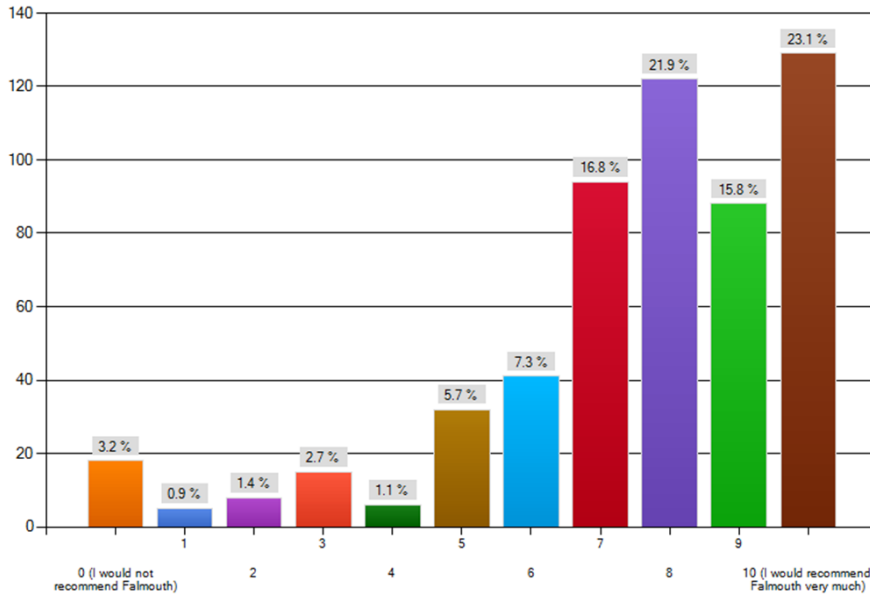


**LONG RANGE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 2010 "MINI" SURVEY RESULTS** (November 16, 2010)

The Long Range Planning Advisory Committee conducted this initial, informal 3-question survey among Falmouth residents from June-October 2010. The purpose of this survey was to learn more about the perceived qualities of Falmouth and issues that residents felt needed improvement. In addition, the survey made residents aware of the current effort by a citizen committee to draft a new Comprehensive Plan that will guide Falmouth's decision-making over the next ten years or so. A total of 553 responses were received. The feedback obtained by this survey will be used by the committee in the development of a statistically-valid community survey that is expected to be conducted in early 2011. For more information about this project or to receive periodic e-mail updates, please contact Theo Holtwijk, Director of Long-Range Planning, 781-5253 ext. 5340, tholtwijk@town.falmouth.me.us. Thank you for your interest.

**From 0 (least) to 10 (most), would you recommend Falmouth as a town to call home, or place to do business, to a friend or colleague?**



Score	Why did you give that score?	What needs to change to increase your score?
1	10 I have lived here for four years and have found that this is the most wonderful town to be in, much better than NY and NJ where I spent most of my life.	#11
2	10 1. Great schools 2. Great bedroom community to Portland with friendly people 3. Great economical alternative to small businesses 4. Close to water, access and amenities.	1. A better centralized "downtown" feel. (I know this is a sensitive one 2. improved tax rate for homes and businesses, although I understand why they are high. 3. Less development restrictions on route one. Although the town is doing a great job protecting everyone's interest.
3	10 Because the town is most everything I could want in a community: great schools, still has small town feel, availability of stores, shops, professional services, and restaurants without leaving town, excellent population density, and great convenience in regards to major transportation routes.	A better town center like Yarmouth's.
4	10 Love it	A public pool and a sidewalk on Falmouth Road
5	10 Quality of the school system, the nice families that live here (parents engaged w/their kids). Well maintained roads. I like that the town does surveys like this to see where it's residents stand on issues	an increase in moorings at the town landing for residents of Falmouth
6	10 Comparison to other towns in the Portland area.	Any new land acquisitions be put in trust for 10 y before further development.
7	10 Location, schools, beauty, quality of life, town management	Cautious spending, keep bus, cautious development, no big boxes
8	10 school standings, town size, proximity to portland	COHESIVENESS, SMALL TOWN FEEL that this town has emotionally but not logistically
9	10 Town officials act like the town belongs to the people that live there. Taxes are high but services are good. Like the small town feel ( i.e less sidewalks, lights, green space, lack of cinderblock buildings) but close to larger city.	Concerned about maintaining "country" like feeling with growth
10	10 I love the community feel in the flats. Everyone knows each other, takes care of each other, it is a real feeling of community.	continued emphasis on good schools, community programs, I would like to see a community swimming pool.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
11	10	The Town is well managed, is lovely, we have an excellent school system, privacy	Continued management of open space, possibly a slowdown of residential developments
12	10	Closest town to Portland with its characteristics: easy access to highway and airport, on the bay with all that offers, low crime, involved residents, good schools (with efficiencies coming to keep taxes stable!) good housing (with more affordable pricing coming, right Theo and Nathan and Amanda??). good medical services, unlimited outdoor activities on land and sea, AND A WELL RUN TOWN overall.	Did you see my score? 10. But, more transparency and candor of school costs (75% of the tax bill) will result in savings to offset cuts from state and federal sources. This will keep taxes, which are NOT low, from going up. Yes, millage rate may be low, but the cost to buy teh home is not, therefore, the cost of taxes for a house are higher than in most of the state's towns due to the per house cost to run this town. Costs must be kept under control, and that means THE SCHOOLS. Did I mention they are 75% +/- of the total tax bite to a property owner?!
13	10	Falmouth is a well run, beautiful community.	Falmoth needs to maintain its focus on retaining its rural character through the preservation of open space.
14	10	Because I love it here.	Fix the road between Middle Road and Merrill at the corner because of the ice field in winter and blocking mail box with snow.
15	10	The sense of community the citizens have is very nice. The school district is good. The property values have remained steady.	Fix the roads. Stop building condos and subdivisions on every empty lot until you people can get a handle on maintaining transportation infrastructure.
16	10	moly residential, friendly neighborhoods, good schools, no honkey-tonk stuff	hard to Incease, but be sure to Keep Open Space!
17	10	Well maintained houses, streets. Friendly neighbors.	Have a town center, i.e Yarmouth
18	10	Having lived here since birth, (79 years) I've witnessed on-going, positive changes throughout the town:in the town's schools, police and fire departments, intrastructure, parks, community parks, open lands, (and churches)--and town ordinances that have helped make Falmouth a safe, lovely town in which to live.	I believe that Falmouth presently ranks heads and shoulders above most Maine towns, but over time there is steady need for improvement. Falmouth has kept an eagle eye on ways to improve and keep up with the increasing demands of its growing population. However, I believe Falmouth deserves a 10, when considering all the variable. But, I 'd like to see the removal of dead, old trees along a few roadsides, improvements on the perimeters of a few of the old cemeteries, and, perhaps, one lovely garden in each that is on a road often traveled--to honor past Falmouth inhabitants; and the New Casco Fort monument "prettied up" for Memorial Day each year (and a small wrought iron fence around it to protect such a garden from the crowds on Memorial Day.) "Little things that reveal that the citizens of Falmouth show respect and honor past inhabitants who gave service in many ways to an earlier Falmouth, who laid our town's foundations. Perhaps a Town sponsored volunteer Garden Club to help with the beautification of a few "corners" and "byways." Flowers and plants, might be donated in the early spring by community residents each year. For instance, I'd have several plants from my own gardens to give. (And for eight years I've placed annuals at the monument of Fort New Casco before Memorial Day (as it ;is totally forgotten as we honor those who have protected Falmouth in the past)! It would be a thoughtful gesture if the Town recognized this monument in the future, since it was the only battle fought on this Falmouth soil that protected its inhabitants settled here!) There are small ways to enhance Falmouth's loveliness--at little cost!
19	10	proximity to Portland; excellent schools; accessible and responsive town government; involved citizens; nice natural spaces (community fields complex, town landing, presumpscot park, macworth island, audubon); sense of place	I hope the town will support the library's expansive (either at Lunt or elsewhere). With more space and increased programming, I think the library could be a real crown jewel for the town.
20	10	Great setting and mix of neighborhoods and commercial, from compact neighborhoods around Town Landing to Route One corridor to farms, fields, and woods to the West.	I like it the way it is.
21	10	Falmouth offers so much -- a convenient location, great schools, active organizations, the chance to get involved, nearby access to shops and restaurants, close to Portland.	I would love to have a public social and recreational center. This is clearly a need and is desirable -- just look at the country clubs. They provide something like this and they seem to have lots of members. But Falmouth needs something analogous to that but open to the public. Many people can't afford a membership in the Woodlands or don't want to associate exclusively with that slice of the population. So an equivalent center available to everyone would be a big plus. And the school gyms should have open time for the public on a more regular basis. Thank.s
22	10	We pay low taxes for great services...particularly the schools which are private school quality. Public safety is wonderful as well as trash/recycling. Proximity to Portland is a plus and the town's ample open space.	I would urge the Town to repair several subcollector roads (Falmouth Rd. from Bucknam to Allen is a mess) and to try and build some connected trails with all the recently aquired open space (connect schools to community park)
23	10	still small enough to have many people volunteer in the community. safe, great schools, convenient to many things in the area, rural feel (although that is changing quickly),	I'm at a 10.
24	10	Quiet living with easy commute to Portland. Houses are not on top of each other.	It would be nice to have another restaurant in West Falmouth.
25	10	The proximity to amenitiesand the state's economic center	Keep it affordable

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
26	10	Because Falmouth is great town to live in. With many supporting things like shopping, medical and dental, 15 minutes to Portland, etc.	Keep it from getting to over populated.
27	10	close to highway/convenience and portland, schools scores are better than most, Pretty, no real traffic problems, slightly better town gov when compared to others--and at least you ask our opinion, overall good financial managment, I think that compared to other towns our officials are more intelligent and creative. decent community programs for kids and adults, nice library, okay shopping. Big parks. Love the idea of letting college kids become vol. firefighters and live at firehouse. That is the creativity I like about Falmouth town officials, Mooring area (keep it low priced so we can afford to keep our boats). Good fire, police, good response time	keep town offices open in evening 1 night a week so those of us that work do not have to use vacation time to conduct business. (6:30 at least). Better road maintenance. More forward thinking--plan for long term, pay for what we want and dont borrow money (or make is very short term). Example why are the new school not built to the highest energy efficiency with solar power? It would save in the long run. Maybe we could of put off construction for 2 years while we raised additional funds--I know the state funded part and they are so poorly run, you have to play by their rules but as a taxpayer (it is my money) all I see is foolish irresponsibility. I think the parks could use some more facilites possibly. I am not sure why they dont get used more--its weird to see such a large open space sit empty most of the time. Reconsider brush pickup in spring--I would be willing to pay for it, maybe even a big item trash day. It is cost effective to do it in mass. A ticket based program could pass the majority of the cost to those that use it. It is better, financially and enviromentally, than each of us hauling, or hiring some one, to make a trip to the dump, or burning. Fix the traffic mess at the school area at pickup and drop off time. Give them enough parking. Make eveything you can an on-line option so we do not have to take time off work to go to town hall. Start with burn permits and dump stickers. Solve the parking issue at town landing. Get the PACE program up and running so families have a way to pay for solar on their homes. Figure out what upgrades the city will need over the next 10 years and raise our taxes right now so we can save up the money to do the things when it is time. If we need it we need to pay for it, not borrow the money. Any borrowing should be very short term, not the life of the project. Otherwise the item (school, road, etc) is need maintenance (that we did not play for either) and we are still making loan payments on it. Maintenance needs to become part of the budget for each item. It should be preplanned (with a reserve or cushion for emergencies). The software to do this already exists, go talk to Maine Med.
28	10	My daughter recently graduated from Falmouth H.S. after starting in 7th grade at the Middle school and enjoyed it very much. We found a great house to live in in an excellent location and have been satisfied with the way the town leaders run things.	Keep up the good work.
29	10	Good Schools, good parks and recreational areas, low traffic with easy commute to Portland. No major urban sprawl.	Making sure that development is green, well-planned, vetted and of appropriate scale and minimal impact.
30	10	I'm a lifelong resident of the town (53 years today). Every community has things that could be improved upon, including Falmouth. Falmouth does a nice job holding on to the good things and addressing the problems.	Managing growth.
31	10	I have lived here for over ten years and i find Falmouth to be a very good place to live.	Modest change is good to be able to see where we are going
32	10	Strong schools, sense of community, assets such as coastline, rural, parks, trails, nature preservation, central business district, neighborhoods in some sections.	more about maintaining balance of residential, commercial and undeveloped.
33	10	Lived here for 30 years and love it.	More affordable housing. Retain open spaces. Maybe a dog park.
34	10	Great location Schools opportunity for nice house	More business
35	10	Great schools, small community feel, convenient to Portland, small downtown with things I need	More business development downtown. Not just banks! Things for all ages to do - public access. Teen center, Adult center. Bike paths and wider roads. Encourage walking traffic.
36	10	Good schools. Good waterfront	More busniess and industry.
37	10	Many reasons. Just asking these questions is an indicator of how thoughtful town gov't is as it plans for our future. A very well managed town (great Council, town manager & staff). Shoreline, open space, trails, rural character, good schools and great sense of community all make this an outstanding place.	More citizen participation in Council discussions, and fewer headcases like Mr. Doyle.
38	10	I love it here .	More openspace.
39	10	I've lived here for almost 40 years, and I consider it my home town.	More public transportation.
40	10	Good schools and close proximity to portland.	More sidewalks or paved shoulders for pedestrians and cyclists.
41	10	Small town atmosphere so near to Portland.	More ways to be connected to the "town".
42	10	Well managed town with wonderful resources including schools, recreation, public safety, and services	MoreBike lanes or walking lanes.
43	10	Because I feel that Falmouth is a very great place to live	Move the Town Hall, and the library where the old schools buildings are.
44	10	Because of it's schools and proximity to Portland and the ocean.	n/a
45	10	Community is full if very friendly people, area seems very cleanly, it's also a gorgeous area in which to live with the water side, etc.	N/A

