pointing to historical places and events	1/30/2023 4:47 PM
9	a walkable mixed use "district"/area offering, say, a cafe, art studio, coffee house, some local business, gathering place....	1/29/2023 8:21 PM
10	Greater public access to Prospect Lake; the Elm Court restaurant; affordable camping	1/29/2023 8:16 PM
11	Businesses such as shops and restaurants.	1/29/2023 2:30 PM
12	I want none of these changes.	1/29/2023 9:29 AM
13	again, the vocabulary here, "MORE MORE - INCREASE INCREASE" presumes support of growth that might not be to scale, or of vital interest to the long term presence of a "New England Village".	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
14	Nothing	1/29/2023 6:12 AM
15	New construction controlled by zoning?	1/28/2023 12:40 PM
16	Diversity, businesses, energy	1/27/2023 6:15 PM
17	None of these changes is important to me	1/27/2023 7:59 AM
18	Adopt the CPA to fund workforce (affordable) housing.	1/26/2023 10:30 PM
19	There doesn't seem to be any town center. Only the police station and transfer station.	1/26/2023 9:33 PM
20	Access for local people to Prospect Lake,gathering spot, restaurant or cafe, affordable housing	1/26/2023 8:11 PM
21	More commercial opportunities	1/26/2023 7:40 PM
22	Low income housing	1/26/2023 3:38 PM
23	Restaurant, cultural facility, housing, esp. multi family and affordable	1/26/2023 10:26 AM
24	A year round functional community center	1/26/2023 7:24 AM
25	None of the above	1/25/2023 8:18 AM
26	More restaurants with outdoor seating in Winter.	1/23/2023 2:51 PM
27	social housing , community center, speed bumps, river walk, beach access, studio tour	1/23/2023 2:32 PM
28	a public restaurant	1/23/2023 10:31 AM
29	lake access, small retail business for local needs, small community meeting place such as former church if becomes available again	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
30	Seems fine as is	1/22/2023 1:48 PM
31	A central gathering place.	1/22/2023 11:00 AM
32	A restuarant	1/22/2023 10:55 AM
33	It's fine the way it is. Nothing more is needed. We need to avoid building there. Only minimal signage. Avoid any more digital signs. The one near town hall is an eyesore. Totally undermines the beauty and historic nature. There's plenty of publicity of events etc.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM
34	Restaurant. Shops, grocery	1/20/2023 12:56 PM
35	There is not much there to work with.	1/19/2023 11:58 AM
36	Affordable housing; we NEED to address this;	1/18/2023 10:48 AM
37	More spacing (eg 2 acre min for new residence)	1/15/2023 4:37 PM
38	low income housing	1/15/2023 9:06 AM
39	sidewalks, access to Prospect Lake	1/14/2023 8:12 AM
40	Everything	1/13/2023 10:32 PM
41	Sidewalks, lights and public sewer	1/13/2023 7:26 PM

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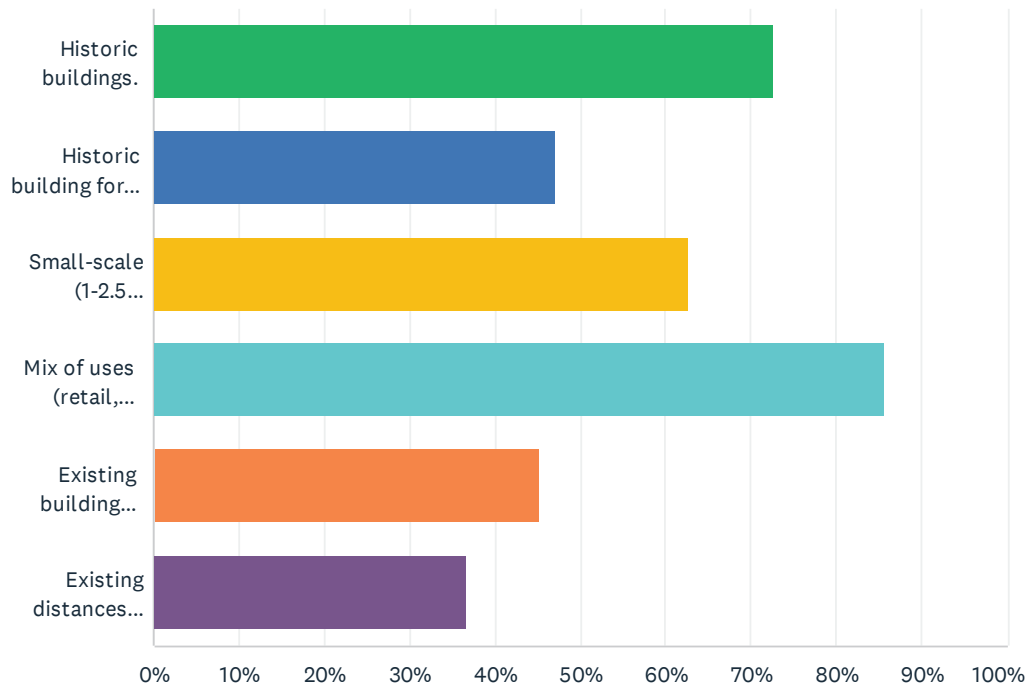
42	Restaurant the elm court defined that end of town	1/13/2023 4:02 PM
43	A integrated buildout plan.	1/13/2023 2:25 PM
44	gathering places adjacent to commercial spots, sidewalks	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
45	Respect	1/13/2023 11:15 AM
46	Sidewalk from village to town hall	1/13/2023 11:03 AM
47	It lacks an identity. Needs a meeting place.	1/13/2023 9:52 AM
48	The Elm Court!	1/11/2023 7:15 PM
49	A sign at town hall that is consistent with the historic village, access to Prospect Lakee	1/10/2023 5:04 PM
50	Sidewalks/paths/bike lanes on Rt 71 between town hall and French Park	1/10/2023 11:19 AM
51	Hard to answer this question without understanding impacts	1/10/2023 10:58 AM
52	This question is difficult to answer without a better context of existing conditions.	1/10/2023 10:35 AM
53	restaurant	1/10/2023 10:34 AM
54	The "town" has one store and some post office boxes. So the question is actually humorous. It isn't going to have more unless you build more and I dont' want to live in a town.	1/10/2023 8:04 AM
55	A place where the community can gather in a larger venue than the Old Country Store	1/9/2023 11:18 PM
56	Restaurant or Cafe	1/8/2023 7:45 PM
57	Sidewalks and bike lanes on Rt. 71, especially from the the general store to S. Egremont via Creamery Rd. I live in N. Egremont and would like to safely walk or ride my bike to the businesses, library, post office etc in South Egremont.	1/8/2023 5:15 PM
58	See above.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
59	Dining/coffee shop. Walkability.	1/7/2023 8:47 AM
60	a restaurant	1/6/2023 8:08 PM
61	All of these are against the character of North Eg	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
62	A place to gather and meet. Better access to Prospect Lake swimming, Facility where are and music classes could be held.	1/5/2023 10:26 PM
63	A protected bike path to South Egremont and Great Barrington	1/5/2023 10:09 PM
64	It doesn't feel like a center to me. Wondering if we could work on just one center.	1/4/2023 7:35 PM
65	Are we referring to the same N Egremont? There isn't much there?	1/4/2023 5:49 PM
66	It's not really a village center--partly due to speeding traffic that endangers pedestrians.	1/4/2023 4:23 PM
67	Acorn and the wine shop/Ari's place are additions to life in town. We always say that we've love to see a high quality carry-out-- what CROSSROADS in Hillsdale used to be-- other retail outlets that could make running errands productive and fun, but I'm a design fan to to attract me, they'd have offer goods of interest-which is of course relative	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
68	Directions similar to those in the mill river Monterey area. They fit with the charge of the historical value if the town	1/4/2023 2:06 PM
69	More community events	1/4/2023 1:37 PM
70	proper road speed restrictions	1/4/2023 1:07 PM
71	Outdoor community green space	1/4/2023 10:51 AM
72	nothing	1/4/2023 10:05 AM
73	Restaurants!	1/4/2023 10:04 AM
74	More commercial (low impact) activity	1/4/2023 9:39 AM

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75	.	1/4/2023 5:56 AM
76	Affordable housing	1/3/2023 10:26 PM
77	A way to slow down traffic	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
78	Sidewalks, parking, safe walking passage between the country store and French Park. Safe parking and access to Prospect Lake, which should be available at least to residents!	1/3/2023 9:56 PM
79	none of the above	1/3/2023 6:14 PM
80	Gasoline station. Family restaurant	1/3/2023 5:19 PM
81	Housing affordable for working class young families.	1/3/2023 12:58 PM
82	Sidewalks, bike path, lighting, housing, small businesses	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
83	A sense of place is missing	1/3/2023 10:43 AM
84	affordable middle income and lower income housing	1/2/2023 6:23 AM

Q12 What would you like to preserve in the village of South Egremont?

Answered: 223 Skipped: 45



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Historic buildings.	72.65%	162
Historic building forms (roof pitch, relationship of facades to street, relationships between facade components).	47.09%	105
Small-scale (1-2.5 stories).	62.78%	140
Mix of uses (retail, restaurant, art and craft studios, residential etc.).	85.65%	191
Existing building setbacks from the street.	45.29%	101
Existing distances between buildings.	36.77%	82
Total Respondents: 223		

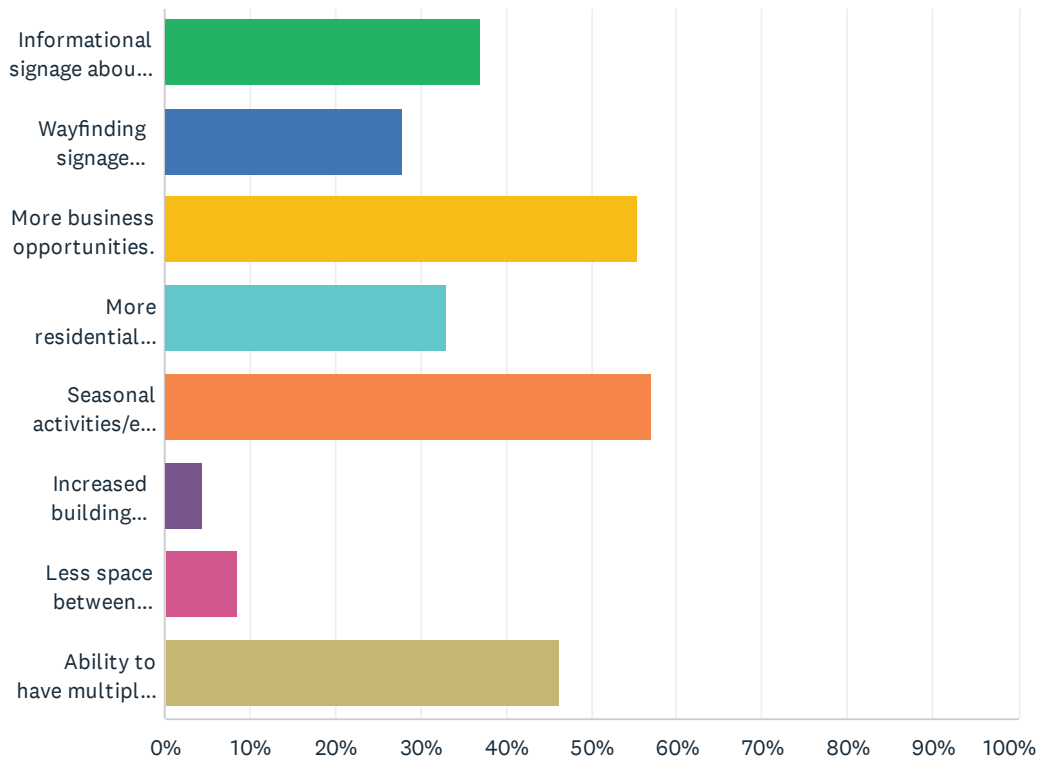
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	mix use not realistic	2/2/2023 11:31 AM
2	How about a small community of small homes with very small yards and some common gardens.	1/30/2023 8:00 PM
3	Church for community gatherings	1/29/2023 3:49 PM
4	please see above. The last two points reference bylaws and is far more complicated - these two should not be here.	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
5	Too late to preserve historic buildings.	1/26/2023 10:35 AM
6	Leave it alone.	1/23/2023 2:51 PM

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7	flower boxes !	1/23/2023 2:32 PM
8	Maintain mix of residential and commercial (about 50-50 now), preserve small scale quaint feeling, promote parking in rear of businesses and buildings close to street for cohesive village feeling	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
9	Set aside some land for low-income housing that is well integrated into the local architecture.	1/22/2023 8:04 PM
10	Strengthen accessibility and safety with sidewalks along route 23 and mt. Washington road	1/22/2023 3:17 PM
11	South Egremont School	1/22/2023 11:43 AM
12	The library bell and belfry.	1/22/2023 11:00 AM
13	Slow driving speed	1/22/2023 10:55 AM
14	It's fine the way it is. Meaning no additional structures are needed.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM
15	Permit setback close to road, like other historic buildings. Current zoning requires 40 feet - too much; most buildings non-conforming.	1/20/2023 11:52 AM
16	So much potential.	1/19/2023 11:58 AM
17	A sense of proximity, with daily use facilities.	1/13/2023 2:25 PM
18	Village character and reducing impact of vehicular traffic with traffic calming, speed enforcement and preserving vegetation	1/10/2023 10:35 AM
19	Everything. South Egremont village is perfect quintessential village	1/7/2023 8:47 AM
20	Business seriously telling a gallery they don't have enough parking? What's with that	1/4/2023 2:06 PM
21	Not happy about a pot store in our little village-there are more than enough in Great Barrington.	1/4/2023 12:24 PM
22	Maintenance standards.	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
23	A place to congregate	1/3/2023 10:43 AM

Q13 What would you like to change in the village of South Egremont? (Choose all that apply.)

Answered: 175 Skipped: 93



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Informational signage about the history of the village.		37.14%	65
Wayfinding signage directing people to other destinations in Egremont.		28.00%	49
More business opportunities.		55.43%	97
More residential opportunities.		33.14%	58
Seasonal activities/events to draw people to the village.		57.14%	100
Increased building heights (2.5-4 stories).		4.57%	8
Less space between buildings along the street.		8.57%	15
Ability to have multiple buildings and uses on deeper lots (for example, business in the front and residential in the rear).		46.29%	81
Total Respondents: 175			

#	WHAT DO YOU THINK IS MISSING FROM SOUTH EGREMONT?	DATE
1	businesses that are less oriented towards tourism, second- and week-end home clientele	2/2/2023 4:55 PM
2	public parking, easier for new business to operate from existing buildings	2/2/2023 9:46 AM
3	Coffee/ tea/ lunch and dinner restaurants	2/1/2023 11:12 AM

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4	A convenience store with regular business hours	1/31/2023 9:18 PM
5	Better wifi that would increase the businesses. A yoga studio.	1/30/2023 10:25 PM
6	Critical mass.	1/30/2023 8:00 PM
7	Sidewalks and parking	1/30/2023 7:04 PM
8	see above-- a mixed use 'district' that is walkable, creates some gathering spots, cafe, art,,,	1/29/2023 8:21 PM
9	The Egremont Country Club; public golf	1/29/2023 8:16 PM
10	I do not wish to change anything	1/29/2023 9:29 AM
11	THESE QUESTIONS ARE GEARED TO SUPPORT A NEW BYLAW PROPOSAL IN DEVELOPMENT - The MORE MORE GROWTH GROWTH philosphy behind this questionnaire is physically hampered by the ledge and brook on Rte 23, as seen in the recent retrenching for the water line. You cannot build where there are no septic fields. You cannot have less space if there are no septic fields. You cannot build up and increase population use without a VERY CAREFUL analysis of the geology and methods to support the growth. Please see the 1970 Planning Board study on the need for public sewage systems.	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
12	Inability to walk and park	1/29/2023 6:43 AM
13	Nothing	1/29/2023 6:12 AM
14	Was sad to me when Greenhouse yoga moved to GB—wish there was a local produce/farm store, though the wine store now carries some, wish there was a really good coffee shop but maybe that's too urban	1/28/2023 10:51 PM
15	Remove moving signage on businesses (e.g., flags)	1/28/2023 2:04 PM
16	More community activities, town halls, adult sports, etc.	1/27/2023 9:42 PM
17	A community center to socialize, learn, exercise, have a cup of coffee, tea...	1/27/2023 6:15 PM
18	none of these	1/27/2023 7:59 AM
19	Cell service improvement and/or public wifi	1/27/2023 7:26 AM
20	Sidewalks and essential businesses	1/27/2023 12:29 AM
21	A visually soothing highway. New road is too much hardscape.	1/26/2023 10:30 PM
22	Retail and sidewalks	1/26/2023 10:20 PM
23	Pedestrian space and biking lanes - there is too much fast moving traffic	1/26/2023 9:33 PM
24	Walking trails or sidewalks for town residents,	1/26/2023 8:11 PM
25	A community center	1/26/2023 7:40 PM
26	Low income housing, affordable dining opportunities, safe walking opportunities	1/26/2023 3:38 PM
27	parking.	1/26/2023 10:35 AM
28	Multi family hsg, affordable hsg	1/26/2023 10:26 AM
29	Sidewalks	1/26/2023 10:17 AM
30	A functional year round community center	1/26/2023 7:24 AM
31	Food opportunities for vegetarians and special diets. We love supporting local businesses and our only satisfying food choice is Moms.	1/25/2023 8:56 AM
32	Ugh. None of the above	1/25/2023 8:18 AM
33	Responsive select board	1/24/2023 4:20 PM
34	Nothing.	1/23/2023 2:51 PM
35	social housing, community center, speed bumps, river walk, play ground that kids can walk to, studio tour	1/23/2023 2:32 PM

