

Town Plan Survey - Community Vision - February 2024

Question #31 What does Hinesburg do well? Answered = 231; Skipped = 292

[Full survey results available at www.hinesburg.org](http://www.hinesburg.org)

- 1 Manage the town. The police force has always been very responsive.
- 2 Love the Town Forest and Trails.
- 3 Local government, communication with citizens.
- 4 I love the hiking trails and forest areas.
- 5 road maintenance and recreation opportunities
- 6 The stores and community is close together
- 7 Taking care of lower income families
- 8 Plan and work to create an open government and open meetings
- 9 Hinesbug continues to maintain its character and grit in a way that many other towns in chittenden County have lost due to development. I think we have a strong community where people care for their town and their neighbors.
- 10 Public library
- 11 Hinesburg has a nice sense of community
- 12 Optimizing a sense of community
- 13 Community identity
- 14 Hinesburg tries, really hard, to carefully promote growth. I'm so happy for this and for the hard work that the DRB, etc does!
- 15 Recreation
- 16 The people do well but the people from out of town running the town needs to change.
- 17 Used to be a great quiet place to live but it is now overdeveloped in the village and our tax money is going to useless things like bud service! Come on - LISTEN to community members other than your preferred few.
- 18 Town offices are accessible and helpful
- 19 I like having denser development in the village center and that Hinesburg is building different *types* of housing, e.g., multi-unit buildings, townhouses, single family units.

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- 20 At the moment, not much. This town is headed in the wrong direction on many fronts from the Town Managers office, to attempting to over develop when you can't handle anymore development right now, to high taxes, less services and safety measures etc. The list is large and instead of finding resolutions while keeping the character Hinesburg, many in positions of decision making for this town keep trying to further their own views and agendas while trying to make themselves look good by playing both sides and then doing what they want anyway vs. what the towns people want. Maybe try listening first to the people of this town and fix the problems first. Disappointed at best at what this town has become. My parents have lived here for over 50 years and I was sure they would stay here until the day they died but now they are moving because they are sick of it here. I don't think they are the only ones. It's not financial but the direction the town is taking. It's just not the same anymore. Everything changes in life and that is to be expected but this town is just going to become a sad statistic like so many other small towns. which are the backbone of Vermont. Very sad actually. You can do better. Look at the foundation of Hinesburg and why it was a stellar place to live until now. Stop trying to make it something it is not. Stick to your roots. My wife and I will probably be moving as well before it gets any worse.
-
- 21 I moved here for the local (in-town) trail systems, but they could use better access from town.
-
- 22 Community resources: recreation, library, HCRC/Food Shelf;
Some great businesses and great preschools, K-12 schools and daycare options
active town committees;
thoughtful community
-
- 23 Involves community members on committees and commissions.
-
- 24 Hinesburg provides multiple points and places to access and experience the outdoors.
-
- 25 Hinesburg has a great sense of community and I hope we can maintain that throughout growth.
-
- 26 For the most part, the Local government listens and works with people.
-
- 27 Provide recreational activities
-
- 28 Using FPF, Facebook, online meetings etc to communicate updates, invitations etc
-
- 29 communicate to it's citizens about current issues and looks for feedback.
-
- 30 Road maintenance
-
- 31 Hinesburg is intentional about its planning. The town leadership attempts to incorporate many views into decisions.
-
- 32 Bring people together during emergencies (like major weather events) to help one another out. Just thinking of the last major event (windstorm) that knocked power out for days & how neighbors came together to rally for one another.
-
- 33 offers many things to do, tries to keep its "ruralness"
-