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
46	10	Great place to live and raise a family	n/a
47	10	It is a delightful town, with great services, terrific local gov't, high citizen involvement, good schools and desirable rural character.	Nada
48	10	Best place in Maine!	nothing
49	10	Great community, great public schools, beautiful parks, proximity to Portland	Nothing
50	10	I love living in Falmouth and it offers all the businesses that I utilize within 5 miles of total traveling time.	Nothing
51	10	I think Falmouth has a lot of Maine in one small town. Coastline, lakes, trails, great schools, shopping, restaurants, varied recreation and adult education opportunities, close to a fairly large city, easy access to I-95 and 295, near a jetport, rolling hills, parks, tennis courts, basketball courts, etc.	Nothing
52	10	It has a great school system	Nothing
53	10	Strong school system, history of good planning, strong financial management of town finances, emphasis on the environment especially preserving land.	Nothing
54	10	I have lived in Falmouth for most of my 49 years. After college, I purposely moved back here to raise my daughter in this school district. My Great Grandparents lived here and my father graduated from the Falmouth school system. I highly recommend Falmouth to people looking for homes or those looking to relocate their business. My own husband operates his business here in Falmouth.	Nothing needs to change to increase my score. Falmouth is just a great place to be.
55	10	We've been summer residents for thirty + years in E. Falmouth and we find the people here to be very friendly and easy to get along with.	Nothing really!
56	10	Schools, recreation, location	Nothing, maintain services
57	10	I have and continue to recommend this town to others. I think we have a great school system, shops and services, and great proximity to Portland. We have great fields and a wonderful community program as well.	Nothing.
58	10	I love living here because of Falmouth's rural character and its proximity to Portland.	Nothing. What needs to happen is a continuation of Falmouth's good work at preserving open space.
59	10	I like the school	Park
60	10	Safe place to raise a family, good schools, beautiful place!	Pedestrian crossings need to be marked better for both pedestrians and drivers. Not being able to cross the street while pushing a stroller makes it much harder to enjoy an afternoon walk.
61	10	Falmouth is a great residential community with close proximity to Portland and easy Interstate access.	Preserve its rural character.
62	10	open space, attention to conservation, great schools, attractive neighborhood layouts (e.g., houses not too crowded)	resist temptation to develop every wooded area...
63	10	It's a quiet, peaceful, family oriented town with great schools. And still so close to everything. Like being surrounded by space, trees and water.	Since I would and have recommended Falmouth to friends there's not much I would change. But to continue to stay family oriented by having activities for families to enjoy. And in the growing of Falmouth to maintain the same atmosphere.
64	10	We have lived here for over 50 years and have had two children go through the Falmouth school system. It is a very desirable place to live.	Some of the roads need to be repaved.
65	10	small, safe, almost homogeneous	stop the building. vacancy's at shaws as an example, some for almost 10 years indicate we have enough. and stop with more damned banks.
66	10	Attractive, proximity to Portland, shoreland	Support of town use of the school complex, continuation of support for Falmouth Flyer
67	10	The quality of; life, neighbors and environment that exists in Falmouth.	The town needs a public swimming pool! Also, consolidating town services (library, town hall, and community programs) in a Civic Campus would be great.
68	10	Great Town	To go to 10 need new Town Hall, Community Center, Library
69	10	great neighborhoods, great schools, good community feel not too commercial easy commute to Portland	unfortunately we will never have a Main Street like Yarmouth....route one is more like outer Forest Ave in Portland too bad
70	10	still a nice town	very careful development planning. Population & commercial density (local traffic) is about at maximum now for pleasant living.
71	10	rural feel with small city next door	village center
72	10	It is near Portland, close to the airport and Rt. 95, is on the coast while offering inland acreage and housing, has great schools, has a diverse population/housing which increases community interest, has the Portland CC, Portland Yacht Club, Handy Boat, Town Landing and many other public and private facilities.	We just need more of a town center to give Falmouth more of its own identity; today it feels like we are simply an extension of Portland, just a bedroom community.
73	10	Great schools & community programs & close to Portland	Would like more sidewalks.
74	10	Responsive town government, plenty of activities, and a great school system	You need to have a higher scoring system, I think 10 is about as high as I can go.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
75	10	Beautiful town well managed, great schools..	
76	10	Beautiful town, close to Portland, good schools, safe	
77	10	been here for 15 yrs and know it is a very friendly and hospitable town	
78	10	community oriented government, excellent services, country-like feel but close to city	
79	10	EXCELLENT SCHOOL SYSTEM,WELL KEPT PROPERTIES, EDUCATED CITIZENRY AND OPEN SPACE REMAINS.	
80	10	Excellent schools, ease of access to major transportation and other facilities, clean, safe	
81	10	Falmouth has great schools, shopping, government	
82	10	Falmouth has some much to offer and the location is perfect to the city. The schools are outstanding, there are a variety of businesses, although I'd like to see more along the strip to fill empty buildings. The council and school board have done an outstanding job on keeping our taxes at a low rate. I am very interested in the plan for Lunt/Plummer-Motz with the debt that is now on our plate from the high school, police station and new elementary school.	
83	10	Falmouth is a beautiful place to live with great schools and open friendly residents. The town staff is especially competent and responsive.	
84	10	friendly, good access to conveniences and Portland	
85	10	Good school system; near all that Portland has to offer.	
86	10	Good schools, good library, convenient to Portland, beautiful scenery, friendly people, easy access to highways	
87	10	Great geographical location to live or work. Close proximity to Portland, easy access via road sytem to other parts of the state.	
88	10	great location. nice size.	
89	10	Great school system.	
90	10	Great Schools that produce good leaders, organized town hall & programs, involved residents, business friendly, yearly building growth cap, cares for the environment thru town by-laws etc.	
91	10	great schools, convenient shopping, convenient to Portland	
92	10	Great schools, friendly people, proximity of location to Portland and outdoor activities (boating, skiing, hiking, etc.)	
93	10	Great schools, very safe, nice people.	
94	10	Great schools, wonderful people, beautiful town	
95	10	I am impressed with Falmouth's commitment to create an environmentally healthy community. The use of the website and Internet makes is easy to keep up to date on what is happening in this town. I like the urban-rural quality of the town.	
96	10	I feel that Falmouth uses its resources prudently. I like the fact that our school system is second to none and that we aren't wasting money on boardwalks and what not.	
97	10	I have Lived in Falmouth 30 out of my 40 years...Falmouth is my home...	
98	10	I have lived in Falmouth for 48 years and believe this is a safe and secure place to raise a family.	
99	10	I love it here!	
100	10	I love living here. It is close enough to a larger city and the associated amenities, yet remains less congested. Attractive and safe. Good schools. Not too many businesses.	
101	10	I love this town.	
102	10	I think Falmouth has one of the best school districts in the state. It has a great open space plan to help preserve the landscape and is doing a great job to utilizing this spaces with new trail networks. It has both a rural character and a seaside community character.	
103	10	I was raised her and returned in retirement. I see a lot of potential in the town of Falmouth. It still holds to the same high standards as when I left it in 1962.	
104	10	I was raised in Falmouth, saw the town adhere to the same high standards and have returned here to live in retirement.	
105	10	It is an excellent community to live in.	
106	10	lovely place to live, close to Portland , a city that offers everything a city should. great people and services	
107	10	marvellous community/adjacent to Portland/public spirit	
108	10	not too big, convenient and great schools	
109	10	open space	

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
110	10	Proximity to many services and pleasant living without overcrowding	
111	10	Proximity, access to activity and the New England region, quality of life, schools, history, greenery, educated population, reasonable taxes.	
112	10	schools	
113	10	This is a GREAT town, yes it has its flaws but I wouldn't live here if I was not happy.	
114	10	We moved here from NJ 4 years ago, and we are very happy here. Schools are great, nice community, small town feel.	
115	10	We moved here from the Chicago area and the schools and neighbors welcomed us with open arms.	
116	10		
117	10		
118	10		
119	10		
120	10		
121	10		
122	10		
123	10		
124	10		
125	10		
126	10		
127	10	I love Falmouth, but it needs to keep its country and open land. Let's limit new development!!	
128	9	it's a great place to call home - great schools, some nice shopping	a community center for kids/teens would be nice, and a village (at Shaws on Rt. 1) would be great
129	9	I think Falmouth is a wonderful place to have a home and raise kids. The area is beautiful with the all the trees and an "out of town" feel. The school system is great and is the single biggest reason we moved to Falmouth. The parks and rec activities available to families is also top notch. It's a pity about the strip development but at least it is all kept in one area and does not sprawl all over.	A downtown area that is pedestrian friendly (maybe with town hall, police, etc located there. But all in all it is a great place to live as long as retail sprawl can be controlled.
130	9	Falmouth provides closeness to Portland and Portland's amenities while providing a great school and access to public wooded areas.	A focus on strong management and leadership of the town government. Falmouth should not be destroying the value of people's land by passing overly restrictive environmental laws. Falmouth must view local businesses as valuable to the community and a great source of revenue. Treat these businesses well so they don't all leave and put the entire tax burden on the homeowners.
131	9	I love living here.	A pool?
132	9	The town is great, but would be better with a town center.	A town center and a better plan for Route 1.
133	9	excellent schools, proximity to Portland and the midcoast, stable home values, access to snowmobile trails, nice neighborhoods, roads with bike lanes.	a town pool and a town center
134	9	Town is reasonably well managed.	Become very well managed.
135	9	schools, proximity to portland, schools, open space, schools	better community understanding and town council support of the importance of schools for property values and overall town viability - including support from those who do not have children in the school system
136	9	High quality schools, integrity of town governance, convenient location, natural beauty of location, low crime rate, population stability and high rate of community volunteerism and involvement.	Better opportunities for walking and cycling through town beyond the town center.
137	9	The school system is highly recommended, it feels like a safe environment (police take active role), the mix of rural and urban is just right.	Better quality roads (state and town). Blackstrap Rd is too heavily trafficked for such a residential and recreational area.
138	9	excellent schools, laid back lifestyle, good public resources	Build a public pool and central town center to keep the small town feel and exclude the BIG BOX stores
139	9	I think Falmouth is a great place to call home, has good schools, and I believe businesses will grow in years to come.	Businesses should be encouraged for slow reasonable growth that people who liver here can accept.
140	9	Lived in Fal 65 yrs but don't like how it has changed but I am attached to it, thus a 9	can't go back - it is too crowded and Rt 1 too much traffic (not all local - Wal Mart brings in too many outsiders, creating traffic havoc.) Don't like creating school all in one place - traffic created as bad as Rt 1. Do not want Town Hall to move.
141	9	Great place to live if you can get in but too hard to do develop a business if it involves changes in uses or land development.	Clearer, less ambiguous, less overlay zoning ordinances with town board/council interpretations of policy that have not been formally adopted.
142	9	not too congested! good schools, nice homes	commitment to FIGHTING THE FORCES OF DEVELOPMENT ON ROUTE 1

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
143	9	a nice New England town	control spending our tax dollars now. Either sell PM/Lunt buildings to developers ... or possibly a retirement community (city run, as well done as Northborough, MA) for our aging neighbors. Get business friendly with tax breaks to encourage local shops and jobs to increase the tax base. City Hall is fine where it is.
144	9	Close to the great city of Portland, boating, shopping, good neighbors, good schools, etc.	Dependable public transportation into Portland, to the airport. Less congestion on Route 1
145	9	town culture, accepting change, forward thinking	development of a town center, better library facilities, civic center
146	9	Great schools, good services, well maintained and policed.	Do not regress in zoning issues. You've got it right!
147	9	good schools, good access to transportation, good facilities, holding real estate values	expensive housing
148	9	Great schools, great people, great location, thoughtful planning.	Full day Kindergarten! A public swimming pool.
149	9	(1) Schools are excellent. (2) Convenient to Portland (for work and all sorts of services and amenities). (3) Convenient, relatively pleasant, day-to-day shopping and services along Rte 1. (4) Access to incredible outdoor places (Mackworth Island, Audubon, river trails, Town Landing)	I am very happy living in Falmouth; my whole family treasures the community. My only reservation is that the town seems on the verge of going in the wrong direction. In order to remain an attractive community: (1) Schools need to stay strong. Repeated years of decreased budgets give the appearance that we may not any longer be supporting our schools to the degree that surrounding towns are. I know families who are already moving (or considering a move) to Yarmouth because of this. (2) "Town Center" needs to continue to evolve as a true town center--i.e., not as car dealerships and box stores, but as mixed-use, relatively pedestrian-friendly shopping/service areas. If the library moves away from Rte 1 (as it will have to in order to expand, unless the Lunt/Plummer-Motz deal goes through), then we are sunk! Selling off the Lunt/Plummer-Motz buildings would signal that we are not truly interested in building community.
150	9	I believe that it accurately reflects my evaluation of the area and what it has to offer.	I believe that it already represents a very high score.
151	9	It is a fantastic place to raise a family, with a good education system, close proximity to Portland for both work and play, plenty of athletic opportunities, and a clean well kept environment.	I graduated FHS in 1995, so I'm sure many things have improved. But at the time I thought the school system was behind in some educational programs such as computer science and personal finance/investing. I'm sure with the recent growth that there are many new and improved educational programs.
152	9	Falmouth is a great town to live in. It is near Portland and has a home town feel to it. I would give it a 10, but there is always room for improvement.	I think that keeping taxes in check is number one. That would mean no additional spending on any of the public services. The police and fire department are big enough. The town office can stay where it is and the library can also. We don't need to buy any more land or need a swimming pool. When the tax base grows, that should be the only new income for the town to spend. Not raising taxes.
153	9	Good schools, easy access to Portland, access to open space (audubon & mackworth), low crime, nice neighbors, involved citizens.	I wish Falmouth had more of a defined downtown / town center like one finds in Yarmouth.
154	9	Falmouth has a great blend of location to Portland, quality of services and quality of life. Also the quality of the school system.	I wish Falmouth had more of a downtown and was more pedestrian friendly.
155	9	My husband and I recently moved into Falmouth from out of State. We moved here for the sense of community, nice people, greenspace, larger yards, rural lifestyle, and good schools. We have found all of that and more since moving here. We only wished that we had made the move to Falmouth 5 years ago. We are so happy to be a part of Falmouth.	I wish there were more sidewalks for the children and I to run/walk/use stroller on in the scenic areas. It would be nice to know where the trails are in Falmouth (I'm not sure where to go and find hiking areas). We would love to see a community pool and playground built if possible.
156	9	I love it here.	I would like to see Blackstrap Road repaired or rebuilt one of these days.
157	9	I think Falmouth is a safe town and a nice place to live.	I would like to see more businesses and restaurants for families.
158	9	It is a great place to live--convenient to Portland, great schools, and good (and developing) policies regarding land protection and open space.	If the Town Council passes the natural resources ordinance amendment, my score would increase.
159	9	Great schools, small-town feel, beautiful land	I'm a little worried about the increasingly divisive political atmosphere. I'm concerned that the community's long-standing commitment and financial support of the schools will wane.
160	9	Location relative to Portland, strong schools, good community	Improve the aesthetics and vacancies along the route 1 / Falmouth downtime corridor
161	9	Good schools, reasonable amenities, proximity to Portland, ambience (water access), reasonable density of population	Improve town landing water access/parking options. Implement community center at Plummer-Motz. Increase community programs. Attract more services to currently vacant areas of commercial area (restaurants, etc). Better bike/walking access (such as along heavily travelled roads like Rte 9). Expand green areas/parks. Encourage better architecture/improve appearance of existing areas with landscaping/sign control.
162	9	I like the town. It has a good school system, is trying to be friendly to seniors	It takes much to long to go through the planning board process

