

POCD COMMUNITY MEETING ON November 29, 2017

The meeting was held at Walsh Intermediate School and was lead by Glen Chalders of Planimetrics, the Consultant hired to help the Town Implement its 2018 Plan of Conservation and Development.

As people entered the meeting they were asked to put dots on a map and list on a card five places they were proud of in Branford and five places they were sorry about. People were also each given slips with a total value of 50 points, one 20, two 10s and two fives. They were asked to put these slips in any of 12 boxes representing issues they personally felt were important to them.

After tabulation the most prouds and sorrays were as follows:

<u>Prouds</u>	<u>Sorrays</u>
Town Center	Sprawl and unplanned development
Stony Creek	Traffic
Thimble Islands	Exit 53
Indian Neck	Montowese/Meadow intersection
Beacon Hill	Transportation
Branford Point	Business development
Open Space	Residential development
Community	
Shoreline	
Historic Resources	

The top six values people thought most important were:

Coastal Resources Issues 975 points
Open Space 930 (No. 1 in 2008)
Natural Resources 770
Community Character 675
Walking, Biking, Bus
Traffic and Circulation

Public comments followed on each issue with verbs attached to each one as follows:

1. Coastal Resources

Rising Seas
Climate Change
Property Values
Safety & Accessibility
Impact on Economy
Preservation & Tourism
Health of Water
Public v. Private

Verbs: Preserve, Protect, Resiliency

2. Open Space

Once Gone, Gone
Animal Habitat
Community Character
Population Pressure
Protection
Balance to Development
Maintain Water Quality
Recreation
For Children
Link or Connect open space parcels
Public v. Private
How Define

Verb: Preserve

3. Natural Resources

Pollution
Water Quality
Beaches
Development
Trees
Air Quality
Bio Diversity
Light Pollution
Pesticides
Wildlife
Pollination
Wind Farm
Property Values
Prioritize
Make Permeable Surfaces

Verbs: Manage, Preserve, Protect, Enhance, Use Renewable Energy

4. Community Character

Historic Buildings and Districts
Volunteer Organizations
Aesthetically Typical New England Town
Neighborhoods
Community Traditions
Protecting Historic Districts
Schools
Small Business
Mixed Use
Coastal
Small Scale
Diversity
Sidewalks & Porches

Social Services
Thimble Islands & Waterfront
Marinas
Restaurants
Local Ownership
Accomplished Professionals
Community Events
Biking and Walking
Libraries
Art Community
Farms

Verb: Compassionate, Preserve, Enhance, Promote, Celebrate

5. Walking, Biking, Bus

Aging Population
Young Families
Sustainability
Traffic and Speed
Access Resources Without Using Car
Promote Healthy Life Style
Safety
Sidewalks
Train People How to Walk
Bike Path on Route 146
Town Shuttle
More Complete Shore Line East Schedule
Mark Bike Paths as Mark Trails
Bike for Transportation not just Recreation
Road Flooding

Verbs: Plan, Facilitate, Improve, Educate, Reinforce

6. Traffic and Circulation

Exit 53 Lack of Entrance and Exit off Turnpike
Flooding of Roads
Speed
Residential Parking-Too much on Street
Exit 55
More Right Turn Only Lights
Heavy Trucks
Improve Street Lighting
School Zones Speed Lowered
Traffic Calming
Plowing With On Street Parking
Discourage Major Traffic Generators
Evaluate Impact
Special Issues in Stony Creek
Dead Ends discourages Traffic as in Stony Creek, makes a neighborhood

Verbs: Manage, Re-Engineer, Improve, Optimize, Address

Additional Public meetings are being considered.

Other Ideas raised:

How do we grow the tax base?

Shift development from Exit 56 to Exit 53.

Measure investments made in aforementioned areas.

Identify and Study coastal issues in Town.

Develop Watershed Plan

Promote solar collectors.

There is a POCD email address for suggestions www:pocd@branford-ct.gov

Also all materials developed by Steering Committee will be available on Town Web Site.

Ted Ells

Chair of Legal & Zoning

Stony Creek Association