



COMMUNITY SURVEY

APPENDIX B



Town of New Canaan Community Survey Results



Introduction

The Town of New Canaan conducted a community-wide survey to gather public input related to the development of the Town's 2024 Plan of Conservation & Development. The survey ran for three weeks and gathered 2,306 survey responses (11.2% of the Town's population). These responses provide the Town with significant insight from residents about their values and priorities for the Town's future. This report will summarize the results of the community survey and present key takeaways and full detailed responses.

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Survey Monitoring, Analysis & Conclusions

Survey Monitoring & Analysis

Survey responses were collected through both the Survey Monkey virtual platform and in person. All paper copies were inputted into Survey Monkey. The SLR Team monitored survey participation and flagged all IP addresses that were used for more than one survey. These surveys were further reviewed to determine the authenticity and credibility of each response. Responses that were clearly duplications were eliminated from the analysis. Surveys that answered less than four full questions were also eliminated.

All responses were compiled by Survey Monkey; close-ended responses were tabulated by the platform and reported in percentages and open-ended responses were provided in table format. Open-ended responses were further analyzed by the SLR Team to identify trends and themes among the responses; due to the high volume of responses, artificial intelligence was utilized to help identify these patterns.

Survey Conclusions

- Survey participants are largely content with the quality of life in New Canaan, rating the overall quality of life in Town as an 8.5 out of 10. 61 percent of respondents also feel that the quality of life is the same or better than it was in 2014.
- Reliable cell phone service, traffic congestion, road maintenance, and speeding are the top four quality of life concerns for survey participants across the Town. Speeding is the top concern within the Downtown and South neighborhoods, followed by sidewalks (or lack of sidewalks) and road maintenance. Cell phone service is the number one concern for participants from the East and West neighborhoods, followed by speeding and internet service.
- Participants are mostly satisfied with the variety of housing options within the community but are generally less aware of the quantity of age-restricted housing, assisted living facilities, and continuing care retirement communities. Opinions on the amount of small, single-family homes and affordable housing options are mixed; 51.9 percent of participants feel there are the right amount of small, single-family homes while 39.8 percent feel there are not enough. Meanwhile, 36.2 percent of participants feel there is the right amount of affordable housing, but another 32.8 percent feel there is not enough.

Survey Monitoring, Analysis & Conclusions

- Over 50 percent of participants agree that the Downtown is visually attractive and well lit. They also feel that the buildings are appropriately sized and there is a good mix of things to do and places to visit. Walking in Downtown is generally well regarded; sidewalks are wide enough and separated from the road, and it is easy enough to cross the street. Only 16.4 percent of participants, however, feel that they are safe from traffic while biking in Downtown. Parking opinions are more mixed; just under 50 percent feel that parking is affordable and only 31.7 percent consider it easy to find available parking spaces.
- Participants are in agreement regarding transportation related topics in Town; roads are considered adequate by the majority of respondents and over 50 percent of respondents agree or strongly agree that the Town needs more sidewalk and bike infrastructure.
- All Town facilities were classified as excellent, except for roads and sidewalks (adequate) and senior services (don't know). Waveny Park and the Library are the most visited Town facilities. Participants largely agree (or strongly agree) that school facilities are well-maintained, safe, and appropriately funded and that recreational facilities on school grounds are accessible to the community. When asked about parks and recreation facilities and programs, places to bike, skate, and skateboard was the only option noted as not having enough within the Town. Many agree that there are sufficient cultural facilities in Town but also agree that the Town should invest in creating and attracting more. Nearly 40 percent of participants also support expanding the Historic District.
- Over 90 percent of participants had an experience in the last ten years related to loss of power, internet, or phone connection due to storms and the majority of participants do not feel that the Town is doing enough to protect against the loss of power, internet, and phone connections from storms. There is significant uncertainty about the availability of various sustainability programs within the Town, but participants do feel there is enough clothing donation drives, e-waste disposal options, and recycling options.
- The top priority for the Town over the next ten years, according to survey participants, is the continued support and improvement of the education system. Maintaining and improving existing roads and preserving undeveloped land for open space were the second and third ranked priorities, respectively. Encouragement of more non-residential development ranked last among the options.

Quality of Life

Section Overview

The community survey asked participants to rate and comment on the quality of life in New Canaan. Questions asked for participant's take on the current quality of life and how it has changed over the last ten years and what makes New Canaan special.

Questions

- How would you rate the overall quality of life in New Canaan?
- How has the quality of life in New Canaan changed since 2014?
- What is special about the quality of life in New Canaan?
- What do you think will be the most important conservation and development issues in New Canaan over the next decade?
- Please indicate whether you have any concerns with the following quality of life issues in your neighborhood or anywhere in New Canaan.

Takeaways

The average rating for the quality of life in New Canaan is 8.6, which was consistent across participants from different neighborhoods. Overall, 61.1 percent of participants feel the quality of life has remained the same or gotten better since 2014.

When asked if they have any concerns related to quality of life issues in their neighborhood or in New Canaan, most topics were flagged by participants as not an issue. Nearly 60 percent of participants agree that reliable cell service is an issue in Town and nearly 50 percent agree that road maintenance, traffic congestion, and speeding are issues in New Canaan.

Participants from the Downtown and South neighborhoods noted that speeding, sidewalk maintenance / lack of sidewalks, and road maintenance are the top three issues in their neighborhood. Participants from the East and West neighborhoods noted that speeding, cell phone service, and internet service are the top issues within their area.

Quality of Life

Question 1: How would you rate the overall quality of life in New Canaan?

Participants ranked the quality of life in New Canaan on a scale of zero to ten, with zero indicating a poor quality of life and ten indicating a high quality of life. The average rating for the quality of life in New Canaan was **8.5**.

When compared across neighborhoods, participants from the Downtown and West neighborhoods had an average rating of 8.5 and those from the South and East neighborhoods had an average rating of 8.6.

Question 2: How has the quality of life in New Canaan changed since 2014?

Gotten Better	19.1%
About the Same	42.0%
Gotten Worse	20.0%
Don't Know/Not Sure	18.9%

Overall, 61.1 percent of participants feel that the quality of life has remained the same or gotten better since 2014. When compared across neighborhoods the following percentages feel that the quality of life has remained the same or gotten better:

Downtown	60.5%
East	60.8%
West	59.7%
South	66.0%

Quality of Life

Question 3: What is special about the quality of life in New Canaan?