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34	Thoughtful growth, a variety of local businesses available, well-served school system. I love and really appreciate the sidewalk expansion that happened last year, bringing sidewalks down farther south on 116! Also appreciated changing the funky traffic pattern on North Rd & Texas Hill intersection in the last year or so.
35	The low key, friendly attitude businesses and the town office has for each other.
36	Very community oriented. Operates on a human scale
37	Not much except for the Town Clerk positions over the years has been excellent. Present included!
38	I think Hinesburg has done a good job of getting feedback from community and really thinking about how they want to grow.
39	Create a sense of community
40	Recreation for hiking and lake Iroquois Community event
41	inclusive descisions
42	Raise taxes
43	Helping each other plus other towns
44	Concerts; churches; library; grocery store; schools; clerk
45	I always have loved how friendly and welcoming the Town Clerk's office has been. It's the first place I stop when I have a question and I'm unsure where I should go for an answer.
46	Provide a sense of community and take care of one another as neighbors
47	Love that Hinesburg has many acres of conserved land...It's wonderful to have a house next to one forest..!
48	Not much at this point
49	Almost nothing-
50	Maintain a sense of community
51	The teachers at the school! They are amazing!
52	struggle
53	Trying to plan! Stake holder engagement, thank you! At least getting the conversations out there, and being a little more civil than Charlotte...
54	Rely on people not from Hinesburg to tell us what we should be doing
55	Provide outdoor recreation activities for children.
56	Conserving agricultural, forest and recreational land. Public access to natural resources. Town government is well-run and responsive.
57	Great schools. Nice community. Great grocery store.

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58	Social capital, community involvement
59	Catering to extreme wealth.
60	Wonderful sense of community, small town feel, friendly people.
61	Hinesburg has a strong sense of community. We treat our neighbors well, for the most part. The zoning laid down in the past seems to be working to contain growth to the designated village area, and I am glad to see the Town Plan being paid attention to and updated.
62	Keeping a town center
63	Sense of community and trails.
64	I am so happy here. My children love their school, and the town has a (fantastic) recreation director. I love the few town events and town forests and the miles of dirt roads and nature trails. It has preserved a rural forest character quite well.
65	road crew does and awesome job
66	The Hinesburg Town Forest is such a great resource for us. Thank you to everyone who works so hard so that the community can enjoy this beautiful space.
67	Tries hard to conserve and plan growth. This is largely due to the efforts of a few.
68	Good info posted on FPF regularly from different town committees and the SB
69	Police, fire and rescue
70	Beautiful recreational spaces
71	Approachable. Caring. Friendly town. Clean. Safe.
72	We are providing more housing in the Village, part of a foresighted Town Plan that has been of great benefit as we grow. There are all the basic services families need here and easy access to alternatives in the surrounding towns.
73	Publicize meetings, ongoing, etc
74	Community involvement
75	Great community spirit. Kudos to Fire and Rescue. Nice village area. Great schools. Welcoming of diversity.
76	It's hard to put a finger on it, but we have managed some balance in our conflicting priorities.
77	4th of July, Pietter Rd care, HCS, staying small is good, Lantman's is wonderful
78	attracts good people
79	It is still a pleasant community that has not developed into a South Burlington or Williston surge. Control development with wisdom.
80	Nothing at from what we see.
81	Community

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82	Road maintenance
83	Highway department does a good job on the roads
84	Supports affordable housing.
85	Conserve land, a walkable village, small town feel
86	Residents readily come to the aid of those who have needs or in emergencies
87	Police, fire, food shelf, library, DRB
88	Great place to raise a family.
89	good high school
90	Income and class diversity
91	Community, services, and small town field. The problem here is That we have tremendous projected development in the next 10 years and this is what's forcing us to outgrow most of our services.
92	Sense of community!
93	Recreational department
94	sense of community
95	Sense of community and keeping residents in the loop.
96	HTF and trails
97	Listen to input from the community, allow multiple platforms for citizen involvement. Neighbors help neighbors.
98	Provides opportunities for young families and kids via community resources (HCRC).
99	Sense of community, especially Halloween, Christmas, 4th of July, Green Up Day
100	snow plowing and ice cleaning out the catch basins emergency services
101	Recreation (Jen is a rock star), community activities, supporting our youth
102	Hinesburg gives community members opportunities to voice their opinions (like this survey!)
103	Great sense of community.
104	Under this town manager- nothing.
105	Nothing as far as the town management goes.
106	Hinesburg did not initiate this but they should have - accessory dwelling is a good thing
107	Our roads are graded and plowed well year round.. Our police and fire seem to be doing well. Our preserved land and trails are great.

