

# Shelburne Forward Together

Community Visit Report and Action Plan  
December 2023



Produced by the Vermont Council on Rural Development

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# Vision for Shelburne's Future

*Compiled from vision statements shared during Community Visit Meetings and supported by the majority of participants at the Resource Meeting and an online survey. The statements represent some of the broad hopes that the majority of responding residents have for the long term good of the Shelburne community.*

## Community members envision a future Shelburne where:

- ❖ we maintain the size and rural nature of Shelburne, and our small village center.
- ❖ there is a wealth of walking, biking and alternative transportation options in Shelburne; residents can walk to shop, go to the library, and town offices all in one stop in Shelburne's historic village.
- ❖ solutions are identified to calm traffic in town and along Route 7.
- ❖ people feel the awe and beauty of the community when they come into town.
- ❖ places that are part of the natural world are persevered into the future for us to enjoy.
- ❖ we maintain good water quality in our waterways and in Lake Champlain.
- ❖ we recognize and celebrate the assets we have such as our library, great school, strong recreation committee, and vibrant farmers market.
- ❖ we value key businesses and institutions in town such as Shelburne Farms, Shelburne Museum, and Vermont Teddy Bear.
- ❖ the Town lives within its means and is affordable.
- ❖ there is a strong local economy and job market that makes it easy for people to stay and come here.
- ❖ there are working farms in Shelburne.
- ❖ there is aesthetically pleasing and well-planned housing affordable for all income levels.
- ❖ we have planned and thoughtful green spaces and housing development that considers the preservation of open spaces and agriculture and avoids sprawling development.
- ❖ Shelburne is diverse and welcoming to all kinds of people.
- ❖ Shelburne is a nurturing and supportive place to live for families and people of all ages.
- ❖ Shelburne has childcare, activities for teens, and a great local school so young families can live here.
- ❖ we come together as a caring community to address mental health and substance abuse challenges.
- ❖ Shelburne is a community that fosters strong social connections, food security, and supports for children and families leading to good mental health and wellbeing.
- ❖ Shelburne is resilient to climate crises; it has a plan for dealing with climate change and the impacts it will have in the community.
- ❖ Shelburne is a model for the state and country of a community where people work through disagreements peacefully and lead the way in affordable housing, open spaces, and bringing down carbon.
- ❖ we embrace and celebrate local democracy with a vibrant town meeting and strong community engagement where people talk together about the things we want to happen.

# I. Introduction

Shelburne is home to incredible assets: iconic businesses, stunning landscapes, and institutions with statewide and national renown. Throughout the Shelburne Forward Together process, it was clear that among many incredible assets, Shelburne's greatest strength is its dedicated and passionate community members. Throughout the process, Visiting Team members were struck by the insightful and detailed action ideas shared by community members, and by the high level of local knowledge about complex regulatory challenges and solutions. Also evident throughout the process was the high level of engagement and a demonstration of the culture of civic participation and volunteerism present in Shelburne. Uniquely, Shelburne is a community where the priorities selected through this process aligned closely with several areas of existing community focus. This reiteration of support for these initiatives is an opportunity for bring new energy and focus to critical ongoing priorities and could help to accelerate progress and success.

The key Priorities selected by the community include:

- **Conserve Open Land and Wildlife Habitat**
- **Develop Affordable Housing Solutions**
- **Improve Walk and Bike Connectivity and Pedestrian Safety**

VCRD and all its partners look forward to working with the Shelburne Task Forces as they frame and implement these projects step by step over the course of the next year and beyond. They are already hard at work—please support their efforts, or join them by reaching out to their chairs (listed in the work plan section of this report).

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The Vermont Council on Rural Development helps Vermont citizens build prosperous and resilient communities through democratic engagement, marshalling resources, and collective action. VCRD is prepared to support the efforts of Shelburne as it moves forward and to provide follow up help to the Task Forces as called upon. VCRD will also serve as an advocate for Shelburne projects with appropriate agencies and organizations in Vermont. Call on us, and on Visiting Team members (listed with contact info in the back of this report), when we can be of help.

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There are many people to thank for making the Shelburne Community Visit a success.

We would like to thank the Shelburne Select Board who invited this process and participated in such a positive way throughout it, as well as the Natural Resources and Conservation Committee, which helped to encourage the process. We also deeply appreciate the work and leadership of the many members of the Steering Committee who helped guide the process by developing the key topics and invitation process to start the effort: Gail Albert, Kit Anderson, Devin Beringer, Jim Brangan, Rob Broder, Holly Brough, Megan Camp, Brett Cluff, Cate Cross, Thomas Denenberg, Josh Flore, Rosalyn Graham, Matt Lawless, Joan Lenes, Sean Moran, Mercedes Ortega, Bob Paquin, Corie Pierce, and Sarah Stillman, and Michael Thomas. Thank you also to all of the community leaders and organizations who worked together to spread the word about the event and made sure everyone in town was invited and encouraged to participate!

We are very thankful for the use of the many spaces in the community to help host: the Pierson Library and Municipal Complex, Shelburne Fire Station, Shelburne Fieldhouse, and Shelburne Community School. Special thanks to the custodial staff at the school for helping to host us and coordinate the use of school chairs, and to Heartworks Shelburne for helping with childcare.

We appreciate the help of the UVM Office of Engagement and Center for Rural Studies for producing a briefing profile for the VCRD Community Visit Team.

Thanks must also go to the Northern Border Regional Commission, the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, the Vermont Community Foundation, Vermont Humanities Council, and the National Life Group who contributed funding to make this process possible.

VCRD calls state, federal and non-profit leaders to participate in Community Visit processes. We are proud of the partners we get to work with—and especially the Shelburne Visiting Team—they are the best of Vermont’s public servants.

Getting things done is all about leadership, and all of Shelburne should be grateful to those who’ve stepped up to serve as chairs of the task forces: Thomas and Erika Schramm, Improve Walk and Bike Connectivity and Pedestrian Safety; Christine Wilder and Meagan Buckley, Develop Affordable Housing Solutions; Jon Cocina and Mark Pennington, Conserve Open Land and Wildlife Habitat.

VCRD especially wants to thank Jim Brangan for stepping up to lead this process as the Community Visit Chair. Jim has already been recognized for his deep dedication to the Shelburne community, and we are grateful for his willingness to take on this new role. His experienced leadership and insight in navigating complex dynamics and leading toward action have already helped to inform this work. Shelburne is lucky to have his leadership and support.

With its immense resources, Shelburne is well positioned to move to a next level of implementation. We are excited to support and celebrate the energy from these new initiatives, and look forward to seeing the good things to come for Shelburne.



*Community members attend forums on Community Visit Day to share their ideas for the future of Shelburne.*

## II. The “Shelburne Forward Together” Community Visit Process

VCRD’s Community Visit program is a way for towns to engage and bring together their residents, set common goals and directions in a neutral and facilitated structure, and access resources that will help them take action on those goals. **Here is a snapshot of the 5-month process in Shelburne:**



### Steering Committee Meeting: June 26, 2023

On June 26, 2023, 20 local residents met to plan for the launch of the Shelburne Community Visit process. This group came up with a name for the process – Shelburne Forward Together – and helped to plan the kick-off. They decided on forum topics and an invitation process. Through calls, e-mails, flyers, and lawn signs this team worked hard to promote the kick-off.

The Committee included: Gail Albert, Kit Anderson, Michael Ashooh, Devin Beringer, Jim Brangan, Rob Broder, Holly Brough, Megan Camp, Brett Cluff, Cate Cross, Thomas Denenberg, Josh Flore, Roz Graham, Matt Lawless, Joan Lenes, Sean Moran, Mercedes Ortega, Bob Paquin, Corie Pierce, and Michael Thomas.

### Step 1 ~ Kick-Off Forums and Community Dinner: July 27, 2023

Shelburne Forward Together kicked off with 6 brainstorming forums held at the Historic Town Hall, Town Office, and Town Gym. Over 200 participants shared assets, challenges, and ideas for action in the following forum topics chosen by the steering committee: Mobility, Accessibility, and Transportation; Climate Resilience and Natural Resources; Local Economy: Business, Agriculture, Tourism, Arts; Family and Community Connections; Infrastructure: Buildings, Energy, Water/Wastewater, Internet; and Housing For All. Twenty-one visiting team members participated, learning more about Shelburne and providing reflections to the community.

Visiting Team members included: Leslie Black-Plumeau, *Managing Director of Community Development*, VT Housing Finance Agency; Seth Bowden, *President and CEO*, Vermont Business Roundtable; Kristen Brassard, *Marketing & Agritourism Specialist*, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets; Chris Donnelly, *Director of Community Relations*, Champlain Housing Trust; Ben Doyle, *President*, Preservation Trust of Vermont; Susan Evans McClure, *Executive Director*, Vermont Arts Council; Joan Goldstein, *Commissioner*, VT Dept of Economic Development; Michele Karode, *Outreach Professional*, UVM Office of Engagement; Bekah Kuster, *Community Engagement Manager*, Efficiency Vermont; Holly Morehouse, *Vice President for Grants*, Vermont Community Foundation; David Scherr, *State Director*, Office of Congresswoman Becca Balint; Darren Schibler, *Senior Planner*, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission; Brian Shupe, *Executive Director*, VT Natural Resources Council; and Emma Spett, *PhD Student*, UVM Office of Engagement

Vermont Council on Rural Development staff included: Laura Cavin Bailey, *Climate Economy Program Manager*; Margaret Gibson, *Operations Director*; Alyssa Johnson, *Community Projects Manager*; Jenna Koloski, *Community Engagement & Policy Director*; Brian Lowe, *Executive Director*; Kimberley Rupe Lennox, *Development & Communications Associate*; and Jessica Savage, *Director of Community Collaboration*

## Step 2 ~ Community Meeting: August 22, 2023

After the kick-off, VCRD staff distilled the brainstormed ideas into 25 key areas of action. Over 100 community members joined at the Shelburne Field House to narrow the list of priorities for community action. After lively dialogue and a dot-voting exercise, 3 action ideas emerged as key priorities: **Conserve Open Land and Wildlife Habitat**; **Develop Affordable Housing Solutions**; and **Improve Walk and Bike Connectivity and Pedestrian Safety**. Participants then signed up for task forces that will convene to move these priorities forward.

## Step 3 ~ Resource Meeting and Task Force Launch: September 28, 2023

On September 28, 2023, over 50 community members along with facilitators, and resource team members came together to develop action plans, identify resources, and form task force groups that will work in the months ahead to implement the priorities. From here forward, all “Shelburne Forward Together” action is focused at the task force level.

Resource Team members included: Leslie Black-Plumeau, *Managing Director of Community Devel*, VT Housing Finance Agency; Ilona Blanchard, *Community Development Director*, City of S. Burlington; Lou Borie, *Board Member and Past Chair*, Richmond Land Trust; Jon Copans, *Executive Director*, Old Spokes Home; Amy Demetrowitz, *Chief Operating Officer*, Champlain Housing Trust; Kati Gallagher, *Sustainable Communities Program Director*, VT Natural Resources Council; Susan Grasso, *Complete Streets Project Associate*, Local Motion; Bob Heiser, *Project Director*, Vermont Land Trust; Jens Hilke, *Conservation Planning Biologist*, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department; and Sharon Plumb, *Program Manager*, Vermont Trails & Greenways Council.

Vermont Council on Rural Development staff included: Margaret Gibson, *Operations Director*; Alyssa Johnson, *Community Projects Manager*; Jenna Koloski, *Community Engagement & Policy Director*; and Charles Smith, *Interim Executive Director*.



*Participants review the list of ideas and select their top priorities for action on Community Meeting Day.*

# III. Shelburne Forward Together Priorities

Determined by Shelburne residents at the Shelburne Forward Together Community Meeting  
August 22, 2023

*Through thoughtful conversation about the future of their community, Shelburne community members whittled down a list of 25 action ideas to 3 priorities that offer opportunities to enhance existing resources and strengthen the town. Residents concluded the meeting by signing up for Task Forces in the selected areas.*

## Shelburne residents selected three priorities for future action:

### ► Conserve Open Land and Wildlife Habitat

A group could form to create and implement a plan to ensure the protection of open land, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity in Shelburne and regionally. The group could work at the community scale to identify and conserve key properties and habitat corridors as well as engage property owners in key strategies for conservation and invasive species management. The group could explore the possibility of a Land Trust to advance conservation goals.

### ► Develop Affordable Housing Solutions

Develop housing solutions that meet the needs of the Shelburne community. The group could work with regional and state partners to assess current needs and explore options including new development, co-housing models, expanding Habitat for Humanity construction, incentives and requirements for new development, and more. Additionally, the group could lead on public education, community engagement, and story-telling to help to advance the narrative around the need for housing and housing solutions. The group could also work to engage with and actively recruit developers to implement solutions.

### ► Improve Walk and Bike Connectivity and Pedestrian Safety

A group could work with municipal leaders and regional, state, and federal partners to improve the safety and connectivity of roads as well as pedestrian and bike paths in town. This group could review past studies and conduct assessments of current walk/bike pathways and develop a plan to build connection across neighborhoods and between the Village center and other resources such as the lake, the school, Shelburne Farms, and Shelburne Museum. The group could focus on the expansion of sidewalks and crosswalks, pedestrian bridges, traffic calming strategies, bike lanes and paths, and improved flow at key intersections.





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## **Other Key Opportunities identified by the community:**

*Along with the three chosen priorities, the key opportunities listed below reflect other potential ideas for action that community members shared on Community Visit Day. Though these opportunities weren't chosen as priority projects through this process, community members may find the list useful as they look to expand on current projects or take on new ones.*

### **Improve Local Transportation**

A group could work to expand local transportation options and solutions. Many residents shared a desire for expanded bus routes and stops beyond the Route 7 corridor into neighborhoods and to key services in town and beyond. Other ideas include a local shuttle service, van sharing, or a local taxi service. The group could also explore train service between Shelburne and Burlington.

### **Coordinate and Improve Community Communications**

Create a more coordinated system for community and Town communications to build transparency and engagement in community decisions, advertise events, and share resources. A group could create a newsletter and/or an improved town website that would share clear and easy-to-read updates on current events, town decisions or processes, and ways to engage. The group could also help to collect resident input to share back with Town leaders to ensure ongoing communication, collaboration, and inclusion.

### **Open a Community Center**

Design and build a community center that can serve as a central location to hold events and offer activities and connection for people of all ages. The space could provide youth-led space as well as programming for seniors, connections for families with young children, meeting rooms, a place to share resources, and a central location for programming and workshops.

### **Improve Childcare Options**

A group could work to create locally-driven solutions to childcare needs from early education to afterschool and summer programming for older kids. The group could explore creative solutions to childcare challenges, such as developing a fund to help pay for afterschool activities and daycare and developing a public-private partnership to attract new early education and afterschool care.

### **Expand and Improve Community Recreation Facilities**

Shelburne residents of all ages expressed a need for improved and expanded recreational facilities. A group could identify community needs and build a plan and funding to improve existing facilities and/or develop new recreational options. Some ideas include improved soccer fields with lighting, an ice-skating rink, a community pool, a waterslide, an indoor trampoline park, a new playground, a climbing gym, a skate park, and more.

### **Create a Plan for Land Use and Housing Development**

Work with the Town on developing a concrete action plan for the future balance of land use, conservation, and housing development with particular attention to open agricultural land and wildlife habitat. A group could develop a process to gather deep community input and engagement to develop a shared vision and plan for the future of land use in the community. The group could then use that plan to make recommendations for strategies, policies, and regulations that would help to implement and integrate that plan.

## **Improve Lake Access and Recreation**

Improve access to the Lake and support and promote water sports and recreation. A group could help to advance walking or biking paths from the Village to the beach or a summer shuttle from the Village. Additionally, the group could hold events that showcase the lake and encourage the community to enjoy and celebrate this asset.

## **Build a Community Pool**

Residents of all ages expressed interest in a community pool in Shelburne that would be free and open for residents to use. The pool would provide an important recreation resource, gathering place, and an alternative on days when the beach is closed.

## **Advance Waste Management Solutions**

A group could form to take the lead on cleaning up litter around the town and supporting effective and efficient waste management. The group could help to clean up and beautify the Village, the beach, and other areas in town, as well as explore alternatives and improvements to waste management such as composting, yard waste disposal, and dealing with RV waste.

## **Create a Community Infrastructure Improvement Plan**

Work with the Town to develop a plan for upgrades and improvements to infrastructure such as wastewater, roads, community facilities, internet access, and more. A group could engage the full community and work with experts and resource leaders to identify key priorities for infrastructure improvements and then build a timeline and identify funding sources to advance that plan.