Question 3 was open-ended and gathered 1,972 responses from participants. Artificial intelligence was used to identify preliminary themes from respondents and those themes were then further reviewed by the SLR Team, using keywords, to verify their significance in the responses. The following are five of the major components that contribute to the high quality of life in New Canaan:

Town Facilities & Services (36.7%) Participants are pleased with the overall quality of community facilities and services. Residents appreciate the variety of services provided by the Town and specifically note the quality of the school system, recreational programming, and cultural institutions. Others commend the Town's commitment to offering services and resources for all demographics as well as the Town's responsiveness to community concerns.

Recreation & Open Spaces (23.7%) Participants note that the Town's parks and open spaces are well maintained and that they appreciate the natural beauty of the community. Waveny Park is highlighted as an excellent community space with a family-friendly atmosphere and the Town's natural landscape and green spaces are also highly valued. Some participants also highlight the importance of environmental conservation and further protecting open spaces.

Safety (17.2%) Respondents feel that the Town is a safe place to live and raise a family. They also note that they appreciate the close-knit nature of the town and the strong relationships among neighbors and feel that these connections contribute to the sense of safety in the community.

Downtown (15.1%) Participants value the vibrancy of Downtown and describe it as charming and active. They enjoy the social elements of the Downtown, like the various community and cultural events held here. Participants express support for the local businesses and appreciate the variety in shopping and dining options as well as the cultural offerings, like the historic character and art exhibitions. Participants also note that the Downtown is accessible from various residential neighborhoods and find its' overall environment to be walkable and family-friendly.

Community Involvement (14.0%) Participants appreciate the community's overall level of engagement. Responses indicate that community spirit and volunteerism contribute heavily to the quality of life in Town. They also value community events and see community involvement and civic pride as a significant piece of the Town's identity.

Quality of Life

Question 4: What do you think will be the most important conservation and development issues in New Canaan over the next decade?

Question 4 was open-ended and gathered 1,971 responses from participants. Artificial intelligence was used to identify preliminary themes from respondents and those themes were then further reviewed by the SLR Team, using keywords, to verify their significance in the responses. An overarching theme amongst respondents is concern for overdevelopment, which is primarily tied to maintaining the small-town feel of the community and the potential strain on infrastructure.

Affordable Housing (19.8%) Survey participants had mixed opinions on affordable housing in the community; some are in favor of its continued development, noting that the diversity in housing will keep the Town well-rounded, while others are worried the impact of large-scale, high-density housing developments. Generally, however, respondents feel strongly about the need to balance affordable housing with the Town's existing character. Participants want affordable housing strategically located and are mindful of the existing state mandates related to affordable housing. Many participants emphasize that affordable housing should not come at the expense of open space, natural resources, and historic preservation. They also acknowledge that it is a complex issue that will require careful planning, community input, and collaboration among different stakeholders.

Environmental Conservation & Sustainability (18.4%) Survey responses reflect a community that has a strong commitment to preserving the Town's natural resources, reducing its environmental impact, and preparing for climate-related challenges. Participants have concerns related to development encroaching on open spaces and wetlands and many respondents are advocating for responsible and environmentally conscious development. Respondents also express the need for the Town to take steps to prepare for extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and potential flooding, such as strengthening infrastructure and adopting climate-resilient building practices and energy-efficient technologies. Other related topics that participants discuss include increasing sustainable land care practices and further safeguarding of water resources and water quality.

Infrastructure (15.3%) Ensuring the town's infrastructure is well-maintained is a significant focus for survey participants. Many respondents discussed concerns related to existing infrastructure (roads, sewer and water) and its capacity to handle more development. Respondents also note that the infrastructure's ability to withstand extreme weather conditions, including power and utilities, is a concern. There is also significant discussion on improving internet and cell phone service reliability within the Town (an additional 5.1%).

Quality of Life

Question 5: Please indicate whether you have any concerns with the following quality of life issues in your neighborhood or anywhere in New Canaan. Check all that apply*

Road Maintenance

In my Neighborhood	25.1%
In New Canaan	47.6%
Not an Issue	41.6%

Maintenance of Town Buildings and Facilities

In my Neighborhood	1.2%
In New Canaan	15.1%
Not an Issue	84.5%

Sidewalk Maintenance / Lack of Sidewalks

In my Neighborhood	33.0%
In New Canaan	35.8%
Not an Issue	44.6%

Environmental Issues

In my Neighborhood	7.9%
In New Canaan	29.2%
Not an Issue	68.1%

Traffic Congestion

In my Neighborhood	16.0%
In New Canaan	49.9%
Not an Issue	43.3%

Reliable Cell Phone Service

In my Neighborhood	36.2%
In New Canaan	58.8%
Not an Issue	27.8%

Noise

In my Neighborhood	16.2%
In New Canaan	17.2%
Not an Issue	72.4%

Reliable Internet Service

In my Neighborhood	25.5%
In New Canaan	38.8%
Not an Issue	50.5%

Lack of Nearby Parks or Places to Walk

In my Neighborhood	8.0%
In New Canaan	6.4%
Not an Issue	87.2%

Speeding

In my Neighborhood	38.5%
In New Canaan	47.2%
Not an Issue	33.6%

Lack of Nearby Services or Stores

In my Neighborhood	3.2%
In New Canaan	14.4%
Not an Issue	83.6%

Quality of Public Schools

In my Neighborhood	2.0%
In New Canaan	11.5%
Not an Issue	87.9%

* Participants we asked to check all responses that applied, therefore, the sum of percentages will not add up to 100%.

Housing

Section Overview

The housing portion of the community survey addressed the topic of housing diversity within the community.

Questions

- Indicate how much of the following New Canaan has...
 - Large, Single-Family Homes
 - Small, Single-Family Homes
 - Condominiums & Townhomes
 - Apartments
 - Mixed-Use (Residential over Commercial)
 - Duplexes
 - Affordable Housing
 - Age-Restricted (55+) Housing
 - Nursing Homes
 - Assisted Living Facilities
 - Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRC)

Takeaways

Most survey participants indicated that New Canaan has about the right amount of various housing types. When respondents who answered "don't know / not sure" are removed, age-restricted housing is the only housing type where the majority of participants feel there are too few of.

Responses also indicate that community members have a lack of awareness about the quantity of four housing types in the community:

- Duplexes
- Age-Restricted Housing
- Assisted Living Facilities
- Continuing Care Retirement Communities

Housing

Question 6: Indicate how much of the following New Canaan has...