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108	sense of community
109	we have good service stations, a liquor store, good schools, a gun shop, hardware store, grocery store, gravel pit, a lumber yard and crappy post office 8 of 9 not bad
110	Community Town government.
111	Various committees, especially the energy committee, the Conservation Committee and the Planning Commission.
112	Good town clerk
113	Wide variety of outdoor recreation.
114	Great police and fire departments!
115	Maintaining small town Vermont
116	Maintain the essence of small town Vermont.
117	Recreation considerations - trails, fields, hunting, etc.
118	Rec dept does well with resources available
119	Basic town services (roads, fire, police). Good mix of needed businesses including restaurants (although we would like a more high end restaurant!), Lantman's (which is consistently better than Hannafords), pharmacy, liquor store, doctors, dentist.
120	great school system
121	Civil discourse among people, road maintenance, schools.
122	CONFLICT
123	Hinesburg communicates and debates, but doesn't always follow through
124	Sense of community
125	Increase taxes on its residents
126	The rec department--that's how I've met a lot of people in town. Also, the school is great.
127	Town events, provides means, i.e. food for folks in need. There is a sense of community which is nice in a small town.
128	Really frustrated with the unwillingness to grow this community. There basic amenities, bare minimum.....no reasons to live here.
129	Keeps a level head...folks in Ch'lotte are nuts
130	Great community and services for size of community
131	Keeping the village ...a village! We are not Williston! I love that we have Lantmans... and not a big store! Keep it this way. This is the charm on this town.
132	Very walkable downtown area, easy access to groceries, post office, pharmacy, etc.

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133	Recreation dept. Town clerk office. Local government Is better than many.
134	Perfect sized town with the right mix of amenities. Access to outdoor recreation.
135	Roads are maintained well
136	wonderful friendly community, walkable town
137	A lot of things. Town forest is great.
138	Access to recreational trails. Road maintenance.
139	Commercial growth is slow but appears to attract the right businesses.
140	Town Clerk's office is great. Hiking trails. Community pride.
141	Schools, sense of community, high school property, keep development to a minimum.
142	sense of community blending and maintaining agricultural land with the expansion of housing
143	Nothing
144	Create a small community with a great balance of various businesses to support the community
145	Plowing, maintaining roads
146	Government runs well.
147	Walkability to a variety of businesses (grocery store, pharmacy, vet, library, post office, bank, hardware store, laundromat, restaurants, schools, town offices, hair dresser, town recreational trails, organic farm stand, PT, gym, doctors office, & more) - this is truly incredible that we can walk to each of these places in the Village!
	Strong sense of community & generally wonderful people
148	Sense of community
149	The people work through conflicts and work to be kind. I love the thrift store. I love the small community feel at Lantman's. I love being able to walk places- just wish sidewalks were better and wish there were more places to walk off of Rt. 116. There is a wide variety of small businesses here and I could meet many of my needs without having to leave town.
150	Trails!
151	The restoration and maintenance of the private homes on 116 between Mechanics. road and Silver street is wonderful. The Pub is great. CVU is great. The sidewalks are wonderful.
152	Community and we have just enough retail to keep from having to drive out of town in a regular basis.
153	its quiet
154	Community concerns. Library. Churches.

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-
- 155 We have conserved a large amount of land as town forest.
-
- 156 Create a sense of community
-
- 157 Blessed by good neighbors
-
- 158 Volunteerism - community
-
- Maintain small town feel
- 159 Sense of community
- School system
-
- 160 There is an amazing sense of community here, and I love how people get involved to make the town a better place and to help neighbors. It's a wonderful place to raise kids.
-
- 161 Come together as community for people in need. Ie: food shelf, community resource center, little free pantry, church free dinners, care about the environment.
-
- 162 Invite participation in town activities.
-
- 163 procrastinate
-
- 164 Hinesburg has maintained its sense of community and engagement. Keeping the majority of growth in the village center is a worthy goal as well. We have done a good job of preserving lands as well.
-
- 165 Great sense of community and belonging
-
- 166 School System/Education
-
- 167 Add to tax burden and don't do what was actually voted in- ambulance.
-
- 168 Community
-
- 169 Strong volunteer community.
-
- 170 Summer cultural events and community. Recreation trails.
-
- 171 Roads are well maintained
-
- 172 Hinesburg has a great sense of community
-
- 173 School atmosphere. Highway department still pretty great, but a little less so since Rocky is gone.
-
- 174 CVU is a treasure. The mix of agricultural land and the village is wonderful.
-
- 175 Over complicate things to not move initiatives forward.
-
- Police, Fire, Library, Food Shelf. Select board has become better at listening to any / all who will speak up. Was not like that few years back. Town office is friendlier now. No idea about town manager.....never met him :-)
-
- 176
-
- 177 Listen to a few people that have time to attend meetings
-
- 178 4th of July, community engagement,
-