## **Expand Civic and Community Engagement**

A group could come together to improve the ability of all community members to engage in Town and community discussions and decisions. The group could implement initiatives to improve and streamline communications between the community and the Town, and to explore ways to make Town information and meetings more accessible to all residents. Strategies may include training and professional development for Town leaders on accessibility and inclusivity, improving audio and visual accessibility at community and Town meetings, and actively engaging people with disabilities in community decisions and processes. The group could also help the Town and other community groups to provide support services and accommodations to make meetings easier to attend and engage in for all members of the community.

## **Develop a Coordinated Marketing and Tourism Strategy**

Build a collaborative tourism and marketing strategy that welcomes visitors and showcases key assets. A group could create marketing materials and a communications plan to invite visitors to the community and hold events that bring people to town and showcase community assets. The group could also work to help fill key gaps in tourism such as lodging for visitors.

## **Increase Tiny Homes and Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)**

A group could form to more readily welcome ADUs and tiny homes in Shelburne. The group could research challenges and opportunities, create informational resources, and propose incentives or other policies to reduce development barriers. The group could also focus on improving options for workforce housing and agricultural housing on farms.

### **Revitalize Vacant Buildings**

A group could form to inventory vacant buildings in the village and along Route 7 and develop a plan to revitalize and repurpose these spaces. Uses for these spaces could include business development, housing development, and other community use such as space for family-friendly activities and businesses, pop up events, and more.

### **Expand Support for Renters and Homeowners**

A group could collect, improve, and share resources for renters and homeowners in Shelburne with the goal of improving affordability and access. The group could share resources focused on tenants' rights, home improvements, clean energy resources, and more. Collaborating with community partners including Habitat for Humanity, the Rotary Club, the Library, the school, the food shelf, and others could help to disseminate the information broadly and ensure that everyone in town has access to resources available to them.

### **Increase Community Events**

Expand and share local events to bring together and engage community members of all ages. Ideas include music and dancing events, community dinners, recreation events, movies on the green, community gear or clothing swaps, and more. A group could create a marketing and communications plan to better share events and invite people across the full community to join.

### **Develop Solutions to Route 7 Traffic**

A group could form to work with the Town and the Agency of Transportation to identify and implement strategies to the complex challenge of traffic and congestion along the Route 7 corridor. The group could explore ideas from traffic calming in the Village Center or a Park and Ride or carpool initiative to ease traffic, to larger initiatives such as a bypass around the Village. The group could review past studies and plans focused on this issue and work with regional and state experts to identify what has worked in other communities.

### **Advance Local Business and Economic Development**

A group could form to create and implement a comprehensive economic development strategy for Shelburne. The group could collect public and business input, consult with experts, and review past plans and studies to assess the needs and opportunities for business development in the community. The group could focus on supporting and expanding small and medium businesses as well as develop a strategy for the future of the industrial park. Additionally, the plan could consider the use of vacant buildings as well as strategies to incentivize and attract the businesses that will meet current community needs and desires.

### **Build a Fire and Rescue Facility**

Residents expressed the need for updated facilities for the Town's police, rescue and fire services. A group could work with the Town to advance plans to build updated facilities, such as a complex that would house all services in one location. Work on this initiative could also focus on supporting existing fire and rescue volunteers, and recruiting additional members.

## **Advance Community Climate Resiliency and Climate Mitigation**

A climate resilience group could form to build and implement a plan for the future resiliency of Shelburne. The group could identify and implement strategies to share best practices for homeowners, suggest policy and infrastructure improvements for the Town, and engage in public education to share success stories and resources with the community. This work could also include steps to actively combat and reverse climate change impacts. Regenerative agriculture could be a particular area for focus.

## **Increase Municipal Capacity**

Many residents expressed appreciation for the services offered by existing municipal staff and expressed a desire for increased services and capacity in areas such as communications and public works. A group could form to work in partnership with the Town to explore proposals to increase municipal capacity, and to help advance those proposals.

## **Enhance Shelburne's Village Center**

A group could form to work with the Town and regional and State partners to enhance and showcase Shelburne's village center. Many residents identify the Village as an asset and shared ideas for ways to improve access to the Village Center and improve safety and traffic in the area. A group could focus on improved signage in the Village, holding events that celebrate the village green and parade ground, and showcase and celebrate Village businesses. The group could spearhead a plan for the future of the Village Green and Parade Ground that engages the full community and could explore state Downtown Designation to help with access to technical assistance and resources for the future.



*Thanks to the Shelburne Fire Department for hosting the Community Visit Day dinner – a perfect location!*

## IV. Task Force Action Plans

Resource Meeting, September 28, 2023

*Shelburne Task Forces are comprised of community members and an appointed chairperson. On Resource Day committee members worked closely with a facilitator and a visiting resource team to develop step-by-step action plans and a list of human and financial resources to help achieve their goals. This final phase of the program marks the time when residents truly take ownership of the work, and begin the exciting process of turning ideas into action.*

### ► Conserve Open Land and Wildlife Habitat

A group could form to create and implement a plan to ensure the protection of open land, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity in Shelburne and regionally. The group could work at the community scale to identify and conserve key properties and habitat corridors as well as engage property owners in key strategies for conservation and invasive species management. The group could explore the possibility of a Land Trust to advance conservation goals.

Community Co-Chairs: Jon Cocina and Mark Pennington

Facilitator: Jenna Koloski, *Community Engagement and Policy Director*, VCRD

Resource Team Members: Lou Borie, *Board Member and Past Chair*, Richmond Land Trust

Kati Gallagher, *Sustainable Communities Program Director*, Vermont Natural Resources Council (VNRC)

Bob Heiser, *Project Director*, Vermont Land Trust

Jens Hilke, *Conservation Planning Biologist*, Vermont Fish and Wildlife

Community Participants: Gail Albert, Kit Anderson, Michael Ashooh, Tracey Beaudin, Sara Beeken,

and Task Force Signups: Matthew Bernhardt, Fabienne Boisvert-DeFazio, Edwin Bovill, Jim Brangan, Bob Clark, Jon Cocina, Rowland Davis, Amelia Gerlin, Lesley Graham, T. Karl Hubbard, Kristin Jangraw, Georgia Jeffers, Peter Kahn, Matt Lawless, Sean MacFaden, Barb McIntosh, Lynda McIntyre, Shana Morrow Trombley, Janice Nicklas, Bob Paquin, Mark Pennington, Jon Porter, Sarah Ray, Don Rendall, Rosemary Sadler, Mike Schramm, Rebecca Taudien, Liz Weir, Jim White, Alice Winn, and Persis Worrall

#### Overview of this issue today

- There is a municipal Natural Resources and Conservation Committee that is focused on:
  - Land conservation projects
  - Arrowood forest block mapping exercise
  - Open space planning
  - Development review input
  - Regulatory protections/zoning rewrite input
- SAFE – Shelburne Alliance For the Environment
  - Supporting SNRCC
  - Input on the new zoning bylaws
  - Public education
- The Town Open Space Fund generates \$50,000 per year. The total balance now is about \$500K. There are 2 current projects in the works, but the number of projects has declined over the years. This amount has increased over the years and always passes easily.
- The Committee has discussed the idea of a Land Trust but has not moved forward on that idea.

- Shelburne is very attractive to developers.
- There is a significant need for affordable housing to keep up with the need for employees to fill jobs in the area.
- Wastewater development needs to line up with development.
- There are 2 major waterways in the “growth district” which causes some constraints.
- Influx of invasive species.
- We don’t have regulations that allow for the conservation that we want.
- There is not enough public education about the need for conservation. Housing need is all over the news, but people aren’t as aware of the conservation needs.

## Priority Action Steps

1. Form an independent group, including members of SAFE and the municipal natural resources committee as well as other community volunteers to help “supercharge” land conservation efforts and take a more proactive approach on land conservation.
2. The group’s first priority will be to develop a plan to coordinate and connect with SAFE and SNRCC to make sure that efforts are working collaboratively and not against each other.
3. Take the lead on public education and especially on outreach with property owners that fall within the priority conservation areas identified in the Arrowwood mapping exercise. This group, unlike the municipal group, could be more targeted in this outreach strategy and identify specific properties or landowners to connect with.
4. Become another voice in the community advocating for zoning updates that prioritize land conservation and balance conservation with development.
  - a. Research effective strategies for conservation in other towns or outside of Vermont.
  - b. Potentially coordinate with the Housing Committee to identify shared goals/strategies to find a balance to bring forward to Town leadership.
5. Explore the possibility of a Land Trust model in Shelburne (or a similar entity with a different name or purpose to prioritize land conservation). Connect with other land trust models in communities around the state. This group could take the lead on fundraising efforts to significantly increase resources available for land conservation and be able to take action more quickly outside of municipal process.

## Other action ideas

- Education with property owners about conservation practices they can use on their own land.
- Digging in further to how to define and apply the protection of “scenic resources” in the community as named in the Town Plan.
- Explore increase the set aside for the Town Open Space fund.
- Explore incentives to encourage land conservation.
- The formation of a local “natural resource advisory committee” of experts to inform Town decisions.

## Resources

The State – Agency of Natural Resources, Forest, Parks & Recreation, Fish and Wildlife.

The Vermont Natural Resources Council Community Strategies Report: <https://vnrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/VNRC-Forestland-Conservation-10-1-links.pdf>.

The Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District could be a partner to help with community outreach and education.

The Richmond Land Trust and the Waterbury Lands Initiative could be two different models to understand from other communities.

Local natural resource experts.

The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board is a key funding resource for the Richmond Land Trust and for other projects like these around the state.

The Town Open Space Fund is a key resource.

Local resources for fundraising.

Fundraising consultants and trainings.

The Congressionally Delegated Spending program was a key funding source for a recent Richmond Land Trust project.

Vermont Land Trust could be an advisory partner and help with specific projects that emerge.

Trust for Public Land can provide support – typically around specific projects.

The group should include and engage members of Town government that are interested in this work.

## **Visiting Resource Team Recommendations**

*After Community Meeting Day, Resource Team members, representing a wide array of professionals from across the state, submitted their recommendations for other potential actions and resources the task force might consider as it moves forward. These recommendations encompass their experience, past success, and consideration of the community's unique assets and needs.*

## **Action Step Recommendations**

Expand the number of local people involved in this conversation, planning and work.

## **Technical Assistance/Peer Connection Recommendations**

At the next full group meeting, try to break down your larger group into some sub-groups who can tackle different 'jobs' since there is a lot to tackle here. Each sub-group can then make a work plan to guide their process. The third step is to have each sub-group bring those back to the full group to get everyone aligned and see where there is overlap.

The Waterbury Land initiative is a potential model. Learn more at [waterburyland.org](http://waterburyland.org)

## **Potential Funding Sources**

The Spark Connecting Communities grant program provides grants of \$500-\$3,000 for “grassroots work that builds social capital.” Learn more at [vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/spark-connecting-community/](http://vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/spark-connecting-community/).

Once a project has been identified, there are programs which can help do the pre-construction/planning work. The Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) program can assist communities with grant-writing or other tasks to achieve Federal funding. Learn more at <https://vhcb.org/redi> and contact Mariah Noth at [Mariah@vhcb.org](mailto:Mariah@vhcb.org) at 802-828-1098.

The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) can be an excellent grant resource depending on the type of project. Visit [www.nbrc.gov](http://www.nbrc.gov) and contact Vermont contact Kristie Farnham at [kristie.farnham@vermont.gov](mailto:kristie.farnham@vermont.gov).

## ► Develop Affordable Housing Solutions

Develop housing solutions that meet the needs of the Shelburne community. The group could work with regional and state partners to assess current needs and explore options including new development, co-housing models, expanding Habitat for Humanity construction, incentives and requirements for new development, and more. Additionally, the group could lead on public education, community engagement, and story-telling to help to advance the narrative around the need for housing and housing solutions. The group could also work to engage with and actively recruit developers to implement solutions.

Community Co-Chairs: **Christine Wilder** and **Meagan Buckley**

Facilitator: **Alyssa Johnson**, *Community Visit Program Manager*, Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD)

Resource Team Members: **Nate Lantieri**, *Research Coordinator*, Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA)  
**Amy Demetrowitz**, *Chief Operating Officer*, Champlain Housing Trust

Community Participants: Michael Ashooh, Sara Beeken, Jim Brangan, Jon Cocina, Kristin Jangraw,  
and Task Force Signups Matt Lawless, Lynda McIntyre, Mark Pennington, Alice Winn, Stephen (Steve) Andrews, Beverly Boget, Pam Brangan, Meagan Buckley, Megan Camp, Karin DiPietro, Wendy Eberhart, Erica Frey-Delaportas, Sue Furry-Susie, Yasamin Gordon, Rosalyn Graham, Barbara Grant, Paul Growald, Jennifer Hoenigsberg, Maria Horn, Robin Jeffers, Becky Jewett, Chris Kent, Joan Lenes, Susannah Magee, Diane Montgomery-Logan, Nancy Pruitt, Judith (Judy) Raven, Valerie Richardson, Margaret (Peg) Rosenau, Deborah (Deb) Sigel, Lori Smith, Nikki Stevens, Toni Supple, Lee Suskin, and Christine Wilder

### Current Status

- The Planning Commission is working on an ongoing rewriting of the zoning regulations, which is scheduled to be completed at the end of 2024.
- Shelburne has a municipal [Housing Committee](#). The committee has worked on a number of initiatives including:
  - Developing and updating a [housing booklet](#), which has been updated, and includes a map of relevant zoning districts as they pertain to housing.
  - Recommendations to the Planning Commission on housing related topics.
  - Work to recommend and revise accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations in Shelburne.
  - There is also interesting in future work by the committee on ADUs.
- There have been state laws passed that impact zoning regulations pertaining housing.
- There is language in the current municipal plan about new housing units (estimated to be ~30 units per year).
- There is space for infill development in the sewer service area, and capacity (and desire!) for additional sewer users.
- Per Sections 11 and 12 of the [HOME Act](#), in mid-2024 Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) will be working to develop a regional housing target based on the forthcoming statewide housing needs assessment. This will be broken down by municipality for incorporation into regional and municipal plans. CCRPC will develop a method for this with input from our Planning Advisory Committee, which includes members of Shelburne's planning staff.



- CCRPC staff are also available to assist municipalities in updating their bylaws to be compliant with the municipal zoning provisions of the HOME Act.

## **Prioritized Action Steps**

1. Determine shared language for the group around what “affordable” means. Understand common vision points for the group.
2. Hear from relevant stakeholders, including Champlain Housing Trust, Vermont Housing Finance Agency, etc., regarding needs and existing conditions.
3. Gather data from existing sources. Explore the potential for a Housing Needs Assessment for Shelburne, potentially conducted by a consultant.
4. Review and understand the nature of the current zoning rewrite happening in Shelburne, and areas for potential advocacy related to housing. Also understand state level zoning changes that may be used as an example or to inform zoning recommendations. Consider engagement and advocacy around zoning changes.
5. Contact stakeholders involved public private partnerships related to housing in Shelburne to understand barriers and opportunities to partner.
6. Throughout the previous steps, and on its own, consider messaging and framing regarding housing. Consider strategies such as writing stories for the Shelburne News and other types of proactive outreach.

## **Additional potential action steps discussed by the group included**

- Develop target amounts of housing development in Shelburne, including information about the types of housing, units.
- Conduct outreach to large employers to understand their needs for housing for employees and willingness to partner on projects.
- Work build communities, not just housing (green space).
- Explore local and national models (such as in Lexington, MA).
- Housing now – explore an expedited waiver for immediate development of workforce housing in Shelburne.
- Explore the potential zoning and real estate taxes to incentive and/or disincentivize certain types of development.
- Explore inclusionary zoning ordinances, like those in South Burlington and Burlington, which require a certain amount of affordable units for all new housing developments. Explore the potential of interim zoning regulations in this regard.
- Consider impacts on the pace of growth of housing on open lands. Consider coordination with the Conserve Open Space and Wildlife Habitat task force as relevant.
- Explore employer help with financing housing development.
- The town may explore sponsored housing for municipal employees.
- Investigate housing for families who are downsizing to create space for younger families.
- Partner with Habitat for Humanity.
- Help with education on housing topics for the community.
- Proactively identify underused land for development opportunities for developers, and bring developers to the table.

## Resources

VHFA conducted a 2020 statewide housing assessment. They maintain [Housingdata.org](#), which includes a [Community Profiles](#) section. Nate Lantieri is a resource for using this site! The data is downloadable, and using best practices for data management.