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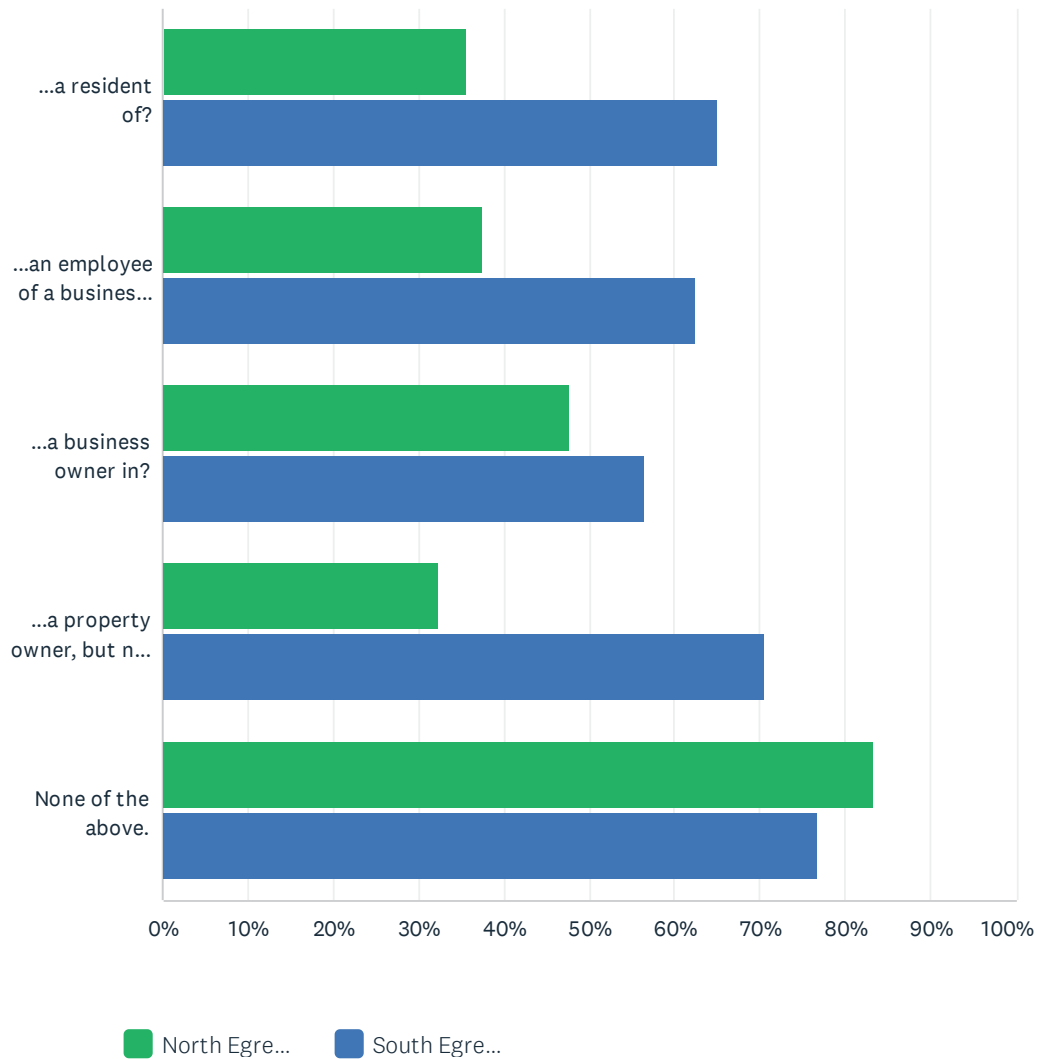
36	Promote parking in rear of buildings on north side of street and new buildings close to the sidewalk. Small meeting space (such as the church if it becomes available again) for community groups to meet. Replace any roadside trees cut down during street renovations.	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
37	A community center, a river walk	1/22/2023 8:04 PM
38	Strengthen accessibility and safety with sidewalks along route 23 and Mt washington rd	1/22/2023 3:17 PM
39	Creek access	1/22/2023 11:43 AM
40	A gathering place on the town green.	1/22/2023 11:00 AM
41	Calm drivers	1/22/2023 10:55 AM
42	No new buidlings. Use those that exist or could be renovated.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM
43	Common space for kids/families l, speed bumps	1/20/2023 12:56 PM
44	Sidewalks on both sides of the street. More retail.	1/19/2023 11:58 AM
45	We need a lot more retail and we need affordable housing;	1/18/2023 10:48 AM
46	More space	1/15/2023 4:37 PM
47	low income housing	1/15/2023 9:06 AM
48	It is important that any changes do not impact the quiet enjoyment of residents in the immediate area.	1/14/2023 3:14 PM
49	Lack of sidewalk	1/14/2023 8:12 AM
50	A general store, bookstore, retail shops, eatery/coffee shop and scheduled events/activities	1/13/2023 10:32 PM
51	unique shops	1/13/2023 12:40 PM
52	going with sidewalks and gathering spots, something that promotes more of a sense of community and would bring more traffic for businesses	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
53	Needs a gathering place and a bakery	1/13/2023 9:52 AM
54	Parks, meeting places	1/11/2023 3:08 PM
55	Charm...community center...the town should have purchased the church and renovated it...we also lack a swimming area	1/10/2023 7:36 PM
56	A place for residents to gather	1/10/2023 5:04 PM
57	Sidewalks	1/10/2023 11:48 AM
58	Difficult to answer this question without an understanding of impacts.	1/10/2023 10:58 AM
59	A sidewalk.	1/10/2023 8:04 AM
60	Parking spaces	1/9/2023 11:18 PM
61	I would like to see the business parking areas more attractive, especially in the area of Mom's, The Spirit Shop etc.	1/8/2023 5:15 PM
62	Spruce up run down properties, better landscaping, traffic calming strategy.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
63	Bakery, small market, vibrant meeting place to gather	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
64	Sidewalk improvements throughout the village. Maybe a walking tour app?	1/7/2023 8:47 AM
65	Ideally, a business would be near the street, with parking behind. However, we have what we have.	1/6/2023 8:08 PM
66	Business attraction. Empty businesses don't attract anyone.	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
67	An ordinance providing hunting on land adjacent to homes in a neighborhood such as Pinecrest Hill	1/6/2023 12:56 PM
68	A town hall where meetings could be held, an art or music school, a bakery, a book store	1/5/2023 10:26 PM
69	Sidewalks, ways to move around safely on bike and foot	1/5/2023 10:09 PM

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70	Better planning by MassDOT on "improvements " to Main Street	1/5/2023 9:37 AM
71	S Egremont has SOOO much opportunity. How do we encourage more business to move in?	1/4/2023 5:49 PM
72	Parking and an ATM that is open on weekends	1/4/2023 4:23 PM
73	I think the last would be ok	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
74	Feeling of community	1/4/2023 2:06 PM
75	Businesses	1/4/2023 1:16 PM
76	Arts and crafts shows and shops.	1/4/2023 12:24 PM
77	Outdoor community green space, village square / park	1/4/2023 10:51 AM
78	nothing	1/4/2023 10:05 AM
79	The sidewalks that are on the way!	1/4/2023 9:45 AM
80	Community Center	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
81	.	1/4/2023 5:56 AM
82	Affordable housing	1/3/2023 10:26 PM
83	Playground outside of SES, effective way to slow traffic	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
84	Sidewalks! It is unsafe and difficult to go for a stroll to enjoy and access all businesses. We take kids to downtown GB instead just so we can "walk around".	1/3/2023 9:56 PM
85	community center	1/3/2023 6:14 PM
86	A gasoline station. E-car charging station	1/3/2023 5:19 PM
87	Affordable housing for young working class families	1/3/2023 12:58 PM
88	A small business assn.; a gathering place outdoors, there's retail, but room for improvement	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
89	An enhanced Billage Green that offers a sense of place	1/3/2023 10:43 AM
90	Useful shops.	12/31/2022 11:13 AM

Q14 Are you... (pick all that apply)

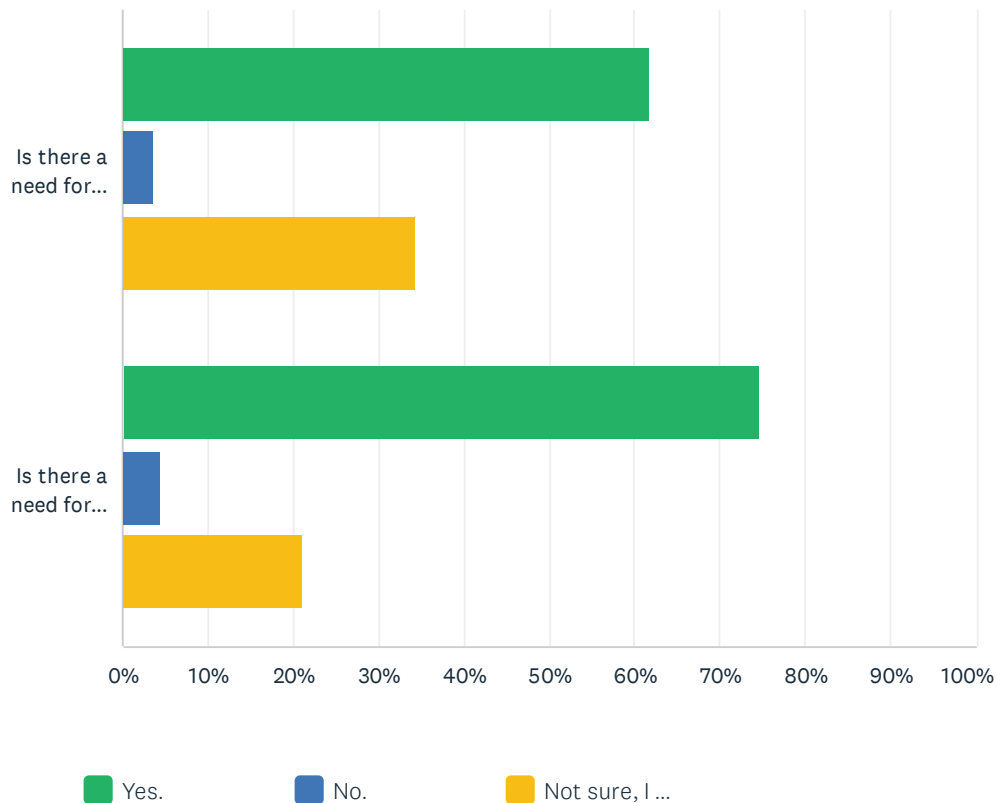
Answered: 222 Skipped: 46



	NORTH EGREMONT VILLAGE	SOUTH EGREMONT VILLAGE	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
...a resident of?	35.56% 64	65.00% 117	180
...an employee of a business in?	37.50% 3	62.50% 5	8
...a business owner in?	47.83% 11	56.52% 13	23
...a property owner, but not a resident or business owner in?	32.35% 11	70.59% 24	34
None of the above.	83.33% 25	76.67% 23	30

Q15 Addressing housing needs is a common problem throughout Berkshire County, and especially in areas with seasonal residents. What are your answers to the following questions?

Answered: 232 Skipped: 36



	YES.	NO.	NOT SURE, I NEED MORE INFORMATION.	TOTAL
Is there a need for housing that is more suitable for seniors who wish to age in place within the Egremont community?	61.93% 135	3.67% 8	34.40% 75	218
Is there a need for housing in Egremont that is more affordable for year-round residents?	74.56% 170	4.39% 10	21.05% 48	228

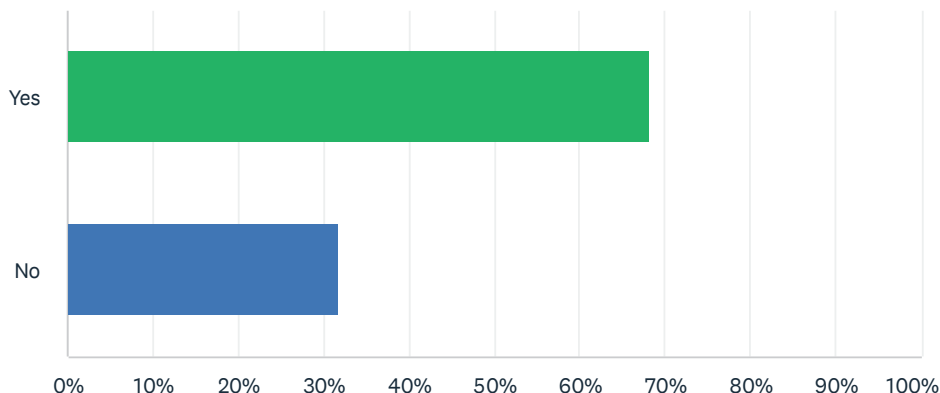
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Egremont has plenty of housing stock, but it is priced far too high for people on a fixed income or with an income of less than 100k per year to afford. The average home price is now 450k or more which is far greater than what most of the homes are physically worth.	2/2/2023 9:46 AM
2	Based on the meeting we attended, the majority of the population is over 60 yrs old	1/31/2023 9:18 PM
3	Of the two, affordable housing is more critical.	1/29/2023 2:30 PM
4	increased diversity	1/29/2023 1:19 PM
5	The character of South Egremont will be ruined with additional construction	1/27/2023 9:42 PM
6	Adopt CPA. Limit short term rentals in favor of long term rentals.	1/26/2023 10:30 PM
7	why should social housing be near a dump?	1/23/2023 2:32 PM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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8	We need workforce housing in Egremont	1/23/2023 10:31 AM
9	Adopt the Community Preservation Act for funds for workforce housing. Allow ADU's only for long term rentals to add to workforce housing stock or senior housing opportunities.	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
10	Higher density housing is needed. Expensive to build, so need way to get down costs. Lack of available land.	1/20/2023 11:52 AM
11	and there seems to be a shortage of housing for workers who do yard work, etc.	1/16/2023 7:05 PM
12	incubator space for small businesses, arts, etc. Example might be the buggy whip factory in Southfield.	1/14/2023 12:11 PM
13	the housing needs are area-wide, not just Egremont, an essentially rural town	1/10/2023 10:34 AM
14	I strongly dislike moderately priced homes being purchased solely to be a vacation rental. This makes home-buying for middle income for people who wish to live here very difficult	1/8/2023 5:15 PM
15	There is a need for Affordable housing in all of Egremont	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
16	I can't see aging in place here because of lack of great medical infrastructure-- not enough physicians! Anyone one who puts people before profits knows we need more affordable housing.	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
17	Perhaps a limit on 2nd home owners	1/4/2023 1:07 PM
18	Affordable/workforce housing is a critical need to support our businesses and it's workers	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
19	THE most important issue is affordable and senior housing	1/3/2023 10:26 PM
20	Housing needed for younger workforce - younger singles/couples, families	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
21	Public Transportation	1/3/2023 10:43 AM

Q16 Would you like to see more options for economic development in Egremont?