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
163	9	It's a nice place to live with nice people. Not way too expensive (and would like to keep it that way). Very convenient to Portland, 295 and the Turnpike.	It would be nice to keep taxes at the same level and not go up. Some more development in development corridors like Route 1 would work well to help the tax base. Would not like it to get overcrowded.
164	9	Falmouth appears to have a strong family-based vision. The new school may not seem appropriate given economic conditions, but it is the right thing to do for the town. If we miss out on the opportunity to convert the the former Lunt & PM campus to a Town Hall/Town Center/Community Programs Center, then we will be throwing away a tremendous opportunity. To sell these for short-term money is poor asset management. Let's take a strong step forward, not back.	Keep a progressive vision for the future. Let's utilize the Town's assets in a manner that provides for increased family-based progress. What is a better way to do that than to expand and create a central Town Hall, Community Programs Center, Library, etc.
165	9	Beautiful area, safe, great schools, proximity to Portland, relatively more attractive tax structure, friendly people....	Keep watching the tax structure, constrain the size of government, keep the area beautiful, clean, safe, schools
166	9		Less big lot homes. More housing like in the Flats area - more neighborhood feel. Less traffic on RT. 1, very difficult to get out of the parking lots onto Rt. 1. Falmouth Foreside should be Rt. 88 and east -- like it used to be. Extending it to Middle Rd, is a little much!!!
167	9	location near water, good schools, close to Portland	lower taxes
168	9	schools - town landing - friendly	lower taxes
169	9	Would have given it a 10 except for the tax burden.	Lower taxes
170	9	It's great but not perfect!	Lower taxes!
171	9	Good schools - good access to recreational facilities and availability of goods and services.	Lower taxes.
172	9	Great location in Maine.	Lower taxes.
173	9	quality of life	more businesses!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
174	9	Beauty, convenience to Portland, schools, town landing, shopping on rt 1, local doctors, etc	More cohesive town center, less of a strip mall appearance from road, friendlier walking and bike routes to schools and shopping
175	9	I've been here for 25 years and feel very much at home. The town has grown and become friendlier over time. There are more services: the library facility is much better, it's open more and the staff is very welcoming; there are new doctors and dentists; more businesses and restaurants. It's close to Portland and now there's a bus service.	More frequent bus service, so I can take advantage of it to get around Falmouth and well as go into Portland.
176	9	Because I love living here, and doing business, but it is not for everyone.	More green initiative, more awareness of land preservation as an important reason that people choose to live in Falmouth (biking lanes, hikes with kids, etc). Love our school. Love the library. Like recycling initiatives!
177	9	Access to Portland, longterm resident, easy access to recreation	More liberal restrictions on businesses to allow hardware, big box like Lowe's or Home depot, and other convenience services.
178	9	I'm happy here; near to Portland	More opportunities for lower & middle income folks to live here
179	9	Route 1 Corridor nicely done (first impression) Character---Pretty areas-ocean to rural Active Community	More pedestrian friendly in some areas-sidewalks, off road bike trails (rail trail), more community participation events
180	9	Falmouth has a great school system, great places to shop, & lots of things for the children to do.	more places to eat out.
181	9	This town is a great place to raise a family. The schools are excellent, there are a lot of activities for children and adults, safe environment, attractive town. Also close to Portland where we both work.	More side walks, so you could walk to school, store etc., expand library
182	9	Because of the schools, the interest of the town government, the downtown area, the choice of housing.	More streetlights, sidewalks, and more businesses located in vacant buildings
183	9	great schools, 'suburb' with easy commute to Portland, great neighborhoods, easy access to 295, 95. Not too over-run in the retail district-- maintains smalltown look and feel, and is accessible, walkable. Great library/librarians.	needs a good, small hardware store again! needs a community rec center/pool. need to ensure that rt 1 doesn't get too overdeveloped by retail.
184	9	It's a great community though not a perfect 10.	No town is that perfect..a 9 is pretty darn good.
185	9	I love the school system. I like that the town is environmentally conscience and that open space and not overcrowding is valued.	not much
186	9	Good real estate investment; lots of community parks, town landing pier, close to Portland - all things that make a location desirable.	Not much; keep property taxes in check; control/monitor TIF spending; let economics drive economic development not ordinances; town is desirable enough that if a business is meant to succeed, it will. Restrictions can discourage a viable business while a TIF may encourage a business that might not be feasible without the cash incentive.
187	9	People, sense of community and proximity to Portland.	Nothing
188	9	We are very happy here .Moved in our old age. Have grandchildren in the excellent Falmouth schools.	Nothing is perfect. I do get annoyed by the councillors who don't want to spend money on anything even if it would really benefit the town in the long run. Must keep the Falmouth Flyer.
189	9	Great schools, open spaces, involved community, responsive public safety dept, proximity to Portland, the coast.	Really not much. Maybe a new on/off ramp off I-295 to handle Cumberland traffic so falmouth didn't have so much through traffic.
190	9	quality of schools, high demographics of people	remove the turnpike, the spur and 295.



	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
191	9	schools are excellent, real estate is always up here as is, unfortunately, the town's property taxes...oh well !	sensitivity to property taxes
192	9	I grew up here and I have seen a lot of changes. Some good, some bad.	The councils to stop and think about our real priorities and not just to spend our money.
193	9	I think Falmouth is a beautiful community with a mix of shoreline, mountains and open space. The community is involved in decisions and so far those decisions have been forward-thinking -- preserving open space and working toward converting a commercial strip into a walkable village center.	The town needs a Town Center, a physical place that defines the community, and a village like Falmouth Shopping Center.
194	9	Schools safety community involvement recycling program	This is an expensive place to buy a house.
195	9	safety, natural resources/green space, proximity to Portland, excellent schools; right size community; good community resources	to have a "town center" or square--a gathering place for the Town residents--such as is being proposed; continuation of growth controls
196	9	The schools are excellent, the code enforcement office is fair, competent, & reasonable, the community services are outstanding..	Transfer station open on Sunday.
197	9	Falmouth has much to offer any individual. It's proximity to Portland and all a city offers, job opportunities in Portland are a drawing card, outstanding schools, relatively comparable tax structure to other locations in the area.	We have many empty business locations at this time, so the challenge is how do we attract a variety of businesses to come to Falmouth. One frustrating point has been the empty Shaw's location.
198	9	safety, beauty, great educational system, good people, proximity to Portland, green space	we NEED a town square--and the vision to convert the Plummer/Motz and Lunt school buildings to a town hall/library--with a town square would fulfill that need--and enhance the quality of life in the town. Thanks for asking.
199	9	The people make the town so important, and Falmouth is a welcoming, kind, supportive community that makes informed decisions about the schools, services, and offerings to the community without excluding others.	We need more community resources, and need to be more energy independent.
200	9	I've lived here for 36 years and raised my family here.	We still need to reduce taxes and spending. If we can't afford to buy land we should not do it.
201	9	Proximity to Portland. Excellent school system. Nice, consolidated retail center. great trails and outdoor rec areas easily accessible. nice neighborhoods with families of all ages and sizes. good services -- recycling, trash pick up...	would like more of a community center and involvement of all ages in community activities. would like a welcoming group for new families to Falmouth.
202	9	schools, Town Landing, shopping convenience, proximity to Portland, conservation land, little league baseball, Falmouth Community Programs	Would love to have the route 1 "strip" take on even more of a "village" feel. Recent projects have improved this, need more of that. A skate park would be great too. Scarborough has a nice one.
203	9	Close to the ocean, great schools and beautiful marina	
204	9	Falmouth is a wonderful family centered community. Having grown up in Falmouth and now raising my own family here in Falmouth, I have had the opportunity to see the consistent community involvement and pride over the course of a couple of generations. The schools are excellent. The citizens are involved. The customer base is a healthy one for businesses in the community as well.	
205	9	Fell Falmouth ranks very high in a place to call home but feel more could be done to attract business.	
206	9	good schools, nice community feel, subdivisions, open spaces	
207	9	great neighborhoods	
208	9	I like the sense of community and the quality of the schools and library.	
209	9	It is a beautiful town with a rich history.	
210	9	Schools, scenic beauty	
211	9	We have a nice rural character of the town. I'm concerned the council wants to change that. We don't need to be every other town USA.	
212	9		
213	9		
214	9		
215	9	Safe, conveniently located, good schools	
216	8	Overall I like living in Falmouth very much.	1. Full day kindergarten 2. Improve the Shaws shopping center with a mixed use development - offices, apartments, retail 3. Market the proximity to Portland to encourage young couples to establish themselves in Falmouth - and hopefully to stay and raise their families. 4. Encourage more densely developed neighborhoods with home prices that are attractive to young families. I work with several professionals who would like to move to Falmouth but cannot due to the premium on Falmouth real estate prices. 5. Weekly recycling pick up.
217	8	It is a great community that is not overly developed and has little traffic.	A continued focus on limiting development and the creation of a community center.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
218	8	Safe & quiet.	A lower school budget. The kids don't need to be in a Taj Mahal. An expensive school does not make them smarter. There are some dumb kids in town.
219	8	Falmouth has a wonderful school system, business and a closer knit community is expanding	A more distinctive "Main Street"
220	8	School, reasonable taxes, a commitment to preserve open space (at least I hope it's a commitment)	A renewed commitment to open space, a continued improvement of the route 1 corridor, which as it is, is pretty much like any other busy road in America. It would be nice if this could really be a town center. SIDEWALKS IN PLEASANT HILL. Increased police presence in Pleasant Hill where speeding is rampant!
221	8	it's very pretty, has great schools, lots of places to walk	a town center
222	8	Good schools, access to shore, close to Portland but not the city, good neighborhoods.	A town center concept would make Falmouth seem more like a "place" than a collection of neighborhoods.
223	8	its a close proximity to Portland, on the water.... but, the one thing I really wish we had was a town center!!! "the Strip" is a big negative....	a town center!!!
224	8	would have been #10 except home prices are out of range for most of my family & friends	Addition of affordable housing and installation of public sewer along Gray Rd & Route 1 north of Shopping Ctr for commercial expansion. Apply additional tax base/tax dollars to general budget needs not sheltered TIF projects.
225	8	I feel Falmouth is a 10 as a place to call home but a 5 as a place to do business since I don't have a business and don't know how business friendly Falmouth really is.	An article in the paper or website answering the business friendly question written by business people.
226	8	Proximity to Portland, quality of schools	better bicycle ways on roads
227	8	A nice place to live	Build the commercial tax base.
228	8	I feel we are lacking a community center. Not everyone wants to or can afford to be part of a country club. Other communities have either a YMCA, an indoor pool and more of a community feel, not a clique.	Community Center with indoor pool. A space where people of all ages can come to connect and have a good time while getting some exercise. This not only would be good for families but also for the seniors in our community.
229	8	i feel like there's a wonderful sense of community, and i feel that the government of falmouth does a lot to promote and provide community opportunities (through the rec. department, etc.) - however i feel like more could be done to maintain that 'small town maine' feeling (such as placing a moratorium on 'mcmansions' - rethinking development of rte. 1 and the vacant stores there....) i hate to see falmouth fall victim to the zealous over-development that towns like scarborough have seen...	conserve, conserve, conserve!
230	8	Community focus on conservation and open space, great lifestyle opportunities for active people and families.	Continue making improvements to bike lanes and bike paths. Rt. 1 is great north and south of town, but the commercial district is dangerous for bikes. 2. Continue supporting Falmouth Land Trust and trail systems.
231	8	I love my town.	Continued conservation and green policy and less development.
232	8	Great location, great education and proactive in keeping trail systems, open land, etc. from over development	Continued development of community center, biking trails/roadways, and health oriented efforts.
233	8	In addition to its attractive location and topography, Falmouth appears, for the most part, to be well managed	Cost of the Board of Education
234	8	strong sense of community improving walkability	create town hall/library/municipal complex closer to route 1 place schools in walkable location more bike routes more bus service/more routes/more frequency fewer cul de sac developments
235	8	Concerns of townspeople, accessibility to excellent transportation and Portland services.	Creation of "town center" with larger town hall, library and attention to sidewalk construction to facilitate increased safety for walkers.
236	8	Proximity to Portland, School system, quality of life, residential versus commercial community	Deal with vacant retail. Increase pedestrian opportunities (bike paths, parks, walking paths, etc). Don't even consider a big box. Save it for Portland
237	8	We moved to Falmouth to be nearer to family north of Portland. It is easily accessible to medical services and other businesses we need. We liked the use of space in the town, ie: rural but suburban. Having lived here only six years; we appreciate the conservative attitude of town council toward development and the interest in citizens input in decision making.	Decisions made now to save or acquire land in sections 4 and 5 for public roads and buildings ready for the growth which we know will occur in the future in order to create a TOWN CENTER.
238	8	Great schools. Very close to Portland.	Decrease taxes.
239	8	Great schools, very strong public safety departments. Lacking in a "village" feels. Rt 1 seems more like a large strip mall than a town center.	Develop a "Main St" that isn't filled with parking lots, big box stores, and chain stores. Work to promote local small businesses. Find a way to get rid of Wal-Mart. The building attracts crime and filth from Portland that can easily come to Falmouth on the Felony Flyer.
240	8	Rural character near a vibrant small city.	Don't turn Route One into Route One in Scarborough. Don't push people farther out in the decades to come by overbuilding Falmouth. It's primary value is as a high-end residential living area with open lands. Very few places left like that in America so long-term it will stand out as a great differentiator. People should go work jobs in Portland -- help that city revitalize.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
241	8	Experience	Expensive place to live, many in town have high expectations of services they believe they should have with great potential of driving the town operational costs upward such as renovating Lunt/Plummer and the additional systems to maintain at the new school.
242	8	Falmouth is a great town, but could be better.	Falmouth needs to continue to develop people-oriented facilities and opportunities (bike paths, sidewalks, congregating places, sport and leisure activity places, etc) and opportunities and parks for residents to be able to enjoy our natural resources(coast as well as woods, fields, lake, "mountain"). To be sure all are handicap (and baby-carriage!) accessible to the extent possible. Also to make Route 1 (and Gray Road) more community-related and less like the Route 1 area north of Boston. Still looking for that feeling of a Town Community Center which we lack.
243	8	Falmouth is a very nice suburb with great schools and parks.	Falmouth road is in dire need of resurfacing and widening to allow the addition of shoulders. A no-frills community center would also greatly enhance the social aspect of community development.
244	8	The town has a good school system, it has planned with care, and there are good property values, and not just seaside.	Fix Falmouth Road from Allen Ave to Bucknam, and Middle Rd from Rte 9 to Cumberland, and maintain ( don't increase) taxes.
245	8	Great leadership from conservative to liberal.	Fix Falmouth Road from Middle Road to the Allen Ave. Ext. fork.
246	8	Nice community, attractive, good location and schools and services. A little too "ingrown" in its thinking and vision sometimes, NO U.S. Post Office, however.	Give us a real Post Office, extend city water service to more areas of the town.
247	8	Healthy engaged community, good schools and municipal services, satisfactory commercial conveniences, very nice open space and recreational opportunities, but lacking somewhat in community character in that there is no real town center. Also, sometimes has the look and feel of being a non-inclusive (i.e. "exclusive") town for the relatively wealthy.	Gradual development of a dense, walkable, vibrant community / town center. Greater opportunity for, and acceptance of, diverse socio-economic population. Protection of valuable open spaces, green space, trails and other linkages, recreational access.
248	8	great schools, town is well taken care of, high level of professionalism	higher density housing(actual neighbor hoods) would be great for kids and adults to interact(like the development off of Woods Rd)
249	8	The school system is very favorable, the overall population is very professional and well-educated, proximity to Portland, and of course the ocean.	I feel that Route 1 from Morong's to Bucknam Road is an embarrassing mess for our town. I lived in Rutland, VT for 15 years & watched them allow business after business build into new buildings on Rt. 7, while leaving existing buildings empty. All of these buildings have their own driveways every 50 feet, (just like route 1 here), then led to tons of stop & go traffic, then eventually more traffic lights. It was a large factor in us moving away. I avoid Route 1 as much as humanly possible & do not support businesses there, as they contribute to traffic flow problems and help ruin the sense of community by making us like any other strip mall town in Anywhere, USA. Everyone on your committee should be required to visit Rutland, VT, and drive north to south on Route 7 through town. I believe that it would be a real eye opener. Thanks
250	8	Good location.....friendly people.....easy access to anything needed culturally, etc. Taxes are reasonable as could be expected.	I would like to be able to do things to my own home (renovations, additions, etc.) without the red tape expected by the town
251	8	I take value in the wonderful school system. The open recreation areas and the availability of public access to both the lake and the ocean	I would like to see ordinances change to allow individual property owners to be able to build additional property and access roads on their own taxable property. I also would hope for a centralized village center with a "Main Street" atmosphere. I look forward to future plans for a Community Recreation Center upon completion of the new elementary school.
252	8	I like the open spaces, the proximity to Portland, the many conveniences of shopping, the beautiful library, some restaurants. I also like the neighborhood in which we live.	I would love to see an outdoor, heated community pool; I would also like to see more of a village center, as Yarmouth has, where it would be easy to walk from place to place to shop or go to a cafe.
253	8	-great town to live in and bring up children (58 years) -not a good town to start a business -not really interested in a commercial tax base	-increase the commercial area to include 4-story buildings. -stop making vernal pools and such as the main issues in town
254	8	There is always room for improvement	Institute progressive "GREEN" policies as put fourth in the FGRC report. Ten yrs from now new residents will be looking for sustainable low carbon footprint towns, in both policy and infrastructure.
255	8	Its proximity to Portland, and good schools.	It's too spread out to walk places; there really isn't a center of town.
256	8	Love living here (and have for 10 years), but town lately seems focused on tax reduction at all expense. Also, a lack of community space! It's very hard to schedule meetings or activities for residents.	Keep Lunt and Plummer-Motz and create community facility!
257	8	We have had a great experience living in Falmouth since 1984. Schools are great, town services/resources are reliable and reasonable.	Keep taxes low, continue exploring "administrative consolidation", ie dispatch etc. We voted against school consolidation because we do not believe it would save Falmouth money (only Cumberland) and it would have reduced our say about our schools.
258	8	Community involvement is very high here.	Larger library and a focused town center for business and recreation.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
259	8	There are some great people in Falmouth who are dedicated to high quality (not quantity) way of life living	Less closed door politics/decisions - it undermines the cohesiveness of town
260	8	Because I am very happy with where I live and do business. In addition, the school system has been wonderful for my family. There are some issues that I would like to see changed, however.	Less emphasis on sports in the schools. More bus riding in the upper grades-- too many cars at the high school. Lots of people have odd priorities, I believe, regarding not only their children (treating them as precious little darlings), but their focus on perfection in lawns, etc. Not enough community opportunities, but it seems to be improving.
261	8	Pro active town government, "sometimes"	Less yuppie influence.
262	8	Location and quality of life	lower taxes
263	8	nice open space. close to city easy commute to anywhere	lower taxes
264	8	overall its a very nice town	lower taxes
265	8	Taxes are high for services received; other than that, its a nice place.	Lower taxes. More business-friendly
266	8	Quality of the location, community and schools.	Moderation on property taxes and living costs.
267	8	Location, schools,	more business friendly environment
268	8	Falmouth is a nice community to live but I must travel to other towns to take care of many errands.	More businesses on the west side of town, especially more restaurants-eat in as well as drive through and kid friendly.
269	8	Falmouth has many things going for it. Closeness to Portland, nice rural feel, clean, safe, nice library, decent shopping,nice neighborhoods, great schools, waterfront access, parks, etc.	More commitment towards creating community. For example, A pool and indoor track with a senior center and meeting rooms was proposed to the town but failed in a vote by the people. I think it was a huge mistake abd setback. A town center would be nice, but I don't think it will happen in my lifetime. However, we should have a master plan with incentives to engage private investors, etc. The town should take the initiative because other wise, we leave control to the developers and that would be regrettable.
270	8	Falmouth is safe, easy to get around	More diversity
271	8	Close to Portland, open space, bus connection, close to highway, high income residents	More diversity (would have a hard time sending kids to a school system with such a limited socio-economic range)
272	8	Open space. Good schools.	More economic diversity. More affordable housing. More public transportation
273	8	because of the schools -	more focus town with walking paths, trails or sidewalks making schools to route one and neighborhood accessible -
274	8	Growing town, keeping up with the times	More groath, recognition.
275	8	Close to Portland, excellent recreational opportunities, great schools, good infrastructure.	More hiking trails, better town center, more vibrant buiness corridor.
276	8	Great schools, great proximity to all that Portland has to offer, including hospitals, restaurants, shops, airport, etc, ocean side, plus farms and trails.	More infrastructure support for cycling/pedestrian activities on the roads and sidewalks.
277	8	Generally very good, tax base is OK, but the State's tax structure is unattractive for a business from away.	More local consolodations (like Falmouth/Yarmouth dispatch services, more school cooperation, and improved state tax climate
278	8	Friendly community; easy access to highway; good school system; beautiful!	More of a walkable "downtown" instead of just Route 1.
279	8	Close to Portland, Casco Bay and in the State of Maine. Good quality demographic as well.	More preservation of open lands. Limit housing and retail. Frankly inhibit growth.
280	8	Overall a Friendly town with Bay access and mostly a good group of involved citizens	More sidewalks and bike trails to get around and the addition of a town center would make Falmouth much more attractivec
281	8	Great place to live!	more sidewalks, community center, an outdoor pool that all residents can use,
282	8	great library, schools, shopping, wonderful homes and people	more sidewalks, trails, more opportunity for people to interact with one another
283	8	Great schools; good open space for sports, hiking, walking trails; active community participation by citizens; healthy environment; largely conflict free!	More space free of construction. Senior citizen center. Affordable housing.
284	8	location convenient to Portland, schools are excellent, retail business in town varied	more variety in housing type and demographics would give us richer variety in citizens, neighborhoods and businesses
285	8	Delightful, BUT very limited public transportation, no town center, full-fledged post office or modest-income housing.	Most, if not all, of the above.
286	8	I've only lived in town for 8 months, but so far have found Falmouth all-around a great place to live. Compared to my previous (nearby) town, things seem efficient, well-managed, responsive, clean, and friendly. It's nice to have easy access to Portland.	My single greatest criticism is that Falmouth seems like just the sort of town that should have a lovely, functional, accessible "center", but doesn't. I suppose one just never developed, historically, but perhaps it's not too late to create one.
287	8	No place is a ten.. Always room for improvement.	Need more ocean access. Suggest an Unserwood Springs Park. See the Arcadia book Falmouth for some views of the original. The Spring is still there..
288	8	the town is difficult to deal with, not open to new business or idea's	need people with more open minds instead of counslers trying to complete there own agenda
289	8	-nice place -good schools -parts still rural	-needs a town center (could be town hall/schools) -needs to be more pedestrian friendly (more places to walk) -town leaders need to recognize that it IS a small town

