

Q6 - If you live in Simsbury, please rate the following factors in your decision to live here or in terms of your overall quality of life today?

Responded	725
Skipped	15
Write-In	77

Character / Ambience (22)

1. All the trees
2. Character/Aesthetics of Town Center
3. I love Simsbury's beauty and open spaces
4. Commitment to green living and sustainability
5. Commitment to sustainability and natural practices
6. Environmental leadership
7. High importance on maintaining character and safety
8. Low Density of population
9. Respect for the Environment
10. safe, clean, well-maintained, NOT overcrowded or commercial
11. socioeconomic similarities
12. Town's commitment to preserving the environment and open spaces
13. Undeveloped open space (natural areas)
14. When we moved here, the relative quiet was appealed. Light traffic, peaceful environment.
15. Zoning protects town character
16. It was important to us that the town value the downtown small businesses and have lots of open protected space elsewhere in the town
17. Non chain Dining
18. Restaurants
19. Simsbury is a community that balances the charm of older new england. I like the small shops, NO BIG BOX, the access to trails, walking, quaint downtown areas. I do NOT want ANY Marijuana dispensary, vaping, CBD, tattoo parlors. It is NOT in keeping with our community.
20. That it used to be less developed and no fast food restaurant when I moved here. There used to be "protected" land where Powder forest now is.
21. We can live in an R-40 zoned neighborhood and feel part of a neighborhood community while still enjoying wooded area and wildlife
22. Open spaces , no marijuana stores etc, no prison inmates , no big businesses, no crime, no over crowding ,

Safety / Low Crime (16)

1. Low crime
2. Low crime
3. Low crime area
4. low crime, closeness to medical facilities
5. Low crime. Educated and successful residents
6. Low crime. Open space.
7. Safety
8. Safety
9. Safety is important to us.
10. Safety, Quality of Life
11. Safety/Low crime
12. Safety-Very Important
13. The safety of the town.
14. It's been a relatively safe community.
15. Public safety (excellent police force)
16. PUBLIC SAFETY (police presence and resenior citizen services and programs, responsive town government and services, lower taxes, library

Services / Amenities (13)

1. Excellent social services for senior residents and friendly welcoming Senior Center
2. Athletic facilities around town. Horrible
3. My husband and I thought sports were important in town however it only seems soccer gets priority. Facilities in town are severely lacking.
4. Our town athletic facilities are pathetic and are in need of a major overall.
5. Outdoor amenities should also read youth athletic fields
6. Please consider adding a bathroom facility at the high school fields
7. Town needs to begin to invest in youth athletics - specifically multi sport fields. We are voting on Jan 7 to use close to 4million in grants for trails and sidewalks! Your biggest block of residents are families with kids and there is no investment by the town in our youth athletics. And the youth sports programs like soccer that have invested over the decades get to monopolize those resources. - Not good governance
8. You should include a survey separate question about importance of our Simsbury Senior Center. The Center is an insult to our beloved seniors and a major embarrassment to our beloved Town, especially compared to surrounding towns. A new one at a new location should be built soon.
9. Senior activities, senior center
10. Sports facilities, fields, need upgrades
11. The public library is great and is open when I need it.
12. What about athletic development and public safety? I think we have enough trails and parks and dedication to a bike freindly environment.
13. What about athletic fields for our kids?

Community Feeling (6)

1. Connected community atmosphere
2. Feeling of a town with people who stay a long time with families
3. Community Feeling
4. Old town feel. Not frantic.. it's getting frantic though
5. Small close knit community (well - it used to be) filled with families that stay for a long time
6. small town feel and keeping the population accordingly

Open Space (5)

1. Open / green space
2. Open space
3. Open space and preserved land!!!!
4. Open space! Rural areas and farmland!
5. open spaces and preserved land even small pieces within neighborhood.

Cost / Value (4)

1. Cost to live here with respect to Real Estate and Property Tax
2. It home prices were the lowest in the area and the school system had a good reputation. This was in 1967.
3. Not so expensive
4. Taxes

Other (11)

1. I can't stand traffic. Traffic lights, stop signs. Simsbury is getting overcrowded. Once the charm is gone,,,,it's done. Avon is getting overcrowded as well.
2. Traffic; walkability; safety; community feel and initiatives
3. Access to water ways
4. Breweries, dispensaries.
5. I would like to see greater diversity of residents (income, race, ethnicity, gender identify, age, etc.)
6. Looking forward to the ability to bike SAFELY to town on the completed section of rail trail...
7. Medical care
8. Moved here for job but after 37 years priorities have changed
9. Public Library excellence
10. retired, no need to be near work, family within short travel
11. Walkability

Q12 How do you feel about whether Simsbury should prioritize economic development in the following areas:

Responded	665
Skipped	75
Write-In	28

Location – North Simsbury (7)

1. Area by where old Ford dealership was - looks awful
2. Hopmeadow north, by the old Wagner Ford and new Big Y
3. Hopmeadow to the Granby line
4. Need to do something with Old Wagner Ford. Tear it down and make green space for now.
5. Please do something with Wagner near big y.
6. Rt 10 N toward Granby
7. Wolcott Road

Location – Tariffville (3)

1. Sports Fields around town are awful and need help
2. Tariffville post office & St. Bernard's church need businesses
3. Tariffville remains especially neglected. It's sad to see one of our villages not prioritized economically. It could be such a great place to shop and is so close to Bloomfield, Granby and East Granby. It also is a representation of Simsbury and the town neglects that.

Location – Other (1)

1. Rt 44/167 boarder with Avon/Canton should be priority

Fill Up What We Have / Overbuilt (5)

1. We have enough empty storefronts. Look at the EMPTY mall at the new WHOLEFOODS Avon complex. There are empty stores in canton shops for,years, just drive around Avon, canton, Simsbury. We don't need another building.
2. No more development use space that is empty
3. Prioritize existing structures for businesses rather than new construction
4. I agree *only* with improving the look & quality of shops that already exist. Simsbury needs to stop building.
5. no more condos and or apartments please

Traffic (5)

1. If economic development means more housing, etc., no. The traffic has gotten to be an issue already.
2. If the town were not already overbuilt I would feel otherwise. Too much traffic in Simsbury Avon canton grande all feeing into same two lane roads.
3. Too much development will cost the town/residents in the end. Run the numbers. The center of town is becoming a traffic nightmare
4. Too much traffic already
5. Adding more businesses would detract from the small town feel, increase traffic, and lead to a denegration of the community. Promotion and support of existing local businesses should be the focus

Other (7)

1. Do not allow drug business of any kind , do not allow sanctuary town, do not allow no bail , no group homes , no overcrowding , no painting of prude signs or other group signs ,
2. Not a fan of overdevelopment; would prefer that it be done carefully and in keeping with Slmsbury's character. Any development should be required to be done with sustainable materials, solar or geothermal sources, appropriate native plants and with climate change/drought response in corporated in the planning. It's past time for Simsbury to pay attention to these issues. Climate change is coming whether people say it is or isn't, and the town should be looking into the future to craft a response now.
3. Athletic fields. High school, JR High and lack of fields compare to local towns are sad.
4. Build a new Senior Center. Town should purchase abandoned and dilapidated buildings next to Big Y and build state of the art new Senior Center
5. high school athletics
6. No marijuana
7. Please update the weatogue park for our children amd youth sports that take place there. We a hugely behind all other towns

