

ACTON RESIDENT SURVEY

Comprehensive Community Plan, Outreach

The Town would like to hear from you about how you would like Acton to further evolve over the next 5 to 10 years. **We want to know the features, services and characteristics of the Town you value and would like to preserve and enhance.** This survey is designed to help town officials better understand how our townspeople feel about Acton's future.

Individuals will not be identified in this survey. This survey is intended to supplement, not duplicate, information already received in the Open Space and Recreation Survey and in the Heritage Landscape Reconnaissance Report.

In case more than one person in a household wishes to complete the survey, copies can be made of this form and sent in with the original.

This survey is also available on the web at:

www.ActonOutreach.com.

Thank you!



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Turn over to begin survey.
2. Begin with Question 1 and fill out all 7 Questions (Including 7b).
3. When finished, please place in mail or drop off at:
**Town of Acton
Planning Office
Town Hall
472 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720**
4. You may also take this survey online. It is available by going to the website:
<http://www.ActonOutreach.com>
Follow the link on the homepage to the online survey.
5. Responses are due no later than April 11, 2008.
6. Thank you for your participation.

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BEGIN here

1 Check the THREE most important assets you feel Acton has (qualities you like). Add any you think are missing.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> diversity of activities, including open and wooded land, | <input type="checkbox"/> economic and ethnic diversity of population |
| <input type="checkbox"/> homes and businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> friendly, welcoming small town feel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> history, historic architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> small town appeal with large town features | <input type="checkbox"/> commuter rail transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rural character, agricultural land | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation land |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sense of community | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> easy access to highways | Other: _____ |

2 Check the THREE most important challenges you feel face Acton (qualities you do not like). Add any you think are missing:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lack of continuous pedestrian/bike paths | <input type="checkbox"/> lack of range of restaurants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lack of opportunities for casual social interactions | <input type="checkbox"/> lack of range of employment opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> lack of parking in commercial areas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> isolation | <input type="checkbox"/> erosion of town character |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lack of walkable shopping districts | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> high cost of living in Acton | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lack of range of retail shopping opportunities | |

3 Which of the following would you like to see more of in Acton? Please circle one for each item. If you would like to comment on any one of these, please do so at the end of the survey in the last two questions.

Open space, e.g., trails, meadows, woods, recreation areas	Yes	No	No Opinion
Detached single family homes	Yes	No	No Opinion
Attached single family homes, e.g., duplexes, town houses	Yes	No	No Opinion
Historic homes protected and preserved	Yes	No	No Opinion
Apartments	Yes	No	No Opinion
Affordable housing	Yes	No	No Opinion

Which of the following would you like to see more of in Acton? Please circle one for each item. If you would like to comment on any one of these, please do so at the end of the survey in the last two questions.

Shops and services, e.g., food stores, doctors, pharmacies, hardware stores, apparel stores, automotive services?	A little more variety	A lot more variety	Stay the Same
Restaurants e.g., fast food, family, gourmet, ethnic, function?	A little more	A lot more	Stay the Same
Employers, e.g., industrial, retail, services?	A little more	A lot more	Stay the Same
Mix of historic and new homes and buildings?	A little more	A lot more	Stay the Same
Cultural activities in Acton, e.g., community theater, art exhibits, Discovery Museum, concerts, media (Channel 8), music venues?	A little more	A lot more	Stay the Same
Diversity of population in Acton, e.g., socio-economic, ethnic, age groups?	A little more	A lot more	Stay the Same

4 What makes Acton unique?
(Open-ended question)

5 Do you feel there are enough town or other public services in Acton to meet the needs of residents of all ages? (Please circle one)

Yes No No Opinion

If not, which public services needs are unmet?

Please List.

Which age category needs are unmet?
(Please circle)

Young Children Teens Young Adults Middle Age People Active Seniors Older Seniors

6 Environment

The Town government would like to know if you think protecting the environment should be a priority and what types of activities you would be willing to support.

Do you think Acton should actively reduce greenhouse gases¹? Yes No No Opinion

Are you willing to support Acton taking action in reducing Greenhouse gases providing it doesn't cost too much? Yes No No Opinion

If yes, what type of actions do you think the town should take? Check as many as you favor.

- adopt a proclamation supporting greenhouse gas reduction
publicize the issue to promote greater public awareness of the problem and solutions
invest in making public buildings more energy efficient
provide more safe-bicycle and walking trails/lanes and sidewalks
implement a "non-idling policy" for municipal and school vehicles
offer incentives to encourage homeowners and businesses to take appropriate actions
increase recycling efforts
promote less dependence on cars (for example, promote new bus and van options)
Other:

¹ Gases that increase the temperature of the earth's surface. They include water vapor, tropospheric ozone, chlorofluorocarbons, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, methane and nitrous oxide.

7a Questions of Fact Please Circle One

Do you do most of your outside-the-home shopping (excluding mail-order and e-mail shopping) in Acton? Less than 25% About 50% More than 50% Almost All

Do you work? Full-time Part-time Not Employed If yes, where do you work? In Acton Outside Acton

Would you like to work in Acton? Yes No No Opinion

How well do you know at least three of your neighbors? Very Well Well Just Acquaintances Not at All

Were you involved in a volunteer activity over the last 12 months? Yes No If yes, what type of volunteer activities? Town Other: School Church

What limits or restricts your involvement? Check all that apply.

- lack of time lack of transportation
language not sure how to find information
not sure exactly what to do Other:

What kinds of things can the Town do to increase involvement of its residents?

How long have you lived in Town? (in years) 1-5 6-10 11-15 16+

How long do you plan to remain in Acton? (in years) 1-5 6-10 11+ Don't Know

What is your age category?* (in years) 18-30 31-45 46-65 66-80 81+

What is your annual household income category?* (in thousands) \$10-40 \$41-70 \$71-100 \$101-130 \$131+

What is your ethnic heritage?* (circle) African East Asian European Latino Middle Eastern Native-American South Asian Mixed Prefer not to answer Other:

*These questions are asked so we may judge how well the survey responses match socio-economic data provided by the U. S. Census eight years ago. Remember, no individuals will be identified in this survey.

CONTINUE here

7b What would you like to see **MORE** of in Acton?

What would you like to see **LESS** of in Acton?

END. Please place in mail or drop-off at Acton Town Hall per Instructions.