Answered: 192 Skipped: 76



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	68.23% 131
No	31.77% 61
TOTAL	192

#	IF YES, WHAT DO YOU THINK IS MISSING FROM EGREMONT NOW?IF NO, WHY NOT?	DATE
1	I don't want the town to get too commercialized. I do want some opportunities, but don't want to change the nature of the town too much.	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
2	don't want commercial activities to interfere with the enjoyment of the environment we currently have	2/3/2023 6:17 PM
3	tech startups that can take advantage of Egremont's fiber optic broadband network	2/3/2023 2:58 PM
4	there's enough economic development, it's just the wrong kind	2/2/2023 4:55 PM
5	sounds like trouble to me..be specific.	2/2/2023 11:31 AM
6	preservation of rural character	2/2/2023 10:16 AM
7	new commercial business should be encouraged in the village districts while maintaining the current historic buildings. Current zoning bylaws discourage business development with our one zone system.	2/2/2023 9:46 AM
8	Cafe/ restaurants	2/1/2023 11:12 AM
9	Town has some new places to visit, but we need more than this. It would appear that the town doesn't like change, or does not have the capacity to bring in new businesses, given the fact that it looks like a ghost town most days. We deserve more than this.	1/31/2023 4:03 PM
10	Answered already.	1/30/2023 10:25 PM
11	Yes, depending on what kind of economic development	1/30/2023 8:00 PM
12	Zoning that supports small businesses	1/30/2023 7:04 PM
13	Small manufacturers and repairs shops	1/30/2023 4:47 PM
14	Staying rural and small should be a priority - state and federal farming support	1/30/2023 10:47 AM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1

15	affordable housing, walkable areas, food/restaurant choices, local shopping	1/29/2023 8:21 PM
16	Small scale manufacturing, more retail and dining, particularly in North Egremont.	1/29/2023 2:30 PM
17	I would need more information	1/29/2023 9:29 AM
18	Again, this is a question with tax implications and government involvement in a one size fits all mindset. We have 1,000 people here. Solutions beyond a scale of how can we help our neighbors thrive by buying their goods eludes me.	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
19	Anything needed is less than 5 miles in a different town. Current businesses should stay open a bit longer.	1/29/2023 5:31 AM
20	On a small scale	1/28/2023 9:06 PM
21	Restaurants that deliver	1/28/2023 5:59 PM
22	Too many restrictions	1/28/2023 4:43 PM
23	Revive service businesses.	1/28/2023 12:40 PM
24	Lets keep this a small community. We don't need more traffic, crime, all the attendant ills of development. This would be a huge mistake.	1/27/2023 9:42 PM
25	Economic development would be better in surrounding areas close enough for residents to work in or use	1/27/2023 7:59 AM
26	We already have too many economic development options because of the special permit process which allows businesses interspersed in residential areas. Home occupations with no outward impacts should be the only economic uses in residential areas. Other needs are well-provided by neighboring towns, and all towns don't have to look alike. Keep Egremont mainly residential.	1/26/2023 10:30 PM
27	Retail, affordable housing	1/26/2023 10:20 PM
28	Affordable/ workforce housing subdivisions	1/26/2023 7:40 PM
29	There are already options	1/26/2023 4:35 PM
30	affordable dining,	1/26/2023 3:38 PM
31	Not enough business.	1/26/2023 10:35 AM
32	Affordable housing; bylaw stasis and NIMBYs	1/26/2023 10:26 AM
33	youth oriented businesses	1/26/2023 7:24 AM
34	More plant based food options	1/25/2023 8:56 AM
35	we need a community center where artists can exhibit, music be played, for story times, concerts	1/23/2023 2:32 PM
36	Needs are well served by stores and services in neighboring towns. Egremont should keep its unique residential/rural character. Home business with no outward signs of business use should be allowed as now.	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
37	WITH THE EXISTING STRUCTURES, NOT ADDING NEW ONES	1/23/2023 9:44 AM
38	The village is a good size for the population now	1/22/2023 8:04 PM
39	On the fence, depends on what kind of development	1/22/2023 1:48 PM
40	Office space for small businesses. More retail space for example: a general store	1/22/2023 11:00 AM
41	General store that can be community space; recreational opportunities in villages; pedestrians in villages; villages are "drive-through" towns right now	1/20/2023 11:52 AM
42	RETAIL!	1/18/2023 10:48 AM
43	Not sure	1/16/2023 6:52 PM
44	A business-friendly town government.	1/15/2023 9:06 AM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1**

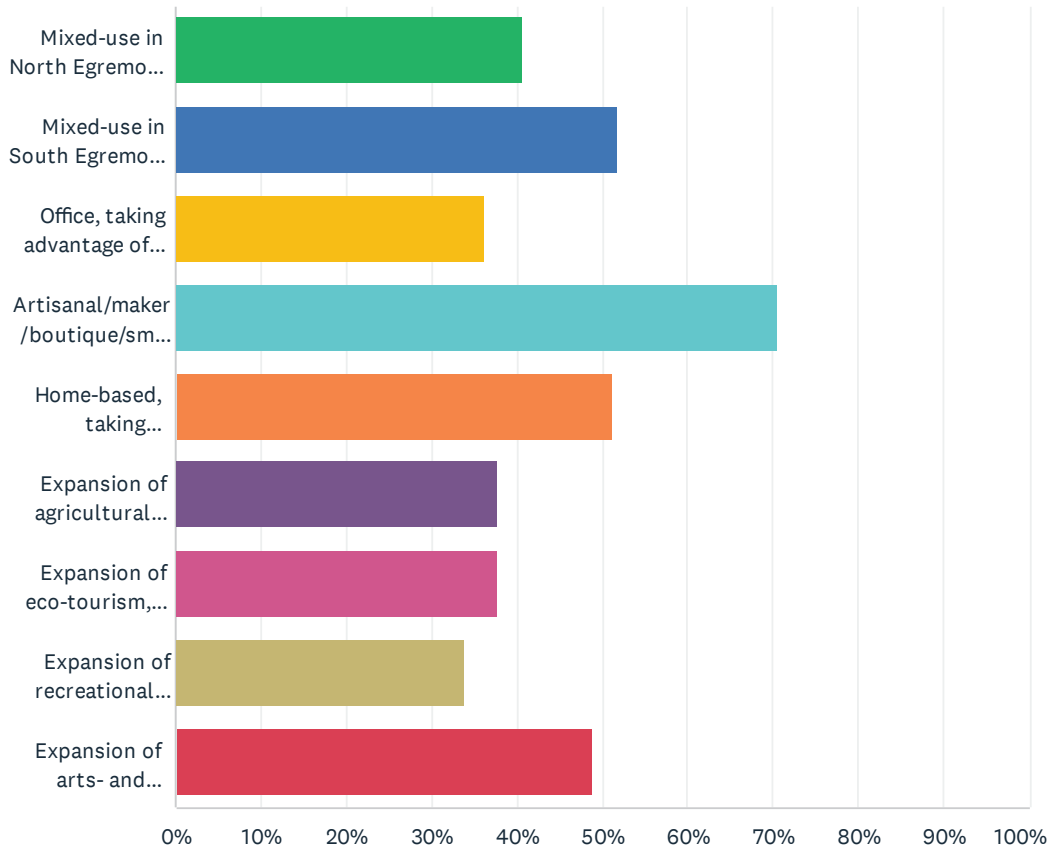
45	We have sufficient businesses if moms and country store are operating	1/14/2023 9:30 AM
46	More retail offerings, eateries, bookstore, general store	1/13/2023 10:32 PM
47	A commercial district in S Egremont	1/13/2023 7:26 PM
48	Small shops that fit the needs of local year round residents.	1/13/2023 5:42 PM
49	This is primarily a residential community	1/13/2023 5:15 PM
50	development brings in land fractionation and is generally bad for wildlife unless done without sprawl or clear cutting forests	1/13/2023 3:24 PM
51	Planned development, not prevention or blockage.	1/13/2023 2:25 PM
52	I think small local businesses that cater to locals is widely missing county wide. Many businesses cater to second Home owners and tourists who can afford the luxuries that locals can not.	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
53	there is no version of fast food - doesn't need to be a big chain but would be nice to be able to quickly grab a burger & fries	1/13/2023 11:39 AM
54	Gas station, food other than convenience	1/13/2023 10:29 AM
55	We have great access to Great Barrington. Keep the commerce there	1/13/2023 9:52 AM
56	More variety of businesses	1/11/2023 3:08 PM
57	retail, affordable housiung	1/11/2023 3:05 PM
58	Affordable housing	1/10/2023 11:19 AM
59	Again, difficult to answer this question without more information. i.e. what development is being considered and what is this development's impact on the community?	1/10/2023 10:58 AM
60	restaurant, gas station	1/10/2023 10:34 AM
61	I like it the way it is. It's rural, but close to great stores and restaurants. It's the perfect blend of rural and urban.	1/10/2023 8:04 AM
62	home-based business	1/9/2023 4:05 PM
63	businesses that are low impact (law offices, art studios, etc) but bring people to town	1/9/2023 11:22 AM
64	Restaurant or Cafe in North Village or North Area -- Like near/on Peck Farm	1/8/2023 7:45 PM
65	Affordable housing for staff of current business owners	1/8/2023 7:15 PM
66	A green grocer with dairy and basic items like bread, eggs etc. I would love not having to drive to Great Barrington for basic food stuffs.	1/8/2023 5:15 PM
67	In designated areas, opportunities mentioned earlier.	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
68	See above, South Egremont Village	1/7/2023 7:21 PM
69	I'm not opposed — just don't feel a great need. It seems like businesses are opening at a healthy pace — at least in south Egremont	1/7/2023 8:47 AM
70	Assuming "economic development" means more businesses, there are already plenty (and all we need) in Barrington.	1/6/2023 8:08 PM
71	Attract businesses into empty spaces before building more.	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
72	A other moderately priced restaurant or coffee/tea shop	1/6/2023 2:22 PM
73	Additional local restaurants and local craft shops	1/6/2023 12:56 PM
74	I'd just like to see more options, in business zones. A lack of business zones makes creating a business in Egremont more difficult.	1/6/2023 11:09 AM
75	A bakery, book store, bike repair shop, yarn store, art supply shop, farm tours, birding tours, public hikes	1/5/2023 10:26 PM
76	Affordable housing -- a community needs young people who are currently getting priced out	1/5/2023 10:09 PM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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77	Continual growth violates Natural Law, which is based on sustainable recycling.	1/5/2023 11:40 AM
78	More dining, commodities store.	1/4/2023 10:01 PM
79	affordable rental units for employees of town businesses	1/4/2023 7:35 PM
80	A better small market, restaurants	1/4/2023 5:49 PM
81	I like living in a quiet town.	1/4/2023 4:23 PM
82	good carryout-- a decent shop for interesting greeting cards, house items-- like a version of Great Barrington's One Mercantile-- hey, we run to GB or Hudson for everything-- can Egremont compete?	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
83	Younger generations with climate change in mind	1/4/2023 1:16 PM
84	depends on what you are talking about...	1/4/2023 10:05 AM
85	Increased customer services, passive retail.	1/4/2023 9:39 AM
86	The charm of a small village life is hard to find. I believe further economic development would impede this	1/4/2023 9:16 AM
87	It continues to bring those who don't respect or contribute to the community.	1/4/2023 6:37 AM
88	.	1/4/2023 5:56 AM
89	Public parking, another business or two to attract more people to spend time in the villages.	1/3/2023 10:21 PM
90	More restaurants, gourmet/sandwich shops, and cafes. There is potential for at least South Egremont to become a walkable business district.	1/3/2023 9:56 PM
91	Gasoline stations, charging stations	1/3/2023 5:19 PM
92	An Econ Dev strategy involving all sectors with an updated Capital Improvement Plan	1/3/2023 11:50 AM
93	Useful/fun shops/facilities	12/31/2022 11:13 AM

Q17 Which economic development options do you think are worth exploring in this planning process? Choose all that apply.

Answered: 201 Skipped: 67



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Mixed-use in North Egremont Village.		40.80%	82
Mixed-use in South Egremont Village.		51.74%	104
Office, taking advantage of Egremont's fiber optic broadband access.		36.32%	73
Artisanal/maker/boutique/small-scale industrial, taking advantage of Egremont's fiber optic broadband access.		70.65%	142
Home-based, taking advantage of Egremont's fiber optic broadband access.		51.24%	103
Expansion of agricultural uses.		37.81%	76
Expansion of eco-tourism, based on Egremont's access to open space.		37.81%	76
Expansion of recreational tourism, based on Egremont's recreational assets.		33.83%	68
Expansion of arts- and culture-based tourism.		48.76%	98
Total Respondents: 201			

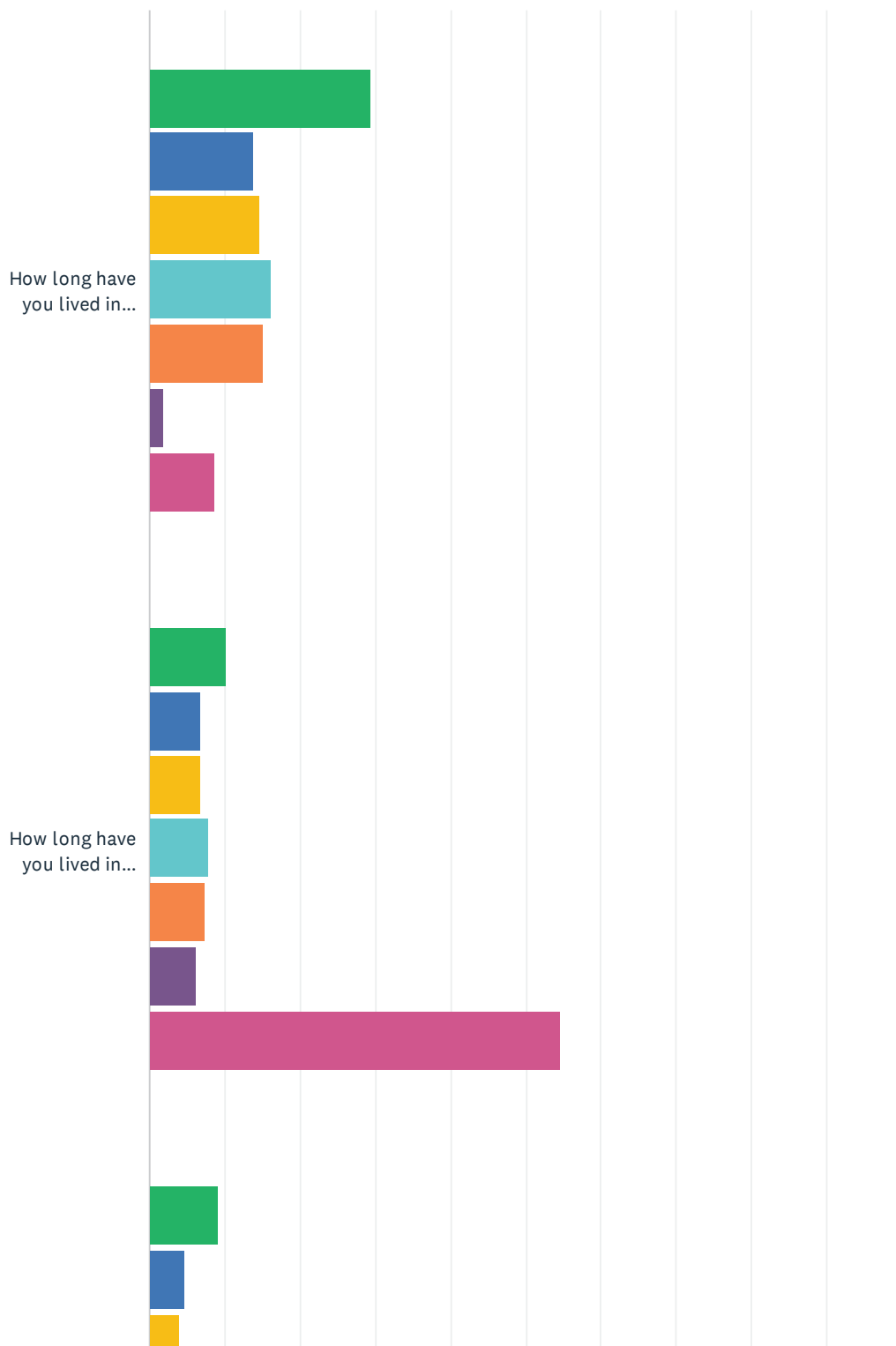
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
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Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
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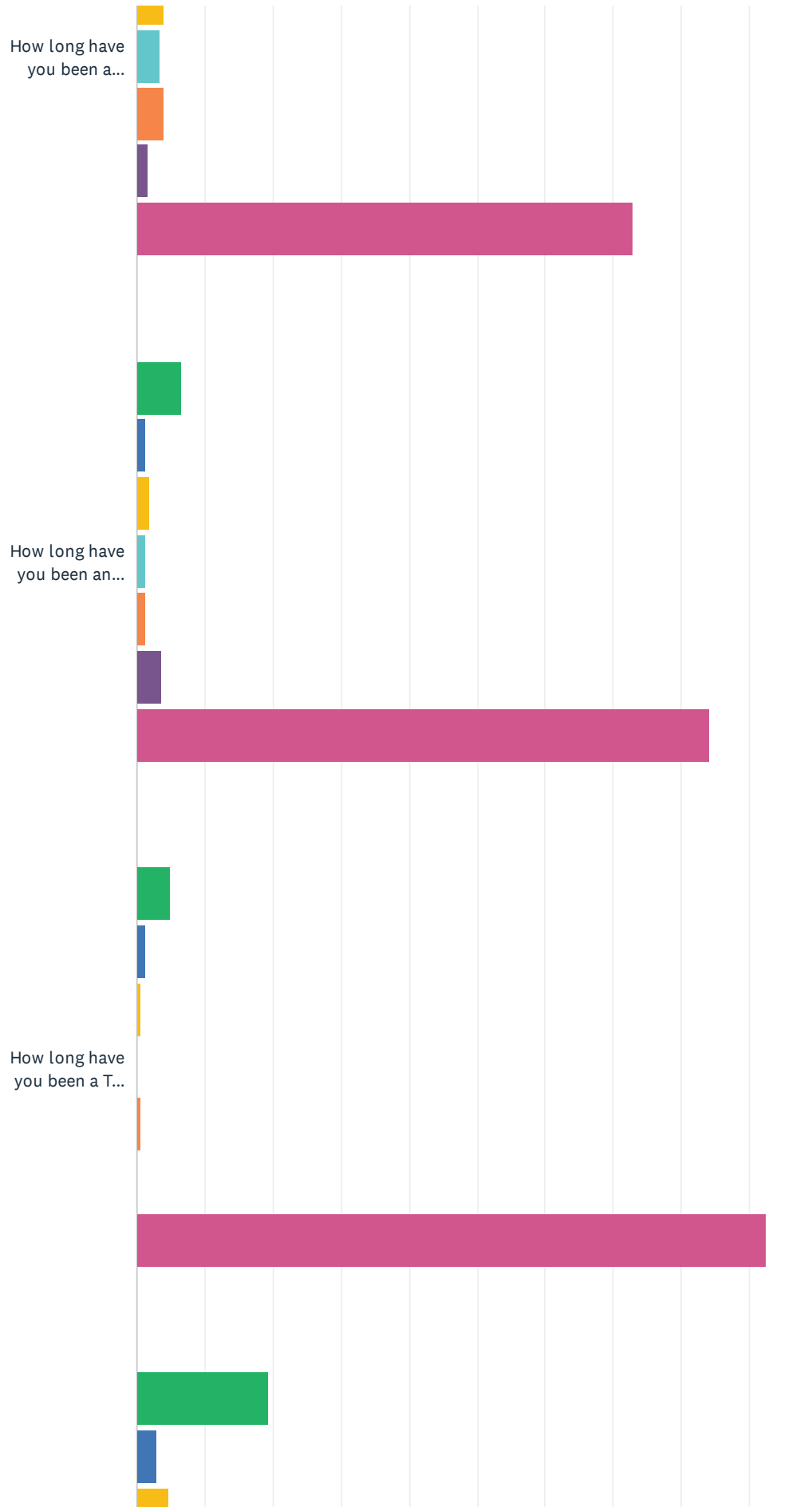
1	Examples of the above would be helpful.	2/2/2023 3:00 PM
2	All of the above are already in operation here. What do you propose doing to "explore"?	1/29/2023 8:00 AM
3	Please! No major economic expansion— we have large towns of GB and Hudson on either side. I feel blessed that I can go there when I need to be in a more urban environment but don't have to in my daily life contend with summer tourist crowds, rampant gentrification and traffic jams. I wish for a better local grocery store with better hours and local produce but otherwise appreciate that we have few businesses-	1/28/2023 10:51 PM
4	No growing weed	1/28/2023 10:07 PM
5	Just make economic development easy and let it happen without interference,	1/28/2023 4:43 PM
6	Egremont is already near all of these things in other towns--why do we need to invest in these things in our town?	1/28/2023 2:33 PM
7	Awelcome and encourage new business especially those that will offer employment opportunities.	1/28/2023 1:48 PM
8	Agricultural space is about reaching its limit.	1/28/2023 12:40 PM
9	Don't promote open space as a source of revenue. No eco-tourism.	1/26/2023 10:30 PM
10	Ugh. None of the above	1/25/2023 8:18 AM
11	It would be great to have events like movie nights in the park where families can come and bring a picnic and enjoy and open air movie in the summer. Swimming and ice skating would also be great.	1/24/2023 5:45 PM
12	Don't mess with the charm too much.	1/23/2023 2:51 PM
13	if we want to expand our recreational tourism we need to expand trails, e.g. along river of former golf course of right of way/ trails on Baldwin Hill. Rather than investing in roads we should invest into a healthy life style like walks which can be kept up until a ripe old age	1/23/2023 2:32 PM
14	Keep commercial uses separate from residential except for home-based business with no outward impacts. Clearly define what is a home-based business to prevent creep in size. Don't over-promote open space/conservation resources to the point that their conservation and open space value are compromised.	1/23/2023 10:12 AM
15	It's unrealistic that Egremont should have more busineese in either village.	1/21/2023 9:34 PM
16	Planning should focus on residents- not tourists	1/10/2023 11:19 AM
17	This is impossible to answer without seeing/understanding what any of these options might translate to in the built environment	1/10/2023 10:35 AM
18	Other than hiking, Egremont has little recreation. It would be great to plan and spend for resident access to Prospect Lake.	1/6/2023 6:54 PM
19	I think Egremont should get ready for expanded biking tourism along the Harlem Vally Rail Trail-- once that trail hooks into the Empire State Trail in Gent and/or Chatham, we want to be in position to attract people coming from as far away as NYC by bike. This kind of visitor is very desireble/low maintenance -- no parking, no traffic, etc.	1/5/2023 10:09 PM
20	do we have the bandwidth	1/4/2023 2:50 PM
21	.	1/4/2023 5:56 AM
22	dining options: cafes, small restaurants	1/3/2023 6:14 PM
23	Can Egr. gov't depts support the above?	1/3/2023 11:50 AM