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
290	8	Great location between salt and fresh water with great schools and a growing sense of community. Still room to grow with appreciation for open undeveloped spaces.	Needs to develop a civic center for all ages. Develop better ways to route cross town traffic to limited access roadways.
291	8	Love the proximity to the ocean, great schools.	No downtown. Strip mall feel.
292	8	Proximity to Portland and good schools.	Not a 10 because of the lack of a "downtown" to visit.
293	8	Falmouth is a great place to raise kids and has the benefit of being close to the ocean, Portland and the mountains. Will I stay here after my kids graduate - unlikely.	Not sure anything could. I just don't think Falmouth is for everyone.
294	8	I like living in Falmouth but there a many things I like better in Yarmouth. I like the look and feel of the town center and the way it is laid out. We looked at both towns and we were able to get a house we liked here first but there are times I wish we were in Yarmouth.	Not sure. I don't want to see anymore expansion, or new mall areas built. There are areas with building not being used so I hate seeing more built with the old just sitting there. I REALLY hope that the Lunt area can be developed to a town center area, it won't look and feel like Yarmouth but it will be a great way to have people gather and connect with each other. The other aspect I really like of yarmouth is the sidewalks which I would love to see more of them in Falmouth on busy streets to encourage more walking. Sometimes it is too scary to walk on certain roads. That is about it, good luck.
295	8	Reasonable taxes; very good schools; attractive setting.	nothing
296	8	Having been employed most of my adult life in the Town of Falmouth (two different employers), it has always been a pleasant environment with the mix of urban and rural regions. In recent years, the growth of the town has seemed to over take the rural feel in favor of the more urban. It is this reason that I did not give it the "perfect 10".	Pay closer attention to where housing developments are allowed. It would be in better keeping of the rural factor if developments were placed in areas with access to public water and sewer. This would not only retain the rural areas of the town, but also be environmentally sound.
297	8	Great town but the trash bags are too expensive.	Recycling pick-up every week More police visibility in Blackstrap / Highland Lake area
298	8	rural setting with nearby sufficient shopping and businesses available. quiet, clean, attractive housing and low crime neighborhoods. taxes have been somewhat stable.	reduce school expenses and amenities. the luxury schools and sports areas are overboard.
299	8	It is expensive to live in Falmouth. Many people in Falmouth like to have more services, school fields, community pool and other amenities but they do not realize the impact on maintenance costs and installation costs which require additional tax revenue.	Reduce taxes or maintain the same tax level.
300	8	Taxes are high	reduced property taxes
301	8	Concentration of stores accessible without car; bus service to Portland.	Run Metro bus later, get a Target on Route 1.
302	8	A lovely place but taxes are much too high! Need more business to help with taxes with less spending.	see #2
303	8	detractions are high taxes, traffic, runaway school budget.	see above
304	8	Falmouth has reputation of being difficult and nitpicky with respect to business development. Although I have lived in Falmouth for 32 years and am still pleased with our choice, the local traffic burden degrades quality of life. A proposal to siphon some traffic off Falmouth Road through use of turnpike spur has languished for decades. Falmouth is bifurcated by 4 transportation corridors (2 train lines, turnpike, and 295) which means few residents are sufficiently buffered from traffic noise.	See above.
305	8	It's not perfect. Too willing to spend tax payers money, too concerned about woodland creatures as opposed to people, too unfriendly towards economic development, too anti-growth.	See two above.
306	8	Great schools, educators, neighborhoods.	slow down on the town spending.
307	8	Here is the problem. I think Falmouth is a great place to live and I have been fortunate in being able to do business here. However my score is not a perfect 10 because I know too many people who are having trouble or unrealistic delays trying to do business in Falmouth.	Stop creating unrealistic delays to creating business and housing opportunities.
308	8	It's not too busy, and it's very woody. Not too many buildings. Private	Stop putting buildings in everywhere and cutting down trees to make more houses. We don't need more houses. Protect our beautiful woods in Falmouth; don't cut them all down.
309	8	Good schools, proximity to Portland.	stop wateful spending and onerous land use regulations. We could cut taxes 20% and still maintain necessary services.
310	8	schools,open space,great volunteer fire dept. and great police dept.	Talk a good story about preserving open space,but tend to bend over for developers.
311	8	great schools, environment, close to a city and boston near mts. lakes and airport.	Taxes are very high
312	8	in general falmouth is a very good place to live and raise a family	the attitude of some in the town that they are somehow better than others; their materialistic attitude

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
313	8	I've lived in Falmouth since 1967. I graduated from Falmouth High School while living in West Falmouth. I've lived near Town Landing since 1977 and raised my family here. There is so much to do in Falmouth from hiking, farming, and having access to the water. It is a safe and beautiful town.	The only flaw in Falmouth from my perspective is the High School. FHS was the third high school I attended and the least friendly and least academically forward thinking. Unfortunately, both of my children struggled at FHS despite successful K-8 years in the Falmouth schools. There was a feeling that the staff and administration disliked the students and families which impacted everything from the unfriendly and unsupportive teachers to rigid academic thinking. If a student learned easily they were all set but no alternative thought processes were tolerated when I attended FHS - and had gotten worse when my children attended. I doubt my children will ever take a chance and allow their children attend Falmouth Schools - and therefore, not call Falmouth home.
314	8	The schools and near Portland.	The taxes - keep the same and we think before spending more.
315	8	Location to Portland and outlying recreation of all kinds.	The town needs to control it's spending. We have way too much invested in our police department and our looking forward is not what it should be. Ex: Why did we spend the money we did for a new police station when Lunt school is being abandoned. It would be cheaper for the town to pay for gym memberships for the police departments than the money we have invested in the exercise equipment in the new building and the space that it takes that we have to heat, cool and maintain for a very few people.
316	8	Great schools, great layout of town, great retail and restaurants.	The town needs to listen more to its' citizens and take care of those already here and their properties. There are issues not being listened to in how the town owned property is being used and developed as well as how they impact property owners by allowing others to do things on their property - causing issues between landowners that can be avoided.
317	8	Falmouth today is a great place.	There is a need to stop the continuous rise in taxes. We are in danger of becoming too expensive for middle class people. This issue certainly has me reassessing my long term residence.
318	8	Falmouth has a very good balance in its housing stock, offers a variety of good business locations along route 1 and by exit 53 of the turnpike and most importantly has maintained a good amount of open space for its residents to enjoy as the rural nature of the town is preserved. The school system is decent and there are a wide variety of community programs for residents to participate in.	there should be a better system of non motorized trails for children as well as adults to utilize so the number of cars on the roads would be reduced. one of the key connections to make is btw community park and the school campus. There should also be links from secondary roads to the turnpike spur and that toll should be removed.
319	8	Falmouth is a great place, my two concerns are the competitive culture pervasive in the schools and community and I remain concerned about development encroaching on open and wild spaces.	Thoughtful planning of further land development and I'm not quite sure how to thwart the overly competitive culture, maybe not teaching to the tests as appears to be done now.
320	8	Falmouth has a great school system and it's proximity to the ocean.	To increase my score I would like to see better use made of the Falmouth Shopping Center and make sure there are no more larger stores put in the community.
321	8	Pretty, safe, well maintained town which is very near Portland.	Town Council and School Board that cuts spending; e.g., cancel the Metro bus.
322	8	location ans schools	upcoming new taxes for new bldings
323	8	Great schools, recycling program, rural environment with easy access to Maine's largest city.	We need a community center with a pool.
324	8	great plac ebut no real walking area of town!	WE need a place tha tpeople can walk around and shop. Having the parking lot be the first thing you see from Rt. 1 really stinks. What a terrible vision (if you call that) the Falmouth officers/planners have had. A lack of vision really. Create an "old port" feelign area or a walking street like Main street Yarmouth.
325	8	I feel the schools are great and there is nice open space. but the lack of a downtown reduces the score	
326	8	Nice locaton.	
327	8		
328	8		
329	8		
330	8		
331	8		
332	8		
333	8		
334	8		
335	8		
336	8		