Q13 In order to meet the housing needs of the future, Simsbury could seek out ways to increase housing opportunities in some or all of the following areas:

Responded	657
Skipped	83
Write-In	46

Simsbury Center (2)

1. Off of Iron Horse Blvd
2. center of town should have senior housing so seniors have access to town facilities and the terrible senior senior

Tariffville (2)

3. Tariffville could be so much cuter than it is. It needs a revamp.
4. Tariffville

North Simsbury (1)

5. Wolcott Road

Depends (4)

6. All depend on the "way" chosen to increase housing opportunities
7. Answers would be different for single family homes vs. apartments
8. Ideally more "mixed use", residential integrated with "economic development"/retail/services facilities, w/ housing growth in the areas noted as "Not Enough" in question 14....
9. This question can't be answered without addressing the type of housing that might be developed in any of these areas.
10. Don't allow more housing if there isn't convenient services nearby.

No More (22)

1. no more apartments please
2. No more building no more apartments
3. No more new apartment/condo housing!
4. No more new housing complexes or apartment buildings!!! One of the reasons I moved here was because it was a peaceful community with considerate and friendly people. Squeezing in more people by reducing open space and woodlands detracts from the community and turns it into a bigger, more dense and congested community. Enhance what we currently have but please do not add more!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
5. NOWHERE. I'm tired of CHEAP apartments and town homes!
6. Put a cap on it. Too many apartments already.
7. Stop building condos and apartments overwhelming our schools.
8. Stop building housing!
9. Stop building!
10. Stop development. We are not NYC and shouldn't aim to be
11. there has been enough apts built thanks, terrible architecture
12. Too much development. Stop it!
13. Limit housing development- already being bombarded
14. Too much housing! People moved here for a quiet town with great schools that are now bigger and giving less student time
15. Too much multi- housing development already.
16. We do not need more developments, condos, or apartments - we are losing the feel of our town
17. We don't need to development housing needs. Development housing in Litchfield, East Granby, Harwington, Colebrook. Why are you hell bent on trying to destroy this town?? How smart do you have to be to realize that this area is OVERBUILT.
18. we have way too many apartments
19. Why can't we stay as a small community.
20. Why is it a given that housing should be increased? More housing, more crowding, more traffic will cause us to lose the character of this town. We have the choice of putting a lid on development, and we should. Beautiful vistas have already been ruined by condos, and that unsightly solar farm that Eric Wellman allowed was a complete failure of leadership.
21. Does this mean apartments? We don't want more apartments
22. Simsbury does not need more housing. We are losing all of our natural beauty and bears have nowhere to go but our streets and yards.

Traffic / Character (7)

1. Do not ruin the reason why people want to live here.
2. Increased housing will overwhelm the infrastructure, roads
3. New housing will only increase traffic and detract from the landscape of the town.
4. our infrastructure can't handle more housing...traffic is horrible
5. Our town roads can't handle all of the growth in housing. Traffic is heavy
6. Simsbury Center and now W Simsbury Center is becoming a traffic nightmare.
7. there is plenty of housing in town. We don't need any more congestion. Part of the draw to town is the exclusivity. Let's keep it that way instead of diluting it and ruining it. Over the past 10 years many luxury apartments and town homes have been developed. It's enough for our town

Cost Taxes (4)

1. Lower the mill rate so current housing is affordable
2. lower the taxes!
3. These two areas are bearing an excessive burden with apartments.
4. Without better public transit and a lower cost of living (groceries, etc), increasing housing opportunities seems like putting the cart before the horse.

Other (3)

1. Keep open space
2. I used to live in Weatogue. Where is "Weatogue Center"? Never heard of any part of Weatogue referred to as "Weatogue Center" until now. I have only heard of "Simsbury Center".
3. Build a low income project on Cobtail or Pinachle Mountain. Tariffville is dumpy enough without adding more low income.

Q23 Thank you for your input! Are there any other thoughts you would like to share with us today?

Responded 740
Skipped

Write-In **227**

“CONSERVATION-RELATED”?

Character / Ambience (39)

1. Clean up unused businesses such as the Wagner near Dunkin/ISCC on hopmeadow. Talcott mountain collective was a great addition, add a rope tow for winter sledding/skiing!
2. Don't be greedy at the expense of our lovely town's character - we don't want to become Avon or Canton!
3. I chose to move here for the small town community feeling that is complemented by a sophisticated understanding of modern community management. Keep up the good work in promoting community participation both socially and social responsibility for successful community planning. I appreciate friendliness, small business, sustainability, access to outdoor activities, and a growing tax base for a prosperous city that supports infrastructure advancement
4. I have lived here all my life. I do not like how the feel of this town has changed. I feel like there are way too many condos and apartments. This is a family town. These condos and apartments are sneaking in along with houses on tiny pieces of land to jam in as many as possible. All these new condos and apartments are increasing class sizes as well. Our schools are getting more crowded. Roads are busier. We need to stop all this development for housing.
5. I think the best part of simsbury is the beautiful open space and land. The development of the storage units, apartments, condos etc. is taking over this space and reducing the beauty of the area
6. I'm disappointed with the size and impact that the building on Route 10 in the south end of town has had on the views of Talcott Mountain over the past 10 years. I hope that future development takes the preservation of these views into account. I am also opposed to any building at the firing ranges on Nod Road. We hear the gun fire in Weatogue on a regular basis. It is a stressful part of living in Simsbury and I would love to see other locations considered for this firing range.
7. It seems that the town has allowed way too many large apartment buildings/complexes to be built. Also, that it's over the top on making the town bike friendly, making it seem on some of the narrow roads where biking is encouraged, it's now dangerous to drive a car!
8. Keep Simsbury Green. Stop building.
9. Keep Simsbury safe, beautiful, and community oriented. Don't sell out.
10. Let's not urbanize Simsbury shall we?
11. No group housing , no detox centers , no criminal halfway housing , no marijuana selling, no smoking in public areas
12. One of the reasons we moved here was zoning laws and it is not overdeveloped. I do not want the beautiful town to be inundated with overgrowth of businesses, apartments, or condos. It takes away the charm. I lived in an area that allowed unimpeded growth and moved in less than 5 years because it was too crowded and became a place I didn't want to raise children.
13. Please NO big-box stores!!
14. Please stop building, it would be a shame to lose the village charm Simsbury has. We moved to this town years ago because of the school system and town ambience, it would be a shame to not recognize the town in another decade due to change.
15. Please stop developing so much of our beautiful landscape