Large, Single-Family Homes

Too Many	17.1%
About the Right Amount	74.2%
Too Few	1.9%
Don't Know/Not Sure	6.8%

Too Few	8.5%
Don't Know/Not Sure	39.8%

Affordable Housing

Too Many	13.8%
About the Right Amount	36.2%
Too Few	32.8%
Don't Know/Not Sure	17.2%

Small, Single-Family Homes

Too Many	1.0%
About the Right Amount	51.9%
Too Few	39.8%
Don't Know/Not Sure	7.3%

Age-Restricted (55+) Housing

Too Many	2.2%
About the Right Amount	24.0%
Too Few	25.5%
Don't Know/Not Sure	48.3%

Condominiums & Townhomes

Too Many	23.8%
About the Right Amount	54.6%
Too Few	13.8%
Don't Know/Not Sure	7.8%

Nursing Homes

Too Many	1.2%
About the Right Amount	44.1%
Too Few	15.0%
Don't Know/Not Sure	39.7%

Apartments

Too Many	27.1%
About the Right Amount	40.2%
Too Few	16.6%
Don't Know/Not Sure	16.1%

Assisted Living Facilities

Too Many	1.0%
About the Right Amount	38.1%
Too Few	21.8%
Don't Know/Not Sure	39.1%

Mixed-Use

Too Many	9.2%
About the Right Amount	46.9%
Too Few	14.9%
Don't Know/Not Sure	29.0%

Continuing Care Retirement Communities

Too Many	0.9%
About the Right Amount	29.1%
Too Few	23.9%
Don't Know/Not Sure	46.1%

Duplexes

Too Many	11.6%
About the Right Amount	40.1%

Economic Development

Section Overview

The community survey addressed the Town's economic development by asking participants about their attitudes towards the quantity of various types of businesses and their opinion on Downtown New Canaan.

Questions

- Indicate how much of the following New Canaan has...
 - Retail Stores
 - Small Offices
 - Large/Corporate Offices
 - Research & Development Facilities
 - Light Industrial & Manufacturing Facilities
 - Medical Facilities
 - Entertainment & Cultural Facilities
 - Restaurants
- Would you agree with the following statements about Downtown New Canaan?
 - See pages 12 & 13 for details.

Takeaways

Survey participants feel that there are about the right amount of retail stores, offices, research and development and light industrial / manufacturing facilities, medical and entertainment / cultural facilities, and restaurants in the community. Responses also indicate that community members have less awareness about the quantity of research and development facilities and light industrial and manufacturing facilities.

Participants generally agreed with the statements made about Downtown New Canaan. In particular, over 90 percent of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the Downtown is well lit, buildings are the right size, and that they feel safe from crime there. There are mixed opinions related to how easy it is to find parking and how safe bicyclists feel in the Downtown.

Economic Development

Question 7: Indicate how much of the following New Canaan has...

Retail Stores

Too Many	2.7%
About the Right Amount	71.5%
Too Few	24.4%
Don't Know/Not Sure	1.4%

Small Offices

Too Many	2.9%
About the Right Amount	59.6%
Too Few	9.4%
Don't Know/Not Sure	28.1%

Large/Corporate Offices

Too Many	6.0%
About the Right Amount	52.8%
Too Few	7.1%
Don't Know/Not Sure	34.1%

Research & Development Facilities

Too Many	2.5%
About the Right Amount	22.6%
Too Few	10.6%
Don't Know/Not Sure	64.3%

Light Industrial & Manufacturing Facilities

Too Many	4.8%
About the Right Amount	32.1%
Too Few	5.8%
Don't Know/Not Sure	57.3%

Medical Facilities

Too Many	3.2%
About the Right Amount	62.5%
Too Few	21.4%
Don't Know/Not Sure	12.9%

Entertainment & Cultural Facilities

Too Many	0.6%
About the Right Amount	57.2%
Too Few	37.9%
Don't Know/Not Sure	4.3%

Restaurants

Too Many	5.1%
About the Right Amount	75.9%
Too Few	18.1%
Don't Know/Not Sure	0.9%

Economic Development

Question 8: Would you agree with the following statements about Downtown New Canaan?

It is thriving

Strongly Agree	14.3%
Agree	46.7%
Neutral/No Opinion	18.5%
Disagree	19.3%
Strongly Disagree	1.2%

It is visually attractive

Strongly Agree	39.3%
Agree	50.2%
Neutral/No Opinion	4.5%
Disagree	5.3%
Strongly Disagree	0.7%

It is well lit

Strongly Agree	30.0%
Agree	60.5%
Neutral/No Opinion	5.8%
Disagree	3.2%
Strongly Disagree	0.5%

The buildings feel like the right size relative to the setting

Strongly Agree	33.2%
Agree	57.6%
Neutral/No Opinion	5.3%
Disagree	3.2%
Strongly Disagree	0.7%

There is a good mix of shops, restaurants, offices, and amenities

Strongly Agree	23.3%
Agree	54.7%
Neutral/No Opinion	9.9%
Disagree	11.0%
Strongly Disagree	1.1%

I feel safe from crime

Strongly Agree	42.7%
Agree	47.6%
Neutral/No Opinion	4.6%
Disagree	4.3%
Strongly Disagree	0.8%

Sidewalks are properly separated from traffic

Strongly Agree	27.4%
Agree	54.7%
Neutral/No Opinion	8.9%
Disagree	7.7%
Strongly Disagree	1.3%

Sidewalks are wide enough

Strongly Agree	26.7%
Agree	55.7%
Neutral/No Opinion	7.9%
Disagree	8.3%
Strongly Disagree	1.4%

Economic Development

Question 8: Continued.

It is easy to cross the street

Strongly Agree	26.2%
Agree	54.5%
Neutral/No Opinion	7.1%
Disagree	10.1%
Strongly Disagree	2.1%

I feel safe from passing traffic while biking there

Strongly Agree	8.4%
Agree	16.4%
Neutral/No Opinion	43.9%
Disagree	20.3%
Strongly Disagree	11.0%

I feel safe from passing traffic while walking there

Strongly Agree	19.1%
Agree	51.9%
Neutral/No Opinion	11.3%
Disagree	14.2%
Strongly Disagree	3.5%

Parking is affordable / priced appropriately

Strongly Agree	14.0%
Agree	48.8%
Neutral/No Opinion	18.5%
Disagree	13.9%
Strongly Disagree	4.8%

Parking is conveniently located

Strongly Agree	13.1%
Agree	52.5%
Neutral/No Opinion	14.3%
Disagree	15.1%
Strongly Disagree	5.0%

It is easy to find available parking spaces

Strongly Agree	7.0%
Agree	31.7%
Neutral/No Opinion	16.0%
Disagree	31.0%
Strongly Disagree	14.3%

Transportation

Section Overview

Transportation questions asked participants how they felt about the Town's transportation system and infrastructure.