VHFA has a [Housing-Ready Toolbox](#) geared towards municipalities, including a local strategies section.

The “More Than Four” campaign is an example of a messaging model in Vermont (Brattleboro area).

Vermont Futures Project gathered some previous statistics around needed housing units.

### Additional notes from CCRPC:

- [CCRPC’s Funding Opportunities Database](#) can be filtered to show funding sources for grants and loan programs to plan for and develop housing.
- CCRPC currently has a substantial amount of funding for [Brownfields Assessment](#) used to identify and plan for environmental contaminant remediation on (re)development sites, with funding prioritized for housing projects. Both private and non-profit / municipal projects are eligible.
- CCRPC and CVOEO are collaborating to host roughly biannual Regional Housing Convenings to share resources among municipal housing committees (including Shelburne’s) and partners. The next one is on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm; in the coming weeks, more information will be posted to our [Housing Convenings page](#) where folks can also find details from prior convenings.
- The latest [Building Homes Together](#) data will be published in the next month or so.
- The Department of Housing & Community Development’s [Municipal Planning Grants](#) are open for applications until November 1. CCRPC staff are ready to assist with project development and submitting an application.

## Visiting Resource Team Recommendations

*After Community Meeting Day, Resource Team members, representing a wide array of professionals from across the state, submitted their recommendations for other potential actions and resources the task force might consider as it moves forward. These recommendations encompass their experience, past success, and consideration of the community’s unique assets and needs.*

### Action Step Recommendations

Connect with the Planning Commission and explore if they could they apply for a Municipal Planning Grant to perform a Housing Needs Assessment.

Develop a mechanism to understand the scope and scale of need - how much affordable housing? at what income? Need of rental vs. ownership?

Identify town-owned property that might be a low cost site for housing.

Engage with the Walkability, and Pedestrian Safety group to assure that accessibility is a key focus of this work.

Before any concrete actions can be taken, identify what the community wants. More Housing? Better Housing? Cheaper Housing? Housing with Income Restrictions (aka big “A” Affordable Housing)?

Review an overview of resources available at this link: <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/town-future>.

Explore the list of benefits and tools that can be leveraged by private owners and the municipality via designations at: <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs>.

Check in with the Planning Commission through the process of updating the Town Plan to be sure there is language in the Town Plan that is in alignment with this goal.

Connect with the Dept. of Housing and Community Development to learn about Better Places grants. Better Places is a non-competitive, community matching grant program empowering Vermonters to create inclusive and vibrant public places serving Vermont's designated downtowns, village centers, new town centers, or neighborhood development areas. The program provides one-on-one project coaching, local fundraising support, and two to one (2:1) matching grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$40,000 to make your community-led placemaking ideas happen.

### **Technical Assistance/Peer Connection Recommendations**

The Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA) has a Toolbox for municipal leaders with a variety of resources. <https://www.housingdata.org/toolbox/steps-for-municipalities>.

<https://accd.vermont.gov/housing>.

Gary Holloway, Downtown Program Coordinator, Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development.

Village Center program <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs/village-centers>.

### **Potential Funding Sources**

The Spark Connecting Communities grant program provides grants of \$500-\$3,000 for "grassroots work that builds social capital." The next round of Spark grant applications will be open in early 2023. Learn more at [vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/spark-connecting-community/](http://vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/spark-connecting-community/).

Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP) is a program to be promoted to private property owners. This program can bring units back online that have fallen out of code OR it can be used to add ADUs which are a critical element of infill development which can add units without changing the look and feel of an existing neighborhood or village. Learn more at: <https://accd.vermont.gov/housing/vermont-housing-improvement-program>.

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) created a Vermont Federal Funding Guidebook with potentially applicable grants. Learn more at <https://vlct.org/sites/default/files/uploads/VLCT%20VT%20FF%20Guidebook%20V%201.0%20121522.pdf>.

The Vermont Community Development Program could potentially be used to support planning or implementation work. Learn more at <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp>.

VCRD is a continuing partner for resource connections, and has some modest funding resources. Contact Alyssa Johnson at [alyssa@vtrural.org](mailto:alyssa@vtrural.org) or 978-760-1238.

## ► Improve Walk and Bike Connectivity and Pedestrian Safety

A group could work with municipal leaders and regional, state, and federal partners to improve the safety and connectivity of roads as well as pedestrian and bike paths in town. This group could review past studies and conduct assessments of current walk/bike pathways and develop a plan to build connection across neighborhoods and between the Village center and other resources such as the lake, the school, Shelburne Farms, and Shelburne Museum. The group could focus on the expansion of sidewalks and crosswalks, pedestrian bridges, traffic calming strategies, bike lanes and paths, and improved flow at key intersections.

Community Co-Chairs: Erika and Thomas Schramm

Facilitator: Jon Copans, Executive Director, Old Spokes Home

Resource Team Members: Susan Grasso, *Complete Streets Program Associate*, Local Motion  
Sharon Plumb, *Program Manager*, Vermont Trails & Greenways Council

Community Participants and Task Force Signups: Ted Albers, Ken Albert, Stephen (Steve) Andrews, Ellen Arapakos, Michael Ashooh, Jim Brangan, Holly Brough, Megan Camp, Nicole Carpenter, Eric Coker, Melendy Comey, Richard Flyer, Elizabeth (Liz) Foster, Erica Frey-Delaportas, Ellen Gurwitz, Paulette Hammond, Roger P. Hill, Susan Hull Grasso, Barbara Johnson, Susan Kahn, Andrew Kloeckner, Kate Lalley, Matt Lawless, Susannah Magee, Doug Mcrrill, Mark Monaghan, Thomas Schramm, Erika Schramm, Paul Seligman, Deborah (Deb) Sigel, Dana Valentine, Alec Webb, Dan York, Tom Zenaty, and Jane Zenaty

### Current status

- Few students walk to school.
- There are many plans related to walking and bike connectivity, but limited implementation.
- There is high use of existing paths.
- There is an existing Bike and Ped Committee with 10 members. They have created a strategic plan about proposed additional walk/bike infrastructure and funding.
- There is additional Village pedestrian safety group and Falls Road group.
- There was recently a Local Motion popup on Spear Street.
- Route 7 is a state highway, which has implications for management.

### Action Steps

The central purpose of this group is to strengthen the culture of biking and walking in Shelburne. Strategies will include outreach, education, and advocacy. Specific actions could include:

1. Growing support for and participation in walking and biking to school
2. Adding quality bike racks at key locations around town
3. Improving signage, maps, and other materials to make biking and walking more accessible.
4. Organizing events to build participation and to celebrate walkers and bikers. These could include group rides, group walks/hikes, bike repair workshops, a closed street event, etc.

## **Additional potential action steps**

- Improve and promote bus service and ridership.
- Increase the development of additional protected walk/bike infrastructure.
- Conduct engagement around the Bike and Pedestrian strategic plan.
- Increase the number of sidewalks in the community.
- Identify and secure funding sources.

## **Resources**

Local Motion has many offerings including helmet giveaways for kids, offering a ride leader, they are a source for bike racks, bike repair. Learn more at <https://www.localmotion.org/> and contact Susan Grasso at [susan@localmotion.org](mailto:susan@localmotion.org).

The Safe Routes to School Program - Connect with Local Motion and/or the regional coordinator. Laura Assermily of Middlebury could also be a great resource.

Crossing guards are a great resource. Explore ways to have more of them. The school and Selectboard may be relevant resources.

Old Spokes Home can provide free bikes to eligible youth and affordable bikes to eligible adults. No geographic limitations. Also can provide repair workshops and a mobile repair unit. Contact Jon Copans at [jon@oldspokeshome.com](mailto:jon@oldspokeshome.com) and learn more at <https://www.oldspokeshome.com/>.

League of American Bicyclists has great resources - <https://bikeleague.org/>.

## **Visiting Resource Team Recommendations**

*After Community Meeting Day, Resource Team members, representing a wide array of professionals from across the state, submitted their recommendations for other potential actions and resources the task force might consider as it moves forward. These recommendations encompass their experience, past success, and consideration of the community's unique assets and needs.*

## **Action Step Recommendations**

VTrans Bike and Pedestrian Program has educational, design, and funding resources. Learn more at <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped> and <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped/resources>.

## **Technical Assistance/Peer Connection Recommendations**

Local Motion is a statewide nonprofit with a mission to “to make it safe, accessible, and fun for everyone to bike, walk, and roll in Vermont.” They offer a variety of technical assistance and funding opportunities. Learn more at [https://www.localmotion.org/community\\_action](https://www.localmotion.org/community_action) and contact [info@localmotion.org](mailto:info@localmotion.org).

AARP has a number of useful guides. See <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/tool-kits-resources/info-2020/rural-livability-workshop-report.html> and <https://states.aarp.org/vermont/how-can-we-improve-vermonts-complete-streets-policy>.

## **Potential Funding Sources**

Consider identifying a project that would benefit from a Better Places Grant. Better Places Grants “community matching grant program empowering Vermonters to create inclusive and vibrant public...The program provides one-on-one project coaching, local fundraising support, and two to one (2:1) matching grants ranging

from \$5,000 to \$40,000 to make your community-led placemaking ideas happen. Learn more at <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/better-places>. Additional information and project examples can be found at: <https://www.patronicity.com/BetterPlacesVT>.

Vermont Natural Resources Council (VNRC) Small Grants for Smart Growth “provides seed money for catalyzing, community-based initiatives that are grounded in or help to support smart growth.” Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and awards range from \$500 to \$1,500 per project. Learn more at <https://vnrc.org/small-grants-for-smart-growth/> and contact Kati Gallagher at [kgallagher@vnrc.org](mailto:kgallagher@vnrc.org).

Municipal Planning Grants are available for improvement plans and other future planning goals. Learn more at <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/municipal-planning-grant>.

The Spark Connecting Communities grant program provides grants of \$500-\$3,000 for “grassroots work that builds social capital.” Learn more at <https://vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/spark-connecting-community/>.

AARP Community Challenge Grant can fund permanent physical improvements, demonstration projects, and new or innovative programming or services. Visit <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/community-challenge/info-2023/2023-challenge.html>. Contact Kelly Stoddard Poor at 802-951-1313 or at [kstoddardpoor@aarp.org](mailto:kstoddardpoor@aarp.org).

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program is “designed to assist states, local governments, and Tribes in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency.” Learn more at <https://www.energy.gov/scep/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-program>.

Better Connections Program could be a potential funding source. Learn more at <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/projects-programs/better-connections>.

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) created a Vermont Federal Funding Guidebook with potentially applicable grants. Learn more at <https://vlct.org/sites/default/files/uploads/VLCT%20VT%20FF%20Guidebook%20V%201.0%20121522.pdf>.

VCRD is a continuing partner for resource connections, and has some modest funding resources. Contact Alyssa Johnson at [alyssa@vtrural.org](mailto:alyssa@vtrural.org) or 802-222-6896.



*The Visiting Team circled up before the forums on Community Visit Day.*

# V. Shelburne Forward Together Forum Notes

Compiled from focus group discussions held in-person and virtually with over 200 Shelburne community members and the VCRD Visiting Team on July 27, 2023, and through a paper and online survey.

*Although the prioritization work of the Shelburne Forward Together Community Visit Program requires a town to decide what is most important as it moves forward with Task Forces, nothing is lost in the process from the long list of concerns and ideas expressed in early community focus sessions. Many interesting and diverse thoughts are represented here, and are presented as a reminder of issues explored, and a possible foundation for future projects.*

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## Mobility, Accessibility & Transportation

Visiting Team: Alyssa Johnson (FACILITATOR), Jessica Savage (SCRIBE), Rachel Goldstein, Michele Karode, Holly Morehouse, and Darren Schibler

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### What are the Assets in this Area?

- Webster Road shared use path.
- New green bike lanes on Route 7.
- Sidewalks throughout town.
- Sidewalks that get plowed very quickly.
- SB has high interest in topic and working hard on this topic.
- Tye Hall Trail.
- CCTA bus line during 8-11 when it's running.
- Laplatte River trail and the volunteers who maintain it.
- Volunteers who facilitate walk and bike events.
- Tracy's years as crossing guard (11 years!).
- A lot of walking opportunities between Shelburne Bay Path, Museum, Beach Cove (?) etc.
- Private land with public access trails creating opportunities for connections between neighborhoods.
- Zoning changes to connect neighborhoods instead of just cul de sacs.
- Farmstead and Deer Run neighborhood connection specifically.
- Good highway crew.
- Can bike on Spear Street.
- Walk downtown and access basic needs in downtown.
- Accessibility provided by Route 7.
- Path down from neighborhood on Irish Hill to shopping center: private citizens made that happen.
- Bike path and pedestrian committee held public meetings for master plan for town: this worked well to get input.
- Joplin James: one-man effort to get people to adopt the different trails and keep up with them (x2).
- Bus service is so helpful.
- Currently 4 committees (town and volunteers) working mobility and accessibility and they are collaborating and connecting.
- We seem to have enough parking.
- Railroad line is high value.

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### What are the Challenges?

- Not an elderly friendly town: no in town public transit, no taxi service, sidewalks can be challenging for motorized wheelchairs or less stable walkers (hills and too rough, could trip).
- No sidewalk to village from certain locations, walk on the side of the road is dangerous.
- Very limited access for people who have mobility challenges or otherwise want to walk but can't walk safely (visual or auditory impairments are not accommodated safely)-exclusivity.
- Bus service only runs from 6-11 and only on Route 7 corridor, and this is an issue if we expand housing into other areas in town there is no way to get to work or groceries, Spear Street and South End of town are biggest challenges.
- No sidewalks to certain local employers like VT Teddy Bear.
- Crossing roads is very dangerous: no crosswalks in many areas.
- Traffic light isn't working correctly sometimes with flashing lights yellow on rte 7 and red on cross street which is very dangerous.
- Spear Street traffic has increased a lot, biking has become more dangerous, road is fairly narrow, with town expanding east, it will continue to be challenge.
- Intersection of Webster road and Marcette Road: traffic is horrible.
- No connection safely for bikes to S Burlington.
- Challenge in that we are a bedroom or pass through community for people commuting north for work: volume of traffic, lack of space for cyclist.
- Bridge on Irish Hill Road across LaPlatte Rd: crossing that river at the bridge is very unsafe for walkers, trail is right there, a lot of traffic on trail.
- Regional challenge: route 7 and Spear Street isn't a Shelburne only issue.
- Lots of parents and children don't feel safe walking or rolling to school.
- School traffic is always a problem.
- Issue with access for bike/ped to Shelburne Farms.
- Concerned about bottleneck on Route 7 with traffic coming into Village: adding lots of residences in places where we

- already have a lot of traffic issues, geographic challenge of not many alternate ways to get to town.
- Dorset is similar to Spear Street challenges.
  - Missing piece of sidewalk in front of Country Store.
  - Bigger neighborhoods with kids (Hullcrest and Webster Rd) no safe way for them to bike to school.

- No safe bike way to get north.
- Regional transportation options are very limited beyond personal vehicles.
- Shelburne Beach.