16. Please stop over developing the town. We came here for the open space, great school system and sense of community. Our town cannot continue to handle the influx of more residents. Our volunteer services (ambulances especially) are not going to be able to service the town.
17. Please stop overdeveloping Simsbury. Improve what already exists.
18. Protecting the charm, ambiance, views and vistas does not mean putting in large buildings, apartment complexes and solar fields. They detract from the beauty of the community and are an eyesore. Your priorities on making more bike friendly needs to be reassessed. I am an avid walker and use the trail on Ironhorse up to rt. 315. it is like a raceway with the e-bikes. It is already dangerous and too many near misses have been observed. It is only a matter of time before someone is very badly injured with the e bikes weaving in and out of pedestrians ding 35+ on the bikes. I have been 'brushed' twice. Another inch to two to my left and it would have been seriously hit. For development, NO CBD, MARIJUANA, TATTOO, VAPING stores..... NO NEW SOLAR FIELDS...Tear down the Wagner Ford Building and at least turn that stretch into green space. NO
19. Simsbury has features that make this town what it is - open spaces, an active community calendar, an amazing library and a sense of unity in the community. I have lived in multiple places across the US and chose Simsbury as the place where I wish to retire. While economics are important, it would be so easy to sacrifice the sheer beauty of our natural spaces. Open spaces, wild areas, less congested housing plans - all of these are priceless. Many towns make the mistake of overcrowding and I do hope Simsbury does not follow that path.
20. Simsbury is a lovely town, but like any other place, we can be even better.
21. Simsbury is overdeveloped and hardly recognizable from the peaceful, easy-going place it used to be. What was this allowed to happen? Why are you contemplating even more development, do you want even more traffic? Stop trying to be all things to all people. And for God's sake, stop inviting lunatics like those two professors from Yale and Brandeis to pass judgement on our town and call us all racist for preserving open space. Right your ship, town leaders!
22. Simsbury needs to stop jamming homes, condos, and apartments - people are very unhappy about this
23. Since Simsbury has approximately 35% of the land area preserved in one fashion or another, the focus should be to maintain that level. No additional resources should be spent on preserving additional land. Another thought is to utilize Town controlled open space for affordable housing.
24. Stop big box development and keep the small town feel
25. STOP BUILDING AND DEVELOPING! Simsbury is losing its charm and the sense of safety. The center is now too crowded to enjoy. I do not want to go to a concert and see an apartment tower. I don't want stoplights on Iron Horse. Everything that has made Simsbury sweet, lovely is being destroyed by always building new apartments and transient communities. Build them out by the Hartford. Money should be spent to keep Simsbury what it is/was and a hidden gem. We do not want to be the East Village or some other overcrowded space. STOP BUILDING! And the Simscroft development is shameful. More isn't always better, it invites problems.
26. Stop overdeveloping this community; there are too many multi-family dwellings and traffic has become very unpleasant.
27. Stop the Pot nonsense. You will be voted out if this goes through.
28. Stop. BUILDING. Leave the land alone, we don't need to be another West Hartford. People who come to Simsbury WANT Simsbury, not constant building.
29. The design of some of the new condos is downright ugly. The traffic in town is getting troublesome. More building, more police, more road maintenance.. less charm and safety
30. The use of the word "character" needs to go. Our community members have asked us to stop using it.
31. To become more viable, Simsbury needs to become more welcoming, diverse and inclusive of all races, ethnicities, ages, faiths, incomes, orientations. Simsbury is not an insulated bubble that will thrive in the future without progress. Thank you.
32. To many apartments

33. Too many apartments in town!! Renters don't care for the town the same way owners do!
34. Too many ugly and overly dense developments have destroyed the town character.
35. Under past leadership, Simsbury has flourished and kept its unique natural beauty and small town feel. It is extremely disappointing to see the mountain views that Simsbury residents enjoyed spoiled by the decisions to allow high rise buildings and complexes that have been and will be built along the east side of Route 10.
36. We do not need any more condo townhouse sprawlers. Boutique business additions no big box stores that would ruin the character of town.
37. We moved to Simsbury from Fairfield County because of all the open space, sense of security and friendliness of the people
38. We need to stop adding apartments and condos. We are losing the feel of Simsbury. We are not West Hartford. The condos and apartments are flooding schools and making huge class sizes. are
39. when I moved here, Simsbury was a small town. It has increased so much with population sense, and the traffic has become horrendous. If this area continues to grow and get out of control, I will definitely be looking to move.

Sustainability (3)

1. Anything under the general category sustainability is most important.
2. Simsbury is lagging behind many towns in their investments in clean energy and energy efficiency
3. Sustainability, preserving open space, and promoting clean energy is incredibly important to me.

“DEVELOPMENT-RELATED”?

Housing (37)

1. Any new single-family houses should have a minimum parcel size of .5 acres. Less than this is not in keeping with the town's character and appearance. Example: the new development in Granby, North of the YMCA, has hideously little room between houses making the structures look cheap.
2. Need owner occupancy laws to prevent housing from being purchased by large corporations.
3. No low income housing. We left our last town because it was unsafe and brought in a lot of crime.
4. No more apartment complexes
5. No more apartment complexes...use existing structures v new build, poor grade for protecting pedestrians
6. No more high-density housing!!! Simsbury is desirable because of its small town feel, and access to shopping and open spaces. Do not expand development to North and West Simsbury. Keep development in the weatogue/hopmeadow area.
7. No more housing complexes or big box businesses. Keep simsbury charming
8. No more of these awful apartment buildings like those recently built in Weatohue
9. Please address the lack of affordable rentals and senior rentals that aren't old and dated. Many of us suffered during the 2000 s and lost jobs and values on houses. There is no monitoring of rental s these companies are ripping people off both young and old. Town selectmen want to hear nothing
10. Please develop more housing so we can attract more workers to live in our town and work at our businesses. This is a huge issue across the state of CT and I feel that Simsbury has an opportunity to attract more young people and workers by providing quality and affordable housing and pedestrian-friendly streets.
11. Please stop building apartments & new homes. It is destroying the small town charm Simsbury once had.
12. Please-no more massive apartment/condo style housing! It is ruining Simsbury.
13. Simsbury needs more affordable housing
14. Stop allowing these ugly apartment buildings in our beautiful town.
15. Stop allowing these ugly apartment buildings in our beautiful town.
16. Stop building these ugly apartments!
17. stop developing housing structures ie: condo/apartment buildings and taking away land from animals/nature. We don't need more medical facilities in town, we need indoor activity areas for children ie: bowling, laser tag, roller skating. Places that are fun, clean and indoors for children. Start thinking about what will bring young families into town.
18. Stop looking at just housing as you rate Simsbury's affordability since so much of Simsbury is available to all
19. The housing in simsbury is a serious concern. The increase in homes along with the increase in taxes is pushing out people who grew up in this town and cannot afford to come back and live here independently.
20. The town needs to stop approving large apartment complexes. The town also needs to invest more in teacher salaries to maintain the quality of the school system.
21. Town should consider banning any new home building that doesn't increase density and offer some level of affordable housing. The town has become the poster child for NIMBY local politics and doing things the way they've always been done as a rationale for bad and lazy decision making. What little land we have left that can or should be developed should be used to help diversify the housing options.
22. we are losing the character of the town in the vain pursuit of housing equity
23. We do not need more large, new, aesthetically unpleasing large apartment homes. Preserving the historic nature of the town if of utmost importance.