Questions

- Do you agree or disagree with the following statements about New Canaan's transportation system?
 - Road conditions in New Canaan are adequate.
 - Traffic Congestion is a problem on major roads.
 - New Canaan needs more sidewalks.
 - New Canaan needs more bike infrastructure.
 - It is safe for students to walk or bike to school.
 - There are adequate transit options within New Canaan.
 - There are adequate transit options to/from New Canaan.
 - There are adequate transportation options for seniors and people with disabilities.

Takeaways

Participants generally agreed with all statements made regarding New Canaan's transportation system.

Over 50 percent of respondents agree or strongly agree that road conditions are adequate and that the Town needs more sidewalks and bike infrastructure.

Survey participants have mixed opinions regarding the issues of traffic congestion on major roads, the safety of students while biking and walking to school, and the amount of transit options within the Town.

Transportation

Question 9: Do you agree or disagree with the following statements about New Canaan's transportation system?

Road conditions in New Canaan are adequate

Strongly Agree	9.0%
Agree	48.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	10.1%
Disagree	24.2%
Strongly Disagree	8.6%

Traffic Congestion is a problem on major roads

Strongly Agree	10.8%
Agree	31.4%
Neutral/No Opinion	24.1%
Disagree	30.6%
Strongly Disagree	3.1%

New Canaan needs more sidewalks

Strongly Agree	22.1%
Agree	34.3%
Neutral/No Opinion	22.6%
Disagree	18.3%
Strongly Disagree	2.7%

New Canaan needs more bike infrastructure

Strongly Agree	19.9%
Agree	31.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	26.9%
Disagree	14.7%
Strongly Disagree	7.4%

It is safe for students to walk or bike to school

Strongly Agree	4.9%
Agree	32.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	30.6%
Disagree	25.1%
Strongly Disagree	7.3%

There are adequate transit options within New Canaan

Strongly Agree	4.9%
Agree	30.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	34.1%
Disagree	25.0%
Strongly Disagree	5.9%

There are adequate transit options to/from New Canaan

Strongly Agree	6.4%
Agree	42.0%
Neutral/No Opinion	23.5%
Disagree	22.8%
Strongly Disagree	5.3%

There are adequate transportation options for seniors and people with disabilities

Strongly Agree	3.8%
Agree	20.3%
Neutral/No Opinion	56.0%
Disagree	12.9%
Strongly Disagree	7.0%

Community Facilities

Section Overview

The Community Facilities section asked respondents for their opinions on the quality of Town facilities, recreational facilities and programs, and any barriers they face related to using community facilities. The survey also gave respondents the opportunity to comment on which types of amenities, facilities, programs, and services they feel that New Canaan is lacking.

Questions

- Please rate the quality of the following Town of New Canaan facilities.
- Would you agree with the following statements about the Town of New Canaan's public schools?
- Indicate how much of the following public facilities and programs the Town of New Canaan has.
- How often do you or a member of your household visit the following places?
- Are there any barriers keeping you from using community facilities?
- Are there any community amenities, recreational facilities, programs, or services that New Canaan is lacking? If so, which ones?

Takeaways

Survey participants find that most Town facilities are excellent quality; local roads and sidewalks are noted as adequate quality and most participants were unaware of the quality of senior services.

Participants largely feel that the school facilities and grounds are well-maintained, recreational facilities at the school are accessible to the community, and that they feel safe on school grounds. Opinions about the amount of daycare and preschool options in Town are mixed, with 45.5 percent of participants holding neutral opinions on it.

Respondents feel there is generally the right amount of the various recreational facilities and programs in Town, with the exception of places to bike, skate, and skateboard.

Community Facilities

Question 10: Please rate the quality of the following Town of New Canaan facilities:

Public Schools

Excellent	78.7%
Adequate	13.0%
Needs Improvement	3.2%
Don't Know	5.1%

Public Library

Excellent	87.1%
Adequate	8.2%
Needs Improvement	2.7%
Don't Know	2.0%

Town Hall

Excellent	63.4%
Adequate	24.7%
Needs Improvement	1.3%
Don't Know	10.6%

Sports & Recreation Programs

Excellent	65.4%
Adequate	22.0%
Needs Improvement	4.4%
Don't Know	8.2%

Police Department

Excellent	54.6%
Adequate	25.9%
Needs Improvement	9.2%
Don't Know	10.3%

Fire Department

Excellent	61.2%
Adequate	24.6%
Needs Improvement	2.3%
Don't Know	11.9%

Local Roads

Excellent	19.1%
Adequate	45.8%
Needs Improvement	34.4%
Don't Know	0.7%

Sidewalks

Excellent	15.2%
Adequate	48.2%
Needs Improvement	34.6%
Don't Know	2.0%

Town Park Facilities

Excellent	62.3%
Adequate	30.1%
Needs Improvement	6.9%
Don't Know	0.7%

Senior Services

Excellent	18.6%
Adequate	22.6%
Needs Improvement	9.3%
Don't Know	49.5%

Community Facilities

Question 11: Would you agree with the following statements about the Town of New Canaan's public schools?

School facilities/grounds are well-maintained

Strongly Agree	47.4%
Agree	37.6%
Neutral/No Opinion	12.1%
Disagree	2.4%
Strongly Disagree	0.5%

Recreational facilities on school grounds are accessible for community use

Strongly Agree	37.4%
Agree	38.5%
Neutral/No Opinion	20.1%
Disagree	3.2%
Strongly Disagree	0.8%

There is enough parking at the schools

Strongly Agree	20.7%
Agree	32.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	33.3%
Disagree	11.5%
Strongly Disagree	2.4%

There are enough daycare / preschool options in Town

Strongly Agree	10.7%
Agree	19.7%
Neutral/No Opinion	45.4%
Disagree	15.7%
Strongly Disagree	8.5%

I feel safe at school facilities/grounds

Strongly Agree	43.7%
Agree	38.3%
Neutral/No Opinion	16.4%
Disagree	0.9%
Strongly Disagree	0.7%

School facilities/grounds are appropriately funded

Strongly Agree	32.2%
Agree	34.2%
Neutral/No Opinion	28.5%
Disagree	3.4%
Strongly Disagree	1.7%

Community Facilities

Question 12: Indicate how much of the following public facilities and programs the Town of New Canaan has:

Multipurpose Fields		Too Few	16.2%
Too Many	2.9%	Don't Know/Not Sure	10.7%
About the Right Amount	73.0%	Places to bike, skate, and skateboard	
Too Few	9.3%	Too Many	0.9%
Don't Know/Not Sure	14.8%	About the Right Amount	31.5%
Ball Fields		Too Few	37.7%
Too Many	3.6%	Don't Know/Not Sure	29.9%
About the Right Amount	72.8%	Hiking Trails	
Too Few	7.7%	Too Many	1.0%
Don't Know/Not Sure	15.9%	About the Right Amount	66.2%
Tennis Courts		Too Few	24.0%
Too Many	2.4%	Don't Know/Not Sure	8.8%
About the Right Amount	70.3%	Recreational programs for young children	
Too Few	12.0%	Too Many	1.9%
Don't Know/Not Sure	15.3%	About the Right Amount	61.2%
Basketball Courts		Too Few	9.5%
Too Many	1.0%	Don't Know/Not Sure	27.4%
About the Right Amount	45.1%	Recreational programs for teens	
Too Few	20.4%	Too Many	1.2%
Don't Know/Not Sure	33.5%	About the Right Amount	38.2%
Swimming Areas		Too Few	21.6%
Too Many	0.8%	Don't Know/Not Sure	39.0%
About the Right Amount	73.0%	Recreational programs for adults	
Too Few	14.5%	Too Many	1.2%
Don't Know/Not Sure	11.7%	About the Right Amount	58.8%
Playgrounds and playscapes		Too Few	16.4%
Too Many	1.0%	Don't Know/Not Sure	23.6%
About the Right Amount	72.1%		

Community Facilities

Question 13: How often do you or a member of your household visit the following places?

Town Hall

Daily	1.0%
Monthly	7.2%
More than Once a Month	4.0%
A Few Times a Year	69.6%
Never	18.2%

Mead Park

Daily	7.9%
Monthly	18.1%
More than Once a Month	27.2%
A Few Times a Year	37.1%
Never	9.7%

Library

Daily	7.2%
Monthly	29.5%
More than Once a Month	34.2%
A Few Times a Year	24.1%
Never	5.0%

Waveny Park

Daily	17.4%
Monthly	24.6%
More than Once a Month	37.1%
A Few Times a Year	19.4%
Never	1.5%

Steve Benko Memorial Pool

Daily	3.2%
Monthly	3.9%
More than Once a Month	8.5%
A Few Times a Year	19.0%
Never	65.4%

Kiwanis Park

Daily	1.3%
Monthly	5.0%
More than Once a Month	5.4%
A Few Times a Year	33.5%
Never	54.8%

Lapham Community Center

Daily	2.1%
Monthly	4.9%
More than Once a Month	6.9%
A Few Times a Year	30.4%
Never	55.7%

Irwin Park

Daily	8.2%
Monthly	18.4%
More than Once a Month	23.7%
A Few Times a Year	36.2%
Never	13.5%

Community Facilities

Question 13: Continued.

Water Tower Field

Daily	10.4%
Monthly	8.6%
More than Once a Month	12.8%
A Few Times a Year	22.0%
Never	46.2%

The New Canaan Land Trust Properties

Daily	5.4%
Monthly	11.6%
More than Once a Month	13.4%
A Few Times a Year	40.6%
Never	29.0%

New Canaan Nature Center

Daily	3.1%
Monthly	9.6%
More than Once a Month	10.3%
A Few Times a Year	53.4%
Never	23.6%

Question 14: Are there any barriers keeping you from using community facilities? Please rank each option with the most significant barrier ranked first and the least significant barrier last.

The majority of respondents (over 50 percent) said that the barriers listed were not applicable to them, as related to their use of community facilities; however, nearly 40 percent of participants listed lack of awareness about programming as a top 3 barrier to using community facilities.

Barriers	Rank	% within Top 3
Lack of Awareness about Programs	1	39.4%
Lack of Programming of Interest	2	35.0%
Limited Hours of Operation	3	26.6%
Location(s)	4	17.9%
Accessibility	5	6.5%
Safety Concerns	6	5.9%

Community Facilities

Question 15: Are there any community amenities, recreational facilities, programs, or services that New Canaan is lacking? If so, which ones?

Question 15 was open-ended and gathered 859 responses from participants. Artificial intelligence was used to identify preliminary themes from respondents and those themes were then further reviewed by the SLR Team, using keywords, to verify their significance in the responses.

Park Access, Maintenance, & Amenities (18.7%) Participants hold Waveny Park in high regards and many showed interest in improving the maintenance and accessibility of parks like Kiwanis Park (and beach), Mead Park, Irwin Park, and Ed Dixon Park. There is desire for more playgrounds, skate parks, and basketball and pickleball courts. Participants also note interest in more walking and biking trails at parks and year-round public restrooms for recreation areas. Some participants also mention that the Land Trust properties seem inaccessible and that they should be better advertised.

Walkability & Bikability (17.0%) Participants made numerous comments about establishing green spaces and sidewalks to safely and actively connect community amenities, like schools, residential areas, parks, and recreational spaces. There is a focus on the walkability of Downtown and South Ave, but neighborhoods near East School, West School, and Talmadge Hill Train Station were mentioned as options to expand walkable areas. There was recognition of the excellent community amenities and facilities throughout the Town, but limited accessibility for walking and biking to them. Many participants expressed concern about pedestrian and bicyclists' safety throughout New Canaan.

Teen Programming (7.3%) Participants commented on the need for more teen-oriented recreational options. Specific suggestions included a teen center, ice / roller rink, a skate park, arts and cultural programming, and programming not tied to the schools and not athletic in nature.

Beach Access (4.9%) Various participants showed interest in obtaining beach access. Comments addressed the upkeep and revitalization of Kiwanis Park, as well as discussion about arrangements with neighboring coastal towns to provide beach passes to New Canaan residents.

Accessibility (2.3%) Participants emphasize the need for improved accessibility for various groups, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, and parents with young children. This includes accessible book drops at the library, better transportation options, and social and recreational programs tailored to these groups.

Open Space & Natural Resources

Section Overview

The Open Space & Natural Resources section asked respondents for their opinions related to the Town's efforts to protect various natural resources and open spaces.

Questions

- New Canaan is doing enough to protect...
 - Wetlands
 - Rivers & Streams
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Groundwater & Aquifers
 - Ridgelines & Scenic Views
 - Significant Plant & Animal Habitat
 - Public Open Spaces
 - Privately-Owned Open Spaces
 - Farmland

Takeaways

Over 50 percent of survey participants agree or strongly agree that the Town is doing enough to protect wetlands, rivers and streams, lakes and ponds, and public open spaces. Participants mostly had neutral opinions about the Town's efforts protecting groundwater and aquifers, ridgelines and scenic views, significant plant and animal habitat, privately owned public spaces, and farmland.