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### **Opportunities: What Should Be Done / What Action Can Be Taken by the Community?**

- Tye Hill trail north.
- Bike path by New Village Farms to Shelburne Farms should happen. A plan was made 15-16 years ago.
- Dick Elkins' idea: traffic that is coming south on 7 if they want to go to supermarket area, there could be a new road Shelburne Wood Road, behind country store go back to shopping park area, from Falls Road it would be walking traffic only, One way would lead you to Church Street to go back to route 7, having people be able to walk safely on Falls Road.
- Not just Dick Elkins' idea: actual plan and study done by architect from Shelburne Wood: makes sense to see if it can be done, 2014 scoping study of intersection of Harbor, Route 7 and Falls Road.
- Webster Road down to Thompson road, Acorn Lane, Tye Hill trail west, safe way to bike to school once bridge is built.
- Bike path, walking tunnel under route 7 in village area.
- scoping study in 2004 showed some of that.
- rebuild all sidewalks in the village.
- WIF (?) pervious sidewalk.
- Route 7 bypass the village.
- All walking in village and preserve the beauty of this village.
- Circular away from village so people can feel safe walking in village.
- Speed limited reduced to 25 on Irish Hill Road.
- Want town to be serious about bridge going across river.
- Connecting sidewalk from at Golf Course to Spear Street to Burl. Bike Path: 1.4 miles is the only missing part so build it.
- Build a tunnel from Folino's all through town and fund it with tolls.
- Taxi or van system that the town invests in for people who need transportation.
- Crosswalk at Irish Hill Thomas Road intersection.
- Build access to beach.
- TAM: investigate and build a Trail Around Shelburne so you could circumnavigate town.
- Create physical separation for all bike lanes.
- Shelburne could build more divided bike lanes.
- Train station access: van and carpool etc.
- Activating the train stop in town for Amtrak.
- Area around train stop could be improved.
- Electric mobility options: bike paths and mobility options for wheelchairs, combine these things.
- Create more connectivity to waterfront.
- Reactivate the train for commuting to Burlington.
- Town bus should be reactivated.
- School traffic: encourage ridesharing with parents.
- Get more kids to ride the bus.
- Bike trail: old Route 7 that crosses the path, could rebuild that if you built a new bridge.
- Invest in putting barriers along bike lanes on Spear Street.
- Pursue electric school buses.
- Lowering traffic speed limit Church Street to Harrington village.
- Drop off spots where kids could walk to school from bus stops.
- Boat Launch off Bay Road where people could drop kids off, winter time parents could drop kids there and get bus in.
- Take ownership of Route 7 and slow traffic down.
- Downtown designation might help with Class 1 road.
- Build a few more neighborhood connectors.
- Increasing volume of signals so everyone can hear them over traffic noise.
- Buckets on either side of the street on crosswalks with flags to get attention.
- More crosswalks.
- Route 7: look at how Vergennes is trying to divert trucks around town.
- Crosswalk right by police station: educate the motoring public as well as pedestrians about how to safely cross and what the rules and regulations are.
- Making a welcome and obvious sign that shows that this is a downtown area, some visual reminders so that people want to check things out.
- Roundabouts!
- get people here to visit and divert thru traffic.
- DOT or other agency to get ideas for what are effective crosswalks: investigate other options.
- Pedestrian refuge island at Church Street as well as near vineyard/Fiddlehead.
- Get those two businesses to partner on that safe crossing.
- Two signs south and north with Josh's mean face on it.
- School programs about bike and walk safety: rules and regulations: outreach with schools/assemblies.
- Outreach to parents about bike/walk safety.
- Lobby to increase frequency of buses (collective ask).
- Look at data annually to see where unsafe areas are for traffic/pedestrians/bikes.
- Right hand turn lane on Harbor Road.
- Bus to Dorset.
- More opportunities to give feedback and hear from community and provide a way to give more information about what's going on in town (app?), share data about traffic safety.
- Biking and walking to school: segment between route 7 and school, super narrow sidewalks, more room on sidewalks.
- Universal foundational commitment to walkability: every place in town can be accessed by walking/wheelchairs: bedrock policy.
- More information out to general public: lots of groups having open meetings and need to get the word out, those groups need to get out more information to the public.



- Kids on bikes went up and down north side and walkers stay on south side of Harbor Road.
- Town could put it to the voters to accumulate funds to acquire private property to widen bike paths and trails.
- Town policy of safety: about to redo zoning regs, every new permit could ask about enhancing safety for walkability.
- Look at South Burlington: plan it right so you don't have to retrofit it, every new development needs to plan how everyone is going to get around.
- Downtown village should we made walkable.
- Van and buses will reach people further out.

## Reflections of the Community Visit Team

- Holly Moorehouse: appreciate what you are navigating, energy and engagement is striking, future focused about what you want to preserve but also knowing growth is coming and want to plan for it.
- Strengths is around focus on walkability and safety, being specific about locations is great.
- Scary, fear for life is real.
- Where can I live? Work? Move? This is clearly high priority.
- Regional focus is huge.
- Ideas: locations, reports from past give jumpstart, how to preserve village and make it safe and nice to visit.
- Rachel Goldstein: noting appreciation of assets and trails, snow removal.
- Feelings of fear associated with bike routes.
- Need for bus routes.
- Where are those other transportation options?
- Learning from surrounding towns and villages, not unique to Shelburne.
- Darren: community really cares about the village, ties you together and is your identity.
- Lots of specific ideas, pull all those studies and plans together.
- Michele: respect for one another, you want to connect thru all these different things, and have more access.
- Include link to Vtrans website has a ton of data on route 7.

## Family & Community Connections

Visiting Team: Jessica Savage (FACILITATOR), Kim Rupe (SCRIBE), Rachel Goldstein, Michele Karode, Holly Morehouse, and Darren Schibler

### What are the Assets in this Area?

- The schools – large, centrally located, center of the community.
- Parks and Recreation – fairly inclusive athletically (until 4/5th grade) accessible way to include children and families.
- Many physical community gathering places – beach, apple orchard, etc.
- Farmers Market.
- Pierson Library.
- Several events that bring people together (Teddy Bear Factory has had many successful events of this capacity).
- Parks & Rec. series with concerts and events.
- After school programs – affordable.
- Active PTO.
- Number of strong individuals and community members who are bringing people together and making things happen (Alice).
- Biking – bike park and other public trails.
- A community that wants to be together and engage (fabric of the community).
- Local Boy Scout Troop.
- Very generous business community with their time and responses to fundraiser requests.
- Strong community response when tragedy strikes.
- FPF – very active and strong community resource.
- Shelburne craft schools.
- Four active churches in town serving as good gathering places.
- Local coffee shops.
- Pizza and beer restaurant.
- Shelburne Little League.
- Sledding locations in town.
- Athletic Club and Fieldhouse – entire community in itself.
- Community members who are willing to talk to each other and address each other.
- Local food pantry and other social services.
- Halloween Parade – different groups of people coming together for this.
- Mentoring programs within the schools.
- Shelburne Supermarket (also a place to connect).
- Christmas tree stand hosted by Boy Scouts.
- Local daily meal delivery for anyone who needs it.
- Strong local businesses in the heart of the community – strong shop local vibes.
- Fire/Police/EMS – safe, trustworthy, very community oriented.
- Lots of green space with many parks.
- Shelburne Farms.
- Open space and ability to be flexible on the grounds.

### What are the Challenges?

- There aren't enough playgrounds in town.
- Accessibility to childcare – unable to find childcare options within Shelburne.
- Not serving diverse communities due to lack of transportation options.
- Not all programs, services, and activities are equitable for all.
- Not any options for kids to go after school/in the summer for middle and high school ages.
- There is only one bus that is once a day to/from school at the high school level.
- Transportation in general.
- Limited safe places to ride your bikes (roads are too busy).

- Limited offerings within the rec. department (current offerings are great) but very focused on elementary ages and sports activities.
- Many of the offerings in the community that aren't inclusive to diverse communities.
- The Farmers Market and Athletic Club is expensive and a barrier to inclusivity.
- Limited activities for kids in Shelburne (would like to see a skatepark, pool, gymnastics, etc.) and families are driving outside of town for other activities.
- Stigma around utilizing the bus.
- Housing isn't affordable and continued rising costs.
- Hard to meet people who don't have kids or their kids are grown – not enough connections.
- Hard to get into the village area if you aren't within walking distance.
- Rec. department is solely focused on sports and only serving through middle school age – needing more options for older kids with activities beyond sports.
- Some non-profits not giving back to the community.
- Lack of childcare resources.
- Lack of parent forums to share ideas, resources, swap clothing/items, etc).
- Many barriers for people to get involved and not feeling as welcome – not all families are getting the same type of support.

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### **Opportunities: What Should Be Done / What Action Can Be Taken by the Community?**

- Develop a playground program with general drop off times/camp to leave kids there to play with supervision.
- Offer shuttle services for transportation around town.
- Open a teen center (where current firehouse is as a new location is being considered).
- Build a skatepark next to Davis Park.
- Build a community center that has a pool, skatepark – all things in one place for all types of individuals and families.
- Add a late bus to/from the high school to provide better and more transportation options.
- Add a pre-school to the public school that is universal for everyone.
- Increase early-education options (before preschool) for more access to childcare.
- Bring more events to the community, specifically around dancing and music.
- Offer a morning play time for 0-5 y/o (and their families).
- Better utilize indoor spaces for community gathering places/events such as the library, fieldhouse, etc.).
- Bring a playground to the village area.
- Bring a pool for community members to access.
- Offer affordable swim lessons.
- Increased programs for adults of all ages (ex: pickleball).
- More events in the community that offer an excuse for gathering.
- Offer more events that do not have costs associated as a way to attract more diverse individuals and families.
- Open registration earlier for the Park & Rec programs.
- Have a skating rink that is community run.
- Host a community swap event for clothing.
- Offer more group hobby gatherings.
- Address the health of our beaches and lake to better/safer swimming and research mitigation strategies.
- Support more afterschool programs for younger students such as art and theatre.
- Subsidize pay for childcare providers for more after school options.
- Bring back international community dinners at the school.
- Have the craft school serve students at middle/high school ages.
- Research other towns and what they are offering within their rec departments.
- Offer more town-wide ways to community beyond FPF such as a newsletter on what is happening and resources available.
- Host a large event/festival.
- Develop a community identity.
- Develop a nature center that is in or closer to Shelburne with educational programs.
- Host more community events during January – April for more social outlets during these harder/less social months to support community health.
- Host weekly/monthly community dinners.
- Groom more paths for walking and biking.
- Utilizing more existing space for rec department program expansions such as the town offices.
- Have a “Community Connector” on staff within the town to help bring/connect all community members and ideas together.
- Develop a town makerspace for people to share their skills and learn and connect from each other.
- Develop a walking path from the town to the beach.

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### **Reflections of the Community Visit Team**

- Common themes of utilizing space in town to better serve community members and bring events to life.
- Encouragement to connect with Vermont Afterschool for many of these older youth programming support.

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## Climate Resilience & Natural Resources

Visiting Team: Laura Cavin Bailey (FACILITATOR), Kim Rupe (SCRIBE), Ben Doyle, Bekah Kuster, David Scherr, Brian Shupe, and Emma Spett

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### What are the Assets in this Area?

- This is a community where people continue to show up and be engaged.
- There is a lot of open agricultural land.
- Priority in conserving land with a hope that this will conversation of maintain land will remain a priority.
- The town is very supportive of open space and there is a vote for maintain this at town meeting every year.
- Shelburne Farms is a benchmark for sustainability and best practices for the community.
- There are significant wildlife corridors that exist.
- Access to wildlife walking areas from main village.
- Two access points to Lake Champlain.
- Several nice parks within the town (Shelburne Pond and other river access trails).
- This is a very forested community.
- Various stormwater resources.
- There is a lot of forested private land that allows public access (informal resources on private lands for trail networks).
- There is a strong focus in the town plan on preservation of natural resources and protection.
- Many animals within the town – bobcats, bears, etc. (which also help control other populations such as ticks).
- Various nature programs that are within the school/community for children.
- Community gardens.
- Many activities for climate and natural resources in the community that are doing incredible work.
- Shelburne has a very hard-working road crew (especially their work on culverts).
- There is an environment in Shelburne that is conducive to the bobcat population (throughout Chittenden County as well).
- Meach Cove Farms.
- Bread & Butter Farm and other existing farms – help practice agriculture in the area.
- Strong stewardship ethic throughout community – there is very little trash in public area and Green Up Day participation is very strong as well.
- Shelburne Farmers Market.
- Community members in the town remain in dialog despite differing opinions – there continues to be the ability to communication amongst one another.
- CSA's.
- Number of small farming efforts that are growing in the area (as well as farms growing/expanding).

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### What are the Challenges?

- The use of herbicides and pesticides in town.
- There is a disconnect of water run off issues and further development happening (not aligning).
- Zebra mussels in Lake Champlain along the coastal areas.
- Water quality on the beaches – many people aren't swimming anymore and used to take part in this activity daily.
- Still using road salt.
- Hard to make historical (and other) existing buildings energy efficient.
- The increased amount of traffic on Route 7.
- Forest fragmentation.
- Increased impacts of climate change – constant rain this summer. The need to gather information/research for what is to come next with our climate and educating the community to plan.
- The lack of plans for crisis' management (flooding, wildfires, etc.).
- The need to mobilize enough people to address all of the challenges in the community (the need to sustain today's participation for all of these issues).
- Many of the issues facing Shelburne that are related to climate change (zebra mussels, nutrient loading in the lake, etc.) are at a very broad scale and need for support beyond Shelburne.
- Maintaining healthy ecosystems – increased pressure for housing development but needing to maintain climate/resilience issues as well.
- There is just as much urgency between housing and environmental challenges.
- The enormous responsibility for the wildlife in the area with the continued development – the need to support them more.
- The chemicals being swept into Lake Champlain and other bodies of water (ex: treatments used on athletic fields goes against many values).
- Invasive species in Shelburne and surrounding areas (huge problem with poison parsnip along the highway and many of these invasive species need hand removal).
- Many are not open to higher density housing.
- The pollinators are also facing serious problems (in addition to the bobcats and bears).
- Open space zoning issues.
- The pace of town government and the ability to implement projects, ideas, and initiatives.
- Low engagement from community for several existing committees.
- Keeping the sense of urgency for many of these climate related challenges.
- Perception and stigma around keeping lawns mono-cultured and well-tended versus the co-benefits of more wild spaces.
- Lack of infrastructure for walking/biking trails in town.

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## **Opportunities: What Should Be Done / What Action Can Be Taken by the Community?**

- Rewriting the current zoning bylaws.
- Forming a Climate Action Committee.
- Create a Climate Resilience Handbook on how to handle climate crisis' (flooding, wildfires, etc.).
- Organize a volunteer removal of invasive species.
- Think regionally and work with the adjacent towns to create plans together to preserve more land.
- Host a series of public education series to educate people on what they can do on their own properties to support the wildlife in the area (more opportunities for learning).
- Update the town plan to support these efforts and make sure that these regulations are in place for future developments.
- Have all municipal operations be carbon neutral by 2025.
- Encouraging more involvement in available conservation resources (and becoming more educated).
- Have thoughtful planning on how to engage new volunteers and residents in this work that may not have participated in the past.
- Ensure that students and youth feel encouraged to participate in these conversations and activities.
- Increase accessible communication so people can see what is going on in the community with easy ways to participate (without having to read full meeting minutes).
- Incentivize people to work on their own properties and best practices for climate resiliency.
- Have a staffed person in town to enforce what is being permitted.
- Create neighborhood groups for education and connection around some of these issues.
- Research what other towns have done successfully.
- Expand art around town that is also serving as educational purposes for community members (library has done this, storm drain to river artwork).
- Bring in experts to share impacts of chemical usage.
- Form citizen action groups to maintain and increase biodiversity of the town.
- Conduct short and long-term planning to address fragmentation (including funding for this).
- Updating maps of corridor areas and adding information of what is needs to be protected.
- Provide tax incentives for conservation easement.
- Have more communication to community on when critical decisions are being made so community members can participate and get involved easier (especially for those with limited availability who want to be active community member).
- Provide childcare during conversations like these so families can participate.
- Increase publicity for events/meetings so people know what is going on and how to get involved.
- Provide options online for community members to provide input and suggestions if they cannot attend a meeting in person and share existing links more broadly.
- Include a summary on FPF and/or Shelburne News of what is going on to increase participation and/or provide education.
- Update town website so it is more interactive and user friendly to involve more citizens.
- Bring this conversation more broadly to make sure ideas are continuously heard.
- Invite community members to share how they have been more environmentally conscious and the benefits.
- Engage with existing networks such as the Homeowner Associations as a way to reach out to larger groups and educate (& learn from) what they can do with their properties.
- Explore new laws and enforcements for some of these ideas presented and present to the Selectboard.
- Ensure that new developments have to preserve a certain percentage for open land (some laws in place already but explore ways to connect this open land across property lines and explore regulations on what to do with this land).
- Connect/Engage more people in the planning and rezoning process.
- Include the library in education opportunities for is going on in the community around these topics.
- Have every town committee host an evening once a year for the community to come and learn who they are and what they do.
- Find more information on when rezoning groups are meeting.
- Host tours of properties working on increasing biodiversity and wildlife connectivity.
- Follow the planning commission for increased updates.

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## **Reflections of the Community Visit Team**

- Incredibly impressed with the number of people engaged in this conversation and the energy in the room for these issues related to climate change and resilience.
- There are some funding opportunities within USDA Rural Development to address climate change and many of these specific areas that were brought up.
- Echoing of other funding opportunities and education resources, especially noted with Efficiency Vermont.
- If there are needs for data collection around the community UVM may be a conduit to support that effort.
- Continue to focus on how to reach people through community engagement.

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## Infrastructure: Buildings, Energy, Water/Wastewater, Internet

Visiting Team: Ben Doyle (FACILITATOR), Laura Cavin Bailey (SCRIBE), Bekah Kuster, David Scherr, Brian Shupe, and Emma Spett

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### What are the Assets in this Area?