24. we have enough housing in town to support, lets not add more. One of the draws to our town is that its not dense and overpopulated like other towns, for example West Hartford. We do not need more businesses, traffic lights or sidewalks. We have plenty of them down town. We are not a pedestrian town. The majority of us have cars and we drive to places we need to go. Our town is unique in its own way without needing to copy other more densely populated towns. Again, one of the main draws to Simsbury is that we are not like dense towns, lets keep it that way.
25. Additional apartments should be limited. Buffering of apartments should be improved
26. Affordable housing is so important to prioritize if attempting to encourage the next generation of families to move/live here. For younger families, Simsbury is unaffordable
27. Apartment construction was/is overdone. These occupants do not necessarily have an ownership attitude regarding the town. Some apartments are tolerable, but over the last 4 years the glut of apartments constructed is overwhelming. It changes the nature of Simsbury.
28. Better housing for seniors Resident 50+yrs owned house 30+ yrs now live in multi family 2-4 units
29. Build condos, not apts,, to retain older tax paying residents
30. Condominiums off of Iron Horse Blvd
31. My mother is trying to move to town but there are not many 55+ communities. One West Street is a great example of an excellent facility within walking distance of the town center. I wish there were other places like that in close proximity to the center of town.
32. Simsbury needs to adapt to the realities of 2022 and eliminate the discriminatory policies of the past. Diversity in housing should be required of any new development. A focus of transit oriented development as is required by the state (despite the town opting out of those requirements).
33. There are too many HUGE houses in town, but nothing designed for aging seniors, small, one story, single homes in an area that does outside work and plowing. Many towns have small clusters of 2 bed/2 bath homes with garage and all one floor living. This is the type of home that has been given no attention in Simsbury.
34. There is too much building the apartments popping up everywhere are a nightmare and has adversely impacted the town! There needs better preservation of land for wildlife ! How did every inch of land get overbuilt without saving buffers for wildlife!
35. There should be a moratorium on apartments. Most are unattractive, and filling up open spaces. It seems that developers who often either sell the development rights after getting zone changes or selling the apartment complex after building them, have the upper hand in how our town should look and operate. It may be too late now but we needed a more balanced approach between homes for young families and apartments:condos/ townhomes for young professionals and senior citizens. Schools are in need of extensive renovations. Simsbury is far behind even smaller towns in their building quality of the schools and the sports facilities.
36. we need more one level, single house condos for seniors wanting to seel their 2story homes
37. We need more truly affordable housing options in Simsbury. Luxury apartments are not what is needed but seems to be the type that is getting created..

Businesses (4)

1. Please allow shopping centers to grow. It's been very difficult to drive to affordable shops to near by towns .
2. Promote business development, youth athletic development and cease the development of apartments
3. We need a medical/recreational cannabis business in Simsbury.
4. Help and promote local town business. There are a lot of local people that would like to start a small business -- arts and crafts, artists of kinds & food that town people can try to make a small business. Create a local art center. Create a downtown with more independent retailers on Rt 10. We different kinds of stores - bookstore, shoe store, clothing store etc.
5. Incentives for new businesses in town. More small business and less corporate spaces like uconn health. playgrounds need fixing.

Simsbury Center (2)

1. Center of town affordable housing walking distance to stores and bus
2. Stop developing the center of town! Use the Hartford land or stop developing at all. Too many people and we lose our charm and security. There shouldn't be stoplights on Iron Horse or in West Simsbury. When is enough enough? We don't need more tax money. Stop making odd committees to be funded. We have sustained this long and should remain a small community.

Tariffville (2)

1. I think the town should create better use and much improve the access of Tarriffville park (back part that accessed farmington river) specifically to encourage canoeing and kayaking from either the boathouse area or abigails area down to Tariffville.
2. The old Post Office in Tariffville is in complete disrepair and needs to be addressed ASAP

“INFRASTRUCTURE-RELATED”?

Services / Recreation (43)

1. We would love to see a free, recycled well fed splash pad in town.
2. Adding a turf feild fir football.
3. As mentioned before. My husband and I came to Simsbury for education, sports program and quality of life. You are hitting two but severly lacking in one. Sports. We grew up in Glastonbury and visit family often there and attended our relatives sporting events there. Glastonbury is doing a great job with their facilities. They seem to care and it shows. They have a lot of pride in town which helps promote the teams at the school and in youth. We relatives come here to Simsbury for sporting events my husband and I are embarrassed and we only have kids in youth right now. My nephew plays football for Gbury and we all went to the Sbury vs Gbury game here in town this year. The stands are scary so much that our littles won't even go on them and then the bathrooms, porta potties, smelled was horrible. Made you gag! Why are we lacking so much? I keep hearing many people in town complain but nothing ever changes....is this true??
4. As my children start to play sports in town my wife and I are wondering why our sports facilities are lacking? They aren't enough fields for youth sports except for soccer and hockey. Went to a Hogh school football game and we thought the porta potties were not only insufficient but the smell.....bad. That represents us. We moved here for education and heard the sports were good....but not sure how when my son in elementary school rolls his ankle playing lacrosse because of the horrible fields. Talking to other residents it seems like there is some talk about it but nothing happening. Yet our bike trails are nice and sidewalks but our kids fields and facilities are poor. Would love to see the town support the kids who play....especially now since COVID.
5. Athletic facilities in the town, especially the high school, are not up to standard at this point. When you compare the type of town that Simsbury is, the athletic facilities don't match other towns of similar comparison. I have been here over 10 years and very little has been done to improve those conditions. The town of Simsbury seems to have taken a stance that athletics is not important and the kids have enough. The fact that there aren't even bathrooms out at the fields should be enough to know we are behind, but when you see the conditions of the grass fields and run down nature of equipment and weakness of the lights, it means they have just been neglected.
6. Athletics facilities lack for youth and High School age athletes. When traveling to other towns, they have multiple turf fields, concessions and this expands down to the youth sports levels. Simsbury struggles to have adequate fields for youth sports or even mowed fields at some event. More care needs to be given to these activities as currently the participant families are the only support provided for these activities. It would be nice for the town to embrace the talented athletes in this town and provide respectable facilities for them to play on.
7. Bring back trash cans to playgrounds and parks. This is a cost cutting initiative disguised as an environmental plan.
8. Dredge Town Forest Pond to make it user friendly. Use Wolcott Rd, Lordship Drive and Herman Drive for economic developement especially for a Cannabis Retail Outlet.
9. Fields are awful, the town needs to invest in fields so that kids can get out and play, socialize and not be stuck with their heads in screens
10. Improve Weatogue Park for use by Football & Lacrosse youth teams.
11. Invest in Simsbury's children in more ways than just their education. More resources for the Youth Service Bureau and Recreation are needed.
12. Invest on entertainment towards adults to attract mor 20s and 30s. There is close to none entertainment for adults without kids.