Open Space & Natural Resources

Question 16: New Canaan is doing enough to protect...

Wetlands

Strongly Agree	18.5%
Agree	38.7%
Neutral/No Opinion	31.4%
Disagree	8.9%
Strongly Disagree	2.5%

Rivers & Streams

Strongly Agree	15.6%
Agree	38.0%
Neutral/No Opinion	33.8%
Disagree	10.2%
Strongly Disagree	2.4%

Lakes & Ponds

Strongly Agree	15.5%
Agree	38.2%
Neutral/No Opinion	34.4%
Disagree	9.7%
Strongly Disagree	2.2%

Groundwater & Aquifers

Strongly Agree	13.1%
Agree	29.3%
Neutral/No Opinion	43.2%
Disagree	11.6%
Strongly Disagree	2.8%

Ridgelines & Scenic Views

Strongly Agree	11.4%
Agree	29.9%

Neutral/No Opinion **43.1%**

Disagree 12.9%

Strongly Disagree 2.7%

Significant Plant & Animal Habitat

Strongly Agree 12.5%

Agree 34.6%

Neutral/No Opinion **39.1%**

Disagree 11.4%

Strongly Disagree 2.4%

Public Open Spaces

Strongly Agree 17.8%

Agree **49.4%**

Neutral/No Opinion 21.3%

Disagree 9.0%

Strongly Disagree 2.5%

Privately-Owned Open Spaces

Strongly Agree 10.7%

Agree 26.7%

Neutral/No Opinion **51.4%**

Disagree 8.5%

Strongly Disagree 2.7%

Farmland

Strongly Agree 7.0%

Agree 14.9%

Neutral/No Opinion **63.4%**

Disagree 11.4%

Strongly Disagree 3.3%

Historical Resources & Cultural Facilities

Section Overview

The Historical Resources & Cultural Facilities section asked participants to share their opinions regarding New Canaan's efforts to protect and promote historical resources and cultural facilities within the community.

Questions

- New Canaan...
 - Is doing enough to protect historic resources in Town.
 - Should create additional historic resources in Town.
 - Should consider expanding its Historic District.
 - Has sufficient cultural facilities.
 - Should invest in creating or attracting more cultural facilities.

Takeaways

Over 50 percent of survey participants feel that the Town is doing enough to protect historic resources in Town and has sufficient cultural facilities. Participants did note, however, that the Town should invest in creating or attracting more cultural facilities.

Opinions regarding whether the Town should create additional historic resources or expand its Historic District are mixed - most participants had neutral opinions but there was a slight trend towards agreeing or strongly agreeing that the Town should expand its historic resources and District.

Historical Resources & Cultural Facilities

Question 17: New Canaan...

Is doing enough to protect historic resources in Town

Strongly Agree	13.4%
Agree	44.8%
Neutral/No Opinion	21.8%
Disagree	13.9%
Strongly Disagree	6.1%

Should create additional historic resources in Town

Strongly Agree	10.4%
Agree	27.0%
Neutral/No Opinion	38.9%
Disagree	18.9%
Strongly Disagree	4.8%

Should consider expanding its Historic District

Strongly Agree	12.1%
Agree	27.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	35.4%
Disagree	20.2%
Strongly Disagree	5.2%

Has sufficient cultural facilities

Strongly Agree	7.6%
Agree	43.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	27.3%
Disagree	20.4%
Strongly Disagree	1.6%

Should invest in creating or attracting more cultural facilities

Strongly Agree	10.3%
Agree	36.1%
Neutral/No Opinion	35.4%
Disagree	14.9%
Strongly Disagree	3.3%

Sustainability & Resilience

Section Overview

The Sustainability & Resiliency section asked participants for their opinions related to New Canaan's efforts to protect the community from natural hazards and if they have been impacted by various natural hazard related issues in the last ten years. The section also asked participants how they feel about the quantity of sustainability-related programs and services offered in Town.

Questions

- The Town of New Canaan is doing enough to protect against...
 - Damage to Town properties from storms
 - Flooding
 - Hazards from extreme temperatures
 - Loss of power from storms
 - Lost internet or phone connections due to storms
 - Erosion
 - Blocked roads due to fallen trees, debris, or damage
- Have you experienced any issues with the following in the last ten years?
 - See page 29 for details.
- How available are the following programs/services in New Canaan?
 - See page 30 for details.

Takeaways

Survey participants agree that the Town is doing enough to protect Town properties from storms and flooding in general. They also feel that the Town is not doing enough related to protecting against the loss of power, internet, and phone connections due to storms,

Over 90 percent of participants noted that they have experienced a loss of power, internet, and phone connections due to storms in the last ten years.

When asked about the quantity of sustainability-related programs and services, most participants were not aware or not sure of the availability of the various programs noted.

Sustainability & Resilience

Question 18: The Town of New Canaan is doing enough to protect against...

Damage to Town properties from storms

Strongly Agree	5.4%
Agree	47.9%
Disagree	11.4%
Strongly Disagree	4.3%
Don't Know/Not Sure	31.0%

Flooding

Strongly Agree	4.1%
Agree	43.8%
Disagree	10.9%
Strongly Disagree	3.8%
Don't Know/Not Sure	37.4%

Hazards from extreme temperatures

Strongly Agree	4.9%
Agree	38.2%
Disagree	9.5%
Strongly Disagree	3.1%
Don't Know/Not Sure	44.3%

Loss of power from storms

Strongly Agree	4.3%
Agree	31.8%
Disagree	32.8%
Strongly Disagree	14.4%
Don't Know/Not Sure	16.7%

Lost internet or phone connections due to storms

Strongly Agree	3.6%
Agree	27.3%
Disagree	34.5%
Strongly Disagree	17.2%
Don't Know/Not Sure	17.4%

Erosion

Strongly Agree	3.5%
Agree	31.2%
Disagree	8.4%
Strongly Disagree	3.7%
Don't Know/Not Sure	53.2%

Blocked roads due to fallen trees, debris, or damage

Strongly Agree	7.6%
Agree	51.8%
Disagree	17.0%
Strongly Disagree	6.0%
Don't Know/Not Sure	17.6%

Sustainability & Resilience

Question 19: Have you experienced any issues with the following in the last ten years? Check all that apply*

Property damage from storms	52.9%
Flooding	25.6%
Increased home energy demands due to extreme heat	55.6%
Loss of power from storms	91.6%
Lost internet or phone connections due to storms	90.6%
Erosion	10.2%
Difficulty accessing Town facilities due to fallen trees/blocked roads	29.1%

Sustainability & Resilience

Question 20: How available are the following programs/services in New Canaan?