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
337	7	I think that in general Falmouth is a very nice town in which to live and to raise a family. I would give it an A-, but that suggests that there are things it could do to move to A+.	(1)The town should have a post office -- and NOT just a poorly run agent in a grocery store. (Could some of the Plummer Motz complex be used as a real postoffice?) (2) Town water could be expanded somewhat; given the frequency of power outages, living on a well is not a good solution. (3) Road maintenance could be improved. (4) Route 1 "town center" has been improved, but there is still room for improvement. For example, my impression is that someone isn't doing enough to promote the facility that has been empty since Shaw's expanded and moved.
338	7	If Falmouth lightened up on landowners and allowed more business, it would have been a 10	1) Less restrictions on landowners (alternative: Tax reduction on the portion of my land that town will not allow me to maximize the value on) 2) Less restrictive zoning to encourage more business - which will add to the tax base and reduce the burden on homeowners 3) Reduce social support funding
339	7	The town offers a great school and great activities for the community.	A community center, pool and post office.
340	7	I like it here. It's nice.	A public pool and a sidewalk on Falmouth Road
341	7	I feel Falmouth lacks cohesiveness. It seems more fragmented than some other comparable towns. It also seems to strive for excellence in education but just miss.	A town center might bring more commonality. More events that bring the town together like the Memorial Day celebration would also help.
342	7	I wish there was more of a village feel to our town. There is no "central" community space unless you want to consume on Route 1.	Also, I wish Falmouth center was more walkable....perhaps a Route 1 pathway to Johnson Rd would help! More of a whole-child approach to the school system--it seems very competitive and overly focused on scores! I do not ever recommend the school system!
343	7	closeness to Portland and turnpike and 295	attract more business to lower taxes
344	7	Because I like living in this Town and take great pride in it.	Because our taxes are high. And they are going to keep getting higher unless we stop blocking business and residential development; having the town buy all the land in town with taxpayer money; and now for some unknown reason we now seem to want to spend \$9m+ to have walking track, bigger town hall and library, etc... when there is no rational need to so.
345	7	Good neighborhoods, access to shoreline, open spaces, good schools with reasonable taxes, close to Portland.	Better bus service. Walkable town center.
346	7	School System, Access to recreational opportunities (water, etc.)	Business Climate (Need to be more proactive/efficient in approving new business/relocations)
347	7	High State Income and Excise Taxes, and high Falmouth Property taxes	Change in overall cost of living in Maine. I have looked at moving to New Hampshire several times over the last 3 years.
348	7	Falmouth is a great town. But, in my lifetime Rt. 1 has been turned into a commercial abomination. And don't think that the idea to change the Interstate merge ramp from a merge ramp to a stop light goes unnoticed as anything more than a way to open up more space for commercial development.	Conserve more of what's left! Not too long ago there were residential houses where the new Rite Aide now stands. Is this improvement? As a last thought, and I risk being persnickety on this, you have to separate the question above! Asking if you would recommend Falmouth as a town to call home or place to do business are TWO VERY DIFFERENT QUESTIONS! So, ask them as two questions.
349	7	mostly the value of open green/conservation space with a rural spacious development with neighbors though 'down the road a piece' kind and supportive	cost of living
350	7	Great location, but no town center and thus short of amenities, and it is hard to make friends here.	Create a place with pedestrian traffic to interesting locally owned and distinctive shops and restaurants
351	7	Conveniently located to Portland, the Turnpike, very tranquil and responsive to needs of residents.	Creation of a town center (like Yarmouth), greater integration with neighboring school districts, and more low-income housing.
352	7	Nice place to live, good schools, nice people, hi cost of living (tax rate vs. high assessed value)	Cut spending (ie metro, control school budget) to allow for a tax decrease and continued tight financial management of town's budget.
353	7	good schools, quiet neighborhoods, convenient to Portland, open spaces.	decrease expenditures in order to lower real estate taxes
354	7	Most of Falmouth retains a beautiful rural aesthetic. Its school system is fabulous, and there is ample recreational space, green fields, streets to bike and run on and proximity to shopping and dining (Falmouth itself, Portland and Freeport.) It is near the Ocean and major transportation systems. Houses are affordable in many neighborhoods. There are "mixed" neighborhoods, "older" houses and smaller houses to counterbalance the cul-de-saq communities that have sprung up. There is a Town Center comprised of a beautiful library, ball fields, hockey rink and American Legion. There is diversity of age, which is good.	Do away with government by charette (charade). It is not fostering a positive civics climate, but widening a chasm between longtime and native residents and newer-comers "from away." There is widespread feeling that due to this charette-charade form of government that taxes are pushing longtime residents out of their homes. Online voting cannot be verified in terms of duplicate votes or individuals using multiple computers to vote many times. Planning seems to be whacky with schools in rural, residential neighborhoods clogging rural, residential roads with traffic. There are many empty storefronts on Route One. Why? There is also an attitude of hubris and entitlement in the population and noticeable in the student population that power lies with those who have "more" (land, "stuff," house, athletic ability...) than others. This is not a sell-point. A better civic atmosphere, less polarization, would help to change this.
355	7	Pluses: proximity to Portland, waterfront access, neighborhood feel, open space	Expenditures on education too high -- drives property taxes up, limits other services (like brush pick up); not as pedestrian and bicycle friendly as I would like (eg, shoulders on the roads); too restrictive on zoning requirements on the Foreside.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
356	7	reasonable tax rate ~ services ~ not over built	falmouth has no distincy character ~ It is fragmented ~ no sense of community.
357	7	More elitist than it used to be, but a good place to bring up kids.	Fewer "gold plated" amenities in the town. We don't need a town center park at the old schools. There is no town center in Falmouth, we are not Cumberland or Yarmouth. Deal with it.
358	7	Because I think that Falmouth is a nice town but is generally not friendly to those who wish to do business here. I would however recommend that vernal pool fauna move in and I would rate it a 10 for those animals and plants.	Fix our third world roads and put in some sidewalks so people can walk and ride bikes with less danger. Stick to the rule of law in town council meetings. Don't spend money we don't have or borrow it.
359	7	Great schools, great location, development has increased but the natural aesthetic of the town has been preserved.	For too long the town has made it so that only the middle upper class and up can easily live in Falmouth. The town council needs to focus less on superfluous "green" initiatives like small wetland areas and the incredibly stupid wood chip burning plant outside the high school. Falmouth would be better if it had more organized trails for pedestrians and bikers. A more coherent public transportation system would be nice, because you need a personal car if you want to get anywhere in town or into Portland. More effort should be made to make Falmouth more business friendly as well, less focus on creating some "superior" community. A town cetner would be great, as long as it is economically feasible. A major concern of mine is the preservation of the Plummer school. Falmouth has few old buildings, tearing that building down is the worst thing Falmouth can do for future generations. Since the town has grown so much in the last 50 years, there is really isn't anything else that connects people with the past-and gives them a sense of place-like the Plummer school. Find a use for it, the last thing you should do is tear it down.
360	7	High School Children are extremely difficult to get along with. FHS is a hostile place to attend high school. I know this and I did not go to high school there- I am a recent college graduate who just bought a home in town. This is a large concern for me starting a family. I may either move away or send my future kids to a private school. That said, Falmouth is a great, safe, place to live and a good physical location with proximity to portland and boston without a major city feeling.	Get rid of bus service to Portland. encourage small neighborhood businesses with "walkable" appeal. less focus on vehicles (individual and mass transit) and more focus on pedestrian village feeling. see town of Yarmouth main street for a good example.
361	7	great proximity to portland, lots of open space, good schools.	greater civic involvement and sense of community
362	7	Because its still a small town	Growth needs to be solwed down and the school budget needs to be controlled
363	7	Falmouth is a wonderful town, however the real estate is somewhat delusional, the # of businesses/restaurants is small and practically every store here is closed by 9PM. The school's are fantastic, the people (for the most part) are warm and friendly.	Housing prices becoming more affordable/ sq. foot, more restaurants (and not just more of the same... Noodles, Bruegger's/Einstein bagels), an indoor kids play area would be nice. Having businesses stay open until 10PM. There are many nites when moms I know try to go out and our only choices are The Tavern or Bernies. You can't go out for a late coffee and read a book somewhere because everything is closed. Driving down Rt 1 at nite (9PM) you have no choices.
364	7	I didn't give it a 10 because it's too much of a bedroom community for Portland. It's a nice place to live - if you have the money - but I'm afraid it's becoming a high-income-only place to live. A lot of its character is disappearing as the out-of-staters move in and try to make it just like what they left behind.	I don't know if it's possible to change anything. It is what it is, and trying to bringt back what was will be unsuccessful.
365	7	I enjoy living where I live-I'm close to so many services and to the bus line.	I hate to see empty stores. We need to do more to encourage businesses to locate here.
366	7	Our family loves Falmouth. I think it is a wonderful place to raise a family, with fantastic nature preserves and excellent schools, however it does not have a town center where the community can gather. The community seems somewhat dissected socially by isolated developments and cultural diversity and creative education centers.	I think Falmouth would really benefit from a walkable town center with large open spaces that would accommodate active social gathering sites and limit large asphalt parking zones. These open spaces could include: public gardens, an attractive all season farmer's market, creative arts center, community exercise/ education center. I think Falmouth should continue to preserve and protect it's vital natural beauty and encourage small independent business growth that will serve and support the local community instead of inviting big box industries and chain venues that offer little social or cultural value and no distinctive businesses. The Plummer Motz & Lunt properties offer much potential for library, market, gardens, community center for kids and families. The Plummer Motz a Citizen education center
367	7	The zoning is such that almost all houses have privacy and peace/quiet. The schools are excellent. The town is well-run and services are very organized.	I would like to see a few more options for shopping/dining near exit 53.
368	7	I think there are many, many things of which Falmouth can be proud: good schools, good public safety, strong preservation of land, and overall, good management by town staff and elected officials.	I would like to see the town give more to those who have less: ensuring that the Falmouth Flyer continues to run and/or expand its route, more workforce housing, etc. I would also like the town to pay more attention to the roads, many of which remain in poor condition. And yes, I would be willing to have my taxes increase to achieve some of these goals.



	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
369	7	Great town with some great people.	Improve the schools. We have the highest income in the state - we should have the best schools in the state. Also, too bad there's no center of town. Other Maine towns benefit greatly from a downtown area, a center.
370	7	nice place but too many land use and site plan restrictions	Increase freedom to utilize property
371	7	Attractive landscape, easy access to downtown Portland, good schools, excellent fiscal management of town gov't. are positives. Uncertainty about the future keeps it to a 7; this is based on overly permissive treatment of developers.	Insure that developers pay their fair share & then enforce "smart-growth." Complete exterior transportation system: do not funnel trucks thru middle of town but open turnpike spur to toll-free travel. The roads are in place - use them!
372	7	It is a nice place, but definitely "suburban" in feel. There is no sense of a town, just a collection of houses scattered around town.	It may be too late for Falmouth because of the suburban sprawl of the last 20 years, but a "connectedness" of neighborhoods and town services creates a more cohesive community feeling, in my opinion.
373	7	I have a great home, I can commute easily to work in Portland, which I must do in order to live here, not a problem. I am fortunate to have a beautiful piece of property, that I choose not to develop.	Keep my taxes from going up and forcing me to sell out once I retire. The council needs to stop their foolish efforts regarding vernal pools. I have provided way more habitat and citizen vista's than I have ruined. I'm tired of NIMBY's. I would be happy to sell just sell my property to the councilors so they can pay the taxes and care for my salamanders.
374	7	For a home is great. For a business less so. Doesn't seem to be "that" business friendly.	Keep street lights on and don't stop public transportation.
375	7	I think it is a nice place with good schools, but there is a stigma and it is seeming to become less and less business and owner-friendly. It also seems to be a place where you have to hide more conservative viewpoints or be outcast.	Kill the vernal pools initiative and also get some better back up plans for the community facilities project. This seems to be headed by people who live near the soon to be empty schools and have put their interests as a priority rather than the needs of the town or the library, etc. We need a new library building (which would be cheaper to build than to renovate).
376	7	nice town; good gov't; good schools; good volunteers	larger industrial base//taxes have become very high
377	7	Location and proximity to Portland	Lower taxes
378	7	taxes are high and services few	lower taxes
379	7	I have lived in Falmouth for over 30 years; and truly love it.	Lower taxes
380	7	A generally favorable place with fantastic schools. Downside is that it is becoming to "upscale" and homogenous.	Lower to moderate income residents. And, I am not one, but do recognize the benefits.
381	7	proximity to Portland, non-commercial nature, has been able to keep taxes in check.	Maintain tight control on expenses and taxes, do not keep spending money we cannot have everything everyone wants, strictly control future development.
382	7	Falmouth is conveniently located to Portland, has a great school system and is a wonderful community to raise a family. The downside is that it is expensive to buy a home, public transit options are minimal and it isn't that much of a "walkable" community. I am excited and hopeful for the new Town Center proposal!	More affordable housing. More walkable options to activities and services. I would love to see Route 1 Falmouth become more of a destination business center with more street trees, on street parking, etc. to make it feel like more of a Main Street. Route 1 runs through many Main Streets in Maine... I think Falmouth could do something similar.
383	7	A great place to raise a family. Wonderful community. But, not a great place to be a business owner.	More business. Cinamagic movie theatre in old shaw's building. More sidewalks, playground, real post office!!
384	7	These are, of course, two questions in one. Living in Falmouth and doing business here are two different things. As a long term resident, I think that the sense of community falmouth has developed is laudable. But, I am very concerned about continued growth on Rt 1.	More conservation, or continued conservation, of open space, further development of community programs and events.
385	7	Falmouth is, for the most part, a wonderful community. Its growing affluence, and attendant homogeneity, is the only deterrent.	More diversity along the socioeconomic spectrum (e.g., affordable housing).
386	7	High taxes are turning Falmouth into an elite community for the rich. A handful of people who are out of touch with community needs are making decisions.	More fiscal responsibility and sharing of services with neighboring towns. Focus on filling empty buildings by using tax incentives rather than new development.
387	7	Falmouth is a strong community, a safe place to live and raise a family. However, the Town does not have a strong vision of how to protect itself from growth - we are at risk of losing much of what makes Falmouth special, particularly the natural resources and the 'small town' feel.	More focus on preserving the natural resources of the Town - in particular, aggregating large parcels that cannot be developed. As more and more housing is added, the Town is becoming chopped up. The idea of reusing the old elementary schools for the Library and Town offices is excellent, but we should not be selling off land - we should be collecting it to be preserved for common use.
388	7	The Falmouth Flyer bus convenience to Portland somewhat walkable sidewalks and a diversity of businesses that serve local residents	--more frequent bus service on Falmouth Flyer --bus route connecting East and West Falmouth --make Central Falmouth/Rt 1 more walkable, with more crosswalks, sidewalks, and density of businesses --fewer banks and insurance companies and more small retail businesses serving Falmouth residents
389	7	I love our town, but I wish it had a town center... with more local shops, a gathering place of locals.... I live just a 1/2 mile from Rt 1, but still have to drive into Portland to find a true town center feeling.	More locally owned shops and getting sidewalks onto Route 9... it's a major walking area, close to "town", library, etc..and yet we go without any sidewalk, while the foreshore gets granite walkways installed. It's frustrating.
390	7	Lack of affordable housing. Too much of a bedroom community with no center.	More of a town center/main street feel like Yarmouth.
391	7	location, very clean,	More parks or hiking area. make use of the land so people have a reason to be outdoors in Falmouth