13. Investment needs to be directed into our youth athletic programs. The town has not developed, planned or programmed any resources for fields. Far too often, several sports both boys and girls must shuttle around town to find fields. Baseball, Basketball and soccer have dedicated resources and facilities, but several fall and spring sports do not a dedicated suitable playing surface or fields to call home. Competitors do not want to visit and play at Simsbury because of the poor conditions. We have invested a lot in bike and pedestrain means, time has come to redirect attention to our youth athletic organizations
14. Make Town Forest Pond nice and swimable again
15. More town funds and attention need to be given to the schools and to things for the kids. Leagues operate on such small budgets, the town has space for all sorts of things, the performing arts stage etc. our kids should have fields that don't flood and fields that actually have grass on them unlike weatogue park. Additionally, all town fields NEED trash cans of some sort. It is disgusting the way some areas are left due to the lack of trash cans. It's really unimaginable that we wouldn't want that for our public spaces.
16. Need to upgrade athletic facilities throughout the town, such as in high school and Weatogue park. Permanent bathroom facilities are a must. Our athletes facilities are a joke when comparing to other towns with the similar mill rate and population.
17. Our sports facilities in town are a joke. Other towns/teams come to town complaining or laughing at us. We are losing athletes to private schools because of this. There is NO pride within the school or the town as well. Who wants to play with facilities that are lacking or that could possibly injury you. I was a proud graduate of SHS '91 now nit so much. Other than a few additions our facilities are exactly the same since I graduated and my brother in the early 80's. Yet the town keeps ignoring it still!! So sad.
18. Our sports fields and facilities for boys sports especially lacrosse and football are an embarrassment. We are the worse in every league we play in. We have been asked from other towns to not play here because of the field conditions.
19. Our town facilities for our youth athletes are terrible and are an embarrassment to The Town of Simsbury. when you look at surrounding towns facilities, they are ALL superior to what we have to offer. Especially what our youth lacrosse teams are forced to play on. Improvements to HJMS fields are important and I see no reason why work can't be done to improve the field conditions.
20. Our town fields that are open to everyone, not just soccer, are an embarrassment. As a family who both live and work in and for this town it is a shame that our children do not have a decent place to practice or hold sporting events/games. The Henry James fields are atrocious as well as the Weatogue fields. It is so unfair that the soccer fields on Curtis are kept in such good shape and all other teams suffer.
21. Our town needs to look at adding athletic fields for our kids. Far too often our little ones are running around town trying to find fields and orbeing kicked off for other events. Its needs to become a priority of the town - good athletics = good schools.
22. Our town parks and sports facilities are an embarrassment!! Other than Curtis(marginal at best)and Memorial's baseball fields(the skate park is lacking to say the least). Go to any of the surrounding towns and look at their facilities!! This town really needs to look into this! Our kids deserve better!!
23. Please consider update to youth field/Weatogue field. Poor condition with a broad group of children/residents utilizing this area.
24. Please make facilities and consessions at Weatouge Park for our Robust Football/Cheerleading and LaCrosse leagues. Our children work hard and deserve so much better than what we have currently. I feel it's an embarrassment we cannot come up with half a million for our children to have 2022 standards for our athletic programs.
25. Please upgrade our high school sports facilities! We are a proud, thriving community that embraces and supports our local high school but our facilities say something something completely different. Our teams, parents and fans deserve to have proper restroom facilities. Our sports programs deserve to NOT have to walk a quarter mile to the high school at halftime and our fans deserve to order a cheeseburger from a proper concession stand. Now moving onto our youth programs, why is it that our youth soccer programs are the only ones able to use Curtiss Fields? There are other (very successful) youth sports programs in this

town, specifically our lacrosse and football/cheer programs. Both of these programs won their respective championships this past season so I'm sure there are many other parents wanting this as well. Henry James fields are horrible for lacrosse, and Weatogue Park is completely out dated and not kept up. There are sprinkler heads sticking two inches above the ground in certain areas. Thats lawsuit waiting to happen! Please take a look at rectifying this disparity within our youth sports programs. It's time.

26. POCD needs to address lack of youth athletic fields. The town is something reliant on youth organizations. No resources or plan is in work . Rather, simsbury is more interested in biking and trails. We need to pivot and begin to make athletics a priority because it helps promote community engagement and academic excellence
27. Revitalize Weatogue park, bring turf and lights and bathrooms there
28. Simsbury lacks significantly in the area of athletic fields and sports centers for youth. Compared to other similar towns, our single high-school turf is insufficient for the amount of teams in need and often poses a problem. In addition, areas like HJMS and Weatogue should also have turf fields to support the large youth athlete population in town. Not just soccer fields. Lastly, and athletic center or sports bubble to allow for winter training would also be beneficial instead of our teams outsourcing this need.
29. Simsbury needs to develop an athletic development plan to address the shortfalls in resources and facilities. The youth programs are struggling with the current state of facilities. We need more resources dedicated to youth athletic fields
30. STOP investing in trails, sidewalks, benches etc.. start to look forward and divert time and resources to our youth sport organizations. We have crappy sports and it all begins with youth sports. One turf field is not enough. We need more outside mutli sport fields- ideally 6-7 in the town to meet the demand. Soccer has Curtis and no one can use it - not fair ! Town owns it and should allow for more sports to utilize it.
31. The athletic facilities in town are embarrassing. We have 3 kids that play multiple sports and the facilities in our town are inadequate and poorly maintained. The port a potties at each facility are absolutely disgusting. Other towns have turf fields and flush toilets. The only turf we have is at the high school which means our kids get very little chance to use it. The other fields at HJ and SHS are in terrible shape. There also aren't any indoor facilities for winter sports. Elementary school kids are practicing basketball until 9 at night because there is no gym space. It's time to figure out a better plan for town athletics.
32. The facilities at Simsbury High School i.e. Athletic fields, field house etc.. are the absolute worst in the state and its an embarrassment to our town and kids to have visiting teams come here and see how bad our facilities are. It needs to be address and improved ASAP.
33. The high school athletic facilities are lacking and an embarrassment when visiting towns come. No bathrooms just smelly port a potties. The stands are terrible and too small for visiting teams. I have heard multiple people over the years comment on how horrible the facilites are.
34. This survey fails to question or request input on our athletics. Good schools in today's age require good athletics. As of today, there is no vision or plan to develop our youth athletics nor allocate monies to the eroding infrastructure at the high school or middle school athletic facilities. Several youth programs have no dedicated place to practice or compete. We are clearly very interested in trails, parks and I think Simsbury is bike friendly- we need to redirect efforts to developing a vision and allocating resources to building better youth facilities that includes multi- sport fields where both girls and boy programs can practice and play. If you look to our near and peer competitors, we are way behind.
35. Upgrades are needed to youth sports facilities!! E.g. SHS (bleachers, bathrooms), and Weatogue Park (bleachers, turf, bathrooms)
36. Upgrading the Athletic facilities in town
37. We desperately need to upgrade the Weatogue athletic facilities. We lag far behind most towns. We need turf, lights, bathrooms and bleachers. 5-10 years is too long, our children deserve better now.
38. We do not place an emphasis on developing our town sport programs compared to other towns. Please consider building more facilities and fields for our children