- Drinking water is fabulous.
- Town Hall Building is gorgeous, set up is great, accessible with parking, bathrooms, a dynamo.
- High-speed high-quality internet in many parts of town.
- Fantastic public beach with easy access for families.
- Schools are great.
- Great road maintenance, snow clearing and sanding are really good.
- Access to Shelburne Farms.
- State run boat ramp and launch for kayaks and canoes – on Bay Rd.
- Pretty solid infrastructure, energy and gas pipes have no leaks.
- Walking and hiking trails throughout the community, some town owned land and a lot on privately owned land open to public access.
- Some trail association tried to map all of the trails.
- Davis park.
- Athletic fields, ice rink, field house.
- Fantastic library.
- Shelburne dog park.
- First responders.
- Wastewater system (pipes and pumps well maintained and a great superintendent).
- On the bus line.
- Community Gardens.
- Public safety.
- Has necessary amenities, drug store, grocery, post office, coffee shop.
- Sledding hill.
- LCYC and Shelburne Shipyard in Shelburne Bay-boat repair and marina.
- Shelburne Craft School.
- Playground and open spaces, public gathering places.
- Street Trees are huge asset.
- Central location to a lot of jobs both to north and south.
- Train tracks through town.
- Have a defined village (designated).
- Excellent farmers market.
- Town willing to listen and give input.
- Intact contiguous historic village.
- Regenerative farms.
- Library has roof solar, some other solar arrays around town.
- Very socially connected community - bump into people you know at the store, in town, etc.
- Industrial park exists.
- Relative to other VT towns, low property taxes.

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### What are the Challenges?

- Loss of locally accessible medical facility.
- Some missing facilities – Emergency trucks, community school still in temporary trailers.
- To grow and add development the town needs to upgrade treatment facilities, which are undersized.
- No protected bike lanes around so roads feel (and are) unsafe.
- Roads are unmarked with bike/walk lanes (white lines).
- Difficult to access areas of town as a pedestrian with missing sidewalks in key places.
- No state requirement to fence water retention ponds and the town does not have that requirement, leaves decision on homeowners associations and is dangerous.
- State owned Route 7, not full town control over that road.
- Traffic on all roads, Route 7. Falls road, spear street, etc.
- No community center for seniors, youth and everything in between to host a large community gathering.
- Mobile service is not good throughout town.
- Could be more choice of internet providers (broadband).
- Not fully accessible village, missing sidewalk areas, physical barriers exist.
- Bus schedule doesn't work well for workers.
- Energy infrastructure is still too reliant on fossil fuels.
- Municipal town offices old and rely on fossil fuels.
- Current fire station and rescue areas is too small, undersized and inadequate – potential place for public safety expansion.
- Limited capital resources and finances.
- Wastewater/fire station/rescue/stormwater big infrastructure challenges.
- Limited interested voters/town in the town to increase property taxes.
- No capital plan for buildings.
- Town has bonding capacity, but determining how much the town wants to take on is unknown.
- Inadequate housing in the region.
- Homeless population.
- Water delivery has a lot of older pipes in the system.
- Wastewater and water fees (users are the only ones who pays) are some of the highest in Chittenden County, costs for maintenance and upgrades will likely have to be added to that fee.
- Not enough and very limited childcare and afterschool care.
- Shopping plaza in town is prime piece of land and mostly a large parking area.
- Aging communication infrastructure for fire/rescue, backbone of the system is outdated with a lot of band aids.
- Limitation of rental housing that appeals to younger families.
- Lacking safe pedestrian crossing on Route 7 north of town.
- Kids can't get around town safely.
- Safe places for kids to be afterschool.
- Compromised water quality at beach/lake and at Shelburne Pond.
- Town is understaffed.
- Majority of town staff, rescue, fire are all out of town residents.

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## Opportunities: What Should Be Done / What Action Can Be Taken by the Community?

- Attract kids activity type businesses (ex: mini golf) that would support family centered activities for things to do with kids with incentives (tax breaks) or other means.
- Solidify the understanding of the position for employees in town services, office, rescue, and incentivize locals to take apply/join.
- Educate/build awareness of the current infrastructure that is in the town.
- Develop a capital plan that is accessible to all and describes needs to improve systems, water, sewer, etc.
- Better address the staffing deficit in the town, likely due to the job market (hard to find), and funds to pay them.
- Build a public safety facility, fire, rescue, police in one location.
- Explore a director of public works position to help coordinate infrastructure work.
- Look into other financial opportunities beyond taxing residents.
- Look to other towns that have solved some of these issues, go consult with folks who've faced these problems (aging infrastructure).
- Town wide standardization of summarizing the pros/cons to any taxation idea in an accessible and easy to understand way.
- Stand up a paid grant writer baked into whatever process emerges.
- Develop an economic development committee working toward increasing industrial park use.
- Getting more green infrastructure into stormwater projects or permits.
- Inventory existing capital projects in the pipe line that have been approved and get them built, ex: beach house (starting after labor day!), bridge over falls road, etc.
- Need to articulate the capital plan and share with residents.
- As revised zoning changes, consider how to protect neighborhoods along route 7, how to buffer high density development abutting neighborhoods in a thoughtful way.
- Develop a capital plan.
- Develop a pavement management plan for improving roads, bike lanes, lines, crack sealing, overlays, full depth reconstruction so the community can better assess needs.
- Town gets behind implementing better bike paths (beyond planning).
- Consider combining services with other communities for shared costs/administrative aspects/building infrastructure.

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## Reflections of the Community Visit Team

- Any endeavor needing some research support UVM Center for community engagement could support those efforts.
- Resilience Planning – 1st step situational awareness, 2nd diversity thinking of infrastructure (ex: limited N-S routes to travel), 3rd step integration: opportunities for problems brought up tonight to be thought of cross scales.
- Working with other towns, region, state to share the burden of infrastructure.
- Importance of coming together with your neighbors to achieve actions.
- Cultural infrastructure is very developed and plentiful in town – Shelburne farms, Shelburne museum, etc.
- External resources exist for projects to get underway, technical assistance, grants, feasibility studies, these can be tapped into more.
- Themes emerging between sessions is around education, understaffing/capacity, consider addressing multiple issues in tandem across forum topics.
- There is a very broad definition of infrastructure, social, cultural, private, and physical, which has a lot going for the town.
- The commitment to the town came through in conversations.
- Capital planning as important and annual budget planning for the town.
- It all starts with the infrastructure, it's necessary and inevitable.

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## Local Economy: Business, Agriculture, Tourism, Arts

Visiting Team: Jenna Koloski (FACILITATOR), Brian Lowe (SCRIBE), Leslie Black-Plumeau, Seth Bowden, Kristen Brassard, Chris Donnelly, Susan Evans McClure, and Nathan Lantieri

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## What are the Assets in this Area?

- Education system – people move here, exceptional system.
- Webb family.
- Natural beauty in the town.
- Feel of a community village but near Burlington.
- Lots happening – arts, theater...a lot for a small town.
- Farm, Museum, Teddy Bear, Craft school...many great organizations; Craft School has adult programming too.
- Echo the Museum.
- Shelburne shipyard and harbor.
- Peace and quiet...not hustle bustle.
- People themselves ... lots of volunteers, a culture of volunteerism in town.
- Café, wine store, brewery & Vineyard ... wonderful to have in town.
- Best kept roads in the state in the winter.
- Lots of ag land, lots of conservation and parks.
- Improvements over 20 years in terms of accessibility (bike path on webster road, sidewalks on rt 7.
- Historic character of the downtown, including the country store.
- Fiddlehead brewing.
- Flying Pig ... people love it.
- Toy store in town.
- Birding in Shelburne is remarkable.

- Shelburne Orchards.
- Bread and Butter Farm – both for CSA and for kids programming.
- Local Farmers Market.
- The Lake!
- Shelburne Players (local theater troupe).
- Town Hall – it has air conditioning.
- Art Gallery.
- Great array of rec programs for kids and for adults.
- Town beach and boating access.
- Culture of generosity – businesses willing to give, philanthropy is well established in community.

- Shelburne Village Dog Park.
- Wake Robin.
- Shelburne Pond.
- Local yarn store.
- Whole Harbor – the yacht club.
- Shelburne Farms – incredible natural asset.
- VT Teddy Bear.
- Nature preserve – trails and kayaking.
- Sense of community partnerships and relationships.
- Middle School Mentoring program.
- Field House and Athletic Club.

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## What are the Challenges?

- Rt 7 development - risk of turning into South Burlington and desire to balance needed development with preserving the village feel.
- Industrial Park – but not a lot of awareness of what is happening, confusion if a well-used resource.
- We need business, too – not just housing.
- Rt 7 traffic congestion (others second that ... this is a huge issue and it detracts from the town, people don't come because of it ... it is the barrier to new housing).
- Need diversity of development – needing more family-oriented development planning, like gymnastics center or skating rink...families have to drive out of Shelburne to find activities especially in the winter for indoor activities (others second that).
- Congestion on Rt 7 leads to more traffic / speeding in residential areas (i.e., Spear St.).
- Parade Ground – is this the right investment, and we should spend the funds on town staff.
- Rt 7 – lots of empty, abandoned properties ... what are we doing with these properties before we put in lots of new things (new business, new housing, etc.).
- Form-Based Code is focused on buildings and not property usage.
- Lack of hotel rooms in the immediate area – makes it harder for tourists. Inn is great, but small and expensive – others echo this.

- Parking in village can be a challenge.
- Sense of volunteerism ... but some of the local boards are extremely time consuming and require steeper and steeper learning curves ... hard to get more diverse participation.
- How do we connect our resources and promote them collectively – farm, Teddy Bear, etc.
- Governance structure makes harder solutions like the Rt7 corridor...let's think about different democratic practices that could help us as a town advance these complex projects ... we are stuck and not able to get to collective decisions.
- Municipal needs are outstripping resources coming in, causing taxes to skyrocket ... property taxes have gone up 18 percent in three years.
- Need for long-term capital planning.
- Voter turnout as a challenge.
- Not a wide range of housing options in Shelburne; those that exist are also prohibitively expensive.
- Need a barber shop.
- Affordable housing.
- If you have some affordable housing + high end market rate housing, you won't have young families or folks with middle incomes able to move here.
- Few people engage in public processes (outside of voting).
- Parade ground investment impact on Farmers Market.

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## Opportunities: What Should Be Done / What Action Can Be Taken by the Community?

- Inclusionary Zoning requirements – could this be something Shelburne considers?
- Incentives for family friendly businesses.
- Perhaps review the report from the town finance committee years ago to consider those recommendations for future economic development.
- Evaluate long-term capital planning and those growing costs in relation to what the community wants to see.
- Village shuttle that moves around the town.
- Turn the overgrown parking lot into a park and ride on Harbor Road (need to work with VT Railroad).
- Programs like Leadership Champlain to support younger leaders (maybe young professionals group).
- Is there a park and ride south of town and could that help alleviate some of the traffic congestion along Rt 7.
- Increasing the sidewalk options, even to include a pedestrian bridge over Rt 7.
- Connectivity strategy for different paths and trails – how to connect these different options.
- Bike Path Committee is working on a strategic plan and is seeking input + finalizing that plan for the fall ... they need information and input. Notice of very disconnected neighborhoods.
- Improve ways to access what is happening in the town – needing just a simple newsletter.
- Revamped town website to share upcoming things – clear, digestible information on where/how to get info (like a centralized page for links).
- Local paper could dedicate more space to upcoming town topics.
- Lots of siloed email lists. Not a single town list, and that could be very helpful to all.
- Our committee structure balkanizes issues. Is there a way to use a master email list so all people hear the different committee work, rather than only those on the specific committee list.

- Better understanding of economic drivers locally could inform a future vision + strategic choices we have as a community. Do we actually want to invest in attracting tourists or is that time and energy better served in say, affordable housing.
- Is there a way the town website could allow people to share information or feedback back to the town.
- Integrated plan or strategic plan for Ag and Housing, particularly on the eastern half of town. That empty space on the east side of town could be housing, but would be better if it was integrated into a broader plan for Ag, Tourism, and Housing needs.
- Echo from group on housing pressure and need to be proactive around thoughtfully addressing this resource over time. What is the zoning out there currently (10acre) and there is real potential to cluster development and transfer development rights so that some of those large tracts can stay open.
- Is there a comprehensive tourism plan? We have 4 or 5 major attractions, and could be a significant draw if we want that.
- There's a town plan. Maybe time to revisit the town plan. Lots of competing goals and not a lot of awareness among the group of what is in it.
- Winter Lights event 2 years in a row. We need more of these winter events can become economic development drivers ... like Booth Bay Maine.
- Taste of Shelburne events to promote local business.
- 4 – 5 farms with a day to celebrate them – using the new town shuttle we just dreamed up!.
- More advertising about the Shelburne players.
- More housing on farms for farm workers.
- Tiny home villages in Vermont. Is there a way to connect tiny homes and farm worker efforts? That's something at least one of the Shelburne farms might be interested in.
- Reimagine the core town center if the fire department moves locations.
- Needs of some of our businesses and farms can be in conflict – strategic planning effort to balance needs of Rt 7 corridor, impacts of increasing tourism on Rt 7 but also the open space on the east side.
- Consider pursuing a designated downtown concept. Review the report 2 or 3 years old now that considered this. There may be things we could do, learning from Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes.
- Safe mobility within the Village core is necessary for economic development to occur.
- Share more input in the zoning regulation review that is underway right now!
- Increasing the number of staff if we want to advance many of these projects.

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## Reflections of the Community Visit Team

- Great list of assets! What a community.
- All the ideas for action you have are feasible ... some are big, but all are fundamentally achievable. In particular, holding up an effort to consolidate some of the different email lists AND the potential strategic planning effort on the east side of town.
- Low hanging fruit and in particular around the communications opportunities – making it easier for residents to know what is happening in a community.
- In particular, emphasizing paths and moments for decision-making.
- The different housing ideas – inclusionary zoning, the idea of cluster development...very important, and just as importantly, the town already has the zoning re-write underway...that is the vehicle by which action could occur.
- Struck by agreement in the room on a number of issues – there is some cohesion around potential tensions and projects already... that is a great starting place for a community.
- A lack of holistic planning as a fundamental challenge ... neighborhoods and committees are separate entities, separate communication channels.
- Lack of staff capacity could be a related challenge.

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## Housing for All

Visiting Team: Brian Lowe (FACILITATOR), Jenna Koloski (SCRIBE), Leslie Black-Plumeau, Seth Bowden, Kristen Brassard, Chris Donnelly, Susan Evans McClure, and Nathan Lantieri

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### What are the Assets in this Area?

- Wright House.
- Great community school for young families.
- Champlain Housing trust and depot square.
- Great family neighborhoods.
- Condos.
- Natural resources and open space, conserved land.
- Meadow wood senior living.
- Town water and sewer.
- Wake Robin and the Arbors.
- Range of housing types.
- Fire and rescue.
- Excellent highway department keep the roads clear and safe.
- Public Transit.
- It's worth noting that Shelburne may be one of the higher income communities but we have a broad range of types of housing.
- Many of the businesses are owned by people living in the community so there is a lot of care.
- We have route 7 running through town so we have access to other communities.
- We have bus service.
- For a lot of the housing areas there are resources for kids – playgrounds, parks, bike trails.
- We have a rec path and beach which are great facilities.
- Internet Access.
- A sprit of generosity – the Shelburne residents who raised half a year rent for an Afghan family recently.



- A variety of local businesses. Not every town has a hardware store, bookstore, café, etc.
- We have good schools and schools that have a lot of supportive services in them.
- We have sidewalks in the town center.
- We have neighborhoods with high density so you can have neighbors but also more rural, less dense options.
- We generally have a sense of community. The scale of neighborhoods lends itself to the sense of community as well as other things like schools and parks. A strong sense of place.
- The library.
- The Shelburne News – having a community newspaper.
- We have an active Front Porch Forum.
- This is a welcoming place, a welcoming community.