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
392	7	nice community. good schools. pretty. quiet.	More physically attractive US Route One area. Concerted effort to have more businesses in area on Route One and in office park areas.
393	7	Schools are great, but lacking in community gathering spots. No community center, few playgrounds, small library.	More places for community.
394	7	Great location, excellent schools, good government and services. Good recreation activities.	More sidewalks/improved access to trails. More retail activity on route 1.
395	7	Anything less than a ten is due to my impression that Falmouth might not have a robust business community.	My perception or the reality of a more robust business community.
396	7	great place to live - proximity to ocean, water access & Portland.	Need a better relationship with new & existing businesses - working with the chamber
397	7	Great schools, nice small town	Needs more businesses for families. Now we have to travel to other towns to eat, shop, and play.
398	7	The overall character of the town is an appealing factor.	No more open space acquisitions and, stay within state guidelines for land use regulations.
399	7	School experience w/my children and experiences with town when I've needed to make inquiries.	Not sure...I think it's pretty good.
400	7	Because I see things that need improving.	Our library needs to be in a much larger facility so that the town can utilize it more fully. The Downtown area on Route 1 needs to be a more discrete downtown.
401	7	As a place to live, Falmouth is nice but is spread out, so we have no sense of town center. The Rt. 1 shopping areas are no substitute for a main street, which we just don't have. As for business, I shop locally so I assume new businesses might succeed. We desperately need a hardware store.	Perhaps moving the town hall and library to the Plummer-Motz location might help, but I doubt it.
402	7	it is a very nice suburban town, no real town feeling or community. I appreciate all of the local businesses but would like a walking area.	possibly encouraging Depot road to become a Main Street. Need a walking street for shops, a few B&B's, apartments, restaurants, cafe's/bakery. A REAL post office. Get a bowling alley, arcade, restaurant in the old Shaw's building, would be a great place for kids & young adults and adults to do something indoors.
403	7	The physical beauty of this town is wonderful. The school system is excellent. The police are wonderful and are separate from the Town of Cumberland - which is great, as there has been too many controversy with the town of Cumberland's police ethics and protocol now and for at least 30 years prior. The people who work at Town office are friendly and provide a small town feel.	Provide more access to the natural resources to residents - must include decent access to the ocean for those residents who don't live on the water. Also there must be more community based programs for children of all financial backgrounds to partake in activities. I "boys and girls" club of sorts would be extremely beneficial in helping children stay active and have access to a safe, healthy environment, and have access to the club with public transportation (from school bus or metro). Have at least one weekend day which children can be bussed to a club. Children NEED more activities that are assessible without cost to lower income families and families with working parents and rural areas. Falmouth MUST provide more information to residents about the people who are running for or attending to a town position that affects the residents (town counsel, planning board, school board etc). There's not enough information posted about elections (that are NOT presidential in nature) for citizens to know when, where to vote. WE need to have "town hall" meetings before a new election for town office, so citizens can get to know who is on the ballot. Explain to residents what is happening with the old Shaws building. Is there opportunity to turn it into a family friendly place? Maybe roller rink or bowling. Winter is hard in Maine, and poor families can't afford to go skiing. A nice place for families to roller blade, roller skate would be a nice addition to the town. The last thing I would say is a must for the Town of Falmouth - is to have recreation sports in school or outside of school for those children not chosen to play on the schools teams (mainly soccer). Many children don't have the skills to compete, but must be given the opportunity to play on "pick up" teams or just recreational to instill a sense of team, and belonging and exercise. After all, it's what we provide to our children to keep them healthy and happy and educated that will keep them interested in staying in Falmouth and seeing it continue to grow with the years and stay a diverse, healthy community.
404	7	overall location to portland,ocean etc.	reduce taxes and encourage people to stay after their kids leave school.we drive out with the high taxes.
405	7	to many hoops to go through and not very business friendly. remember back to just a few years ago when the town council and a mercedes benz dealership lost to scarboro.	reduce the regulations that have to be met as one size does not fit all. and i see an increase in taxes in the not to distant future.
406	7	Too many new houses being built-not enough public services for the taxes	reinstate the brush pick up and give us a dump that handles more things. Living in Falmouth and having to go to Portland to dispose of large items is ridiculous. Reinstate the orange stickers for trash pick up
407	7	Lack of town center/charm especially in the Route 1 corridor. Thought the initiative several years back to encourage more mixed use and commercial on Rt 1 with zero set back and angled parking made a lot of sense.	Rezone Route 1 to encourage building right along Rt 1 with easy parking and wide sidewalks. Get rid of the strip mall feel that one experiences driving down Rt 1.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
408	7	Falmouth is a wonderful community. Good schools. Needs more diversity.	Save money. Diversity. Cut spending. Not much community spirit.
409	7	Not enough medium priced homes	See above
410	7	Falmouth has location as its strong suit, however some that locate here are only here for their children's education and then they will move. While here they exert pressure on the town and school system to have things as they desire and the long term residents have to put up with any changes that occur which may or may not be in the best long term interest of the town. Also, Falmouth is not business friendly, especially in terms of new development. Too much red tape and restrictions, very cumbersome. The town dodged a bullet when it turned down the box store development on the town line with Cumberland when it didn't happen there, Let's face it Route One is commercial and let's make it work for businesses to come and to help with expanding the commercial tax base.	See above comments
411	7	Sprawl development along Rt. 1 is worsening and detracts from the community's positive qualities.	See above.
412	7	I am pleased with the schools and some of the open space. I wish there was more of a town center and I wish we could walk safely to neighbors homes.	Sidewalks, town center.
413	7	School system Taxes	Taxes
414	7	While a lovely environment, Falmouth is a very expensive place to live.	The cost of living in Falmouth needs to be brought down. Taxes are a big part of this. We need to think twice before taking on projects and consider the impact on property taxes. Lower taxes coupled with more efficiency in government will lead to more disposable income that will attract more businesses. A better business environment leads to higher tax revenue despite lower rates.
415	7	I see Falmouth as a good place to do business but only for certain types of businesses. Plus there is only a limited number of areas that can be developed for office, retail, medical, etc.	The process and cost of development needs to be more developer friendly without compromising some of the good things our ordinances have accomplished.
416	7	Taking 5 as an average score, I feel that Falmouth is above average in most respects.	The Route 1 shopping / business area needs to become more pedestrian friendly and traffic slowed down. Would prefer it to look more like Freeport route 1 only I assume that we would likely not have the outlets. Some public transportation around town would be desirable.
417	7	Taxes are high, regulations are increasing, town counselors think they are US Senators and we do not recognize the perilous times we are in - we want to continue to build and spend	the Schools and the upper income people run this town, more attention need to be paid to lower income citizens, seniors and those that have lived here and supported the town for many many years
418	7	Falmouth is a great place to live and raise kids. Excellent schools and a lot of community pride.	The Town, especially the Town Council, needs to focus on making the changes that will ensure that the Town continues to grow without changing the character of the Town. Less focus should be placed on immediate tax relief and more should be placed on conservation and preserving important Town sites and amenities.
419	7	Excellent schools, which is what drew us away from Portland. Close to Portland and its rich resources, while having a country feeling. Many conveniences right in town. Only drawback is lack of socioeconomic and political diversity. We prefer more multicultural and politically liberal environment. On a minor note, I still go in to Portland to shop for food. Shaws does not provide enough organic food for our family.	The two things I mentioned above -- more multicultural and political diversity, and a grocery store where I can buy all the organic foods I need.
420	7	Great people, school system and location	Town needs to become more pedestrian friendly, improve range of educational curriculum in the schools to maximize childrens potential, weaken regulation and zoning rules to encourage business and cluster apartment residential development in a manner that fully utilizes land and resources, maximize use of existing open space for the community, and efficiently run town government and services to maintain affordable taxes.
421	7	It's a nice to town to live in but I expect a business would have trouble locating here because of all the restrictions.	We need to make the process of builing homes or a business much easier to understand and follow. It should take less than a year from presentation of a proposal to final disposition.
422	7	Town center is weak, town is sprawled, population is economically and socially homogenous, but its pretty, good schools, low taxes, lots of really nice people and good facilities and town government.	We really need to work on our downtown, need to make the town more welcoming to lower income folks, need to create more diversity in the housing stock, really engage with Portland more including committing to bus service and supporting the city and not pretending it does not exist next door.
423	7	No actual town center; green/commons area. Better kindergarden programs. Better summer programs with hours geared toward families with two working parents, not one.	