Composting pick-up services

Not Available	17.1%
Not Available Enough	12.4%
Available Enough	26.2%
Too Available	0.7%
Don't Know/Not Sure	43.6%

Compost drop-off locations

Not Available	4.0%
Not Available Enough	12.7%
Available Enough	40.7%
Too Available	0.7%
Don't Know/Not Sure	41.9%

Clothing donation drives

Not Available	4.2%
Not Available Enough	25.6%
Available Enough	46.8%
Too Available	0.5%
Don't Know/Not Sure	22.9%

Electronic disposal options

Not Available	4.7%
Not Available Enough	23.8%
Available Enough	42.6%
Too Available	0.3%
Don't Know/Not Sure	28.6%

Bulk waste pick-up

Not Available	13.0%
Not Available Enough	24.3%
Available Enough	24.7%
Too Available	0.4%
Don't Know/Not Sure	37.6%

Yard waste pick-up

Not Available	13.1%
Not Available Enough	23.7%
Available Enough	28.7%
Too Available	0.7%
Don't Know/Not Sure	33.8%

Sustainability & Resilience

Question 20: Continued.

Recycling

Not Available	3.9%
Not Available Enough	18.9%
Available Enough	62.6%
Too Available	0.6%
Don't Know/Not Sure	14.0%

Electric vehicle charging stations

Not Available	4.6%
Not Available Enough	29.2%
Available Enough	16.5%
Too Available	2.7%
Don't Know/Not Sure	47.0%

Programs to increase home energy efficiency

Not Available	8.7%
Not Available Enough	33.6%
Available Enough	13.7%
Too Available	1.1%
Don't Know/Not Sure	42.9%

Options to utilize renewable energy for your home

Not Available	9.3%
Not Available Enough	30.9%
Available Enough	14.0%
Too Available	1.4%
Don't Know/Not Sure	44.4%

Visioning

Section Overview

The Visioning section asked participants to prioritize focus areas for New Canaan over the next decade.

Questions

- Please rank the following in terms of priority focus areas for New Canaan over the next ten years.
 - Encourage more variety of housing options.
 - Encourage more affordable housing options.
 - Maintain and improve existing roads.
 - Continued support and improvement of education system.
 - Preserve historic buildings, properties, and districts.
 - Preserve farm land and agriculture.
 - Preserve undeveloped land for open space.
 - Provide more biking and walking amenities.
 - Support and increase recreational programs and activities.
 - Encourage more non-residential development.
 - Improve the sustainability of Town operations and facilities.
- Do you have any other top priorities for New Canaan over the next ten years?
- Do you have any other comments or concerns you would like to share with us, or was there something that we missed?

Takeaways

Of the focus areas presented to survey respondents, the highest ranked priority for the Town over the next decade was the continued support and improvement to the education system.

Common concerns for the community over the next decade include infrastructure maintenance and improvements, the quality of the educational system, improvements to downtown, and affordable housing. There is also significant interest in pedestrian and bike infrastructure and more reliable telecommunication services.

Visioning

Question 21: Please rank the following in terms of priority focus areas for New Canaan over the next ten years. Rank your top priority first and your lowest priority last.

Below are the 11 focus areas presented to survey participants. Continued support and improvement to the education system ranked as the number one priority for participants, with nearly 70 percent ranking the option in their Top 3. Maintaining and improving existing roads ranked second and preservation of undeveloped land for open space ranked third.

Focus Areas	Rank	% within Top 3
Continued support and improvement of education system	1	68.9%
Maintain and improve existing roads	2	50.6%
Preserve undeveloped land for open space	3	29.6%
Provide more biking and walking amenities	4	30.2%
Preserve historic buildings, properties, and districts	5	22.5%
Support and increase recreational programs and activities	6	19.9%
Encourage more variety of housing options	7	25.3%
Preserve farm land and agriculture	8	10.8%
Encourage more affordable housing options	9	22.6%
Improve the sustainability of Town operations and facilities	10	12.4%
Encourage more non-residential development	11	4.5%

Visioning

Question 22: Do you have any other top priorities for New Canaan over the next ten years?

Question 22 was open-ended and gathered 1,010 responses from participants. Artificial intelligence was used to identify preliminary themes from respondents and those themes were then further reviewed by the SLR Team, using keywords, to verify their significance in the responses.

Infrastructure (24.2%) Infrastructure improvements were a common area of concern. Comments touched on the maintenance of transportation infrastructure (roads, parking, sidewalks), improvements to the reliability of utilities (power, cellular, internet), and increasing the sustainability and climate resiliency of infrastructure (drainage, charging stations, renewable energies). Related to transportation infrastructure, some respondents expressed interest in more frequent, reliable, and express train service during peak commuter hours (like 8-9 am departure and 6-7 pm return from the city).

Schools (10.9%) Participants have a strong sense of pride around the school system and are committed to maintaining the quality of education and ensuring safety within the schools. There was significant interest in investing more into the education system, including suggestions for more cultural and art programs. There was some concern regarding the capacity of schools, specifically the elementary schools and participants suggested expanding the elementary schools' options to respond to increased enrollment and redistributing amenities between schools in Town.

Downtown (7.5%) Participants are interested in keeping the area vibrant and integrating dining, retail, and community spaces in Downtown. Comments mentioned reducing storefront vacancies and some emphasized a need to provide additional support to small businesses to draw more shops into New Canaan and support their retention. There were also discussions related to parking and walkability improvements to Downtown. Darien and Westport Downtown areas were referenced as examples for revitalization that focuses on improving quality of life, sidewalk access, and engaging community areas. There were also suggestions for a Downtown Planning Committee or a Long-Term Downtown Vision Plan.

Visioning

Question 23: Do you have any other comments or concerns you would like to share with us, or was there something that we missed?

There were 715 additional comments from survey participants that address various concerns and provide suggestions for the Town. The following is a list of some of the topics and suggestions from participants.

Roads & Traffic Conditions. Participants emphasize the need for road improvements, including better maintenance and repaving. Concerns are raised about speeding, drivers failing to stop at pedestrian crossings, and safety issues at intersections like Oenoke Ridge and West Road. Participants would like police to better enforce speed limits within Town. Multiple participants also discussed the need for traffic pattern adjustments at Cherry & Main Streets as well as maintaining vegetation along roads.