### **What are the Challenges?**

- There is not enough housing for different income levels. The Bearded Frog closed because they don't have enough staffing because people couldn't find housing.
- General affordability is a challenge.
- There is no connection between neighborhoods. It's hard for kids to be able to bike or walk to visit friends.
- Less transportation for people who live off the main corridor. This discourages people from moving here.
- There is a culture of using litigation to fight any new housing development, especially for lower income range.
- Every other town I have worked in, it's possible to walk to work. The Town Manager contract is \$110,000 and I can't buy here.
- I know many people who would love to work here but there is nothing affordable. There is no workforce housing.
- There is no housing to downsize to.
- No housing for disabled people who need a high level of support. People that grew up here but then disappear into their parent's homes because there is no housing for them.
- Lack of breadth in zoning that allows for affordable housing to be built.
- Just trying to build as an individual is really expensive. Most builders want to build something fancy and big. It's hard to go affordable and simple, and then have rentals that could be affordable down the line.
- There appears to be a bit of resistance among the community to high density housing.
- The school has capacity to educate Afghan refugees and integrate them into the community but once funds run out for refugee resettlement they can't afford to live in this community. And they have great services there.
- We have transient housing here. Families come in and integrate into school, but then they can't be housed here so they have to move out of district.
- The houses are big. Families are smaller or people are elderly and the houses are bigger than what people want.
- It is hard to plan ahead here because there are limited rental options. Often cheaper options involve remediation on top of the cost of the house.
- We have empty large buildings but zoning is not allowing those to be converted to housing. I would love to see a zoning change to allow us to do that.
- In-laws are trying to build an ADU on our property. It can get quite expensive – there is a lot that goes into it and we have been in a planning process for many months and have not made much headway. ADUs could be a good solution for these issues but it is complex.
- There is no housing available for the people in the homeless community. 211 isn't even answering calls after hours to try and get housing. Also lack of services that go along with housing needs – mental health, healthcare, food insecurity, issues with communication. There are social services that go along with the housing issues. When you don't have those services then getting into housing is impossible. It feels like a never-ending circle.
- Affordable housing/low income housing – whatever you want to call it, it's not here. CHT, Cathedral Square do the best they can and Harbor Place is a good stop gap, but it's short term.
- While we have lots of fabulous businesses in town there are not places that are affordable for people in town. Choices are local grocery store or food shelf.
- There is a stigma about Shelburne in the rest of Vermont. Shelburne is where rich people live. We should try and be more open and welcoming so we can break that stigma down. That is a barrier to people wanting to be here.

### **Opportunities: What Should Be Done / What Action Can Be Taken by the Community?**

- We have ARPA funds. It should be going to help the people who need housing and other basic needs. It's nice to beautify Shelburne but there is a use of that money that should be directed to needs. (Federal funding that came out during the pandemic).
- Change our zoning laws to encourage accessory dwelling units (ADUs) – it is difficult with the current zoning we have.
- Charge developers impact fees and offset fees for affordable housing requirements to support affordable housing if they are developing market rate housing – add a fee to the development of market rate housing to create a pool for affordable housing development incentives.
- Relax zoning on farms to allow for workforce housing to be developed on farms.
- We should learn from other towns what has worked and not worked – in Vermont or beyond.
- We shouldn't be afraid to be the first to do something.
- We should focus on affordable housing in the Village – our core. Accessible to shopping and other needs. Makes for a cozier, more neighborly town.
- There has been state regulation about allowing for duplexes. We could take it further – we could make a requirement that there is an affordable option in every market rate housing development.
- We are in the process of rewriting our zoning in town. There is a tremendous opportunity to encourage the right kind of development.
- The time to engage in the zoning rewrite process is now.

- Shelburne could be the first place in Vermont to redefine what affordable actually is and actually means.
- Affordable in one town could be very different from affordable in another town.
- Zoning has a history of ties to racism. We need to look at not what is included but what is excluding. We need to think about economic class and race and make this not such a white community.
- Turn the creamery and old hotels into affordable housing.
- Since we have the new local options tax, because the hotels and motels are filled with people with housing challenges, there is no lodging. If there was a place for tourists to stay, they could spend their money here and we could gain from that local options tax.
- It's not an either/or – it's an and.
- Create more rental housing.
- Look at models for shared ownership and cooperatives – like tiny house villages – shared land and you own your own house.
- What we don't do as people is talk about what is affordable housing? Who are the people who need affordable housing? It could be your child who can't afford to live in the community. We need to do more education, story-telling, interviews, etc. Put it on a website and newspaper, Front Porch Forum. Promote compassion and understanding. We don't communicate well enough so people understand that this could impact your family. We need more storytelling.
- I think there is a real lack of knowledge. I don't think we actually know how many different units we have. We need to start with an inventory. (The housing committee has a housing pamphlet posted that tries to give a snapshot of what our housing picture is).
- The housing committee has put together a booklet that takes a look at the housing stock in Shelburne. Types of housing, where it is, age of housing, "workforce" housing – try and give a good overview of the situation in the town.
- The housing committee could consider a housing needs assessment.
- Smaller footprint housing type is needed and popular in Shelburne.
- We should be proactive about planning for the growth that is coming our way. We could be more explicit about the type of housing that we want to have. We need to be thinking decades ahead. More intentional design.
- Contractors are really expensive and that is a component of building housing. Maybe we need to have more people learn to work in the trades. We need more people to learn carpentry, plumbing, etc.
- Wrap around services and support for tenants. Publicize on Front Porch Forum what tenant rights are. If there aren't apartment complexes, there are a lot of single-family homes and garages. Prices are based on Burlington prices. Every apartment around here was \$2000 a month. The communities are lovely so it makes sense to pay that for a mortgage and buy a home, but it is challenging to pay that in rent and then the tenant may not have an avenue for support or rights in that housing.
- If we're talking about adding housing, we need to talk about social services so that if we do add housing, we are prepared to offer social services to some of that community as the need arises.
- The Food Shelf may be an opportunity to offer those wrap around services. We see a lot of those folks and that could be a way to get services to them.
- There will always be unhoused people and we need to build a shelter.
- In the past, contractors won't build here because they have to go through the town boards so many times and it is burdensome.
- Look at and change the high tax burden in town.
- Housing needs to be on the bus line or we need to figure out how to increase transportation to and from Shelburne. We need to get the bus to run more and later. Expand out to Dorset Street, Spear Street.
- We specifically need more Section 8 housing. We only have a few so we need to expand that so there are more options.
- Open space is so valuable. It is another thing we need to consider when we think about development. We are able to look out and see field and open space and that is valuable for people who live here.
- We need to think intentionally about how we can expand bus services beyond Rt 7. If we only build along rt 7 then it's modern day red lining. There are places that can provide flexibility with mixed incomes access to places to enjoy open spaces, the beach, etc.
- Take inventory along the Rt 7 corridor and the lots that are ripe for redevelopment. Then we don't lose open spaces. Incentivize redevelopment. Maybe taking down the one-story building and put in something with more density done in a style and design that Shelburne would approve of. It is possible to have both things, but we do need to incentivize and encourage developers to do that.
- We need to work with the county transportation provider. The buses that come down here are never full. We could be more efficient with smaller buses that are more spread out.
- The form based code that we have was development many years ago and is being reviewed at the moment.
- As we build new housing we need to put into our zoning requirements that they need to be green housing that are energy efficient.
- We need to pay attention to the zoning rewrite and be involved. You can see FPF for planning commission announcements The Agendas and minutes are shared. It will be a very effective level for these issues if we can do this correctly.
- Perhaps there is room for revision for how we deal with historic preservation to allow for renovation for modern uses.
- We should be careful about the language we use – affordable is understood a certain way. Maybe we should be thoughtful about how we talk about the issue.
- Identify types of housing we want to see, locations that might be optimal, I just wonder how we can be more proactive about building relationships with developers to share our vision and encourage them rather than just waiting and hoping someone will show up.
- We should look at what is going on with the 2 developments in Hinesburg and Middlebury. In both cases they are in walking distance of the Village and they include a lot of green space,

- walking paths, playgrounds. These are creative developments and they are partnerships with NRG and the College – cooperative efforts. If we could identify that strategy, we could find a location in town to do something similar.
- Many towns use interim zoning to give themselves time and space to look at a specific area and how they want it to be developed.

- Give tax breaks to landlords who convert their properties into green living spaces. Even if they aren't living there themselves, the renters could avail themselves of the green living, both could benefit. There is no program or process to do this collaboratively. Would love to see that at the town or state level.

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## Reflections of the Community Visit Team

- If I was in this room 10 or 12 years ago I'm not sure I would have heard so much compassion and openness to welcoming. This is your chance with the zoning rewrite to act on this. Kudos for having this conversation. Someone mentioned inclusionary zoning – the gold standard is to couple it with a trust fund. This can really double down and make that zoning most effective.
- This is a great place to be for people of all ages...if you can afford to live here. The conversation took 2 tracks – the policy track and the culture track. Everyone is pumped about zoning! The culture piece is also interesting. Develop shared language, build an inclusive culture – that conversation clearly needs to go a little deeper. Bring in other people to that conversation. I encourage you all to keep at that and I'm excited to see where that goes.
- I am excited by all of your ideas. Some of the themes that I heard was reducing the cost of housing – it costs a lot right now! The cost of one apartment went up 78% percent in the

last 5 years. Developers are facing increased costs, but you talked about some ways to address that – and increasing the supply of inputs to housing like labor. You talked about inclusionary zoning to require developers to build a certain amount of affordable housing. There are resources (town and other) to continue to explore. Zoning is your most powerful lever and it effects the price of housing. Right now is the opportunity to weigh in. All of the ideas here are worth inputting and you can make a huge difference. Third theme was about defining as a community what we mean by more affordable housing here. A housing needs assessment is a really good way to tell the story of who can't live here now alongside storytelling.

- Something that wasn't in the room tonight was that stigma – and the opposition around affordable housing. I heard a lot of hope and optimism as well as some trepidation about now knowing how to get there, but a collective sense that we want to get there together as a community.

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## Ideas from Shelburne Youth

As shared in a group conversation with Shelburne youth on August 9, 2023.

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### What do you love about Shelburne?

- There are a lot of close places to play sports – Field house, lacrosse.
- Afterschool you can walk into town and get ice cream.
- We have a lot of friends – always someone around.
- Farmer's Market – always fun to visit.
- Tennis courts – use them a lot to play tennis and pickleball.
- A lot of outdoor places to walk your dog and go for walks.
- Small town – walking around, you will see someone you know.
- The library – a lot of books for reading, the librarians are really nice, know who you are what type of books you like, and activities and things you can bring home.

- County Store – can get candy.
- Little coffee shops in the same place – one right near my house.
- The bookstore – a lot of books and.
- Filino's pizza.
- Most of the stores are local, not big chains.
- You don't have to go far to get a lot of stuff because there is a supermarket, clothing stores – you can get things locally.

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### What is something you worry about or don't enjoy about living in Shelburne?

- May Road – really busy and cars drive really fast. To bike to school, have to go on that road – if there were sidewalks we could bike to school.
- Not having frozen yogurt – and the one in Williston is weird.
- Climate change – I think that's a global one >> when a lot of climate change happens, it's not good for anyone, it kills a lot of animals, and can kill a lot of animals and starts a chain reaction and can kill more animals and humans.
- When it rains for rec lacrosse, the fields don't drain well.
- A lot of dead animals – need safer animal crossing.
- Shelburne is a really small town – but Route 7 is a really big road that goes through it with lots of traffic (I hate Route 7!).
- A lot of schools don't have good lawnmowers and then it's hard to play lacrosse bc the grass is too long.

- When it's rainy, there's not a lot of places you can go to do things – you have to drive pretty far to get places.
- Healthy Living/pile of rocks – I need that Healthy Living! I love Healthy Living because they have very good smoothies – whenever I want it I have to drive to South Burlington.
- Farms need to be more secure – ducks that almost got hit by the car.
- No saltwater beach or amusement parks.
- More theater programs in Vermont that are actually good.
- Try not to make buildings – keeping buildings older and nice because Shelburne has that type of vibe – small and pretty Village feelings – amusement park – wouldn't want it to be too developed.
- A lot of students want to live in Shelburne and move back.

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## What ideas do you have to make Shelburne a better place to learn, live, and play?

- Build a zoo.
- A lot of people aren't composting.
- A swimming pool in Shelburne – maybe at the field house. Only ones per neighborhoods. Have to drive 30 minutes.
- They need to do construction faster – because they stop in the middle and forget about it – takes a really long time – projects get stalled.
- Build a waterpark “That’s kind of ruining the vibe of Vermont.”
- Build an amusement park.
- Some sort of trash cleanup program – see a lot of trash on the streets.
- More sidewalks.
- An outdoor turf field.
- Community building where people can go after school – Field house isn't open to everyone. Games, a few fields? Multigenerational space – for everyone.
- Outside fields at the field house needs light – upgrades to the athletic fields.
- Amusement or water park might not be the best idea – if it is 5 or 10 minutes away it will be boring – then when you go on vacation not as fun.
- On the side of the road, I normally bike a lot of places, some of the bike lanes go so your tire barely fits – bigger bike lanes and more bike lanes.
- Have a tiny miniature trampoline park here – like a mini get air.
- Another animal shelter – only one in Shelburne and closed because of covid – pet shelter (Tried to adopt a pig from a shelter in Maine).
- Cat café or board game café.
- Arcade.
- People need to actually talk to people more – they say that we give everyone what they need, but they don't actually know what the people need – never talked to anyone about what they need >>.
- have suggestion boxes in classrooms – put your issues you are having. We have that but the teacher never checks in.
- Public buildings so people have a place to share ideas.
- Add more to the field house – arcade and pool. It's also close to the school.
- Add a pet store close by – I've been trying to get a snake and the closest one is 3 hours away.
- Public pool, and think it should be free for kids who want to swim or cool off after school. Not need to bring money to school.
- Community pool – free for people who live locally or go to school in Shelburne.
- A few more fields in the field house – only 2, would be nice if 4.
- We don't need a big arcade and big waterparks –we need a very small arcade or waterpark. A building with just that wouldn't have to be too big – a big building would ruin the vibe – what if you put it in South Burlington.
- We don't have that much space to build unless we cut down trees – want to keep the amount of forest we have, because right now there's bears in my garage.
- Cut down minimal amount of trees as possible – make Shelburne really pretty.
- A bunch of houses being built in Shelburne that are forcing me out – big woods in my backyard and then you keep walking and there's a huge hill with houses.
- Important to preserve nature and trees – don't like how much housing development – really big.

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## Additional Action Ideas

Here are the ideas residents contributed through a paper and online form

- Housing for people of different levels of income.
- small varied restaurants to complement what we already have.
- nice walking trails, expand them.
- upkeep of beach.
- keep the idea of smallness but many economic opportunities.
- emphasize Shelburne Museum and Shelburne Farms.
- Protect and conserve our forest blocks and habitat connectors in our town regulations!
- Conservation of land in the rural and residential areas to preserve forested areas, connect habitat blocks and facilitate movement between neighborhoods.
- As a young mom of three young children, there are some aspects of Shelburne that are lovely. However, there are also some challenges as well: lack of affordable groceries in town, lack of connectivity beyond the village and within neighborhoods to community centers, the depressing prospect of abandoned buildings and un-leased properties along Rt 7 that could have much potential. Here are some suggestions for changes in the town that would improve young families' lives and foster community connections.
  - 1) Walkable path along Bostwick Rd to connect to town beach.
  - 2) walkable path along harbor roads and bay roads connecting ti-haul path to Shelburne farms.
  - 3) an affordable grocery store on Rt 7 to occupy the land of one of the abandoned motels. We should not have to spend \$8 for a box of Wheaties at the Shelburne market because there is no competition in town.
  - 4) activities for families with children! An ice rink or community pool at the site of the Shelburne field house or near the teddy bear factory. Gymnastics gym, rock climbing gym, paint your own pottery studio. I am constantly driving out of Shelburne to ESSEX to satisfy the needs of my active children. With a vibrant and young population, I believe we should have some more opportunities for extracurriculars our own community.
- Respect and do our best to conserve Shelburne's quintessential “Vermont village/small-town community” nature so close to Burlington despite the encroaching urban

pressures. This is why so many of us have chosen to live in Shelburne instead of Burlington (nor in: S. Burlington, Williston and other areas that are becoming urban extensions of Burlington).