Q18 What is your relationship with Egremont? (Choose all that apply.) If you used to belong to one of these categories, please use the "N/A:Former" column. If you have never belonged to one of these categories, please use the "N/A: Never" column.

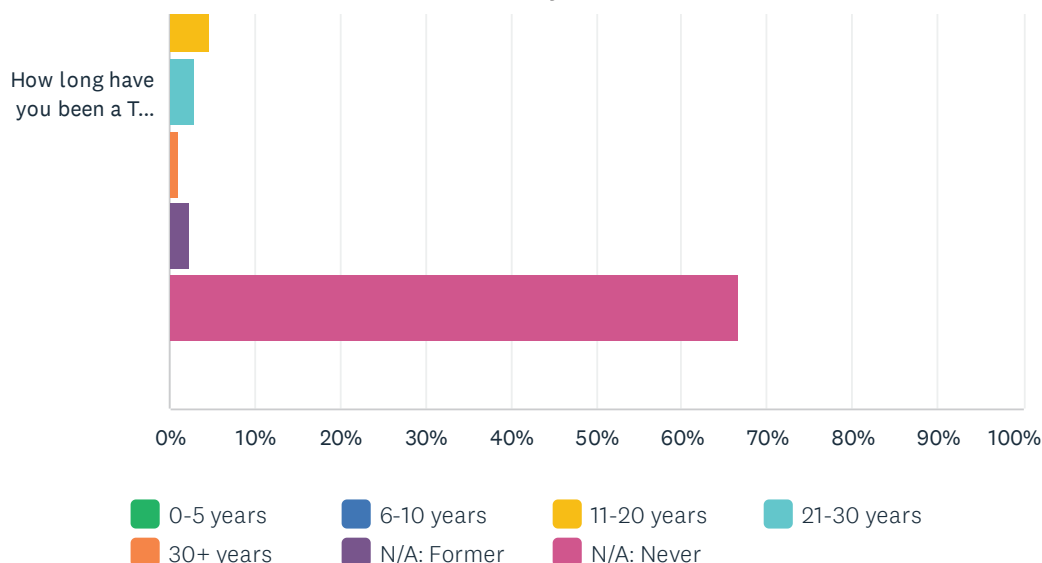
Answered: 224 Skipped: 44



Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan: Community Questionnaire 1



Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan: Community Questionnaire 1



	0-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	11-20 YEARS	21-30 YEARS	30+ YEARS	N/A: FORMER	N/A: NEVER	TOTAL
How long have you lived in Egremont as a year-round resident?	29.49% 64	13.82% 30	14.75% 32	16.13% 35	15.21% 33	1.84% 4	8.76% 19	217
How long have you lived in Egremont as a summer resident?	10.23% 18	6.82% 12	6.82% 12	7.95% 14	7.39% 13	6.25% 11	54.55% 96	176
How long have you been a business owner in Egremont?	9.25% 16	4.62% 8	4.05% 7	3.47% 6	4.05% 7	1.73% 3	72.83% 126	173
How long have you been an employee of a business or organization in Egremont?	6.71% 11	1.22% 2	1.83% 3	1.22% 2	1.22% 2	3.66% 6	84.15% 138	164
How long have you been a Town employee?	4.97% 8	1.24% 2	0.62% 1	0.00% 0	0.62% 1	0.00% 0	92.55% 149	161
How long have you been a Town official - either elected or appointed?	19.30% 33	2.92% 5	4.68% 8	2.92% 5	1.17% 2	2.34% 4	66.67% 114	171

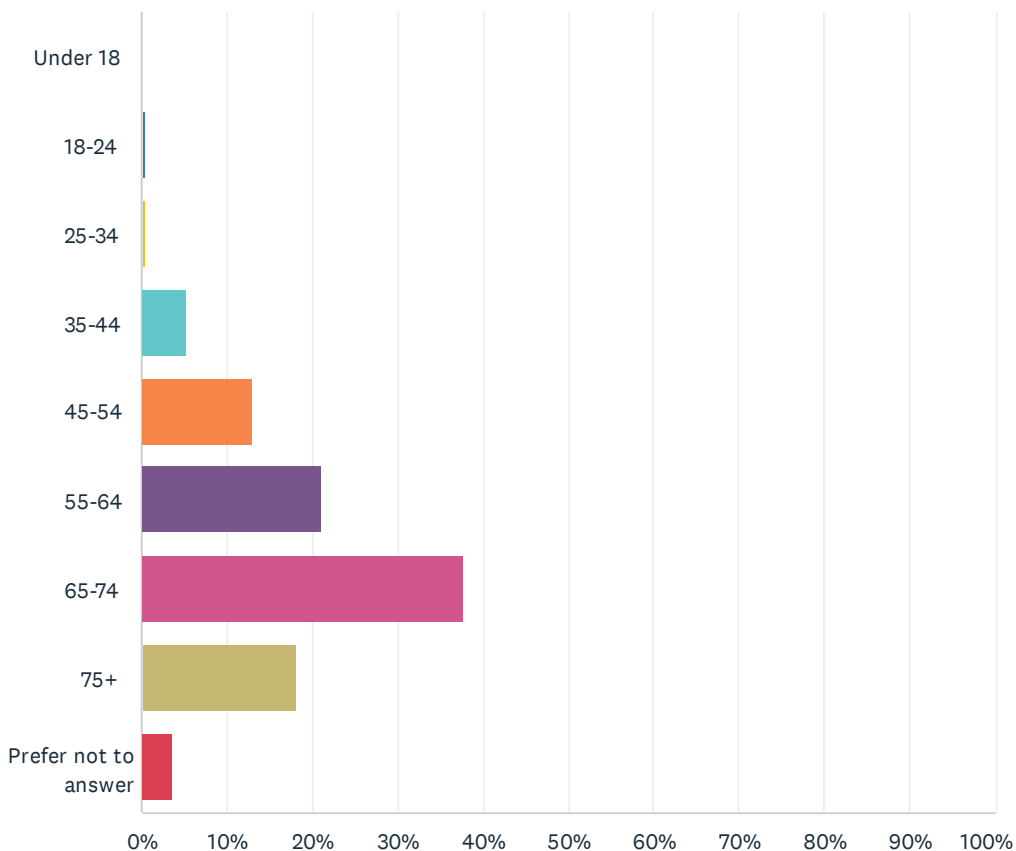
#	NONE OF THESE CATEGORIES ARE APPLICABLE TO ME. (PLEASE TELL US WHY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN EGREMONT.)	DATE
1	My husband grew up in S. Egremont and we just purchased a house in S Egremont and plan to move there once it's renovated.	1/31/2023 9:22 PM
2	I am a life time resident	1/28/2023 1:55 PM
3	Egremont has been my second home for 40 years. For the past four years, we've lived here half time.	1/23/2023 4:53 PM
4	It's a pretty place whose rural identity is important.	1/23/2023 2:57 PM
5	Lived in Egremont Heights 2001-2016. Lived in S Berkshire county year round 1962 - 2015 with a few years off traveling, my wife and I still own a house in Egremont we're trying to fix up, I consider myself a Berkshire person no matter where I am and we plan to return.	1/22/2023 2:06 PM
6	Live in and cherish Egremont. Feel many of these ideas are too ambitious and wide ranging. Need more trees, open space and nature. More preservation. There's been little recent activity by the ELT. Never understood why some trees were not planted in some open areas there. There's limited shade there. Planting trees will be good for environment	1/21/2023 9:41 PM
7	Part time resident	1/13/2023 9:55 AM
8	I am a returning resident with long-standing family ties to the area	1/11/2023 7:28 PM

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9	new to Egremont. live here off and on throughout the year. I serve on a town committee	1/5/2023 10:30 PM
10	I am in Egremont intermittently year-round, not just in summers!	1/4/2023 10:05 AM
11	I run a business from my home, and the high-speed internet is crucial.	1/4/2023 9:47 AM
12	.	1/4/2023 5:57 AM

Q19 How old are you?

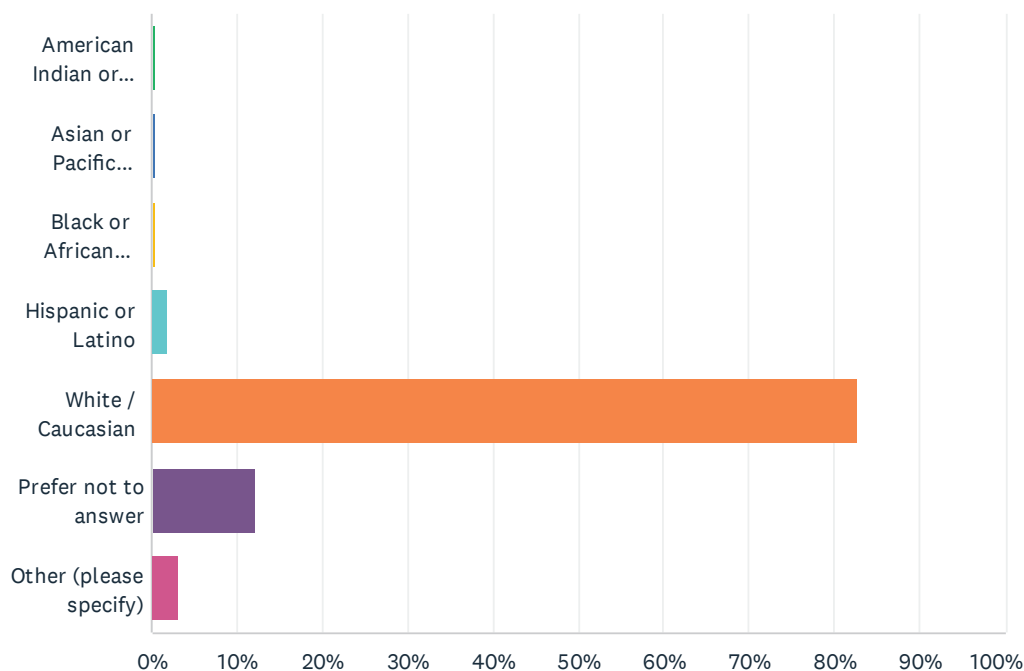
Answered: 222 Skipped: 46



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	0.45%	1
25-34	0.45%	1
35-44	5.41%	12
45-54	13.06%	29
55-64	21.17%	47
65-74	37.84%	84
75+	18.02%	40
Prefer not to answer	3.60%	8
TOTAL		222

Q20 What is your ethnicity? (Please select all that apply.)

Answered: 215 Skipped: 53



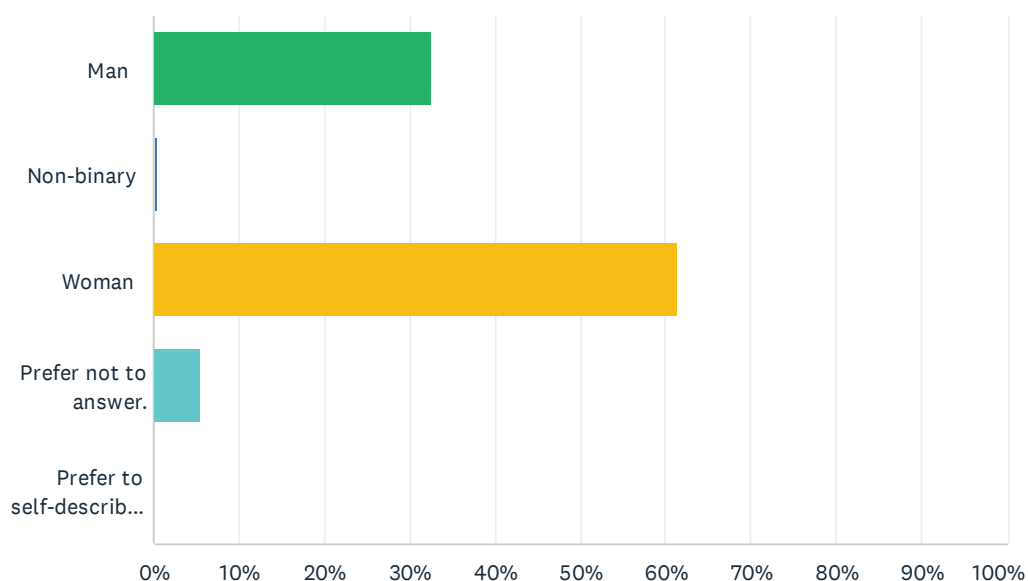
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.47%	1
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.47%	1
Black or African American	0.47%	1
Hispanic or Latino	1.86%	4
White / Caucasian	82.79%	178
Prefer not to answer	12.09%	26
Other (please specify)	3.26%	7
Total Respondents: 215		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Modern american	1/29/2023 10:39 PM
2	Not applicable	1/26/2023 10:33 PM
3	Jewish	1/23/2023 12:11 PM
4	Age and ethnicity is irrelevant. Makes no sense.	1/21/2023 9:41 PM
5	American	1/8/2023 7:17 PM
6	object to that question !	1/7/2023 2:58 PM
7	I'm white, but here's a thing-- I'd feel much more comfortable staying here if we were 95% more	1/4/2023 2:52 PM

divers

Q21 Gender: How do you identify?

Answered: 215 Skipped: 53



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Man	32.56%	70
Non-binary	0.47%	1
Woman	61.40%	132
Prefer not to answer.	5.58%	12
Prefer to self-describe, below	0.00%	0
TOTAL		215

#	SELF-DESCRIBE:	DATE
1	Mixed Race	2/2/2023 9:23 AM
2	Again, this is irrelevant. No idea why these questions are here. The ideas we are discussing are universal and transcend race/ethnicity, gender and age. Feels divisive.	1/21/2023 9:41 PM
3	Female	1/3/2023 10:47 AM

Q23 Final question! What questions do you have for Town officials and the consultant team before the first workshop?