39. We need a comprehensive plan to address our athletic fields specifically related to our HS and youth tackle football programs. Our town needs to make a substantial investment in the programs as they are the fastest growing in Simsbury. Weatogue Park needs upgraded with a second field, field house and lights and these facilities SHOULD NOT be used for soccer in any way!
40. We need updating and enhancing athletic fields. The grass fields at SHS and HJMS are embarrassing.
41. Weatogue field is necessary for upgrade for sports, bathrooms , vendor shacks are needed at weatogue and Holden field. It's shocking how poorly this town takes care of sporting facilities. Weatogue field area is a gem and a huge opportunity and necessary location for improvement. Due to the poor, and non supportive behavior of the shs athletic director, it is impossible to have a good experience attempting to utilize the sports fields at the high school. Athletic director shows sexism and favoritism when scheduling out fields. Weatogue sports field should turn into an upgraded complex for the rest of the youth sports teams to utilize. A rugby pitch is also necessary in this town, with appropriate goal posts. Hosting other towns at shs or at weatogue is an embarrassment with no bathrooms. The ports potty's are disgusting.
42. Weatogue park needs upgrades. Our facilities need to be welcoming as they are in other towns.
43. What about youth athletics? I see nothing on this survey asking about improving youth sports. Multiple sports in town do not have fields to play on and the fields they do play on are in horrible conditions such as HJMS fields or Weatogue. Please begin to allocate resources to our girls and boys youth sports that require fields, such as football, field hockey, and lacrosse.

Services / Senior (5)

1. Please build a senior center that is one level with state of art equipment and outdoor exercise stations
2. Please find a way to build a standalone community center that can serve all ages, and is appropriate for seniors. The current senior center is an embarrassment to the town - for a town like Simsbury not to have a state of the art community center, and specific areas for generational interaction and also catering to the needs of seniors specifically, is really unbelievable. A sustainably built community center, perhaps adjacent to the SMPAC, with nature-friendly plantings, etc. would do much to enhance downtown and serve the needs of residents. It's weird that other towns with much less \$ have this kind of facility, but it doesn't seem to be a priority here.
3. Simsbury has an awful and somewhat dangerous Senior Center. It's a blotch on Simsbury's reputation. It's despicable to treat our seniors with it and an embarrassment especially compared to towns around us. If Simsbury is going to maintain its family friendly image, then we must treat our seniors (with a top of the line Senior Center) as well as our young people (with our Schools). Your survey lumped the Senior center in categories that aren't related and therefore show bias against the Senior Center improvement. The Senior Center should be treated as its own entity (like schools are) in all questions in your survey. That way someone who doesn't care much about social services but really cares about the Senior Center doesn't have to choose between the two when they are paired together in a question.
4. We have the worst senior center in the area. The school where town offices are should have been made into a senior center if they weren't going to build one.
5. While I am a senior, most of my friends and I strongly disapprove of spending money on a Senior Ctr. That's an outdated model of aging. Enhance the Library and also turn Zeno into a Community Ctr used by all ages. It's incredibly inefficient and expensive to have spaces limited to use by just one age group. People want not just racial diversity, but generational diversity as well. Mix the young, middle age and old and we'll all be better off.

Services / Fire (2)

1. FD is awesome
2. Please boost the fire department! Push funding from police to instead have paid fire employees instead of volunteers

Services / Schools (2)

1. Yes, we need a real plan and immediate priority to upgrade our high school athletic facility. The stadium is unsafe for seniors who want to see grandchildren's games and are not meeting code. We are far below the standards of lesser towns for bathroom facilities handrails, etc. just like college and pro sports these are part of our fabric of our community and we want to feel proud of our athletics.
2. The schools are very outdated.

Services / Other (5)

1. I have been attending a class given a Boy Scout hall and the apple barn, and would love to see them remodeled on the inside. I think Boy Scout hall still has the same flooring when my daughter took a ballet class there 25 years ago.
2. Need more programming that's free or affordable and available for working parents and families, i.e. after 5 pm and weekends. Stop hosting 4th of July at PAC for a fee - barrier for families and not inclusive. Invest in affordable housing and multi family units.
3. Please continue to protect and invest in our trails, open spaces, and community resources like our schools, libraries, parks, and playgrounds. They have made living in Simbury so wonderful!
4. Need to support kids and seniors - we have spent enough money on open spaces
5. The food pantry should continue to go by income but also include those on Medicaid and Medicare. I have had to go to a church pantry, which I am grateful for, but I would have appreciated being able to use my town's pantry.

Bicycle / Pedestrian (14)

1. Bicycle safety is important- so many riders create a hazard for drivers & pedestrians by ignoring the traffic laws, going right thru stop signs, riding side by side & in large groups. Cyclists should be held accountable not just given free rein to do whatever they like. Apartments have taken over the town! Our school budgets will be increased & we won't have enough taxes coming in from apartments
2. Bicycling has taken over the roads and is not sharing with vehicular traffic making travel dangerous. Excellent public works!
3. 1) Current "bike friendly" roads are dangerous. If Simsbury is going to be bike friendly then the roads need dedicated bike lanes. 2) I don't agree that the town needs more housing. People who enjoy dense housing should live in cities. 3) The town isn't doing enough to manage invasive plants.
4. 4-5 months of the year cycling is not very popular due to weather yet we are pushing this bicycle friendly agenda when the vast majority of the roads are non conducive to cycling. We also push the EV agenda when our infrastructure is mediocre at best. As long as we have above ground lines we will always be at risk for another instance of October 2011 storm. We push affordable housing because it a current hot topic, yet we we don't think about the bigger picture of such as schools and infrastructure that need to be in place to support this housing. In my opinion we need a moratorium on trying to keep with surrounding towns and start taking care of the people who live here.
5. If children are required to walk to school when living within a mile of the school, there needs to be sidewalks within a mile of that school and/or MUCH more policing people speeding. It is not safe!
6. It seems long overdue to have sidewalks emanating from Mc Lean Senior living facility. There are many residents walking on Great Pond and Owens Brook and the traffic goes way too fast. Seems like a good idea to connect to the center of town.
7. Making the town bicycle friendly makes town roads more hazardous for residents since most cyclists do not obey rules of the road, not to mention the early morning shouting of profanities throughout the neighborhood when conversing with one another. Compliments to our Public Works Dept. they do a great job maintaining the roads and public facilities
8. Rt 315- bike path tunnel would prevent the inevitable serious bike/ pedestrian injury or death
9. Sidewalks should exist all along Route 10 and lights should be installed on rails to trails to make it a commute-friendly option at night. More apartments, town houses, and overall missing middle housing is needed in simsbury center

10. Simsbury's dedication to biking, trails and park benches needs to evolve. This community is very bike friendly, and we have so many trails and parks – I think we are good here. What we need to do is begin to focus our attention to our youth sports and facilities. The town is entirely dependent to youth organizations with no resources except for volunteers and fundraising. And when the programs go down this road – the town gets irritated but fails to understand we want nice facilities for our kids! Your largest constituent in Simsbury is families and you're ignoring this demand and relying on the families and youth organizations. Our outdoor facilities are in poor condition. We need multiple outdoor fields for a host of sports that have no dedicated fields just to name a few – girls field hockey, lacrosse, boys lacrosse and football. We have plenty of trails and parks – we need to reorient our focus and invest in our athletics – it will help recruit talent and families to this area b/c good sports equates and promotes good schools.
11. Simsbury's is a very bike friendly town, and we have plenty of trails and parks. Now is the time we need to shift focus to youth athletic development. Frankly, we need to build multiple sport fields at the high school, middle school and at Weatogue Park to meet the increasing demand. Our youth organizations are trying to make it work but it's becoming very frustrating as they is no apparent appetite at the town level to help match the demand and provide direction.
12. Walk ability is a concern where I live, I would like to see more sidewalks so that my kids can safely walk to school.
13. With more pedestrians being hit in CT, simsbury lacks street lights in many roads which us dangerous. More street lights on high traveled roads would be great.
14. Would love more sidewalks for pedestrians and an increase in solar on community buildings and schools