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
424	7	Too many people. Too much traffic. Too much zoning. Too much regulation. No town center. No pool. The elementary schools are good; middle school is fair. Access to Portland is great. Access to recreation, culture is very good. Access to transportation is very good.	
425	7		
426	7		
427	7		
428	7		
429	7		
430	6	It is a pretty town, located near a major Maine city. It has good schools, low crime, access to the ocean and mountains. There is little traffic. There are outdoor recreational opportunities and relatively undisturbed natural areas.	A bigger economic base. A commitment to responsible development: compact and mixed development, public transport friendly, bike and ped friendly. Preservation of natural resources: streams, forests, habitats.
431	6	Falmouth is in danger of choking itself to death by allowing more development than its roads can handle, and providing a level of services that will require too big a tax burden.	A determination on the part of the Town Council and officers to stop trying to "build out" the Town.
432	6	Falmouth has a lot going for it, but it does not have a downtown, and it suffers for it. The community seems divided East/West, and there is no "there" here.	A downtown that is not a strip mall.
433	6	Primarily because it is a nice residential place with a good school system. Not very business friendly.	Allow more development for business because it increases tax revenues without further burdening the school system with more kids.
434	6	Where is the business? If many more leave who will pay all the taxes to maintain services?	Become a lot more aggressive in courting businesses to locate here. Quit trying to be so green. The new ordinances go beyond what needs to be done to preserve the environment of the town.
435	6	It's got great schools and good municipal services, but it could do better in terms of ped/bike access, connectivity, community feeling.	Better bike/ped access, Town Center should pass, better commercial development in commercial corridors.
436	6	Lack of protection for town's natural resources. Too much pro-development influence on town council.	Better respect for and valuation of the town's natural resources.
437	6	We are close to Portland, the schools are ok and you have a feeling of being in the country	better valuation for the schools, not more money but better quality of the students
438	6	I fear that the council will err by encouraging residential development at the expense of our "small town character".	Change the Council by creating a separate elected zoning board.
439	6	Offers a great deal to families in the school system, great open space, some amenities.	Create a Town Center, develop Rt. One and Rt. 100 for business.
440	6	Too much town government, caters to rich/wealthy- no middle/lower class. Stuff. Empty space and more and more is being built instead of utilizing existing buildings	Don't let Rt 1 become like Scarborough. Attract a more diverse population- too many country clubs, foreside, Develop a unique feel to make it feel more like a community. I think the Plummer/Lunt turning into Town Hall and Library is key, a Pool would be great too!
441	6	The Town Council often makes me uncomfortable with its spending plans. Falmouth, although it has a reputation as a wealthy community, does have many average or fixed income families or singles. I feel that the Council needs to remember this. We are in a serious national economic crisis. Let's face it squarely and not make grandiose plans for spending new monies.	Economic reality planning.
442	6	Attractive community, solid school system, easy drive to Portland.	Enhanced commercial (office, medical, light industrial) tax base, business friendly regulatory environment, sensitivity to residential real estate tax burden, greater respect and professionalism when dealing with non-routine issues.
443	6	not happy with all the playing fields or the new elementary school, they are excessive and taxes will go up	Falmouth needs to stop using 24D on its playing fields, if they still do. I'd like to see it banned in Maine
444	6	I think Falmouth is already to some extent, but could continue even more to become a great place to live as an individual, as well as to raise a family. I think a focus on LT plans is paramount to ensuring positive growth in a responsible, carefully thought out way.	I like the idea of emphasizing a pedestrian friendly downtown area, convenient for walking, biking, emphasizing healthy ways to move about. I like the idea of supporting resources like libraries, food pantries, community programs etc. I'd like to see the town do a better job with trash collecting, recycling and offer expanded education around composting etc. The recycling centers seem to have become default trash collectors and I think this should be looked at more closely. I suspect paying for trash bags may increase the amount of unrecyclable trash that ends up at the recycling centers...does this save money in the long run then? What can be done about it? An increase in an overall sense of community would increase my score.
445	6	Place to call home yes, place for business not so sure. There doesn't seem to be a plan to attract business given the many vacancies along route 1, and the near absence of business on the west side of town.	I would like to see the town actively courting businesses to help better diversify the tax base. The comments that were made a few years ago about not wanting a large box national retailer on route 1 a couple years ago were very disheartening.
446	6	Because it is a good place to live but few of the amenities and conveniences of the town are near where I live in West Falmouth.	It would be nice to have the option of water district water instead of a well. It would be nice to see the town administration show some concern with respect to all the developments being built in West Falmouth.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
447	6	It is a good area sometimes just seems overwhelming in the route 1 area	Less commercial development in predominantly residential areas
448	6	Nice to live, to much town spending.	Less public spending, reduced taxes.
449	6	I am concerned about the amount of spending that is being proposed to move the library, move the town hall and create a town center and community center. I do not like the fact that we have spent money for a new school and athletic fields but we may not be able to fully staff the pre-school group.	Limit discretionary spending, expand the library on the current site, leave the town hall in the current spot, give up on the community center project. Leave zoning as it is and let demand for business drive future expansion
450	6	taxes too high and too much commercial development. No sense of conservation/protection for precious waterfront	Lower taxes, slow pace of development
451	6	It's too expensive doing business here.	Lower taxes-especially property taxes.
452	6	Great Town I have concerns regarding maintaining the excellent school system and would love to see a true town center developed.	Maintian excellent schools and further develop a true town center I would love to see Plummer Motz become an anchor for town center / meeting space possible library expansion
453	6	Not enough bike paths and sidewalks	More bike paths and sidewalks
454	6	Proximity to Portland, good schools, good community programs; on the downside, too suburbanized, need to maintain rural character	Needs to have a town center, not sure Plummer Motz is the answer
455	6	Heading in the wrong direction. Becoming a very different place from the town I moved to. Not necessary, not natural - being pushed according to a particular agenda.	Reduce size, scope, interests of local government. Reduce size of police force. Focus on the basics, the meat and potatoes of local governance.
456	6	Great schools, but not a great community sense; the absence of a physical town center detracts from it's livability. Falmouth feels more like several communities, not necessarily in harmony with one another.	see #2
457	6	Lack of town center Lack of sidewalks	Sidewalks along Rt. 88
458	6	Great family oriented community just need to control spending since taxes make living in Falmouth too expensive for senior citizens.	Stop spending money we do not have.
459	6	Falmouth is a beautiful town, but I don't think we are taking all the steps needed to keep it that way.	--Strengthen wetlands protection provisions. --Encourage mixed use development on already-developed sites. Do not encourage greenfield development with TIFs and extension of town infrastructure. --Continue to promote mass transit. --I am very unhappy with our forestry plan. We have about a thousand acres that could be managed for outdoor recreation and ecological values. Instead as much as possible will be managed for income generation, as woodlots.
460	6	If a homeowner wants to do any improvements on his/her home, (addition, etc) there is too much red tape and expected costs to city officials, inspectors, etc.	The process needs to be simplified and more trust put into the homeowners hands to deal with such things. The way your restrictions are now written, it is almost impossible to do anything on your home. Even to add a small deck requires an almost doubling of the costs to the homeowner because of the insurmountable permits, fees, inspections, et al. EASE UP!!! We also need our own post office. Shaw's doesn't quite make the grade.
461	6	I'd give it 10 but Falmouth citizens won't look beyond the moment. ie: the great opportunity to reuse the Plummer-Motz complex.	The proposal to move the Town Hall and Library to Plummer-Motz to pass
462	6	Falmouth doesn't exude a sense of place that would make it home. It's more like an administrative district than a "home town".	The town lacks a center or heart. Until that happens, it's not going to be a vibrant place with a sense of community, but just a set of boundries with separate, but unequal enclaves within.
463	6	Right now Falmouth is a livable town with a business area on rte 1, and open space. I worry though that these economic times might allow for deciosn which are short sighted, like the overdevelopment of the Shaw's parking area. I also worry about the potential loss of focus regarding open space.	The traffic on Falmouth road needs to be slowed, if possible. More effort should be made in making this a more walkable town. The work to preserve the somewhat rural nature of Falmouth should continue. That is one of its greates selling points - so close to Portland with open spaces and large tracts of wildlife habitat.
464	6	It is a good place to live but is missing some important things.	We need to create a sense of "town." Without that I feel like I sleep here but live in Portland or Cumberland County say. A sense of town might be created by a better downtown and a commitment by citizens to inclusiveness.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
465	6	Sell Plummer Motz and Lunt and get it back in the tax base in order to keep taxes down. Also, there is no need for a new town hall, community center or library. Town Hall has plenty of room, now that the PD has it's own building. I've spoken with town hall employees and they tell me they have plenty of room right where they are! No need for an ombudsmen (Mr. Shafto) at \$50,000 a year. God only knows how many others could be cut! Teacher salaries need to be checked. No need for a roof top garden in the new school when a pool would benefit the whole town! We live on the coast it's more important to teach all how to swim and get exercise all in one. Allow a YMCA if your going to save property! The economy is bad...THINK before you spend so our taxes won't increase! PLEASE! Thank you for this opportunity. My apologies for not being able to attend the town meetings. It's best I stay home and yell at the TV instead!	We need to have someone go through all the town departments and school system and see where cost can be cut since most of our tax money goes to those departments. No more take home cars/suv's for town employee's! That's what neighbor's and family are for! I feel it brings in crime too! Imagine the gas and maintenance you'd be saving! No need for the metro. Basically, SAVE EVERY DOLLAR...THINK BEFORE YOU SPEND even ONE dollar! It's the tax payer's money your playing with not yours! No more trails or parks we have enough out of the tax base and the cost of keep up is outrageous! Thank you for this opportunity. I can't go to the town meetings or my blood would boil! Best if I say home and scream at the TV!
466	6		
467	5	I'm very much in the middle in terms of recommending Falmouth. Recent changes in the elementary school to suspend foreign language in first grade (now it begins in second grade), despite the new school---the still not guaranteed full-day kindergarten program (another vote), the lack of a town center (compared to Yarmouth/Cape Elizabeth that are competing for the same audience of home buyers) makes me reluctant to recommend Falmouth wholeheartedly.	*Full-day K program *Foreign language commitments in elementary school. *Chinese instruction in high school, which is what all top-end high school programs are beginning to implement. *High-level of commitment, resources and focus on making Falmouth Green/Local Business/Town Center.
468	5	The town has wonderful people, great nature, a wonderful education system, beautiful harbor. I wish there was more local stores....maybe we could create a village market for farmers like they do in other countries? Market day...an expanded indoor space for farmer's market? An alternative to Shaw's and Hannafords.	1. Spending is extravagant. Library is fine as it is. High school and elementary school ridiculously expensive. New police station wasn't necessary. But that was millions. Then the town wants to turn off the street lights? 2. Falmouth Police Department has gotten ridiculous, it used to be quite respectable. The arrests seem silly or harsh, depending on your point of view, chasing teenagers around town. Its over the top.
469	5	I began working in Falmouth 6+ years ago. And 2+ years ago I moved from Yarmouth to buy a home and live here in Falmouth. To me, Falmouth doesn't feel like a town. I don't think there's a town square or anything like that - no "Main Street USA". It feels like a place you pass through on your way to somewhere else. And driving around in Falmouth is difficult. It's too congested in some places, and the roads are in bad condition in others. But one positive thing I can say is that being in Falmouth is very convenient for shopping and for getting in an out of Portland and the communities surrounding the Casco Bay.	1-Widen and improve the various 2-lane roads that bear the commuter loads. I'm appalled at how bad the roads are here. And even when they patch the potholes, they don't seem to give a smooth safe driving surface. 2-Maybe come up with some basic signs featuring the town logo, color scheme, and a simple slogan. Post those signs in various places around the town to remind people that they are in Falmouth. Maybe each sign could also give a historic fact about the area where the sign was posted. Something to give a sense of community to this diverse area.
470	5	Volume, quality, and surroundings of affordable homes (<240K) continue to shrink. Little/no senior/disabled support services. Elimination of brush pick-up, lack of even one annual clean-up.	Adopt planning policies that place higher value on preserving value of existing smaller homes, esp. those abutting development - such as those on Depot and Leighton Rds. Restore some of the trash/brush services - these help single, elderly, disabled people maintain independence. Outreach program to at least identify people who need some kind of help and match with volunteers.
471	5	Falmouth has an excellent school system, but the reputation of its student population is cocky and clique-y with an insular "elite" component tied to athletics and entitlement that is quite ugly. Falmouth also has more planning tools than any other community in southern Maine, according to GPCOG. Why is this? And why does each new set of planners feel the need to plan more and so on? Again, it strikes one of hubris without much purpose.	Attitudes in the adult population. What we have for a Town layout is what we have. We cannot afford to do anything at this time, nor does anything NEED to be done in any pressing sense of the word. Sell the old school. Consolidate services. Enjoy what we have. There is no pressing need to Be, Do, or Spend money in order to Be or Do "better," at this time.
472	5	Poor focus on protecting the town's natural resources and an increased influence by developers in town government.	Better recognition of and increased protection for town natural resources.
473	5	Property values unrealistically high due to excessive focus on land conservation and anti-developmnet attitude of town officials. Business climate is unfriendly and neglected area of town officials' concerns.	Create policies that welcome people and businesses to town.
474	5	i think that the town council has made falmouth a place for only the rich and doesn't care for the blue collar anymore.	Falmouth should stop with all the crazy spending ther do, we have way to many kids in our school system that don't belong there for one, get some housing that is affordable
475	5	great place to live but the taxes/spending are out of control!	Fiscal restraint on the part of town government. They need to get realistic.
476	5	government is to big and spends to much and is taking our property rights away	freedom
477	5	Home = 7 Business = 3 The people!	Have the long-time in-bred Falmouth "I grew up here" to move out!!
478	5	Schools are great. Good public access to the ocean. Great public library. Very good access to Portland.	Horrible strip mall atmosphere all along Rt One. NO sense of where Falmouth is as a town as you move about. No real sense of community though wonderful people live here. Too many country clubs.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
479	5	Some parts of Falmouth are great- Schools, Community Park, Town landing. Some parts are not so great- Our selectman seem to pay little attention to land owners- vernal pools, and needs at town landing- failing to adopt a long range plan- highly ironic. I think they lack the courage to face the Foresiders who like the status quo.	Keep out of my vernal pools and adopt the Harbor Committee's long range plan. Teach Mandarin in the schools starting in Kindergarten, drop French, encourage more affordable housing in Falmouth, create a larger library and increase my taxes if required to maintain our services. Compared to Portland, and other states, my property taxes seem very reasonable.
480	5	I am concerned about the attempts to take private lands in the name of "environmental needs"	Less concern about vernal pools and more efforts to constrain spending on such things as the "town center"
481	5	High taxes & vernal pool guidelines	Lower taxes & less restrictive vernal pool guidelines.
482	5	Getting way to expensive to live here. Town likes to spend more money than needed.	Lower taxes, stop building new schools that are not large enough (high school) students eat in the halls because cafeteria is not large enough, auditorium should have been bigger so that maybe it could be used for graduations instead of spending 5,000.00 to have it at Merrill. Stop spending!!!
483	5	I think Falmouth is unfriendly to businesses. That Falmouth wants to keep smaller businesses away and struggling if they do not fit into "their plan". Also I think as a place to call home it is not so homey since we do not have many sidewalks to be able to go for a walk and a meeting place to meet people. Falmouth homes are very isolated so it is a place to live but not very homey.	Make Falmouth want businesses to succeed and not hold them back and be unrealistic when it comes to dealing with businesses. As for the homey feeling maybe make a place to meet and sidewalks to houses and not only on the main road where you have to drive to start walking around. Maybe a town center and a town hall that works for the people and not against them.
484	5	not spending on wants instead of needs.	more upkeep of roads, sidewalks with lights and tree cutting on roads and sidewalks
485	5	There is no village center to walk - would like to see something similar to Yarmouth	Need to add sidewalks
486	5	I believe that Falmouth is being way overbuilt. This has reduced family owned neighborhood stores and led to a lot of redundancy. Buildings are continuing to go up as the for rent signs proliferate. The traffic is getting worse and there is less of neighborhood atmosphere. We are becoming a destination shopping mall.	No more big box stores. Bicycle paths. Enforce the building restrictions. More open spaces for walking, jogging, and preservation of wildlife are important to the quality of life for a town. Prteferably adjacent to every community. In other words an eco friendly town.
487	5	so much potential, but no cohesiveness, town center, gathering place where people can convene. Difficult for young families- the kids have no place to play other than private clubs and properties.	Public gathering places Community Center Playgrounds More businesses on Rte 1
488	5	During past 20 years, Falmouth has become more populous, affluent, suburban, privileged, and retrogressive and less rural, diverse, and communitarian.	Stop sprawl, increase diversity, add surtax to luxury properties....(dream on!)
489	5	I don't want to see Falmouth over developed. How excited should I get? There was a study by the University of Maine years ago that showed that commercial development actually increased taxes.	Stop the spread of commercial development, and stop developing boat access to the waterfront for the benefit of non property owners/residents.
490	5	As a place to live I would give it high marks. As a place to do business, it is rather difficult. The resulting tension earns it a middle. Score to me.	Streamline the administrative and permitting process for commercial endeavors.
491	5	Public transportation iffy; it should be certain.	Town council to vote to keep The Falmouth Flyer public bus permanent transportation to Portland and to the village of Falmouth.
492	5	Serious mismanagement of finance	Treat the Town's checkbook like you do your own family's checkbook. Stop signing high cost contracts. Stop "misplacing" contracts. Get a grip on purchasing.
493	5	Falmouth is getting to be like the Federal government, you want to rule the people.	Vote out certain members of the council.
494	5		we need a town center but we need fiscal restraint in government
495	5	It is a safe place to live - the schools are great. The score would be higher but lets face it. The town government is a bunch of busy bodies. making a lot of things difficult for home owners and businesses	Work on a budget. Make choices and stop spending so much - not everyone is rich.
496	5	neither recommend nor not recommend. sorry if I think it a silly question. I do like living here, though. . .	
497	5	Taxes are a little high Parents for sports are a lot intense Decisions that are being made to tax families in different ways then what we are already paying for, i.e. \$2+ trash bags, paying to play for sports in a PUBLIC SCHOOL (and the argument about other towns doing it does not sit well with me. It is not my problem other towns cannot balance their budgets enough that public monies rec'd are used to pay for public things.	
498	5		