Answered: 74 Skipped: 194

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No longer applicable (first workshop is done)	2/3/2023 6:20 PM
2	Do you intend to combat invasive plant species?	2/2/2023 10:20 AM
3	We do not want the abutting property to be developed.	2/2/2023 9:23 AM
4	Will there be public access for residents to Prospect Lake?	2/1/2023 11:12 AM
5	Allow larger ADU and make them easier to build	1/30/2023 7:06 PM
6	Write the town voting partitions in a straight forward short and clear none legal manner	1/30/2023 4:54 PM
7	What prompted this questionnaire and how will it be used to chart the course for the town's future?	1/30/2023 1:51 PM
8	What is the final approved plan for RT 23 through South Egremont, Is there any hope for a sewer system to service South Egremont town center by the brook?	1/30/2023 10:52 AM
9	Unsure at this time	1/29/2023 10:39 PM
10	What solutions to the lack of affordable housing are currently being considered?	1/29/2023 2:33 PM
11	1st workshop was great!	1/29/2023 1:22 PM
12	Can access to swimming at Prospect Lake be improved (Parking & entry to water)? Can you limit development of forested areas?	1/29/2023 8:59 AM
13	It appears that there are Dark Sky bills in the State now addressing lighting. I want to see this as an active componant in our future. thanks.	1/29/2023 8:03 AM
14	Make a map of land currently available for building new affordable construction of senior housing complex and low income housing, send out to bid to contrators. Identify wetlands/perk tested properties for viability to build.	1/29/2023 5:36 AM
15	Timeline for completion	1/28/2023 11:18 PM
16	What is the intention? Please don't ruin our town by turning it into a tourist destination!	1/28/2023 10:52 PM
17	What are goals and what is feasible?	1/28/2023 9:08 PM
18	Don't try to control things,	1/28/2023 4:44 PM
19	I don't understand why there are two separate committees and two separate planning processes that are both supposed to figure out a future direction for Egremont.	1/28/2023 2:36 PM
20	Do you plan to recommend that private land be opened up to the public? Some of your early communications may have been misleading on this topic.	1/28/2023 12:57 PM
21	Virginia	1/27/2023 9:45 PM
22	When will locals have access to Prospect Lake?	1/26/2023 8:21 PM
23	How can we make a swimming area at Prospect Lake ,now that the property has changed hands. How can we push the potential development of the town parcel , or another area ,for affordable housing development	1/26/2023 7:51 PM
24	How do we keep all that ia wonderful about Egremont and improve it around the edges?	1/25/2023 8:58 AM
25	I hope we are not changing to further commercialize Egremont	1/25/2023 8:22 AM
26	n/a already passed	1/23/2023 2:57 PM

Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1

27	it is good to have goals but we must make officials accountable	1/23/2023 2:35 PM
28	Why so much emphasis on the villages and not on the remaining rural areas of town?	1/23/2023 10:14 AM
29	Will you establish metrics for the plan so progress is monitored and ensured?	1/22/2023 8:06 PM
30	Are there many people who — like us— would like route 23 to be more pedestrian in nature and less like a major highway?	1/22/2023 3:21 PM
31	Do you agree that many of the problems of Egremont and the world are caused by too many people building fortresses instead of communities to protect themselves from an economic collapse caused by building fortresses instead of communities and if so how can we reverse this trend in Egremont?	1/22/2023 2:06 PM
32	Is there money available for all these ideas/projects ?	1/22/2023 11:05 AM
33	Egremont is a small town close to borders with NY. We are a gateway town, in a sense, and I wish that Egremont would stay calm as it develops and not become bigger than it needs to be or than resources allow.	1/22/2023 10:57 AM
34	There should be a fixed budget. Not runaway expensive. We really don't need to pay a consultant. My suggestions are straightfoward and doable.	1/21/2023 9:41 PM
35	Plans for increasing retail and affordable housing in Egremont.	1/18/2023 10:49 AM
36	I think it is important to prpeare and maje available an inventory of public lands within the township. What measures are being taken to preserve and protect drinking water?	1/14/2023 3:38 PM
37	How will you measure progress towards goals in the plan? Who will be accountable? How often will they report on progress, or lack thereof, to the community? How are you engaging younger demographics?	1/14/2023 12:15 PM
38	Plan for area that was cleared around dump. Wasnt it for affordable housing?	1/14/2023 9:32 AM
39	Priority is good forestry management, good land management, and opportunities for multiple generations to manage properties, including providing housing for multiple generations.	1/14/2023 8:12 AM
40	When will we get access to Prospect lake	1/13/2023 7:31 PM
41	What can we do to fully protect our protected forests and fresh water resources?	1/13/2023 3:25 PM
42	Is the effort designed to be comprehensive? (Land use, density, multi-generational housing, integration of resource capabilities, public-private optimization, can do over cut off.)	1/13/2023 2:31 PM
43	What efforts are you making to preserve our water rights?	1/13/2023 12:16 PM
44	Can we begin to focus on the full time Homeowners and have more events like there were in the past? Can we bring the veterans back to the Memorial Day parade and hear messages from them (with all due respect, the past 2 have been laughable and visually disrespectful to those who served)?	1/13/2023 11:42 AM
45	Unknown at this time.	1/13/2023 10:31 AM
46	What are the criteria for approval housing developments in north and south Egremont	1/13/2023 9:55 AM
47	Why are is the Select Board not open to hearing about the opinions of town residents if the opinions are different from their own? Why were they trying to push through the marijuana bylaws when the majority of the residents were not in favor of them?	1/10/2023 5:09 PM
48	How to engage more civic involvement so same people won't serve in multiple positions	1/10/2023 11:22 AM
49	What is the follow-up process for the comp. plan? Are the ideas in the comp. plan being implemented? Why doesn't Egremont have hunting rules in place, like Sheffield, that requires hunters to seek written permission from private property owners to hunt on private land?	1/10/2023 11:04 AM
50	What benchmarks can you incorporate in the plan to provide 1, 3, 5 year updates on progress for meeting goals? I understand this may best be addressed at the second workshop. Thank you	1/10/2023 10:47 AM
51	Just a thank you for your efforts and hard work.	1/10/2023 10:36 AM
52	The housing density has exploded and is becoming utterly suburban. Is there any plan to	1/10/2023 8:06 AM

**Egremont Vision 2035: Town of Egremont Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation
Plan: Community Questionnaire 1**

increase lot sizes to 2 acres and if not, why?

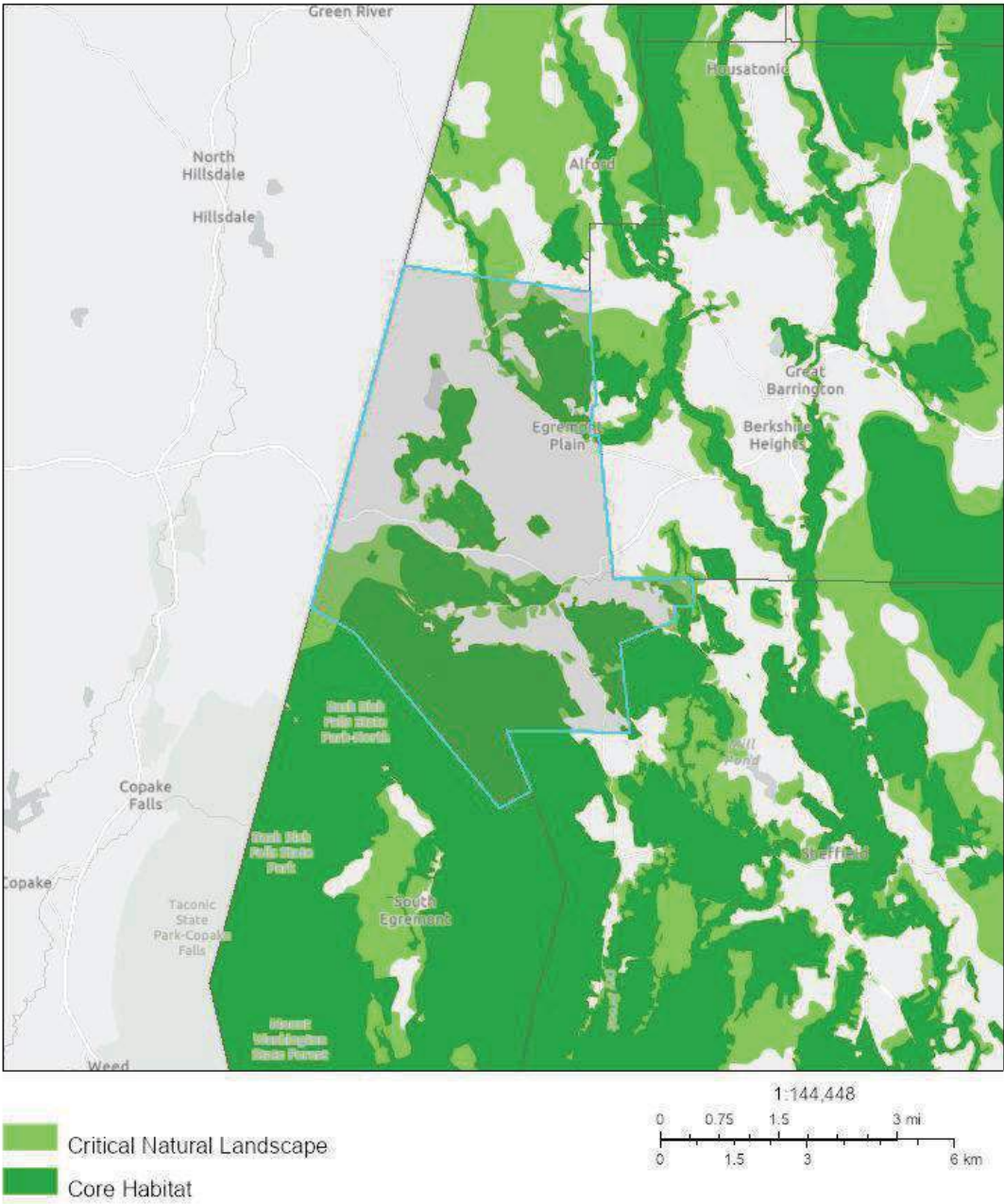
53	Have you considered a large number single home vacation rentals to be detrimental to A) maintaining a strong sense of community and B) mid-range priced housing to would-be residents?	1/8/2023 5:24 PM
54	Why has the town made a financial commitment to affordable housing specifically toward such as owning infrastructure build financed through state grants.	1/7/2023 7:25 PM
55	Sorry to miss the workshop. Good luck!	1/7/2023 7:24 PM
56	How can we slow traffic through our villages to help them feel more like PLACES and less like highways?	1/7/2023 8:51 AM
57	How can you come together to form a plan concerning development and deforestation of our area? What will be done for public access to Prospect Lake?	1/6/2023 6:58 PM
58	Why is hunting in close proximity to single family homes that are in a neighborhood?	1/6/2023 12:59 PM
59	How much do considerations about climate, the environment and sustainability factor into your decision making process?	1/5/2023 10:30 PM
60	Is there a plan to connect Egremont to Great Barrington by bike / foot path	1/5/2023 10:12 PM
61	None presently	1/4/2023 10:04 PM
62	encourage covid precautions!	1/4/2023 2:52 PM
63	Are you planning to ask about us opening our farm land for recreational ventures and if so don't bother we already have too many people who act like they own us	1/4/2023 2:11 PM
64	Thank you for doing this!	1/4/2023 11:47 AM
65	none at this time	1/4/2023 10:53 AM
66	Town officials should be transparent at all times with all aspects of governing	1/4/2023 10:08 AM
67	What is the timeline to implement?	1/4/2023 6:39 AM
68	.	1/4/2023 5:57 AM
69	Is there any consideration of Prospect Lake access built in to the planning process? I live nearby but my family has never used the lake because there is no access.	1/3/2023 9:59 PM
70	Are we doing everything we can to achieve public access to Prospect Lake?	1/3/2023 6:15 PM
71	None	1/3/2023 5:20 PM
72	Do you need us there early to set up and get marching orders?	1/3/2023 11:53 AM
73	What metrics will be developed to measure success of the plan	1/3/2023 10:47 AM
74	Julia	1/2/2023 6:24 AM

BioMap Summary Report

Area of Interest (AOI) Information

Area : 12,087.14 acres

Jul 21 2023 11:36:05 Eastern Daylight Time



ESRI, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA

Summary

Name	Count	Area(acres)	Length(ft)
Core Habitat	9	5,016.15	N/A
Critical Natural Landscape	12	5,123.48	N/A
Aquatic Core	6	458.46	N/A
Aquatic Core Buffer	8	898.74	N/A
Wetland Core	35	497.22	N/A
Wetland Core Buffer	9	647.02	N/A
Priority Natural Communities Core	4	70.93	N/A
Vernal Pool Core	7	1,720.84	N/A
Forest Core	1	1,151.11	N/A
Rare Species Core	12	4,101.35	N/A
Tern Foraging Habitat	0	0	N/A
Coastal Adaptation Areas	0	0	N/A
Landscape Blocks	3	3,518.11	N/A
Local Aquatic Habitats	2	124.97	N/A
Local Aquatic Habitats Buffer	5	388.45	N/A
Local Wetlands	14	284.75	N/A
Local Wetlands Buffer	21	370.38	N/A
Local Landscapes	3	493.24	N/A
Local Rare Species	18	1,207.67	N/A
Local Vernal Pools	1	38.40	N/A
Regional Rare Species	8	2,619.57	N/A
Regional Connectivity	1	4,502.99	N/A

Core Habitat

#	Core Habitat ID	Area(acres)
1	1873	4,309.53
2	1545	364.78
3	1489	290.16
4	1474	31.16
5	1459	9.67
6	1554	8.64
7	1402	2.21

Critical Natural Landscape

#	Critical Natural Landscape ID	Area(acres)
1	1864	4,683.98
2	708	299.98
3	714	56.10
4	701	24.73
5	740	12.69
6	672	12.02
7	683	10.96
8	682	9.09
9	689	7.69
10	688	5.87
11	724	0.37

Aquatic Core

#	Aquatic Core ID	Area(acres)
1	444	252.30
2	551	175.04
3	439	31.12

Aquatic Core Buffer

#	Aquatic Core Buffer ID	Area(acres)
1	449	555.30
2	635	210.79
3	445	82.59
4	455	16.45
5	439	10.96
6	438	9.09
7	444	7.69
8	442	5.87

Wetland Core

#	Wetland Core ID	Area(acres)
1	3838	165.65
2	3701	135.98
3	3690	68.83
4	3652	34.96
5	3868	17.55
6	3606	15.97
7	4000	14.70
8	3785	12.65
9	3729	5.06
10	3495	4.36
11	3769	3.43
12	3634	3.27
13	3589	2.21
14	3943	1.80
15	3577	1.75
16	3957	1.58
17	3617	1.53
18	3922	0.83
19	3641	0.74
20	3615	0.73
21	3993	0.70
22	3624	0.43
23	3560	0.37
24	3917	0.37
25	3616	0.34
26	3947	0.32
27	3618	0.30
28	3663	0.25
29	3627	0.23
30	3549	0.20
31	3526	0.12
32	3612	0.02

Wetland Core Buffer

#	Wetland Buffer ID	Area(acres)
1	2281	169.69
2	2220	162.27
3	2393	134.33
4	2190	91.22
5	1990	38.55
6	2319	17.08
7	2362	12.08
8	2163	11.99
9	2158	9.81

Priority Natural Communities Core

#	Natural Community Name	Area(acres)
1	Rich, Mesic Forest	34.92
2	Calcareous Sloping Fen	33.83
3	Ridgetop Pitch Pine - Scrub Oak Community	2.18

Vernal Pool Core

#	Vernal Pool Core ID	Area(acres)
1	247	616.50
2	213	338.95
3	210	255.77
4	237	228.25
5	222	121.10
6	205	106.65
7	212	53.62

Forest Core

#	Forest Core ID	Area(acres)
1	12	1,151.11

Rare Species Core

#	Rare Species Core ID	Species Total	Area(acres)
1	1252	14	2,649.37
2	978	17	651.05
3	950	5	438.26
4	1033	2	246.52
5	998	3	65.89
6	981	2	30.33
7	969	2	9.67
8	1040	1	8.63
9	985	3	1.61
10	1252	66	0.02
11	950	6	< 0.01

Landscape Blocks

#	Landscape Block ID	Area(acres)
1	89	2,642.20
2	103	560.15
3	87	315.76

Local Aquatic Habitats

#	Local Aquatic Habitats ID	Area(acres)
1	294	81.51
2	297	43.46

Local Aquatic Habitats Buffer

#	Local Aquatic Habitat Buffer ID	Area(acres)
1	32	338.48
2	374	47.51
3	377	1.10
4	376	1.05
5	31	0.30

Local Wetlands

#	Local Wetlands ID	Area(acres)
1	821	134.63
2	818	24.41
3	809	22.01
4	1,254	20.53
5	812	19.97
6	817	17.45
7	811	15.63
8	825	7.81
9	816	5.28
10	808	4.69
11	823	3.77
12	810	3.17
13	814	2.84
14	813	2.57

Local Wetlands Buffer

#	Local Wetlands Buffer ID	Area(acres)
1	2,163	88.68
2	2,251	65.79
3	2,421	45.72
4	2,263	36.65
5	2,616	30.09
6	2,299	26.43
7	2,111	18.43
8	2,110	16.99
9	2,343	14.69
10	2,429	9.96
11	2,281	6.13
12	2,278	5.91
13	2,254	1.71
14	2,418	1.53
15	2,223	1.06
16	2,288	0.38
17	2,107	0.12
18	2,219	0.04
19	2,092	0.03
20	2,079	0.02
21	2,265	0.01

Local Landscapes

#	Local Landscape ID	Area(acres)
1	564	239.26
2	565	150.80
3	583	103.18

Local Rare Species

#	Local Rare Species ID	Species Total	Area(acres)
1	1,024	3	363.18
2	1,020	2	340.09
3	1,023	1	252.80
4	1,029	1	102.09
5	1,202	1	82.34
6	1,027	1	40.82
7	1,206	1	4.81
8	1,022	1	4.38
9	1,028	1	3.44
10	98	1	2.65
11	1,026	2	2.63
12	1,207	1	2.40
13	1,021	1	2.40
14	1,025	2	1.55
15	1,030	1	1.34
16	1,204	1	0.57
17	1,208	1	0.16

Local Vernal Pools

#	Local Vernal Pool ID	Area(acres)
1	312	38.40

Regional Rare Species

#	Regional Rare Species ID	Species Total	Area(acres)
1	601	6	2,273.75
2	603	4	228.70
3	622	1	65.88
4	597	1	40.99
5	640	1	8.63
6	616	1	1.60
7	601	11	0.02
8	601	5	< 0.01

Regional Connectivity

#	Regional Connectivity ID	Area(acres)
1	37	4,502.99

APPENDIX D

ADA ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION INVENTORY

Site specific survey of French Park, a Town-owned open space and recreation property is included. The Board of Selectmen as Trustees of the Park are responsible for French Park.