Sidewalk Infrastructure / Pedestrian Safety. Participants have suggested adding sidewalks to Hoyt Street, Jelliff Mill Road, and Putnam Road, and connecting parks and schools through sidewalks. Residents highlight the need for safer pedestrian crossings, including proper signaling and painted crosswalks. Respondents note concerns for sidewalk maintenance, particularly those that are brick.

Affordable Housing. Participants have strong opinions about the size, location, and aesthetics of affordable housing within the community. There are suggestions for locating affordable housing within the Cross & Vitti Street neighborhood, near public transportation hubs, and possibly the lumberyard or Vine Cottage. There is opposition to building affordable housing on Weed & Elm Streets.

Downtown. Some participants have observed empty storefronts or underutilized commercial spaces in the downtown area and would like to see these spaces filled with vibrant businesses. They suggested attracting a more diverse range of retailers and businesses to the downtown area to provide a wider array of shopping and dining options. They often prefer unique boutiques, family-owned businesses, and diverse culinary options over large chains.

Schools. Several comments express concerns about overcrowding in the public schools, particularly at the elementary level. There is also a desire to see more diversity and an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion in New Canaan schools.

Telecommunications. Participants highlight the need for improvements to telecommunication infrastructure, including faster and more reliable internet access and improved cell phone service throughout New Canaan.

About You

Section Overview

The 'About You' section of the community survey asked respondents to share information about themselves to better understand the population responding to the survey. Questions were related to demographics and personal history within the Town. 491 participants also took the opportunity to share their contact information for further information on the POCD's development.

Takeaways

Most survey participants were between the ages of 45-64 and over 40 percent have lived in New Canaan for 20 or more years.

Over 50 percent of participants described their household as a family with children at home. Participants were also spread evenly across the neighborhoods within Town.

Nearly 80 percent of participants see themselves living in New Canaan in the next ten years. Those who do not see themselves in New Canaan cited the cost of living and wanting to downsize as the main reasons.

Questions

- What is your age?
- Where do you work?
- How do you commute to work?
- Are you currently a student?
- How long have you lived in New Canaan?
- Where do you live in New Canaan?
- Is your home (owned/rented)?
- How would you describe your household?
- Why do you choose to live in New Canaan?
- Do you see yourself living in New Canaan 10 years from now?
- What kind of housing do you see yourself in in ten years?
- Why don't you see yourself living in New Canaan in the future?
- Do you currently serve on any Town boards, commissions, or do you volunteer for other organizations in New Canaan?

About You

Question 24: Please share your email if you would like to receive project updates:

491 participants shared their emails with the project team for future project updates.

Question 25: What is your age?

Under 18	1.0%
18-24	0.3%
25-34	2.7%
35-44	18.9%
45-54	29.2%
55-64	24.2%
65-74	14.6%
75+	9.1%

Question 26: Where do you work?

In New Canaan	17.6%
In New York City	15.3%
Not within New Canaan or New York City, but within the Fairfield County/New York region	16.9%
I travel outside the region regularly for work (3+ days/week)	2.9%
I work from home (Short-term or Temporary)	4.6%
I work from home (Permanently)	15.4%
I am not currently employed (including retired, non-working student, or other)	27.3%

Question 27: How do you usually commute to work?

I take the Metro North	19.2%
I drive	34.9%
I walk	1.2%
I bike	0.1%
I take public transit, other than Metro North	0.1%
I use multiple modes of transportation	3.1%
I work from home	18.8%
I do not work	22.6%

About You

Question 28: Are you currently a student?

Yes	2.4%
No	97.6%

Question 29: How long have you lived in New Canaan?

Less than 2 years	3.9%
2-5 years	14.6%
5-10 years	16.7%
11-20 years	22.0%
20+ years	41.4%
I do not live in New Canaan	1.4%

Those that indicated they do not live in New Canaan were asked to provide a zip code. There was at least one participant from each of the following towns: Wilton, Cheshire, Norwalk, Stamford, Ridgefield, Stratford, Darien, New Fairfield, Westport, Danbury, Greenwich, and New York City.

Question 30: Where do you live in New Canaan?

South	28.9%
East	26.3%
West	26.5%
Downtown	18.3%

Question 31: Is your home...

Owned by You	91.0%
Owned by Someone in your Household	4.1%
Rented	4.9%

About You

Question 32: How would you describe your household?

I live alone	6.7%
I live with unrelated others (roommates)	0.3%
Couple with no children	12.3%
Family - Parents with children/child at home	51.4%
Family - Parents with children/child not living at home (includes college)	22.3%
Family - Single parent with children/child living at home	2.6%
Family - Single parent with children/child not living at home (includes college)	0.9%
Multigenerational	3.5%

Question 33: Why do you choose to live in New Canaan? Check all that apply*

Location	77.4%
Educational System	75.9%
Housing	39.5%
Employment/Economic Opportunities	10.0%
Family and/or Friends	45.9%
Recreational & Cultural Opportunities	40.2%
Open Space & Parks	52.7%
Affordability	4.2%
Town Services	28.2%
Other (please specify)	17.2%

Those that selected 'other' generally noted that the "small-town charm" plays a role in their choice to live in New Canaan. Other topics that came up included the safety of the area, the proximity and ease of getting to New York City by public transit, the historical and architectural character of the Town, and the Town's natural beauty.

Question 34: Do you see yourself living in New Canaan 10 years from now?

Yes	78.9%
No	21.1%

About You

Question 35: If yes, what kind of housing do you see yourself living in?

Current Home	67.0%
Larger, Single-Family Home	8.6%
Smaller, Single-Family Home	10.9%
Condominium or Townhome	8.6%
Garden and/or Small Apartment Building	1.0%
Mixed-Use (Residential above Commercial)	0.3%
Other Multifamily	0.3%
Affordable Housing	0.6%
Accessory Dwelling Unit	0.4%
Assisted Living Facility	0.8%
Nursing Home	0.0%
Age-Restricted (55+) Housing	0.6%
Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC)	0.8%

Question 36: If no, why don't you see yourself living in New Canaan in the future? Check all that apply *

Move Closer to Family/Friends	15.0%
Children no longer live at home / Wanting to downsize	42.9%
New Job or Relocation	7.2%
Work Commute	4.7%
Cost of Living / Taxes	58.1%
Lack of Housing Options	13.5%
Lifestyle Opportunities	28.2%
Other (please specify)	28.4%

Question 37: Do you currently serve on any Town boards, commissions, or do you volunteer for other organizations in New Canaan?

Yes	39.7%
No	60.3%

