

Strengths (Positive Features) from 2007 Data Collection Phase Document with Amendments from 2009 Workshop (<i>notes in Italics</i>)	Priority (Number of Stickers Received)
Agricultural way of life	19
Sense of old-fashioned community, local traditions and spirit of working together; <i>ability to give children property without government restriction</i>	14
Good schools and supportive environment for children	14
Proximity to natural resources/beauty, cultural, outdoor recreational, and educational opportunities and urban environments	13
Natural beauty	10
<i>Wildlife and hunting</i>	5
Mix of people (old, young, farmer, artist)	5
Diverse rural landscape	4
Abundant open space	3
Good agricultural infrastructure <i>to supply the town</i>	3
Slower pace of life	2
Local business sector, locally owned	2
Not too much traffic—nothing more than a two lane road	2
Diversity in homes, businesses, farms	2
Tradition and history of area as well as architecture	2
Strong Planning Board	2
Safe and secure	1
Like shopping in the Village of Cambridge	1
Second homeowners are positive contributions they spend \$ and take care of properties	1
Affordable	
Recreation Field	
Dark skies	
Quiet	
Close to cities	
Sufficient sunny days to produce alternative energies and have choice	
Ability to be self sufficient related to food	
Supported environment for children	
Not too many regulations in town	

Weaknesses (Negative Features) from 2007 Data Collection Phase Document with Amendments from 2009 Workshop (<i>Notes in Italics</i>)	Priority (Number of Stickers Received)
Farms are disappearing which is a loss to the economy and community character.	22
Lack of preparedness for change and for development pressures and the impacts this might have on the Town	16
Taxes too high	10
Lack of employment opportunities <i>Young people leave; 17-21 youth have nothing to do and stuck in limbo</i>	9
Not readily available infrastructure such as cell service, broadband internet and TV services <i>or land lines</i>	9
Energy dependence, commuting and farming fuel costs	4
Wind power or other sources	3
More small businesses	3
Keep community the way it is. Get bigger tax base. Taxes are based on potential not existing use	3
No promotion of state land – there is 3000 acres for recreation as well as historic significance	3
Develop and sell existing real estate/commercial	3
Communication/coordination with other municipalities (example – equipment)	2
Speed limits too high on back roads	2
Factory farms	2
Lack of affordable housing <i>One table did not think this was a weakness One table noted it was not an issue now</i>	1
Power Lies with Town Board – checks and balances	1
Tourism	1
Want input on road (dirt roads – want to keep the same)	1
No trailers – after 5 years they are unusable	1
Not for profit lands	1
Taxation – affordable housing	
Concerned with unregulated development	1
Maintain rural character; farms are disappearing	1
Lack of development rights plan	
Wind power is available despite experts saying it is not.	
States unfunded mandates	
Roads need improvement	
Exploration of natural resources – promoting business	
Duplication of services, example town and county road maintenance	
Roads with large farm equipment	

Absentee landowners in Town how don't invest in town life <i>Many do contribute and this statement is not fair – they pay taxes</i> <i>One table noted it is not an issue but could become an issue in the future such as in lower Hudson communities</i>	
Proximity of area is sometimes a negative	
Light pollution	
Abandoned vehicles are a problem	
Promote recreational use of state and public lands – not done now	
Protected historic structures and places (not really done now)	
Crazy, impatient drivers	
Farms pay disproportionately large share of taxes compared to services consumed	
Farm to nonfarm communication	
No grain elevator/infrastructure for cash crops – it is shipped elsewhere	