Traffic (4)

1. Address Rt 10 traffic signals. Allow turn on red at more intersections and change lights to blinking at 11 pm. Stop wasting my gas and time at a midnight red light or where I can safely turn red at an intersection.
2. Address the traffic/safety problems on Hopmeadow. Find effective ways to deal with speeding and running of lights & stop signs. Include needs of singles of all ages in planning. Work with others to create better regional public transportation.
3. Yes, we cannot handle any more traffic on Route 10!
4. Weatogue especially on hopmeadow does not need anymore new construction. Traffic is crazy and speeding on side streets is ridiculous!

Utilities (4)

1. 1) Would like to see the sewer extended and continue north on Firetown Road to service the rest of the streets that are on the public sewer system map. (Holcomb St, Cardinal Rd, Briarwood Dr and the streets off of them) 2) Briarwood Dr and Dogwood Lane are the only 2 streets in the area that don't have public water. Please extend the water to them. 3) The athletic fields at Weatogue Park and Tariffville Rd should have lights and bathrooms.
2. Improve the extremely poor cell service in Simsbury. It is horrible!
3. It would be great if Simsbury would pursue municipal internet.
4. Please remove fluoride from water supply, unnecessary additive. Also allow religious vaccine exemptions again for schools.

“OTHER” COMMENTS?

Other (33)

1. N/A
2. reduce the bear population before a real serious incident occurs
3. ˘(ツ)˘
4. A town of this type should have the following: more turf fields; a pedestrian downtown with useful shops and restaurants and character; a tavern that is inviting and homey; leverage iron horse in a better way (more store fronts, community activities, more aesthetic, etc.); more diverse, unique, with character (like La Jolla) dining options but not chain or dumpy restaurants
5. Address the needs of the long term residents, make it easier for existing residents and businesses to stay and thrive in Simsbury. People will move here regardless, no need to cater to the newest residents.
6. As you think of our town's future, I do not want any business selling "pot" here in town.
7. Budget authority needs to be reviewed, 9/10 of budget should be controlled by one entity - BOE. Youth athletic development needs to be discussed and planned - we are in a poor position related to other towns..
8. combine planning and zoning commissions for more effective use of town staff and quality of deliberations
9. Diversity did not get addressed in this survey. I'm shocked and dismayed.
10. Do not let retail cannabis into town. It is bad enough we have to endure the processing place in the south end of town
11. Great opportunity to increase house assessments and significantly decrease mills rate to only have a modest tax increase
12. Have not been here long enough for further input
13. Hop meadow/Simsbury Center needs more shops, businesses, restaurants. The school facilities are terrible and some of the worst in the area and dramatically need to be improved. The schools are good but can be better especially the high school. Time for new leadership across the entire school system.
14. I have been a resident since 1956 and am very proud to call the wonderful town of Simsbury home. My children enjoyed the opportunity of attending excellent schools.
15. I hope we don't let neighboring towns reap all of the tax benefits from marijuana sales.
16. In order to protect the character and livability of the town, LESS should be done in the creation of more housing units and bringing in new business. MORE should be done to support our existing businesses. MORE should be done to improve our schools and the lives of our students. Simsbury does not need to become West Hartford. We do not need fast food, fast retail, large apartment complexes etc.
17. Intentionally blank
18. It's working. Don't muck it up.
19. Living at the moment in Granby, after 10 years of home ownership in Simsbury. Still use Simsbury services and businesses.
20. Loved seeing the "no mow" zones established at Simsbury Farms and the Apple Barn along with the appropriate signage. Would love to see more of this around town to continue to promote pollinator friendly spaces!
21. No to big box stores and widening route 10. Continue multi use path from Freetown and Owens Brook all the way to Simsbury Farms by going through the McLean area and you could connect the center of town to our beautiful recreation facility. Require new developments to have sidewalks and street lights.
22. People come for the schools, and they have some I feasted tire problems that NEED to be addressed.

23. Simsbury needs to stop electing people who govern by emotion. The majority party in town is ruining The town. Wendy should resign, she isn't fit to be in charge of screwing in a lightbulb
24. Simsbury Public Library is an amazing library; the housing issue is a crisis in Simsbury - very little diversity, both economically and culturally
25. There are a couple different assets that the town possesses that it has never exploited. First, the private academies. Why not try to drive the town as an "intellectual" town/hub. For instance, an annual book fair during the summer/fall. We could promote local writers but more importantly get CSpan\Booknotes in here to promote discussion forums with known\respected writers or journalists and offer them a chance to teach a couple classes on their specialty at Miss Porter's or Masters as well as the HS. I would think the academies\HS would love to expose our kids to national insight\expertise. Do it during a week when we have Simsbury Meadows hosting a concert - make it an "outdoor event" for the participants. There is nothing WRONG with looking to creating exclusive opportunities that sell the town; we don't have to be competing to drive the cost of housing DOWN in the city just to please the Hartford Courant. EXCLUSIVE means demand goes up when people WANT to live here and participate in desirable intellectual events. We have an older citizenry (and housing stock) than Avon or Farmington - OK, focus the town as a place you want to stay and retire after you put the kids through an excellent school system. Instead we keep building apartments where the kids\residence is above median and which pay 70%\unit in property taxes -- it just raises taxes on single home, single resident people like me because we have to spend \$40 million to retrofit elementary schools. Which I disproportionately pay. I have more opinions and thoughts (as you can probably guess), but enough for now. Stop trying to make Simsbury Woke Central!
26. Too many roads are torn up over and over again (i.e., Hopmeadow St., esp. in front of Ensign-Bickford). Zoning should be focused on regulations to maintain existing neighborhoods as they are, leaving new types of residential housing options for newly developed areas only.
27. Town open space is horrible. It is poorly managed from being overwhelmed by invasive species, to presence of trash to overpopulation of deer and unbalanced ecosystems. I would like to see the town pursue limited bowhunting opportunities on town lands, especially smaller parcels that are under utilized. Many towns do this and require a lottery and archery to qualify based on a skills. Properties need to be maintained for trash, leash laws enforced, dog shot and trash taken care of. The use of the properties has resulted in degradation without any action being taken. They are not be preserved to benefit aesthetics or wildlife, rather being deteriorated to a point where they hold little value for recreation or wildlife.
28. Would value review of land use for farm animals. One acre rather than three acres for a horse/goats, etc.
29. Ya stop building. And when you allow some crack pot idea for marijuana warehouse how about making sure the entire Weatogue section of town doesn't smell like Bob Marleys arm pits. I don't wanna run by the place and have that smell in my lungs. And not only that you guys put it next to a State Natural Wetlands, birds, animals go thru there. Embarrassing. Just WAY TOO MUCH building going on
30. Zoning decisions have been poor.
31. The Planning & Land Use Department needs oversight and training. They've turned down very reasonable personal property proposals, while allowing an extremely hideous addition at Henry James Middle School that adversely affects the character of surrounding neighborhoods. At the Building Department, Henry Miga needs training on interacting with the public - he's been extremely rude on more than one occasion.
32. The town is overbuilt now. U should have used more space for employment to help offset the hideous union taxes but it's too late now. Leave everything alone. The entire valley is overrun with apartments. Bad planning. Empty stores in every strip mall in every town.
33. Concerned about local crime at south side of Simsbury and the decline of those business. This concern grows as the cannabis shop is proposed to be located there which may not be appealing for new business to grow in that area once the others move or shut down.