The Town-owned land at Jug End, off Mt. Washington Road, and Conservation Land off of Route 71 are conservation/water supply protection parcels and do not have public access and therefore, site specific surveys were not conducted. These properties are either “land locked”, have no improvements and serve solely as wildlife habitat, or are off limits to the public. These four lots are:

- Jug End (213 acres)
- Water supply land off Mt Washington Road (17 acres)
- Water supply land off Mt Washington Road (95 acres)
- Conservation land off Route 71 (7.1 acres)

No other action is required at these facilities.

March 1, 2004 updated August 31, 2017 updated August 29, 2023

TOWN OF EGREMONT

504 TRANSITION PLAN HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY

The Town of Egremont's 504 Self Evaluation Report was produced in January 2004, and updated in August of 2017. It was completed after inspection of public buildings and facilities by Egremont's Building Inspector Thomas Race and Egremont's Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Nick Ball to determine compliance levels with 521 CMR, the Rules and Regulations of the Architectural Access Board. The update was completed after the inspection of the South Egremont Village School House and the Egremont Police Station by Egremont's Personnel Director Bill Tighe and Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Thomas Reynolds. After their inspection, the recommendations contained herein were developed.

It is the intention that this plan be updated periodically. The purpose of this review is to evaluate improvements made and to develop strategy for further improvements.

The Town of Egremont is committed to improving access to its public buildings and facilities for persons with disabilities. The 504 Self-Evaluation contains a Transition Plan outlining planned or proposed improvements for achieving accessibility for each public building or facility. Periodic review of the Self Evaluation will update our plan and provide a tracking system for the following compliance with the Rules and Regulations of the Architectural Access Board.

January, 2004
Updated August, 2017
Updated August, 2023

Self Evaluation
For Compliance with Architectural Access Board
Accessibility Guidelines

1. Egremont Free Library
2. Egremont Town Hall
3. Egremont Highway Garage
4. French Park
5. Water Facility
6. Transfer Station and Recycling Center
7. South Egremont Village School House
8. Police Station

Egremont Free Library

Part 1: Accessible Approach/Entrance

1. Route of Travel:

Route of travel is from the parking area to the side of the building. A concrete sidewalk and accessible van parking space is adjacent to a ramp and deck with railing.

2. Ramps:

Fully compliant sidewalk and ramp with deck and railing.

3. Parking and Drop-Off Areas:

There is one designated cement fully van accessible parking space. The parking lot is currently gravel and is unmarked in any way other than the one accessible parking space.

4. Entrance:

Enter up the ramp or via stairs. The entrance door is 36". Carpeting and mats are 1/4" high. All edges are secured. The door handle is ADA compliant. Doors do open with a minimum of force - 5 lb. There is no closer on the door.

Part 2: Access to Goods and Services

1. Horizontal Circulation:

First floor, the route to all public spaces is level and accessible, including to the restrooms.

2. Doors:

First floor, all doors are compliant and wheelchair accessible.

3. Rooms and Spaces:

Carpeting is low pile, tightly woven and securely attached along all edges. All first floor spaces are accessible.

4. Emergency Egress:

An emergency system is in place.

5. Signage for Goods and Services:

There are no signs.

6. Directional and Information Signage:

There are no signs.

7. Controls:

All controls are compliant.

8. Seats, Tables and Counters:

Aisles between fixed seating are only 22". There are no spaces for wheelchair seating. Table and counter tops are at 22". There is not adequate knee space at tables.

9. Vertical Circulation:

There is a fully compliant ramps. No lifts or elevators to any public areas on the second floor.

10. Stairs:

Stair treads do not have non-slip surfaces. There are not continuous rails on both sides of the stairs.

11. Elevators:

There are no elevators.

12. Lifts:

There are no lifts.

Part 3: Usability of Rest Rooms:

Fully accessible rest rooms. There is one restroom in the building.

Part 4: Additional Access:

There are no drinking fountains in the building.

There are no pay or public phones in the building.

First floor of Library was made compliant in the summer of 2023.

TOWN HALL

Part 1. Accessible Approach/Entrance

1. Route of Travel:

The route of travel is fully accessible, with a fully blacktopped driveway and parking lot.

2. Ramps:

There is one ramp that has a slope ratio of 1:12. It is bituminous concrete surfacing.

3. Parking and Drop-off:

The Parking Drop-off areas are fully compliant with 2 spaces being available that are 15 and 16 feet wide respectively.

4. Entrance:

The entrance is fully complaint and accessible.

Part 2: Access to Goods and Services:

1. Horizontal Circulation:

The accessible entrance provides direct access to the main floor of the Town Hall. There is no accessible route to the second floor offices. We have established an intercom system and upstairs personnel come downstairs as needed.

2. Doors:

All doors are fully in compliance.

3. Rooms and Spaces:

All aisles and pathways are compliant with a width of 55". Some obstacles in public areas are not cane-detectable.

4. Emergency Egress:

Emergency system does have both a visual and audible signal.

5. Signage for Goods and Services:

There are no room numbers and the proper signage is not installed.

6. Directional and Informational Signs:

Signs are either not installed or are not compliant.

7. Controls:

There are no controls for use by the public.

8. Seats, Tables and Counters:

There is no fixed seating. There are spaces for wheelchair

seating throughout the public areas. Our tables and counters are not in compliance with the height being 38". There are 4 accessible tables in the meeting room.

9. Vertical Circulation:

There are no ramps, lifts, or elevators to the second floor. There is not ADA compliant access to the second floor.

10. Stairs:

All stairs have non-slip surfacing and continuous rails on both sides.

11. Elevators:

There are no elevators.

Part 3: Usability of Rest Rooms:

1. Getting to the Rest Rooms:

Rest Rooms on the main floor are fully compliant and accessible.

2. Doorways and Passages

All signage identifying the rest rooms are fully complaint.

3. Stalls:

There is no stall - it is a single rest room.

4. Lavatories:

The lavatory is fully compliant and accessible.

Part 4: Additional Access:

1. Drinking Fountains:

Water cooler is fully accessible and compliant. There are no water fountains.

2. Telephones:

There are no public use phones.

Transition Plan for Achieving Accessibility:

1. The Buildings and Grounds Department will install compliant signs.

2. Funds may be applied for in the fall of 2024 to install a lift/elevator to the upstairs of the Town Hall. Until such time as this is done, there is an intercom system to all upstairs offices and materials are brought to ground level as needed. The funds were not obtained and no elevator has been installed.

EGREMONT HIGHWAY GARAGE

Part 1: Accessible Approach/Entrance:

1. Route of Travel:

The route of travel is fully accessible and complaint. The driveway and parking area are gravel so there are no curbs.

2. Ramps:

There are no ramps.

3. Parking and Drop-off Areas:

There are no marked spaces.

4. Entrance:

The entrance is ground level with no stairs or ramps. The threshold is 1 1/4", there is no carpeting or mats. The door handle is at 35" and is not operable with a closed fist. There is 5 lb of force to opening the exterior door. The door takes 2 seconds to close.

Part 2: Access to Goods and Services:

1. Horizontal Circulation:

The accessible entrance provides direct access to the main floor and all public spaces are on an accessible route of travel. The accessible route is 36" with a 5x5 circle for person with a wheelchair to reverse direction.

2. Doors:

There is a 35" clear opening at the door. There is not an 18" clear space to allow access to the door. Doors can be opened with 5 lb of force. The door handle is at 35". The threshold is 1 1/4" and is not compliant.

3. Rooms and Spaces:

All aisles and pathways are at least 36" wide. There is at least a 5-foot circle for turning a wheelchair in. There is no carpeting. Not all obstacles are cane-detectable.

4. Emergency Egress:

There is no emergency system with flashing lights and audible signals.

5. Signage for Goods and Services:

There are no compliant signs.

6. Controls:

All control available to the public are at 48" and operable with a closed fist.

7. Seats, Tables, and Counters:

Aisles between fixed seating are 38". There are no spaced for wheelchairs. Tables and counters are at 30" x 36". Knee access is compliant. There are no cashier counters. There is no food ordering.

8. Vertical Circulation:

There are no ramps, lifts or elevators. The building is all one level.

9. Stairs:

There are no stairs.

10. Elevators:

There are no elevators.

Part 4: Usability of Rest Rooms:

1. Getting to the Rest Rooms:

There is one fully accessible rest room, though there is not compliant signage.

2. Doorways and Passages:

There is no compliant signage identifying rest rooms. The doorway is compliant at 36". The handles are accessible and the doors can be opened with 5 lb of force. The entry is 5x5 and there is a 36" patch to all fixtures.

3. Stalls:

There is no stall as it is an open bathroom.

4. Lavatories:

The lavatories are complaint with the exception of the floor to bottom distance - there is only 27".

Part 5: Additional Access:

1. Drinking Fountains:

There are no drinking fountains.

2. Telephones:

There are no public phones.

Transition Plan for Achieving Compliance:

FRENCH PARK

Part 1: Accessible Approach/Entrance

1. Route of Travel:

The route of travel to the Park is fully accessible and there are no objects to require detection by persons with visual disability.

2. Ramps:

The ramp to Pavilion is in compliance though there is no railing along the ramp. The ramps are bituminous concrete.

3. Parking and Drop-off Areas:

There are three compliant, accessible parking spaces in the parking area.

4. Entrance:

There is no entrance as the park is not a building. There are signs.

Part 2: Access to Goods and Services:

1. Horizontal Circulation:

The park is fully compliant with the horizontal circulation requirements.

2. Doors:

There are no doors.

3. Rooms and Spaces:

There are no rooms and enclosed spaces.

4. Emergency Egress:

There is no emergency system. The park is all outdoors.

5. Signage for Goods and Services:

There are no goods and services nor rooms.

6. Directional and Information Signs:

There are no directional and informational signs.

7. Controls:

There are no outdoor controls.

8. Seats, Tables and Counters:

The only seats and tables are picnic tables. There is one handicapped accessible table.

9. Vertical Circulation:

Being an outdoor park there are no vertical circulation issues.

10. Stairs:

There are no stairs.

11. Elevators:

There are no elevators.

12. Lifts:

There are no lifts.

Part 3: Usability of Rest Rooms:

1. Getting to the Rest Rooms:

The access to the rest rooms is fully compliant. There are no signs giving directions to the rest rooms.

2. Doorways and Passages:

The doorways and passageways to the rest rooms are fully complaint.

3. Stalls:

There are no stalls.

4. Lavatories:

The lavatories are complaint with the exception of the mirror which is mounted at 5 feet.

Part 4: Additional Access:

1. Drinking Fountains:

There are no fountains.

2. Telephones:

There is no public phone.

Transition Plan to Achieving Compliance:

1. The park seems to be in compliance. Railing on the ramp to the Pavilion is being considered for the spring of 2024.

EGREMONT VILLAGE SCHOOL HOUSE

Part 1: Accessible Approach/Entrance

1. Route of Travel:

Route of travel is compliant with one paved van accessible parking space adjacent to a ramp.

2. Ramps:

Fully compliant ramp to back entry.

3. Parking and Drop-Off Areas:

There is one designated accessible parking spaces. The rest of the parking lot is currently gravel and is unmarked in any way.

4. Entrance:

Fully compliant ramp to the side/back door with compliant entry doors.

Part 2: Access to Goods and Services

1. Horizontal Circulation:

Access through the side/back door is fully compliant

2. Doors:

Doors are compliant.

3. Rooms and Spaces:

Rooms and spaces are compliant.

4. Emergency Egress:

There is a compliant emergency system.

5. Signage for Goods and Services:

There are no signs.

6. Directional and Information Signage:

There are no signs.

7. Controls:

There are no compliant controls.

8. Seats, Tables and Counters:

Not compliant.

9. Vertical Circulation:

The public areas area all level and compliant.

10. Stairs:

Stair treads do not have non-slip surfaces. There are continuous rails on both sides of the stairs.

11. Elevators:

There are no elevators.

12. Lifts:

There are no lifts.

Part 3: Usability of Rest Rooms:

The rest rooms are compliant There is one restroom in the building.

Part 4: Additional Access:

There are no drinking fountains in the building.

There are no pay or public phones in the building.

Transition Plan for Achieving Accessibility:

The building was made accessible in 2018.

EGREMONT POLICE STATION

Part 1. Accessible Approach/Entrance

1. Route of Travel:

The route of travel is fully accessible.

2. Ramps:

The ramp that has a slope ratio of 1:12. It is bituminous concrete surfacing.

3. Parking and Drop-off:

The Parking Drop-off area is fully compliant with the marked accessible space being van accessible and 13 feet wide.

4. Entrance:

The entrance is fully complaint and accessible.

Part 2: Access to Goods and Services:

1. Horizontal Circulation:

The accessible entrance provides direct access to the main floor of this single story building.

2. Doors:

All doors are fully in compliance.

3. Rooms and Spaces:

The aisle inside the accessible door is 33 1/4". All other rooms and spaces are complaint.

4. Emergency Egress:

Emergency system does have both a visual and audible signal.

5. Signage for Goods and Services:

There are no room numbers and the proper signage is installed.

6. Directional and Informational Signs:

Signs are compliant.

7. Controls:

There are all compliant.

8. Seats, Tables and Counters:

There is no fixed seating. There are spaces for wheelchair seating throughout the public areas.

9. Vertical Circulation:

There are no ramps, lifts, or elevators as there is no second floor.

10. Stairs:

There are no stairs.

11. Elevators:

There are no elevators.

Part 3: Usability of Rest Rooms:

1. Getting to the Rest Rooms:

Rest Rooms on the main floor are fully compliant and accessible.

2. Doorways and Passages

All signage identifying the rest rooms are fully complaint.

3. Stalls:

There is no stall - it is a single rest room.

4. Lavatories:

The lavatory is fully compliant and accessible.

Part 4: Additional Access:

1. Drinking Fountains:

Water cooler is fully accessible and compliant. There are no water fountains.

2. Telephones:

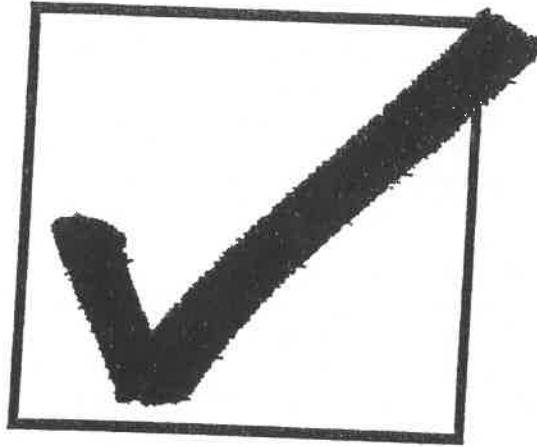
The only public use phone is outdoors and is fully accessible and compliant.

Transition Plan for Achieving Accessibility:

This building is fully accessible and compliant.

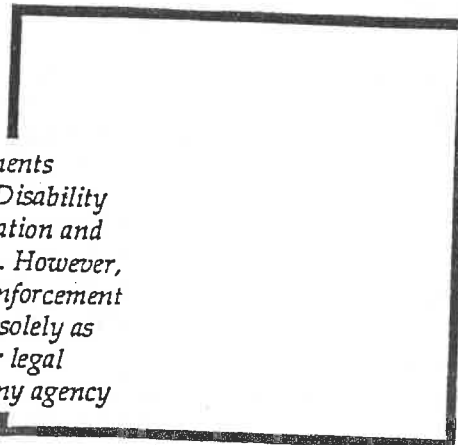
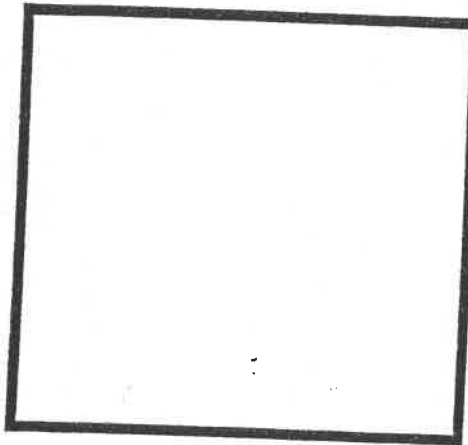
Checklist for Existing Facilities version 2.1

FRENCH PARK ~~TOWN HALL~~



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The Americans with Disabilities Act Checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal

August 1995

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Checklist for Existing Facilities version 2.1

Introduction

Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act requires public accommodations to provide goods and services to people with disabilities on an equal basis with the rest of the general public. The goal is to afford every individual the opportunity to benefit from our country's businesses and services, and to afford our businesses and services the opportunity to benefit from the patronage of all Americans.