- Do our best to protect and maintain the precious wildlife corridors and green spaces that make our town so inviting to tourists AND residents.
- Try to minimize the addition of traffic to route 7 through our town as best we can, via our Planning & Zoning and other town decisions. As the bottleneck increases on route 7: more and more people are choosing to avoid driving into Shelburne village for its wonderful stores and services. Almost everyone in Shelburne is impacted by “parking lot” traffic waits on route 7 -- as are those who want to shop in our town or simply pass through. We are currently adding significant housing in the “land-locked” region (2.5 miles from Allen road to Webster road where you can’t climb up to Spear Street. nor try to evade route 7 logjams due to the lake and RR tracks to the west). This is a car-dependent state arterial highway (over 26K vehicles per day in 2016 near where I live. SEE: Walkscore.com and then just simply look at what those of us living along this stretch face on route 7: we are fortunate to have a sidewalk (during good weather), but you can’t walk -- and really don’t want to risk your life cycling -- to schools, churches, the library, grocery stores or even our town offices that are all about 2-3 miles away (depending upon where you live along route 7). This is an arterial highway that has grown to cater to a car culture. Sadly: adding lots of residences in this section of town will add many more cars with new residents dependent upon driving to get to work, school events, grocery stores, et al. (I sincerely hope some will use the bus service; it’s currently once/hour but might be more frequent with more demand. Still: it reaches limited locations and can pose safety issues during the winter when plows push snow onto the sidewalks. Sadly: adding more residents and cars to this land-locked area of Shelburne will only add traffic and time delays for those trying to travel on route 7 through our town.
- Reduce highway traffic through Shelburne village. Route 7 has become a serious N-S highway with excessive truck and auto traffic undermining quiet village setting.
- Can’t we get the train used for freight and people transport?
- What about more pedestrian and bike paths?
- Keep the parade grounds true to their historic nature and current use. I’ve lived in Shelburne village for 35+ years and have enjoyed the parade grounds the whole of that time as a green open space with limited to no development.
- Keep the semi-rural nature of most of Shelburne, with any growth concentrated in the village center. It is the open, natural part of Shelburne that is special to most of its residents. Most residents don’t want it to grow in size or concentration of housing.
- Consolidate town regulations into an approachable document; ideally with checklists and various tools to help developers, homeowners, and residents navigate processes under regulatory oversight. This will require either dedicated staff to support volunteer groups, or a consultant(s) to help with the framework.
- More experiences/events that bring the town together around the arts (arts walk) or farming (farm visit day), or even just celebrate local businesses day. Some sort of intentional organization around land development (e.g., open spaces on the eastern edge of town, east of Spear St.), also, organizing around how to improve traffic flow through the heart of town.
- Change the regulations regarding composting toilets and other similar water saving devices. I believe this might be a state requirement that properties must have either septic or municipal waste water on their property so maybe nothing can be done at our town level. But, at least making it easier, if possible to install and permit these.
- To make Shelburne as accessible and connected as possible without driving a car. To prioritize pedestrians and cyclists, providing lanes physically separate from traffic to encourage and increase accessibility for all ages and abilities. To calm traffic, so that the village core is not a commuter throughway.
- To invest in our infrastructure and support local businesses.
- build a playground on Laplatte Circle near the community gardens.
- Establish a sidewalk in front of the Shelburne Country Store. Currently there is no “correct” pathway for a pedestrian in that area. All of the surface area around the front of the store is dedicated to a roadway or parked cars.
- The priority should be on vital infrastructure (like the new fire station and ambulance center) and maintaining what we have (schools, roads, existing parks, etc). We need to stop all the push to grow the size of Shelburne and add mass amounts of housing. None of us moved here to live in an urban environment. The planning commission and selectboard are loaded (literally like a stacked deck) with pro-development people, like architects, etc. In the meantime, at least two very good candidates who were not clearly pro-growth were not selected for openings on the planning commission in the past year or so. very curious. While pushing a pro-growth agenda may benefit the current set of SB and PC members, it’s not what the majority of the community wants. I’m well aware we have a housing shortage, but it’s not Shelburne’s responsibility to do more than its fair share to fix the problem by pushing such an aggressive pro-growth agenda.
- S-100 has been passed by the state of Vermont to encourage a reasonable amount of growth in housing. It would behoove us to abide by it with our updated zoning, but not to allow MORE than the minimum that S.100 prescribes, as our present form-based code zoning does in many areas, which we all agree was and still is a disaster.
- Shelburne is not an urban area like Burlington (or what Winooski is becoming) and people who moved here did so because of that. Let’s preserve that quant semi-rural character by controlling our growth and permitted housing densities.
- The selectboard needs to do a better job of transparency and early involvement of our residents when they are looking at new projects. The village green pavilion debacle is a very clear example of what happens when the selectboard thinks they know best, when they really don’t and can’t possibly always do.
- Housing: grow our local Habitat for Humanity impact in a big way. Form a team to drive in-town donations and labor, including finding and donating suitable parcels for new homes. Volunteering together on home builds is a great way to make

friends and learn DIY skills! We could set a town goal of building one Habitat house every year.

- Green Mountain Transit needs to stay fare-free! The Town doesn't pay very much to support the #6 bus. Let's step up and support simple, accessible public transit. Try the bus tomorrow!
- Housing: sponsor an architects' contest for the Model Cottage of Shelburne Village. The winner gets a prize and great publicity. The result is a permit-ready set of standard plans, which any homeowner or builder can use for free. The Town guarantees rapid approval if using the standard plans. This is an easy way to make gentle infill construction a little cheaper and easier for everyone to do.
- A more cohesive community plan for commercial zoning and businesses.
- Accessibility — affordable housing and connection walk/bike paths.
- Town swimming pool. Half the summer the lake is closed because of Cyanobacteria. Also, the Shelburne beach area typically gets those little water mites that leave little bite marks after swimming there. There is no town pool between Vergennes and Winooski leaving a severe deficit of accessibility to therapeutics of a swimming pool and drowning prevention/swim lessons.
- Access to indoor gathering spaces as well as community resources for example, a town tool shed or a town closet, which could be similar to the food shelf.
- Upgrading emergency services, including the location of the facility.
- We have plenty of rundown properties along the route seven corridor that can be transformed into affordable housing, and/or community access spaces and businesses that support our community— we need more cross generational resources and businesses.
- Let it evolve.
- Find new businesses to come to Shelburne. More food and restaurant options. Better pedestrian pathways through the village and around town. Can we please get a sidewalk and crosswalk over to the Shelburne Museum?! A sidewalk down Bostwick to the Shelburne Beach. We need more economically diverse housing options around town. Perhaps a dedicated bus from Shelburne Village to UVM campus/medical center?
- Bike and pedestrian safety and interconnected bikeways (separate from roadways) to reach South Burlington and Burlington.
- I believe protecting the village as a quintessential, NE village is imperative to keep tourists visiting, which will continue to help our economy. A FAST, electric charging station in the village would be thinking ahead, as EVs are becoming very popular. The charging station at the library is nice, but it is slow. When you have a place to charge (especially a fast one), it encourages EV drivers to stop. I have an EV and when we are traveling, slow chargers do not encourage us to stop. Maybe one in the shopping park or next to Jamie Two Coats?.
- My top priority is protection of natural resources and wildlife — for me this is integral with quality of life and my reason for living in Shelburne. My lowest priorities are tourism, economic development, housing development, and more events in the village — which will bring more traffic, pollution, strain on services and infrastructure, and congestion. Shelburne is very special and I hope we don't ruin it by trying to be too much for too many.
- Would the town ever consider building (or subsidizing the building of) affordable housing?
- Crosswalk and sidewalk at Rt. 7 / Marsett / Bostwick intersection (to Shelburne Museum).
- Spruce up the old Train Station behind the library! Even if we just turned it into a map / tourist info center (and made the parking spots nearby into public parking spaces), that would be a huge improvement.
- Bike / pedestrian bridges over the LaPlatte at Rt. 7 by Webster Road (footings already exist) and Falls Road (Town has received some grant money I think).
- Supportive and accessible environment for diversity; workforce housing; welcoming community for New Americans; range of affordable housing. Housing for people who work in Shelburne.
- I have a comment related to the format of the first Forward Together session. I went to the session on the Local Economy and a friend went to the session on Natural Resources. In my session, there was a lot of agreement that we need to do things to bring more tourism into the town (put in a hotel, more housing, encourage new businesses, etc.). And in the Natural Resources session, there was also a lot of agreement - but instead of agreement on future development, it was agreement that the town needs to preserve all the forested and farm land and not allow much new development. So, I think the people who went to those sessions self-selected themselves to be either believers in development ("Local Economy") or not development ("Natural Resources"). I think if you don't bring those groups into contact with one another soon, they'll come up with solutions and priorities that are at odds with one another and will be difficult to rectify later in the process, after people have solidified their views. I understand this is a very difficult process, and breaking up into smaller groups is a good way to go, but I hope you can facilitate mixing of the groups in the next steps. Thanks for your time and effort on all of this.
- lower taxes and more responsible spending.
- Improve bike and walking paths on Bay Road and Harbor Road to Shelburne Farms.
- Keep the Parade ground green. No building on it of any kind. No fences around any of it. Temporary things only.
- I think it's very important to preserve the rural nature of Shelburne as much as possible. With pressures to develop, and with RT 7 going through the center of town, we are under constant pressure to pave everything! Not only do I love walking and enjoying the natural areas in Shelburne but I think it's very important to protect the remaining forest habitat and wildlife corridors that we have in many different zoning districts so that areas for wildlife are preserved. Once we lose habitat we lose wildlife. Once we lose wildlife, it won't come back. We are next, or our children and grandchildren. This is an essential time to act for preservation.
- Protection of the environment, natural resources, wildlife and quality of life. Responsible and sustainable carrying capacity.
- I am not in favor of increased tourism, economic development, and housing (other than affordable housing for

- locals) — it will bring more traffic, pollution, and congestion, and will strain our services and infrastructure. VT is at a tipping point and to preserve what we have, we need to conserve.
- Along with being more environmentally responsible, we need to be more fiscally responsible. Shelburne is an affluent town and should not be competing with poorer towns for grant money.
  - Recognize Shelburne’s recreational water culture on Shelburne Bay and Lake Champlain and act to assure they are supported by the community, maybe even reach out to see how they feel they could be further supported. These are resources that “make” some communities and I don’t think are recognized as the big part of the local economy that they are.
  - Shelburne Town moorings, low cost moorings for locals.
  - Shelburne Shipyard: moorings, service storage, mechanical repair, only travel lift to haul large boats (USCG), last fuel on the lake in the fall first in the spring, to support emergency services, and divers and moorage services.
  - Lake Champlain Yacht club seasonal moorings, lots of sail boats and racing events.
  - Aske Marina, good small mooring and slips serving local dockage needs.
  - Small Marina at the mouth of the LaPlatt, not sure of the name, boat slips for locals.
  - The State Boat launch at the mouth of LaPlatte, good for small boat launches and paddle access to the LaPlatte and Shelburne Bay, gives good access for trailer boaters.
  - Access to Burlington Harbour, broad lake sailing, lake shore dining at Burlington, Willsboro Bay, Indian Bay, Safe Harbor Hillsboro, Essex (old Dock), and longer runs to Basin Harbor and Plattsburg.
  - Point Bay Marina in neighboring Charlotte adds to the marine network.
  - Fishing guide services out of Shelburne Bay.
  - Poker Run’s.
  - Sailing Regatta’s.
  - Shelburne Fire Boat.
  - USCG support.
  - Seasonal Canadian Yachts bring a lot of dollars.
  - Collaborate with Habitat for Humanity as a way to provide low income housing in the community.
  - Real Affordable housing and diversity in the population.
  - affordable property taxes and places like wake robin closer to the village so generations interact more. Folks to stop thinking we are a city and embracing what we have as a smaller community. merging Shelburne and Charlotte.
  - More public recreation space - especially fields, courts, and pool.
  - Train service from Shelburne to Burlington, Vergennes, and Middlebury.
  - Community events that combine food, music, vendors, and soccer. Soccer is unique in its ability to bring together different cultures and ages.
  - Widen Route 7 to include a center turn lane.
  - RV dump installation during the Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) upgrade.
  - Assure the sewer treatment plant upgrades include the ability for recreational vehicles to discharge to the STP just like boats and porta toilets whose effluent is pumped and hauled eventually winds up at the same STPs. Montpelier has an RV dump. The state parks and docks pump and haul effluent and wind up in the same STP.
  - Shelburne should have an RV dump like Montpelier. The cost to include a dump station should be minimal. An automated pay-to-dump station can be installed to defray the costs of processing if needed. Perhaps there should be free dumping for Shelburne residents who already pay. We allow boat effluent to be collected and dumped to the treatment plants that is paid for by the state. This helped eliminate direct overboard dumping by vessels. Porta toilet effluent is also collected and put in the STPs. I’m not sure why RVs should be any different. It is protecting our lake from run off just the same from clandestine dumping. Boats and porta toilets use the same chemical deodorizers as RVs. Porta toilets are the same effluent; we pump them out and put it into STPs with no issue. The effluent should process just the same as RVs and boats. I have been told by City staff the current plants can’t handle the loading as RVs are using different chemical deodorizers, however all the holding tanks pumped at marina docks and porta toilets are going to sewer treatment plants, and the effluent shouldn’t be any different, i.e., they are using the same deodorizers.
  - Put sewer and effluent into the plants so it can be processed, not clandestinely dumped. This is really important to handle while we are upgrading the STPs. I don’t think the City’s STP operator’s reasoning was valid; it was just a work-around to try and reduce loading for an overloaded, failing outdated system that was not going to fix the problem.
  - Now is the time to upgrade and include RV waste. If there is an issue with bringing in too much extra effluent just allow local use only. That should be a net zero increase to the system then. Clean up Shelburne!
  - Voters guide example: As a transplant from Oregon now voting in Vermont, I have not been able to find a resource that compares to the Oregon voters guide and offers candidate and measures information along with supporting pros and cons that allows me to get up to speed on statewide and local issues. I realize this is a bit of a State issue, but the Oregon Voters pamphlet offers information on local candidates and measures as well. It is very valuable in assisting me in making informed decisions and getting people to participate in the democratic process. I have included a link to the pamphlet for you use <https://oregonvotes.gov/voters-guide/english/votersguide.html>.
  - Value added of the Retired to the economy;
  - As Shelburne struggles with funding and growth, I wanted to stress the importance of attracting retired self-sufficient individuals to the community. Many if, not most relocate with pensions and after retirement income that add to the community without adding burdens that families do, ie crushing education costs. Retired individuals also tend to not travel during peak commuting times reducing loading to an overloaded travel infrastructure. An example: downtown Shelburne Route 7 school dismissal and prime family\work commuting times.