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
499	4	I would prefer to live in a walkable community such as Yarmouth, and a community with a sense of community spirit which I find lacking here, and a town where the majority of people are more interested in creating community than I find to be present here. It seems that people in Falmouth are more interested in their pocketbooks than the neighborliness of the place they call home.	1.) No further development, no more big box stores, no more dead end streets, no more encroachment of large houses built on prime rural land. 2) A change in access to the waterfront, so that taxpayers without waterfront property can fully use it alongside the wealthy yacht owners and business owners. That would include letting all kinds of people have dinghy permits, not just mooring holders and acquiring waterfront land for a waterfront park. It would also require a better system for allowing access to moorings. (No more 3 mooring families, and no more empty moorings, and giving resident taxpayers who don't have one priority over non-taxpayers as well as priority over those who have 2 (or more) moorings. 3) A public pool. 4) A community center created for all ages of residents to enjoy. 5) A more diverse community economically. 6) More walking and biking trails. Cape Elizabeth has a whole network of these so people can bike and walk to the schools, and town offices, and library, and public pool. 7. A restriction on car use at the high school by students, to decrease the numbers of cars and increase use of the publicly funded school bus (to the tune of \$1 million/year). This would make all the roads safer for bicyclists. In conjunction with this, I would like to see a school system requirement for bicycle-riding or walking to school for any able-bodied kids under 1.5 miles from school. There's probably more I could add, but you probably get my priorities by now.
500	4	Falmouth doesn't have a center that unites it, so it doesn't feel like a real community.	Create a center of town on Route One, with town government offices in a park-like setting where people can gather.
501	4	No town center	More of a community center
502	4	If folks had money, I would give Falmouth a 10 as a place to move to. For average folks, I think they would find it expensive, their children would find the school atmosphere snobby, and the cost and type of business they might set up open to huge upper-class prejudice.	More of an economic mix. A town center where all kinds of businesses can flourish and where it is easy to get around.
503	4	No real downtown or sense of community	More walkable space in what we call "downtown"
504	4	the town council and mounting debt. to many expensive programs schools waterfront @ shoreline dr. proposed town center. infrastructure that never gets done. this town spends money as if there is no pay back. school budget process out of control. ad hoc committees always have a hand out for more money. restrictions because of foolishness ie: vernal pools. desire to spend money in a down economy. knowing that the state gov't is broke and will need to make cuts, esp. schools and healthcare debt and this council seems oblivious to that.	scrap plans that aren't absolutely necessary. rein in spending in general.
505	3	The Town has shown little vision to develop long range sustainable strategies, particularly in terms of place-making.	A Town Center at the old Lunt/Plummer locations would be a good start. Acceptance of many of the Green Ribbon Commission's recommendations would also help. The older, more conservative population seems to be driving decisions, based on fear and the current economic downturn versus long-range thinking. I've become quite disheartened recently. If Falmouth continues to remain stagnant, my family and I intend to actively seek residence in Yarmouth or Portland.
506	3	Because the folks who are 'running' the town are more interested in vernal pools than humans	attitudes of the powers that be
507	3	Ok schools- although mistakes made by past superintendent (Entwistle) has left the MS realing. We had a chance to hire an amazing, high caliber Principal and he appointed Palfrey- HUGE mistake. On the other side, too many empty store fronts. Businesses leaving (unless you're a bank) and not enough variety/competition. The town has a very "stuffy" or "i'm better then you" feel to it, like there is a distinct us/them and not a whole town	Attract more businesses with some variety to all the empty spots along route 1. Find a way to leverage what the town has for assets, do not sell off the old school site when it presents a unique opportunity for a true town facility that can make falmouth a more attractive town on a wider scale. Also look into some affordable housing- as the big study done with recommendations seems like a joke at this point, since nothing has been done really pushing that
508	3	unfriendly business environment or attitude from several board members, and what appears to be an attitude that taxes are affordable and all residence can handle more than what is asked of them now.	Controls on the size of the town government which is at present which is more than the town can afford. I say this with the knowledge that we have many hard working devoted town employees and I mean not to take away anything from such great people.
509	3	crowded, busy, feel that the politicians are not interested in preserving what is good and long range planning	less focus on development, more on open green spaces. dont understand all the vacant lots and need to build more



	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
510	3	There are too many regulations that make affordable business development impossible to the common person. There are also too many regulations on property rights; the environment surrounding property rights in Falmouth is questionable. The potential for loss of our property rights is high and potentially devastating to us. The potential vernal pool restrictions should be dropped. Restrictions that create loss of property rights will wipe out our retirement savings because our retirement is in our land which we hope to sell as we get older.	Less regulation, more landowner rights. Increase the tax base by increasing business. Less municipal spending. Less municipal spending. Less municipal spending. Less government.
511	3	Tax rate way too high	Lower taxes
512	3	taxes are very high for services received, not friendly to property owners	Modify land use restrictions to be more reasonable while still maintaining some control over growth rates and open space.
513	3	ISOLATED IF YOU DO NOT DRIVE	PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, MORE VARIETY OF PLACES TO SHOP, DO BUSINESS
514	3	Falmouth has become inhabited with folks from away that want ZERO development (now that they live here!)	RELAX/RE-WRITE zoning rules !
515	3	Oppressive land use requirements	Stop micro-managing property and stop going to extremes on insignificant wetlands
516	3	Because I am in the more working class type and I could not afford a home in the most of the town if I did not build my own 50 years ago.	The cost of homes in the town and the amount that is spent on various items so that all the bond moneys are not needed.
517	3	town has become way too commercial. Route 1 especially. Also, the town really hasn't grown that much since the 60's, but the city infrastructure has disproportionately - police department, school administrative staff, etc	this is a tide I feel helpless to stop. Push for community center in place of Plummer- Motz / Lunt is an big example of the wrong direction
518	3	The new elementary school is being built next the the Middle & High Schools. In this day and age of terrorism (homegrown e.g Columbine & Viginia Tech) to put the new school there is just plain stupid, dumbie!	Town Employees need to be more responsive to the people. Public Works in Portland is more responsive than Falmouth.
519	3	Falmouth is still a beautiful town but it has suffered greatly from sprawling growth over the last 2 or 3 decades. There is little sense of community, there are few neighborhoods, the roads are increasingly crowded and dangerous. I don't know how to describe the school campus on Woodville Road or the traffic situation it has created but its not good.	What makes Falmouth so disappointing is the failure to realize its potential. It could have been a great example of how a town can grow in a smart, sustainable way. Instead, it is really a textbook example of bad growth. This happened while committee after committee talked about smart growth and 100s of thousands were spent on consultants and planning. There needs to be less talk and more action. High density zoning, transfer of development rights, through streets, real neighborhoods. Anything different would be an improvement. But it is probably too late and there is no real desire to change. More cul de sacs, more car-based living and less community development should be the goal of any new plan -- because that is what is coming without a major change in direction.
520	2	Unfriendly. No sense of community. No cohesiveness.	A village focal point for all. It's tough though. There is such a range of socio-economic status. eg: the % of Falmouth students that attend private schools.
521	2	I have lived here for more than 30 years and I have found the community to be (in the majority), white, wealthy, expensive, and somewhat snobby.	Diversity of people: diverse color, culture, economic status, political beliefs, and less costly to live here.
522	2	High Taxes	Lower them
523	2	I do not see responsible management of finances ... grand vision at the expense of the tax payer ..... over regulations on land owners .... school system that appears to be concerned with superficial view and not the quality of student ... lack in interest to draw business opportunity to the town .... over concern of vernal pools and lack of concern in the citizen and their investment in the town as far as their land ... and lastly, a poor representation in respect for the citizen by the town council in their attitude about the concerns of citizens that speak at the public forums.	reduce regulations for land owners in uses and for private development ... more transparent review of the school's expenses with questions by citizens .. that are raised to be answered ... responsible cutting of costs to the town such as buying of open spaces and development of the Plummer- Motz school for town to develop, allow private company to buy and develop the area with guidelines and keep a tax base for the town ... encourage more businesses to come to Falmouth ... stop the metro bus expense which makes no sense at this time of economic difficulty ...
524	2	I believe there are people on our council who want instant gratification and will cause our taxes to explode in the following years. You have council members stating it will be pennies to purchase the elementary schools. Yes, we also are building a new school, need to furnish this school, have additional unforeseen expenses. In the meantime, they wish to purchase the old schools, update, reconfigure the buildings. In addition, there will be added yearly expenses for labor, maintenance, upgrades, etc. In addition, there is the purchase of land to be owned by the town - removing the land from the property taxes. How can we maintain this spendathon and keep our taxes within a healthy range?	Stop the spending. We don't need new town halls, we didn't need police and fire. We need to consolidate - not expand.

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
525	2	This town has lost touch with reality. The people live in a bubble - or rather are big fishes in a little pond. We have a false sense of self; that we are much better than others. A lot of waste occurs in this town - that is because it's an affluent town, the people, who have lost touch with reality, spend money on things that aren't necessary. In this economy many can't afford this. For example, I spent a lot of time in the schools when my children were small. Subs who were hired for ed techs spent time copying for the class room teacher. They were being paid \$11 an hour to do something a volunteer would gladly do.	The town's people, and therefore the council who represents the people, need to be more fiscally responsible. They need to look at the big picture of the State, not just the bubble of our town. Another example of my dissatisfaction is the new elementary school being built. Yes, we needed a new school. However, the town's people have a false sense of who is paying for that school. Oh, the State is funding it. Well, who ultimately pays the taxes for that school? We do. Get a grip! ps In regards to which section of the town I live in - what difference does it make?
526	2	We think the town is "over the top". It seems that the spending is endless in this town.	We agree with preserving the town to a point but we find the "open space", "vernal pool" issues as excessive
527	2	Because from what I understand Falmouth is trying to do away with public transportation.	You need to keep public transportation of course.
528	1	property taxes high, not business friendly, council members do not follow wishes of the majority, school board out of touch when the promoted Barbara Powers	business friendly, stop spending money, turn old schools into business centers that pay taxes. stop trying to move library, town hall. roads on 88 look great with curbing and sidewalks but what about the rest al Falmouth roads, stop pushing buss system of us. Lower property taxes. oh and thanks for the private runway in my neighborhood that fly private aircraft as well as corp helicopters.
529	1	Town services compared to tax burden is deplorable. There is no strategic thought to growth management--and way to much time and resources are spent on frivolous pursuits.	Fiscal responsibility and focus on smart growth that is not anti-business or property rights impactive.
530	1	Restrictions that council members are trying to place on private land. Plus, all the spending.	Less restriction; less spending.
531	1	No community, people are stuck in their cars, more neighborhoods, Lot sizes too big need denser housing, to form community.	Not sure it can change. The People make the community and the people here are too much into themselves.
532	1	taxes are too high, falmouth is too much of a "well to do" town for me and most of the town (business) center is on the foreside and going to gray is more convenient for me and the dump fees are very inconvenient and the trash bag fees are too high	taxes need to be much lower and cut the trash bag fees in half and eliminate the dump fees
533	0	There are no public spaces to exercise and/or share learning and ideas across generations. There are too many big box businesses and not enough local businesses. The sidewalks are not conducive to biking safely or walking safely. When ideas to support the above are presented, the opposition is vehement and they employ scare tactics. Three country clubs and two yacht clubs seem to be siphoning off civic responsibility and pride.	Better safer sidewalks and shoulders for biking nad walking. Maintain and possibly expand bus routes, grow the library, prvide a vibrant town center. Clean up our "beach"/town landing. Solicit and support local community minded-businesses such as Rosemont Bakery, Trader Joes, Artists and Craftsman, Apple, even Target is more open-mnded and community ventered than Walmart. Get the Farmers Market out of the Walmart parking lot and onto green space that abuts civic spaces or local businesses. Provide more walking trails...
534	0	Suburban sprawl with lack of vision only getting worse with developers greed. Seems to be only about making money, gentrification and lack of any concern for wild spaces and wild life. I've lived here for 20 years and all the diversity is leaving. Only the rich can afford. The town has and continues to allow too much new building on too small tracks of land. What a nightmare is being created behind Walmart. I feel fooled by the planners. They never showed it as the one big real estate development it actually is.	BETTER VISION, more integrity and values. What happened to community? How ridiculous we are calling the shopping mall on Rte. 1 a "Village" It's a joke. And next the cutting down of more trees to expand the old Shaw's shopping mall which of course isn't even being fully used. Why doesn't the developer just fix it up instead of destroying the existing open space they own. They don't live here and just want to make MONEY!!!!!!! (which of course the town will permit because they don't care when they think tax income but don't figure in what all the new and more traffic will cost to existing roads and residents well being). We're just becoming like everywhere else USA so why come here! How about making it a real village with apts. for the old so they can walk (what a concept!) to the supermarket, eyeglass store, medical center. What about a large green space right on route one with community gardens (food etc.) and play areas where parents could socialized while their children play. We don't need anymore stores! and ESPECIALLY the chain stores and chain cheap hotels. Alot more needs to change but not in the mood to continue right now. Thank you for asking!!!!!!
535	0	Cost way too much. Spend way too much. Arrogant councilors. Count the vehicles !!!!!?? New library!!!!???	Common sense!!!
536	0	Declined	Declined
537	0	Because it is becoming too built up and has no "small town feel".You might as well live in Portland! Yarmouth is much nicer.	I don't intend to stay here that long. The state of Maine has too many taxes, and I'm not a "New Englander" and don't feel welcome or comfortable here!
538	0	Because this is just part of Portland and it doesn't have a hometown feel. It's too spread out and becoming too populated!	I don't plan on staying here for 10 years. I would like to move out of Maine as soon as possible. I don't like living here at all!!
539	0	Because the town has gotten completely out of control in ther past 10 years. Everyone is willing to spend others money.	It is beyond relief. The town has gone totally in the toilet.
540	0	Property Taxes are too high for families with no children.	Lower Prop taxes
541	0	Taxes are way to high. To much emphasis on athletics and not enough on academics.	Lower taxes and offer more community to seniors

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Why did you give that score?</b>	<b>What needs to change to increase your score?</b>
542	0	Taxes.Our taxes are too high as well as money is being spent in all the wrong places. Sorry	Lower the tax rate and become more financially responsible. We have so many ways to save money yet they are never on the table. Why???
543	0	It is not a town...very disconnected and poorly set up.	Nothing. I don't plan on staying here. The Town Council, Planning Board & School Board of this town are big JOKES!! As is the whole state of Maine!!
544	0	Because this town's school spending is completely out of control.	School spending must be brought under control and common sense should be controlling factor!!
545	0	See below!	Separate the call home and business into two questions.
546	0	town politics are absurd.The town spends too much on education. 'should be 55%not 70%	Spend less on education.We do not need a town center.
547	0	The town has lost its integrity to uphold its laws and treat citizens exactly the same. Too many people that have lived here a long while feel "Falmouth" is not "Falmouth."	Stop cheating and doing the wrong thing because it's what a few in power want. Keep Poore - loose Sterns.
548	0	The Council is out of control	The Council need to listen to the citizens not special interest groups and egocentric councilors.
549	0	I don't want Falmouth to become overcrowded and fall victim to the egregious overdevelopment I see elsewhere.	
550	0		
551	No score	I do not want the town to be overly developed. I like the openness. It does need a town center. I would like a public pool due to finances I cannot join a club.	I would like a town center and a pool for exercise and recreation. I would also like a sidewalk along Rt.100 for walking. It is quite dangerous.
552	No score	Site does not work cannot select a number.	The Town needs to listen to the people. Need to stop spending on things such as COMPLETELY EMPTY BUSESSES. I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYONE ON THEM EXCEPT ONE TIME A MONTH AGO AND 1 PERSON WAS ON IT.
553	No score	a wonderful community that is growing	