The regulations require that architectural and communication barriers that are structural must be removed in public areas of existing facilities when their removal is readily achievable—in other words, easily accomplished and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense. Public accommodations that must meet the barrier removal requirement include a broad range of establishments (both for-profit and nonprofit)—such as hotels, restaurants, theaters, museums, retail stores, private schools, banks, doctors' offices, and other places that serve the public. People who own, lease, lease out, or operate places of public accommodation in existing buildings are responsible for complying with the barrier removal requirement.

The removal of barriers can often be achieved by making simple changes to the physical environment. However, the regulations do not define exactly how much effort and expense are required for a facility to meet its obligation. This judgment must be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration such factors as the size, type, and overall financial resources of the facility, and the nature and cost of the access improvements needed. These factors are described in more detail in the ADA regulations issued by the Department of Justice.

The process of determining what changes are readily achievable is not a one-time effort; access should be re-evaluated annually. Barrier removal that might be difficult to carry out now may be readily achievable later. Tax incentives are available to help absorb costs over several years.

Purpose of This Checklist

This checklist will help you identify accessibility problems and solutions in existing facilities in order to meet your obligations under the ADA.

The goal of the survey process is to plan how to make an existing facility more usable for people with disabilities. The Department of Justice (DOJ) recommends the development of an Implementation Plan, specifying what improvements you will make to remove barriers and when each solution will be carried out: "...Such a plan...could serve as evidence of a good faith effort to comply...."

Technical Requirements

This checklist details some of the requirements found in the ADA Standards for Accessible Design (Standards). The ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), when adopted by DOJ, became the Standards. The Standards are part of the Department of Justice Title III Regulations, 28 CFR Part 36 (*Nondiscrimination on the basis of disability... Final Rule*). Section 36.304 of this regulation, which covers barrier removal, should be reviewed before this survey is conducted.

However, keep in mind that full compliance with the Standards is required only for new construction and alterations. The requirements are presented here as a guide to help you determine what may be readily achievable barrier removal for existing facilities. The Standards should be followed for all barrier removal unless doing so is not readily achievable. If complying with the Standards is not readily achievable, you may undertake a modification that does not fully comply, as long as it poses no health or safety risk.

In addition to the technical specifications, each item has a scoping provision, which can be found under Section 4.1 in the Standards. This section clarifies when access is required and what the exceptions may be.

Each state has its own regulations regarding accessibility. To ensure compliance with all codes, know your state and local codes and use the more stringent technical requirement for every modification you make; that is, the requirement that provides greater access for individuals with disabilities. The barrier removal requirement for existing facilities is new under the ADA and supersedes less stringent local or state codes.

What This Checklist is Not

This checklist does not cover all of the requirements of the Standards; therefore, it is not for facilities undergoing new construction or alterations. In addition, it does not attempt to illustrate all possible barriers or propose all possible barrier removal solutions. The Standards should be consulted for guidance in situations not covered here.

The Title III regulation covers more than barrier removal, but this checklist does not cover Title III's requirements for nondiscriminatory policies and practices and for the provision of auxiliary communication aids and services. The communication features covered are those that are structural in nature.

Priorities

This checklist is based on the four priorities recommended by the Title III regulations for planning readily achievable barrier removal projects:

- Priority 1: Accessible approach and entrance
- Priority 2: Access to goods and services
- Priority 3: Access to rest rooms
- Priority 4: Any other measures necessary

Note that the references to ADAAG throughout the checklist refer to the Standards for Accessible Design.

How to Use This Checklist

✓ **Get Organized:** Establish a time frame for completing the survey. Determine how many copies of the checklist you will need to survey the whole facility. Decide who will conduct the survey. It is strongly recommended that you invite two or three additional people, including people with various disabilities and accessibility expertise, to assist in identifying barriers, developing solutions for removing these barriers, and setting priorities for implementing improvements.

✓ **Obtain Floor Plans:** It is very helpful to have the building floor plans with you while you survey. If plans are not available, use graph paper to sketch the layout of all interior and exterior spaces used by your organization. Make notes on the sketch or plan while you are surveying.

✓ **Conduct the Survey:** Bring copies of this checklist, a clipboard, a pencil or pen, and a flexible steel

tape measure. With three people surveying, one person numbers key items on the floor plan to match with the field notes, taken by a second person, while the third takes measurements. *Be sure to record all dimensions!* As a reminder, questions that require a dimension to be measured and recorded are marked with the ruler symbol. Think about each space from the perspective of people with physical, hearing, visual, and cognitive disabilities, noting areas that need improvement.

✓ **Summarize Barriers and Solutions:** List barriers found and ideas for their removal. Consider the solutions listed beside each question, and add your own ideas. Consult with building contractors and equipment suppliers to estimate the costs for making the proposed modifications.

✓ **Make Decisions and Set Priorities:** Review the summary with decision makers and advisors. Decide which solutions will best eliminate barriers at a reasonable cost. Prioritize the items you decide upon and make a timeline for carrying them out. Where the removal of barriers is not readily achievable, you must consider whether there are alternative methods for providing access that are readily achievable.

✓ **Maintain Documentation:** Keep your survey, notes, summary, record of work completed, and plans for alternative methods on file.

✓ **Make Changes:** Implement changes as planned. Always refer directly to the Standards and your state and local codes for complete technical requirements before making any access improvement. References to the applicable sections of the Standards are listed at the beginning of each group of questions. If you need help understanding the federal, state, or local requirements, contact your Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center.

✓ **Follow Up:** Review your Implementation Plan each year to re-evaluate whether more improvements have become readily achievable.

To obtain a copy of the Title III regulations and the Standards or other technical information, call the U.S. Dept. of Justice ADA Information Line at (800) 514-0301 Voice, (202) 514-0381 TDD, or (800) 514-0383 TDD. For questions about ADAAG, contact the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board at (800) USA-ABLE.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Priority

① Accessible Approach/Entrance

People with disabilities should be able to arrive on the site, approach the building, and enter as freely as everyone else. At least one route of travel should be safe and accessible for everyone, including people with disabilities.

Route of Travel (ADAAG 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.7)

Is there a route of travel that does not require the use of stairs?

Yes No

☒ ☐

Is the route of travel stable, firm and slip-resistant?

☒ ☐

Is the route at least 36 inches wide?

☒ ☐

48"
width

Can all objects protruding into the circulation paths be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane?

☐ ☐

distance
from wall/
height

In order to be detected using a cane, an object must be within 27 inches of the ground. Objects hanging or mounted overhead must be higher than 80 inches to provide clear head room. It is not necessary to remove objects that protrude less than 4 inches from the wall.

No objects

Do curbs on the route have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs?

☒ ☐

- ☐ Add a ramp if the route of travel is interrupted by stairs.
- ☐ Add an alternative route on level ground.

- ☐ Repair uneven paving.
- ☐ Fill small bumps and breaks with beveled patches.
- ☐ Replace gravel with hard top.

- ☐ Change or move landscaping, furnishings, or other features that narrow the route of travel.
- ☐ Widen route.

- ☐ Move or remove protruding objects.
- ☐ Add a cane-detectable base that extends to the ground.
- ☐ Place a cane-detectable object on the ground underneath as a warning barrier.

- ☐ Install curb cut.
- ☐ Add small ramp up to curb.

Ramps (ADAAG 4.8)

Are the slopes of ramps no greater than 1:12?

☒ ☐

1:12
slope

Slope is given as a ratio of the height to the length. 1:12 means for every 12 inches along the base of the ramp, the height increases one inch. For a 1:12 maximum slope, at least one foot of ramp length is needed for each inch of height.

- ☐ Lengthen ramp to decrease slope.
- ☐ Relocate ramp.
- ☐ If available space is limited, reconfigure ramp to include switchbacks.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Ramps, continued

Do all ramps longer than 6 feet have railings on both sides?

Yes No

☐ ☒

☐ Add railings.

Are railings sturdy, and between 34 and 38 inches high?

☐ ☐
height

☐ Adjust height of railing if not between 30 and 38 inches.
☐ Secure handrails in fixtures.

Is the width between railings or curbs at least 36 inches?

☐ ☐
width

☐ Relocate the railings.
☐ Widen the ramp.

Are ramps non-slip?

☐ ☒

☐ Add non-slip surface material.

Is there a 5-foot-long level landing at every 30-foot horizontal length of ramp, at the top and bottom of ramps and at switchbacks?

☐ ☐
length

☐ Remodel or relocate ramp.

Does the ramp rise no more than 30 inches between landings?

☒ ☐
12" rise

☐ Remodel or relocate ramp.

Parking and Drop-Off Areas (ADAAG 4.6)

Are an adequate number of accessible parking spaces available (8 feet wide for car plus 5-foot access aisle)? For guidance in determining the appropriate number to designate, the table below gives the ADAAG requirements for new construction and alterations (for lots with more than 100 spaces, refer to ADAAG):

☒ ☐
3
number of accessible spaces

Note widths of existing accessible spaces:

Total spaces

1 to 25

26 to 50

51 to 75

76 to 100

Accessible

1 space

2 spaces

3 spaces

4 spaces

☐ Reconfigure a reasonable number of spaces by repainting stripes.

Are 8-foot-wide spaces, with minimum 8-foot-wide access aisles, and 98 inches of vertical clearance, available for lift-equipped vans?

☒ ☐
width/8 ft vertical clearance 98

☐ Reconfigure to provide van-accessible space(s).

At least one of every 8 accessible spaces must be van-accessible (with a minimum of one van-accessible space in all cases).

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Parking and Drop-Off Areas, continued

Are the access aisles part of the accessible route to the accessible entrance?

Yes No

☒ ☐

Are the accessible spaces closest to the accessible entrance?

☒ ☐

Are accessible spaces marked with the International Symbol of Accessibility? Are there signs reading "Van Accessible" at van spaces?

☒ ☐

Is there an enforcement procedure to ensure that accessible parking is used only by those who need it?

☒ ☐

- ☐ Add curb ramps.
- ☐ Reconstruct sidewalk.

- ☐ Reconfigure spaces.

- ☐ Add signs, placed so that they are not obstructed by cars.

- ☐ Implement a policy to check periodically for violators and report them to the proper authorities.

Entrance (ADAAG 4.13, 4.14, 4.5)

If there are stairs at the main entrance, is there also a ramp or lift, or is there an alternative accessible entrance?

☐ ☐

Do not use a service entrance as the accessible entrance unless there is no other option.

Do all inaccessible entrances have signs indicating the location of the nearest accessible entrance?

☒ ☐

Can the alternate accessible entrance be used independently?

☒ ☐

Does the entrance door have at least 32 inches clear opening (for a double door, at least one 32-inch leaf)?

☐ ☐

clear opening

Is there at least 18 inches of clear wall space on the pull side of the door, next to the handle?

☐ ☐

clear space

A person using a wheelchair or crutches needs this space to get close enough to open the door.

- ☐ If it is not possible to make the main entrance accessible, create a dignified alternate accessible entrance. If parking is provided, make sure there is accessible parking near all accessible entrances.

- ☐ Install signs before inaccessible entrances so that people do not have to retrace the approach.

- ☐ Eliminate as much as possible the need for assistance—to answer a doorbell, to operate a lift, or to put down a temporary ramp, for example.

- ☐ Widen the door to 32 inches clear.
- ☐ If technically infeasible, widen to 31-3/8 inches minimum.
- ☐ Install offset (swing-clear) hinges.

- ☐ Remove or relocate furnishings, partitions, or other obstructions.
- ☐ Move door.
- ☐ Add power-assisted or automatic door opener.

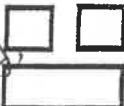
QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Yes No

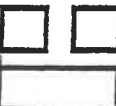
Entrance, continued

Is the threshold edge 1/4-inch high or less, or if beveled edge, no more than 3/4-inch high?

N.A. 
height

- ☐ If there is a single step with a rise of 6 inches or less, add a short ramp.
- ☐ If there is a threshold greater than 3/4-inch high, remove it or modify it to be a ramp.

If provided, are carpeting or mats a maximum of 1/2-inch high?

N.A. 
height

- ☐ Replace or remove mats.

Are edges securely installed to minimize tripping hazards?

N.A. 

- ☐ Secure carpeting or mats at edges.

Is the door handle no higher than 48 inches and operable with a closed fist?

N.A. 
height

- ☐ Lower handle.
- ☐ Replace inaccessible knob with a lever or loop handle.
- ☐ Retrofit with an add-on lever extension.

The "closed fist" test for handles and controls: Try opening the door or operating the control using only one hand, held in a fist. If you can do it, so can a person who has limited use of his or her hands.

N.A.

Can doors be opened without too much force exterior doors reserved; maximum is 5 lbf for interior doors)?

N.A. 
force

- ☐ Adjust the door closers and oil the hinges.
- ☐ Install power-assisted or automatic door openers.
- ☐ Install lighter doors.

You can use an inexpensive force meter or a fish scale to measure the force required to open a door. Attach the hook end to the doorknob or handle. Pull on the ring end until the door opens, and read off the amount of force required. If you do not have a force meter or a fish scale, you will need to judge subjectively whether the door is easy enough to open.

If the door has a closer, does it take at least seconds to close?

N.A. 
seconds

- ☐ Adjust door closer.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Priority

2 Access to Goods and Services

Yes No

Ideally, the layout of the building should allow people with disabilities to obtain materials or services without assistance.

Horizontal Circulation (ADAAG 4.3)

Does the accessible entrance provide direct access to the main floor, lobby, or elevator?

☒ ☐

Are all public spaces on an accessible route of travel?

☒ ☐

Is the accessible route to all public spaces at least 36 inches wide?

☒ ☐
VARIES
width

Is there a 5-foot circle or a T-shaped space for a person using a wheelchair to reverse direction?

☒ ☐
VARIES
width

Doors (ADAAG 4.13)

Do doors into public spaces have at least a 32-inch clear opening?

N.A. ☒ ☒
clear opening

On the pull side of doors, next to the handle, is there at least 18 inches of clear wall space so that a person using a wheelchair or crutches can get near to open the door?

N.A. ☐ ☐
clear space

Can doors be opened without too much force (5 lbf maximum for interior doors)?

N.A. ☐ ☐
force

Are door handles 48 inches high or less and operable with a closed fist?

N.A. ☐ ☐
height

Are all threshold edges 1/4-inch high or less, or if beveled edge, no more than 3/4-inch high?

N.A. ☐ ☐
height

- ☐ Add ramps or lifts.
- ☐ Make another entrance accessible.

- ☐ Provide access to all public spaces along an accessible route of travel.

- ☐ Move furnishings such as tables, chairs, display racks, vending machines, and counters to make more room.

- ☐ Rearrange furnishings, displays, and equipment.

- ☐ Install offset (swing-clear) hinges.
- ☐ Widen doors.

- ☐ Reverse the door swing if it is safe to do so.
- ☐ Move or remove obstructing partitions.

- ☐ Adjust or replace closers.
- ☐ Install lighter doors.
- ☐ Install power-assisted or automatic door openers.

- ☐ Lower handles.
- ☐ Replace inaccessible knobs or latches with lever or loop handles.
- ☐ Retrofit with add-on levers.
- ☐ Install power-assisted or automatic door openers.

- ☐ If there is a threshold greater than 3/4-inch high, remove it or modify it to be a ramp.
- ☐ If between 1/4- and 3/4-inch high, add bevels to both sides.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Rooms and Spaces (ADAAG 4.2, 4.4, 4.5)

Are all aisles and pathways to materials and services at least 36 inches wide?

Yes No
N.A. ☐ ☐
☐
width

☐ Rearrange furnishings and fixtures to clear aisles.

Is there a 5-foot circle or T-shaped space for turning a wheelchair completely?

Yes No
N.A. ☐ ☐
☐
width

☐ Rearrange furnishings to clear more room.

Is carpeting low-pile, tightly woven, and securely attached along edges?

Yes No
N.A. ☐ ☐

☐ Secure edges on all sides.
☐ Replace carpeting.

In circulation paths through public areas, are all obstacles cane-detectable (located within 27 inches of the floor or higher than 80 inches, or protruding less than 4 inches from the wall)?

Yes No
N.A. ☐ ☐
☐
height/
protrusion

☐ Remove obstacles.
☐ Install furnishings, planters, or other cane-detectable barriers underneath.

Emergency Egress (ADAAG 4.28)

If emergency systems are provided, do they have both flashing lights and audible signals?

☐ ☒

☐ Install visible and audible alarms.
☐ Provide portable devices.

Signage for Goods and Services (ADAAG 4.30)

Different requirements apply to different types of signs.

If provided, do signs and room numbers designating permanent rooms and spaces where goods and services are provided comply with the appropriate requirements for such signage?

Yes No
N.A. ☐ ☐
☐ ☐
height

☐ Provide signs that have raised letters, Grade II Braille, and that meet all other requirements for permanent room or space signage. (See ADAAG 4.1.3(16) and 4.30.)