- As we develop a plan to move Shelburne forward, I urge those involved to periodically go to the Shelburne Town office and gaze at Sheel Anand's painting of Shelburne Village in 1955. I believe this painting is representative of the feeling this village represents, and why people want to live here. This is what we should strive to retain.
- As the Shelburne community develops, Systems development charges (SDC's) must be revisited. As the town invites development, the town must assure that that new development, SDC's, covers the cost to the community of new schools, transportation, water, sewer, electrical grid, emergency services and public safety. Allowing developers to swoop in and build large housing developments without footing the bill for increased cost to the community ahead of time will lead to an ever-increasing tax burden and ultimately the demise of livability of the community.
- Pursue additional funding for infrastructure: Shelburne must pursue and obtain grant (state and federal) funding to offset the tax burden to community members concerning the town infrastructure. All available state and federal grants and funding for infrastructure must be pursued to include but not limited to: transportation upgrades, waste water upgrades and development, drinking water upgrades and development, open space acquisition, emergency response and public safety, and planning for flood response and mitigation (let's stop rebuilding in flood corridors and flood prone areas).
- With this year's super high lake levels going into winter, spring run-off could cause unprecedented high lake levels in the spring. Readiness drills and training may already be available now thru FEMA, EPA or the State to address this very real threat! Anything that can be done now will reduce the cost later!
- EV accessibility.
- With the push to EV, the only way to make it successful is more access to EV charging in more public spaces, just a thought, not a necessity.
- Traffic on Route 7 from Webster to Harbor road past the Shelburne Museum.
- Three times today I headed into the Village to do business from Longmeadow Dr. Each time at all times of the day, I was turned back as traffic was at a standstill at Webster. After three failed attempts to use local merchants, Aubuchon, Country Store and Shelburne Market I gave up and went to South Burlington. I may soon have to change dentists as well. This is hurting the town. I believe Route 7 is a State Highway. Meetings need to be started immediately with Shelburne Town and the State Highway Division to remedy this situation if they have not already started. It has been my experience that traffic routing is a long-term problem and depending on the resolution decided, could take as many as 7 to 10 years to remedy.
- Addition of 3-4 star boutique inn located in Village Center along Rt. 7 (public/not-for-profit/private partnership).
- Power lines in Village Center placed underground.
- Expansion and integration of Village Green and Parade Ground; reconfiguration of Harbor, Falls Rd. intersection.
- Designation of Rt. 7 around Village Green as Class 1 highway with landscaping/splitter medians.
- Village Shopping Center better integrated with Village Green area and upper Falls Rd.; improved and expanded layout.
- Appropriately-sized performing arts center (see Groton, Mass <https://grotonhill.org>) (public/private partnership); affiliation with VT Symphony Orchestra.
- Formation of Shelburne Land Trust to facilitate Open Space.
- Creation of Agri-Biotech Research Park (public/private partnership); affiliation with UVM and State.
- Repurpose failed motel space as best-in-class, model "affordable" housing.
- Waste water treatment - upgrade to handle current and future requirements.
- Infrastructure - storm water runoff, road maintenance, internet, school buildings.
- community center.
- Preserve rural character of the town and redevelop already developed areas.
- Home Share organization – matching people who need affordable homes with people who have a large home, but might need help maintaining it, or companionship for elderly who want to stay in their home and can't afford the upkeep.
- People who bought an old house over 30 year ago and who are not wealthy cannot afford to downsize due to lack of affordability and the fact that their houses have not appreciated the way in which all these new houses have. Thus, cannot live in Shelburne. I do not know or see a solution except financial incentives for fixing up old houses to increase sale value and incentives for downsizing.
- A true "Main Street" that isn't Route 7 would be lovely.
- A Town pool seems like it could be great for families, the beach is often too dirty to swim- or can we prioritize cleaning the lake? Or both?
- More camps or family friendly programs in Shelburne. Maybe incentives?
- Allow farmer housing on farms.
- Allow farm workforce housing on farms.
- Allow seasonal worked housing on farms with relaxed restrictions is yurts, lean-tos, glamping, WOOFing, composting toilets, etc. Shared cooking/laundry facilities on site.
- Affordable housing requirements for developers/development that mirror nearby municipalities (Burlington, South Burlington, etc.)- quotient, fee, number of units, require offsets, etc.
- Town website to have an electronic bulletin board that is updated daily with all committee meetings, times, locations, and agenda (with good descriptions). Notice to residents of updates weekly in Front Porch Forum.
- Extend sidewalk from Jamie 2 coats on East side of Route 7 to intersection at Mt. Phlio Rd and Rt. 7 at Village Center/traffic lights.
- Publish all committee and board agendas with more detail of what is bring heard on/at meetings i.e. several lines of info per agenda items- also note how people weigh in if they cannot attend a meeting.
- Development impact fees – increase them for rec, roads, stormwater, wastewater.
- Stay dry – Intervale South. Identify property in Shelburne (or other properties) that could provide access to land. Coupled



- with farm housing would provide resilient food source for the future.
- Community centers for afterschool opportunities – interest based, all ages, special facilities (pool, gym, games, crafts, basketball/skateboard).
  - Parks and rec beef up more afterschool and special interest opportunities...affordable.
  - Eliminate blinking yellow left turns on ALL of Shelburne road for bike and pedestrian safety.
  - Lower speed limit on Shelburne Road connecting to Burlington and to encourage bike commuting.
  - Bike path along railroad into Burlington.
  - Bike/walk path on Bay Rd. (Shelburne to Shelburne Farms).
  - Lower speed limit on Bay Rd/other non-sidewalk roads to encourage walking and safety.
  - Adopt local bike lanes.
  - Encourage mixed use residential development on Shelburne Rd. north of the village.
  - On road biking feels unsafe, scary, dangerous.
  - Connect to the South Burlington (off road) Bike Path on Spear Street (Kwini to SB bike path is 1.4 miles).
  - A senior bus.
  - A summer beach bus.
  - An off-street bike path from Teddy Bear factory to Shelburne beach and Shelburne farms.
  - A mirrored program for biking around town similar to TAM (Trail Around Middlebury) – Trail Around Shelburne.
  - Local public transportation that reaches every road or street in town at least twice daily. More for neighborhoods where residents need more transportation. Supported by 24/7 taxi service.
  - Crosswalks at major intersections where people cross to walk into town (example: Thomas Road to Falls Road). Cars come too fast and it is almost impossible to cross.
  - Affordable broadband - not the Comcast monopoly.
  - We need a pedestrian/cyclist overpass over Rt. 7 either at Harbor Rd interchange or near Church St. intersection.
  - Shelburne's elders, retirees and parents needing a place for young children to have afterschool daycare could come together e.g. story hours, elders teaching skills to children (e.g. knitting, crocheting, carpentry, sports skills, etc.).
  - The town hall space, library, even our town meeting spaces are options to consider.
  - Ordinance banning chemical fertilizer.
  - Plan to increase renewable energy.
  - Medical center, potentially combine with rescue facility (firefighters, emergency and such). The medical facility could be both a resource to the community combined with a source of capital by serving neighboring towns.
  - Bike paths as far as the eye can see.
  - Public pool.
  - Better and more public transit.
  - Use train tracks.
  - More busses.
  - Community center with pool and gym.
  - So many families and seniors. Let's do what Colchester did with a community center. Add a pool, a gym, a place to for people to be.
  - Infrastructure assets in Shelburne Bay include: 1) Shelburne Town moorings, 2) Lake Champlain Yaht Club 3) Shelburne Shipyard – a) Keeps fire boat, b) USCG patrol boat (winter), 3) fuel docks for both (last to close), 4) repair/service docks
  - As a resident in Harrington Village, I believe that solar panels would be a great way to help tenants and Vermont with power usage.
  - Get rid of Part II. Originally it was a school run program to serve our community. It was SCS run and now it's a private organization that is failing to meet the need!
  - Bring back some of the school-based events even if not at school – international dinner, craft fair, etc. These were community gathering events.
  - Live up to promise when we converted to Part 2 – scale it to serve all students who need it.
  - Turn fire station to a teen center
  - Solicit ideas from town people to run adult rec clubs
  - Diversify rec programs beyond youth sports; make them work for working adults and families. Look at programs in Essex and Williston
  - Ensure high school youth can participate in their high school and community – late bus and early bus to high school; events that draw them in; places for them to gather and that welcomes them
  - Community dinners
  - Return to having after school clubs down to kindergarten
  - More EV fast charging spots
  - Swimming pool for when cyanobacteria closes the beach
  - Community fiber internet
  - Cross country skiing and ice skating perhaps at Shelburne Farms
  - More bus stops/service
  - Community center for kids through seniors
  - After school programs
  - Movies on the green in the summer
  - Shelburne shopping center is very important. Invest most in that space.
  - Create community relief (cooling) building for residents from old housing for use during future heat threatening periods
  - Critical need to identify and prioritize the town's capital improvements (water/wastewater system. Stormwater control, new fire station, new rescue station, replace "iron bridge" on Bay Rd.). Suspend all discretionary spending this is carried out and completed
  - Develop or establish systemic repairs and maintenance schedule for all facilities and equipment
  - Establish town bylaws that encompass good business policies and practice
  - Convert fire/rescue crews from volunteer to 24/7 professional coverage
  - Increase safety for all and inclusivity for impaired folks (visual and auditory)
  - Meet immediate need and relatively inexpensive ways to increase safety on Rt. 7 – flags with buckets at side of street at each crosswalk. Increase the number of crosswalks with lights.
  - Increase the volume and of voice and audible signals- the volume of moving traffic totally masks the existing signals

- Recruit and add persons with disabilities to all the existing studies, committees, task forces, etc.
- Keep the green GREEN!
- Find out why there are derelict properties in town, in the Village, etc. Offer incentives to solve debt problems, or a program to acquire these properties at a fraction of value and then resell to able buyers at a higher cost yet lower than market, still giving new residents opportunity to move here.
- Where are our vacant businesses? What can be done to accelerate occupancy with desirable businesses? Do we have the right mixture of business in town? Involve Rotary?
- HDR process is slow and restrictive. Can building and improvement projects be fast-tracked in the Historic District? Even historic structures cannot always be salvage or restored!
- Improve bus stops /GMT cooperation so all are safe for boarding and disembarking. Remove portions of green belts where necessary to improve safety where buses need to stop. i.e. Falls Rd.
- Can a corridor be identified from upper Juniper Ridge area to Spear St? Narrow lane or lanes; low speed
- Identify new approach with Vermont Railway to improve and upgrade pedestrian and parking opportunities at the Shelburne Station.
- In order to prioritize municipal services, the suggestion is to list essential services provided by the town, and rate these items. This is a method of sorting the “gotta haves” from the “Like to haves” which are competing for the same united pools of money, human resources, etc. Usually public safety and schools rise to the top of the list. Water supply and wastewater treatment are up there as well along with roads and public building property management.
- Work with CWSD to determine feasibility of a yard waste only transfer station. This would provide needed opportunity to lower miles driven by Shelburne residents who are now taking materials to other satellite drop-off points that are 10-15 miles away.
- Discourage the placement of roof run off into drains that connect to storm drains. Offer incentives for owners and new build design to place water on the land rather than in pipes.
- Inventory residential neighborhoods geographically to determine if they can be connected by existing or new paths for the purpose of constructing size appropriate playgrounds in each on existing or acquired property. This would facilitate connection of multiple demographics enhance communication amount citizens as they get out for exercise and play with children and grandchildren e.g. establish play space at the community garden on LaPlatte Circle
- Evaluate school property to find space to be shared for community events. Bring school board into broader conversation.
- Stay ahead of PCB testing to avoid stifling a tax-funded mediation or replacement projects.
- Make certain school + town are on the same page when it comes to future thinking.
- Evaluate street lighting. Seams ineffective on some streets, e.g. Falls Rd.
- We need hotels in Shelburne or destination conference center
- Develop funding through an annual campaign of residents and businesses which will establish a fund for hopeful home-buyers to use for down payments, bank points, etc. to applied to toward the purchase of a Shelburne home, contingent on developing qualification criteria.
- Our Town’s history has an agriculture focus. Keep it alive. As we build more, we continue to lost prime agricultural soils. We should do more to protect it.
- I believe Shelburne Road is turning into a strip mall – unappealing and it’s what Shelburnites don’t want – turning into an overbuilt mega mall.
- The form code needs to better address the big picture look of the street not just the building forms. There should be an art form through the public spaces and with some great civic open spaces in which to have gathering. What is the Shelburne “look” all along the road to separate and distinguish our town? Define and require these open civic places add a wonderful public art form that repeats along the road. Keep it green.



*Mural at the Shelburne Community School.*

## VI. Shelburne Forward Together Community Visit Participants

Ted Albers	Sarah Cocina	Barbara Grant	Susan Kiniry	Jenny Ockert	Allie Stickney
Gail Albert	Sophia Cohen	Stuart Graves	Andrew Kloeckner	Kim Odachowski	Alder Stillman
Ken Albert	Eric Coker	Jason Grignon	Abby Knapp	Mercedes Ortega	Sarah Stillman
Ann Marie Anderson	Melendy Comey	Paul Growald	Jonathan Kyle	Bob Paquin	Susan Stock
Jordan Anderson	Joy Congdon	Baiba Grube	Kimberly Kyle	Dorothem Penar	Claire Stodola
Kit Anderson	Cairn Cross	Chris Guros	Kate Lalley	Mark Pennington	Carol Jean Sutor
Steve Andrews	Cate Cross	Ellen Gurwitz	Laura Latka	Stephen Picard	Toni Supple
Ellen Arapakos	Rowland Davis	Christine Haines	Caitlin LaVerne-Lily	Jane Pickell	Lee Suskin
Lena Ashooh	Amber Degn	John Haines	Matt Lawless	Corie Pierce	Rebecca Taudien
Michael Ashooh	Betsey Dempsey	John Haines	Joan Lenes	Don Porter	Michael Thomas
Jenn Ayers	Leo Denenberg	Cyndy Hall	Puyao Li	Jon Porter	Sandy Titchner
Jon Ayers	Thomas Denenberg	Paulette Hammond	Sara Lightner	Karen Poulin	Sara Tompkins
Steve Baietti	Courtenay Devlin	Adam Hannah	Lauren Lively	Anne Powell	Tom Tompkins
Courtenay Baker	Sean Diehl	Yuniel Helena	Sean MacFaden	Nancy Pruitt	Cathy Townsend
Nancy Baker	Al DiPietro	Herma	Mattie MacGregor	Judith (Judy) Raven	Joe Unser
Adam Bartsch	Karin DiPietro	Bill Heming	Susannah Magee	Sarah Ray	Lisa Valente
Tracey Beaudin	Sue Dixon	Gail Henderson-	Judi Manchester	Paul Reese	Dana Valentine
Sara Beeken	Mary Donnelly	King	Jennifer Martinez	Don Rendall	Debbie Van Buren
Bob Bennett	Caitlin Downey	Roger P. Hill	Megan McBride	Heather Renz	Caitlin Waddick
Anne Bentley	Kimberly DuBrul	David Hillman	Andrew McClellan	Mike Renz	Alec Webb
Devin Beringer	Wendy Eberhart	Luke Hillman	Maria McClellan	Valerie Richardson	Heidi Webb
Matthew Bernhardt	Jenny Eisenman	Jennifer	C. McGrath	Doug Richter	Kate Webb
Bob Birkett	Per Eisenmen	Hoenigsberg	Barb McIntosh	Margaret (Peg) Rosenau	David Webster
Beverly Boget	Josh Estey	Barbara Holley	Lynda McIntyre	Randy Rowland	Liz Weir
Fabienne Boisvert-	Andrew Everett	Maria Horn	Dave McLellan	Bill Ryerson	Linda Welling
DeFazio	Suzanne Fay	Elizabeth Howland	Susan McLellan	Rosemary Sadler	Jim White
Edwin Bovill	Donna Fialkoff	Roger Howland	Sam McMurtrie	Jenny Samuelson	Elise Widlund
Riki Bowen	Jorge Filler	T. Karl Hubbard	Doug Mccrill	Todd Sarandos	Woody Widlund
Susan Bowen	Josh Flore	Susan Hull Grasso	Lisa Merrill	Kioe Schmitt	Margaret Wiener
Jim Brangan	Richard Flyer	Kevin Hytten	Allan Merritt	John Schold	Bill Wight
Pam Brangan	Brian Flynn	Paul Irish	Sarah Merritt	Erika Schramm	Sharon Wight
Rob Broder	Erin Flynn	Gloria Irons	Connie Metz	Mike Schramm	Christine Wilder
Holly Brough	Patricia Fontaine	Nathan Irons	David Micklas	Thomas Schramm	Diane Williams
Alice Brown	Elizabeth (Liz) Foster	David Jangraw	Dorthy Micklas	Elissa Schuett	Hugh Williams
Jessica (Comai) Brumsted	Roger Foster	Kristin Jangraw	Rob Miller	Irit Seligman	Ginger Williamson
Eric Brunvand	Erica Frey-	Georgia Jeffers	Erika Monaghan	Paul Seligman	Alice Winn
Meagan Buckley	Delaportas	Robin Jeffers	Mark Monaghan	Pete Serisky	Jon Winsten
Danielle Burstein	Art Friedman	Becky Jewett	Diane Montgomery -Logan	Annie Seyler	Craig Wooster
Helen Calvelli	Sue Furry-Susie	E. F. Jewett	Sean Moran	Deborah (Deb) Sigel	Susan Wooster
Megan Camp	Carol Georges	Barbara Johnson	Shana Morrow	Mary Silverman	Persis Worrall
Mark Capeless	Amelia Gerlin	Glenn Johnson	Trombley	Jill Silvia	Dan York
Nicole Carpenter	James Gerson	Peter Kahn	Barbara Murphy	Matthew Silvia	Jane Zenaty
Chris Cavin	Joan Giard	Susan Kahn	Ned Murphy	Craig Simmons	Tom Zenaty
Tom Cavin	Sara Gold	Jack Kareckas	Allyson Myers	Cory Simon-Nobes	and many more...
Rev. Don Chatfield	Rachel Goldstein	Calvin Karlhuber	Allyson Myers	Diana Smith	
Bob Clark	Steve Goldstein	Tom Karlhuber	Katie Natale	Lena Smith	
Kevin Clayton	John Goodrich	Wesley Karlhuber	Kate Neubauer	Lori Smith	
Janice Clements	Paul Goodrich	Jack Kearnan	Thomas Newcomb	McKelden Smith	
Brett Cluff	Yasamin Gordon	Steve Kendall	Charlie Nichols	Robilee Smith	
Jon Cocina	Lesley Graham	Chris Kent	Janice Nicklas	Chief Don Stevens	
	Rosalyn Graham	Susannah Kerest	Christine Niles	Nikki Stevens	
	TS Graham	Tiffani Keys	Bud Ockert		
		Edward Kiniry			

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