Cost Of Living / Taxes (10)

1. lower my taxes!

2. Tax less please. Spend less please. Just because the Budget was \$xxx last year start with zero and justify all outlays. How many vehicles does Simsbury own, lease, and operate? It seems way too many. All of these are fueled. Seems wasteful. Bring business in. You need the Tax Revenue. Over 100 slides in the Plan Presentation? You lost me after 20 slides. How much did that cost to produce? Waste of funds. At Simsbury Farms so many vehicles running all the time to maintain the Golf Course. I'm concerned about the fuel and fertilizers/weed killers used there. Farms is a significant cost to all taxpayers. Do all taxpayers use these facilities? Hardly. It's an inexpensive place for neighboring town residents to play Golf. I prefer not to pay for that. The Campus on 10/202 where The Hartford was continues to me a major loss of tax for our Grand List. Why can't that property attract a new Corporate Tenant? Can it be divided for smaller needs? It's becoming a major eyesore to our Town. Electrically powered bicycles on the rails to trails path concern me. They have very high speed and are nearly silent. If walking, running, or walking a dog it won't be long before someone is run over and injured. Suggest banning electric bikes from that trail or limiting them to 10 mph max. More garbage receptacles are required along the rails to trails path. Specifically from the route 315 intersection up and to the Drake Hill Bridge. And another dog waste/bag installation. It does no good to have few waste bins as people bag then toss the bag into the woods as they do not wish to carry it for over a mile to find a trash bin. Love the pedestrian crossing flashing lights that have been installed at Stratton, and near the Drake Hill. These help immensely. Some drivers however ignore these even with a pedestrian waiting to cross. How can this be remedied? The Dog Park is great. Unfortunately users, many from other towns don't clean up after their dog and do not follow the rules/guidelines. Needs additional supervision and perhaps an annual fee with issued card to use? The Town needs a speeding policy. If roads are 30 mph what speed is actually OK? maybe the limit signs need revision as many drivers are exceeding by 10 mph or more. Litter along rural roads is increasing. Specifically small liquor miniature bottles. These are a constant issue in the North part of town. Quite frankly I scratch my head and ask myself why this is happening. Drinking while driving, and littering while driving to dispose of the open container and evidence. Surely other residents have noticed this. It's a significant Quality of Life issue. Thanks very much for the Survey and have a great day.
3. You must work to reduce our outrageous taxes. Our taxes have tripled and we plan to move out as soon as our kids are finished college
4. "Building the tax base" costs the town more in the end as far as road maintenance, police, fire dept., etc. It's not the great trade portrayed to the people.
5. Affordability is a big concern. I'm on a fixed income. I already downsized from a single family home in Simsbury to a condo in Weatogue. If taxes are too high, I will have to leave Simsbury
6. I already downsized from a single family home in Simsbury to a condominium. I did this to lessen outdoor upkeep and to lower my cost. I would like to be able to afford to continue living in Simsbury
7. I wish the town would consider reducing property tax rate for ALL seniors, not just lower income seniors. We have lived here and helped pay for the schools since 1984, and may not be able to stay in part because of property taxes.
8. I'm am extremely turned off by Simsbury and would move tomorrow if my husband wanted to. Disgusted with runaway pensions for secretaries, exorbitant salaries/pensions for teachers....this nonsense has to stop. Teachers getting \$92,000 a year in pensions?? I'm tired of being shamed for my skin color at DEI meetings. Normalizing transgender by the Simsbury library and school system. We are tired of your social engineering. Give it a rest already. The whole area is getting overbuilt. The green space is part of the charm. I think for "equity" the EXPENSIVE private schools should pay tax towards the police, fire department, roads, services. Shame on them.
9. Plan to leave Simsbury in next few years due to the overspending by town govt along with push to overdevelop apartments resulting in high taxes.
10. Property taxes are far too high. This in conjunction with the fact that Simsbury is not supportive of small businesses run from the home is leading us to look into living elsewhere.

Plan of Conservation & Development (6)

1. I would like to see a formal review process each year as to how the town and the respective committees are responding to the future recommendations so that the POCD is just not put away after it is published. I would like to see some definite goals and metrics against which to measure the recommendations.
2. I don't think land use is given enough thought. Sprawling condos and apartments with every tree removed because it's cheaper to build that way, is at odds with thoughtful use. Open spaces should be incorporated
3. A clear cut vision that is shared with all constituents is critical. It needs to be clearly stated and simple enough for all residents to comprehend and appreciate, without having to read 25 pages. BTW, pedestrian safety will lead to more walkability in town centers and nodes. Make sure lighting is part of that concept, as walkers will not utilize unsafe or poorly lit pathways.
4. Cut down on new development until existing structures are filled. Encourage housing where essential stores and services already exist (downtown or near the Commons). Better paths or protected bike lanes to connect SFarms and other essential hubs with the center of town.
5. School and housing...please keep up the schools and please promote low-mid income housing opportunities.
6. We have a special Town, we should be careful about what we change and look down the road regarding the effects of those decisions.

POCD / Survey (4)

1. I'm here for better life for my children not sure this survey put together very well if you're really trying to solve problems. It feels like govt trying to Pat it's own back. Keep the schools strong , the crime low and housing expensive- that's what my kids need
2. Altho question 2 asked your main concession to Simsbury I think it would be interesting to know who are full time residents who also own businesses and or work in Simsbury.
3. I feel the answers to my questions based on your listings to choose from or not I was able to be interpreted how I really mean. I'm not sure the survey is a true reflection of data you're trying to get it. Things are not black and white and the answers we choose from indicate that. Well I appreciate you doing the survey I don't think it's really gonna give you a sense of how I feel based on what you asked and the choices I had to choose from.
4. if I were putting together a survey, these are not the questions I would ask.

Thanks (5)

1. Thank you all for your hard work and making Simsbury such a great place to live!
2. Thank you for utilizing this survey process to collect community input into this planning process. I am glad my friend made me aware of it, as I had not otherwise heard about it. I would encourage publicizing it more widely to ensure broad community input.
3. Thank you for your efforts!!
4. Thanks for all your hard work!
5. over the years town government has done a good job balancing Simsbury's uniqueness and historic rural character. The town has always and still needs more diversity. Thank you for the opportunity to participate.

No Other Thoughts (2)

1. No
2. No