• Signs mounted with centerline 60 inches from floor.

Y N
☐ ☐
height

• Mounted on wall adjacent to latch side of door, or as close as possible.

☐ ☐

• Raised characters, sized between 5/8 and 2 inches high, with high contrast (for room numbers, rest rooms, exits).

☐ ☐
character
height

• Brailled text of the same information.

☐ ☐

• If pictogram is used, it must be accompanied by raised characters and braille.

☐ ☐

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Directional and Informational Signage

Yes No

The following questions apply to directional and informational signs that fall under Priority 2.

If mounted above 80 inches, do they have letters at least 3 inches high, with high contrast, and non-glare finish?

N.A.

letter height

☐ Review requirements and replace signs as needed, meeting the requirements for character size, contrast, and finish.

Do directional and informational signs comply with legibility requirements? (Building directories or temporary signs need not comply.)

N.A.

☐ Review requirements and replace signs as needed.

Controls (ADAAG 4.27)

Are all controls that are available for use by the public (including electrical, mechanical, cabinet, game, and self-service controls) located at an accessible height?

height

☐ Relocate controls.

Reach ranges: The maximum height for a side reach is 54 inches; for a forward reach, 48 inches. The minimum reachable height is 15 inches for a front approach and 9 inches for a side approach.

N.A.

Are they operable with a closed fist?

☐ Replace controls.

Seats, Tables, and Counters (ADAAG 4.2, 4.32, 7.2)

Are the aisles between fixed seating (other than assembly area seating) at least 36 inches wide?

width

☐ Rearrange chairs or tables to provide 36-inch aisles.

PICNIC TABLES WITH HANDICAPPED TABLE

Are the spaces for wheelchair seating distributed throughout?

☐ Rearrange tables to allow room for wheelchairs in seating areas throughout the area.
☐ Remove some fixed seating.

Are the tops of tables or counters between 28 and 34 inches high?

height

☐ Lower part or all of high surface.
☐ Provide auxiliary table or counter.

Are knee spaces at accessible tables at least 27 inches high, 30 inches wide, and 19 inches deep?

height/
width/
depth

☐ Replace or raise tables.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Seats, Tables, and Counters, continued

At each type of cashier counter, is there a portion of the main counter that is no more than 36 inches high?

Yes No

☐ ☒

height

- ☐ Provide a lower auxiliary counter or folding shelf.
- ☐ Arrange the counter and surrounding furnishings to create a space to hand items back and forth.

Is there a portion of food-ordering counters that is no more than 36 inches high, or is there space at the side for passing items to customers who have difficulty reaching over a high counter?

☒ ☐

height

- ☐ Lower section of counter.
- ☐ Arrange the counter and surrounding furnishings to create a space to pass items.

Vertical Circulation (ADAAG 4.1.3(5), 4.3)

Are there ramps, lifts, or elevators to all public levels?

☐ ☐

- ☐ Install ramps or lifts.
- ☐ Modify a service elevator.
- ☐ Relocate goods or services to an accessible area.

On each level, if there are stairs between the entrance and/or elevator and essential public areas, is there an accessible alternate route?

☐ ☐

- ☐ Post clear signs directing people along an accessible route to ramps, lifts, or elevators.

Stairs (ADAAG 4.9)

The following questions apply to stairs connecting levels *not* serviced by an elevator, ramp, or lift.

Do treads have a non-slip surface?

☐ ☐

- ☐ Add non-slip surface to treads.

Do stairs have continuous rails on both sides, with extensions beyond the top and bottom stairs?

☐ ☐

- ☐ Add or replace handrails if possible within existing floor plan.

Elevators (ADAAG 4.10)

Are there both visible and verbal or audible floor opening/closing and floor indicators (one tone = up, two tones = down)?

☐ ☐

- ☐ Install visible and verbal or audible signals.

Are the call buttons in the hallway no higher than 42 inches?

☐ ☐

height

- ☐ Lower call buttons.
- ☐ Provide a permanently attached reach stick.

Do the controls inside the cab have raised and braille lettering?

☐ ☐

- ☐ Install raised lettering and braille next to buttons.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Elevators, continued

Is there a sign on both door jambs at every floor identifying the floor in raised and braille letters?

Yes No

☐ ☐

If an emergency intercom is provided, is it usable without voice communication?

☐ ☐

Is the emergency intercom identified by braille and raised letters?

☐ ☐

Lifts (ADAAG 4.2, 4.11)

Can the lift be used without assistance? If not, is a call button provided?

☐ ☐

Is there at least 30 by 48 inches of clear space for a person in a wheelchair to approach to reach the controls and use the lift?

☐ ☐
clear space

Are controls between 15 and 48 inches high (up to 54 inches if a side approach is possible)?

☐ ☐
height

☐ Install tactile signs to identify floor numbers, at a height of 60 inches from floor.

☐ Modify communication system.

☐ Add tactile identification.

☐ At each stopping level, post clear instructions for use of the lift.

☐ Provide a call button.

☐ Rearrange furnishings and equipment to clear more space.

☐ Move controls.

Usability of Rest Rooms

When rest rooms are open to the public, they should be accessible to people with disabilities.

Getting to the Rest Rooms (ADAAG 4.1)

If rest rooms are available to the public, is at least one rest room (either one for each sex, or unisex) fully accessible?

☒ ☐

Are there signs at inaccessible rest rooms that give directions to accessible ones?

☐ ☒

☐ Reconfigure rest room.

☐ Combine rest rooms to create one unisex accessible rest room.

☐ Install accessible signs.

Doorways and Passages (ADAAG 4.2, 4.13, 4.30)

Is there tactile signage identifying rest rooms?

☒ ☐

Mount signs on the wall, on the latch side of the door, complying with the requirements for permanent signage.

☐ Add accessible signage, placed to the side of the door, 60 inches to centerline (not on the door itself).

Doorways and Passages, continued

Are pictograms or symbols used to identify rest rooms, and, if used, are raised characters and braille included below them?

Yes No
☐ ☒

Is the doorway at least 32 inches clear?

☒ ☐

32"

clear width

Are doors equipped with accessible handles (operable with a closed fist), 48 inches high or less?

☒ ☐

36"

height

Can doors be opened easily (5 lbf maximum force)?

☒ ☐

5 LB.

force

Does the entry configuration provide adequate maneuvering space for a person using a wheelchair?

☒ ☐

5x5

clear width

A person in a wheelchair needs 36 inches of clear width for forward movement, and a 5-foot diameter or T-shaped clear space to make turns. A minimum distance of 48 inches clear of the door swing is needed between the two doors of an entry vestibule.

Is there a 36-inch-wide path to all fixtures?

☒ ☐

36"

width

- ☐ If symbols are used, add supplementary verbal signage with raised characters and braille below pictogram symbol
- ☐ Install offset (swing-clear) hinges.
- ☐ Widen the doorway.
- ☐ Lower handles.
- ☐ Replace knobs or latches with lever or loop handles.
- ☐ Add lever extensions.
- ☐ Install power-assisted or automatic door openers.
- ☐ Adjust or replace closers.
- ☐ Install lighter doors.
- ☐ Install power-assisted or automatic door openers.
- ☐ Rearrange furnishings such as chairs and trash cans.
- ☐ Remove inner door if there is a vestibule with two doors.
- ☐ Move or remove obstructing partitions.
- ☐ Remove obstructions.

Stalls (ADAAG 4.17)

Is the stall door operable with a closed fist inside and out?

OPEN BATHROOMS

☐ ☐

Is there a wheelchair-accessible stall that has an area of at least 5 feet by 5 feet, clear of the door swing, OR is there a stall that is less accessible but that provides greater access than a typical stall (either 36 by 69 inches or 48 by 69 inches)?

☐ ☒

5x5

length/
width

- ☐ Replace inaccessible knobs with lever or loop handles.
- ☐ Add lever extensions.
- ☐ Move or remove partitions.
- ☐ Reverse the door swing if it is safe to do so.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Stalls, continued

In the accessible stall, are there grab bars behind and on the side wall nearest to the toilet?

Yes No

☒ ☐

☐ Add grab bars.

Is the toilet seat 17 to 19 inches high?

☐ ☒

53"
height

☐ Add raised seat.

Lavatories (ADAAG 4.19, 4.24)

Does one lavatory have a 30-inch-wide by 48-inch-deep clear space in front?

☒ ☐

48"
clear space

- ☐ Rearrange furnishings.
- ☐ Replace lavatory.
- ☐ Remove or alter cabinetry to provide space underneath.
- ☐ Make sure hot pipes are covered.
- ☐ Move a partition or wall.

A maximum of 19 inches of the required depth may be under the lavatory.

Is the lavatory rim no higher than 34 inches?

☒ ☐

34"
height

☐ Adjust or replace lavatory.

Is there at least 29 inches from the floor to the bottom of the lavatory apron (excluding pipes)?

☒ ☐

29"
height

☐ Adjust or replace lavatory.

Can the faucet be operated with one closed fist?

☒ ☐

☐ Replace with paddle handles.

Are soap and other dispensers and hand dryers within reach ranges (see page 7) and usable with one closed fist?

☒ ☐

- ☐ Lower dispensers.
- ☐ Replace with or provide additional accessible dispensers.

Is the mirror mounted with the bottom edge of the reflecting surface 40 inches high or lower?

☐ ☒

5 FT
height

- ☐ Lower or tilt down the mirror.
- ☐ Add a larger mirror anywhere in the room.

Additional Access

Note that this priority is for items not required for basic access in the first three priorities.

When amenities such as drinking fountains and public telephones are provided, they should also be accessible to people with disabilities.

Drinking Fountains (ADAAG 4.15)

Is there at least one fountain with clear floor space of at least 30 by 48 inches in front?

☐ ☐

clear space

☐ Clear more room by rearranging or removing furnishings.

Drinking Fountains, continued

Yes No

Is there one fountain with its spout no higher than 36 inches from the ground, and another with a standard height spout (or a single "hi-lo" fountain)?

☐	☐
height	

Are controls mounted on the front or on the side near the front edge, and operable with one closed fist?

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

Is each water fountain cane-detectable (located within 27 inches of the floor or protruding into the circulation space less than 4 inches from the wall)?

☐	☐
height/ protrusion	

Telephones (ADAAG 4.31)

If pay or public use phones are provided, is there clear floor space of at least 30 by 48 inches in front of at least one?

☒	☒
clear space	

Is the highest operable part of the phone no higher than 48 inches (up to 54 inches if a side approach is possible)?

☐	☒
55	
height	

Does the phone protrude no more than 4 inches into the circulation space?

☐	☒
7	
protrusion	

Does the phone have push-button controls?

☒	☐
-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Is the phone hearing-aid compatible?

☐	☒
--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Is the phone adapted with volume control?

☐	☒
--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Is the phone with volume control identified with appropriate signage?

☐	☒
--------------------------	-------------------------------------

If there are four or more public phones in the building, is one of the phones equipped with a text telephone (TT or TDD)?

☐	☒
--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Is the location of the text telephone identified by accessible signage bearing the International TDD Symbol?

☐	☒
--------------------------	-------------------------------------

☐ Provide cup dispensers for fountains with spouts that are too high.

☐ Provide accessible cooler.

☐ Replace the controls.

☐ Place a planter or other cane-detectable barrier on each side at floor level.

☐ Move furnishings.

☐ Replace booth with open station.

☐ Lower telephone.

☐ Place a cane-detectable barrier on each side at floor level.

☐ Contact phone company to install push-buttons.

☐ Have phone replaced with a hearing-aid compatible one.

☐ Have volume control added.

☐ Add signage.

☐ Install a text telephone.

☐ Have a portable TT available.

☐ Provide a shelf and outlet next to phone.

☐ Add signage.

Facility Inventory
LOCATION:

French Park, Prospect Lake Road
and Baldwin Hill Road North

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths Yes
		Access to Open Spaces Yes
		Back and Arm Rests No
		Adequate number Yes
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface Yes
		Located adjacent to accessible paths Yes
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths Yes
		Located adjacent to accessible paths Yes
Trails	Trails are not accessible	Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc. Yes
		Surface material wood chip
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
Swimming Facilities N/A	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Shade provided
	Access Routes	Same experience provided to all Accessible equipment provided
		Located adjacent to accessible paths access from grassed area/wood chip paths
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Enough space between equipment for wheelchair Yes
		Located adjacent to accessible paths Yes for tennis/ no for basketball/ballfield
	Equipment	Berm cuts onto courts
		Height typical dimensions
		Dimensions typical dimensions
		Spectator Seating N/A
Boat Docks N/A	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
Fishing Facilities N/A	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Fish Cleaning Tables
		Learn-to-Swim N/A
		Guided Hikes N/A
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	Interpretive Programs N/A
		Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings N/A

French Park, Prospect Lake Road

LOCATION and Baldwin Hill Road North

PARKING

Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces
Up to 25	1 space
26-50	2 spaces
51-75	3 spaces
76-100	4 spaces
101-150	5 spaces
151-200	6 spaces
201-300	7 spaces
301-400	8 spaces
401-500	9 spaces

Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.			
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle			Spaces not marked
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.			Spaces not marked
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbside to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present	X		
Curbside is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow	X		

RAMPS

N/A

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Slope Maximum 1:12			
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"			
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

French Park, Prospect Lake Road

LOCATION and Baldwin Hill Road North

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"	X		
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs	X		
Entrances N/A - No Buildings other than restrooms			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and <i>not</i> be the service entrance			
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

NOTES

French Park, Prospect Lake Road

LOCATION and Baldwin Hill Road North

STAIRS and DOORS N/A - No buildings other than restrooms			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stairs Stairs to a covered picnic pavilion do not meet ADA standards.			
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 1 1/2"			
1 1/2" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening	Yes		
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door	Yes		
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch	Yes		
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors	Yes		
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides	Yes		
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)	Yes		
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor	Yes		
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door	Yes		
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked	N/A		
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened	N/A		

NOTES

French Park, Prospect Lake Road

LOCATION and Baldwin Hill Road North

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor	X		
At least one Sink: No sink - hand sanitizer			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep	X		
Stall door is 36" wide	X		
Stall door swings out	X		
Stall door is self closing	X		
Stall door has a pull latch	X		
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor	X		
Coat hook is 54" high	N/A		
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall	X		
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture	X		
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor	X		
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet	X		
1 1/4" diameter	X		
1 1/2" clearance to wall	X		
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor	X		
Acid-etched or roughened surface	X		
42" long	X		
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor	X		
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")		X	Mirror is set higher
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor	X		

NOTES

French Park, Prospect Lake Road

LOCATION and Baldwin Hill Road North

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Floors			
Non-slip surface	Yes		
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored	N/A		
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft	N/A		
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor	N/A		
Drinking Fountains N/A			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones N/A			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES N/A			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers at least 1/4" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

**French Park, Prospect Lake Road
and Baldwin Hill Road North**

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area N/A			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

**French Park, Prospect Lake Road and
Baldwin Hill Road North**

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use N/A			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

**French Park, Prospect Lake Road and
Baldwin Hill Road North**

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access	X		1 table out of 13 (7.7%) meets this requirement.
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.	N/A		
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	X		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	X		
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter	X		Grill accessible around 3 sides

Name of Facility: French Park

Location: 65 Prospect Lake Road

Responsible Party: Board of Selectmen

Inventory of Available Features:

Picnic Facilities	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Routes <u> X </u>
Trails	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Routes <u> </u>
Swimming Facilities	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessible Routes <u> </u>
Play Areas (tot lots)	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Routes <u> </u>
Ballfields	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Routes <u> </u>
Basketball Courts	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Routes <u> </u>
Tennis Courts	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Routes <u> X </u>
Boat Docks	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessible Routes <u> </u>
Fishing Facilities	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessible Routes <u> </u>
Programming	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessibility Options <u> </u>
Services/Technical Assistance	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Information <u> </u>
Parking Areas	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessible Spaces <u>2 marked spaces</u>
Ramps	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessible Ramps <u> </u>
Site Access	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessibility <u>Acceptable, no curbs</u>
Paths of Travel	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessibility <u>See comments</u>
Entrances	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>
Stairs	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>
Doors	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>
Restroom	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessibility <u>Yes, see comments</u>
Floors	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>
Drinking Fountains	Yes <u>X</u>	No <u> </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>
Telephones	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>
Signs, Signals, and Switches	Yes <u> X </u>	No <u> </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>
Shower Rooms	Yes <u> </u>	No <u> X </u>	Accessibility <u> </u>

General Description: French Park is Egremont's premiere recreational resource. The site includes tennis courts, ball fields, a basketball court, horse ring, playground, picnic facilities, a pavilion, rest room facilities, community gardens, dog park and trails. Some trails are rugged, some trails are covered with wood chips. There are no trails that are paved/ handicapped accessible. The parking lot has handicapped spaces on paved surfaces, and an accessible path is provided to the playground and pavilion. See Photo 1. The restroom facilities are also accessible. Most of the paths within the park are covered with wood chips.

Obstacle Which Limits Mobility or Access: Most of the paths within the park are covered with wood chips. Opportunities for accessibility including providing accessible paths to facilities and for hiking.



Photo 1: Parking, Restroom and Picnic facilities



Photo 2: Playground Equipment



Photo 3: Swingset



Photo 4: Walking Trail



Photo 5: Walking Trail



Photo 6: Dog Park



Photo 7: Community Garden