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179	Positively impact the town utilizing the limited resources and funds that we have as a small town
180	Well meaning government, good public participation
181	Fourth of July. Meetings Posted and in the Paper (required? Done well)
182	Offer a small town feel that is safe, inviting, friendly, and yet accessible with all the amenities one would need.
183	Small town feels
184	Plan for future growth and maintain a rural small town character that is accessible in a way that Charlotte and Shelburne are not
185	Keep fire hydrants shoveled out.
186	Fire, EMS
187	Capture a sense of community, look out for each other
188	Village growth. Bakery and restaurants. Hardware. Quality Schools. Village is walkable. Halloween at Creekside.
189	There's a strong sense of community
190	Fire, EMS, Police
191	Community feels
192	Sense of community. Good schools
193	Hinesburg does well at working to create a relatively big town working together towards goals that help everyone in town.
194	This, engagement.
195	Plenty of community engagement and committees to address issues and strive towards continual improvement of the Town
196	Being friendly
197	Not too much in the last years.
198	Offers plenty of outdoor recreation as well as vibrant village services
199	Community involvement
200	Community police. But I'd like to see more presence on the Hollow rd. We have a lot of regular dumping and high dangerous speeders on the weekends, Saturday nights late and at 6am week days.
201	Maintain roads
202	Listens to its residents at committee open meetings. Good trail networks.

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203	neighbors help neighbors
204	A bed room community, small town
205	Communication and meetings about planning & zoning
206	Carpenter-Carse Library. Community outreach. Schools. Planning.
207	Offers many opportunities to get involved and contribute to the community.
208	I think Hinesburg does an excellent job of most things.
209	Walking opportunities
210	Far enough away from the city to feel rural although that is changing with all the unfortunate focus on adding more housing. Fleecing someone's pockets with all the building meanwhile adding congestion and burden to the rest of the town!
211	Community
212	Schools
213	Preserving an historic Vermont community in our tradition
214	Management has the best intentions, but we have too many irons in the fire at one time. It is okay to push back against something that adds little value and say, "not now, there is only so much money without raising taxes."
215	Work together
216	Happy Hinesburg is moving forward with building new housing. Happy with the schools and new road crew.
217	Todd Odit is responsive to citizens concerns. The police dept is excellen. The fire dept is excellent. The road crew does a great job. The town maintains the sidewalks well.
218	Wonderful sense of community, excellent schools, beloved Lantman's!
219	Praise for Town Manager- facilitated change of speed signs on Rt. 116 in record time. Municipal government zoom meetings and summaries on FPF by Selectboard. Village clerk very efficient. Village farmstand, farm shares and meat club. very good municipal website, responsive police and fire and rescue work, convenient doctor, dentist, bank and grocery, good restaurants.
220	Selectboard, Town Manager, Police, Fire, Roads are currently excellent. That has not always been the case.
221	I can go weeks without needing to leave Hinesburg. It has most of the basic necessities.
222	Creates volunteer opportunities throughout town functions and nonprofits.
223	Sense of community. Welcoming new people.
224	No, property tax and water bills are terrible
225	Town leadership works hard and seeks ways to engage residents. Tod and Joy are doing good work toward making our town run well and to modernize our policies and practices.

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226 Lately, nothing.

227 Small town, with lots of great options.

228 Sense of community

229 Makes a real effort to balance the various pressures on the town by being as transparent as possible, and very dedicated paid and volunteer personnel.

230 Volunteers do a lot

231 community involvement
