

## Athens Negatives - Categories

### Taxes/Tax Base

- Taxes (high) V/T/B
- Utilization of school taxes effectively B
- Taxes V/T/B 1 dot
- Athens residents pay higher taxes than Catskill. 1 dot
- Inverse relationship between taxes and services - high taxes/low services V/T/B
- Not enough commercial activity for tax base V/T/B 1 dot
- Raise taxes to pay for improvements V/T/B
- High taxes V/T/B

### Aesthetics - Structures

- Unsightly dwellings removed B
- Main Street conditions V
- Storefront improvement V
- Poorly kept buildings – no action V/T/B
- **Run down homes** with yard debris V/T/B
- Make sure new development and encourage aesthetics V/T/B
- Washington Ave looks run down
- Unsightly Areas V 1 dot
- Poor condition of properties V/T/B 1 dot
- Restore houses V/T/B
- Current Housing Condition V 1 dot
- Abandoned houses V/T/B 2 dots
- Dilapidated properties V/T/B
- Second Street needs polishing V 3 dots

### Trash Removal/Cleanup

- Litter on roadways V/T/B 1 dot
- Outdoor unregulated trash burns V/T/B
- Garbage in front of houses code weak V
- Abandoned barges/campers V 1 dot
- Run down homes **with yard debris** V/T/B
- Not cleaning the streets V
- Littering no clean-up V/T/B
- Dirty Streets
- Entrance to Village needs improving V
- Junk cars V/T/B
- Junk yards V/T/B 1 dot

- Too much junk cars V/T/B 1 dot
- Abandoned cars V/T/B 2 dots

### **Business and Industry**

- More light industrial areas NS 1 dot
- Too much red tape when business comes B 3 dots
- Lack of business B 1 dot
- Lack of employment B 1
- Lack of jobs to keep people here. 1 dot
- Lack of work V/T/B 1 dot
- Not enough jobs V/T/B
- Too many residences/not enough business V
- Attract light industry T
- Not enough jobs V/T/B 2 dots
- Lack of occupied commercial properties
- No economic base to fix things V/T/B 3 dots
- Lack of employment opportunities V/T/B
- Lack of small business V/T/B 1 dot

### **Retail and Personal services**

- Not enough personal services – doctors, dentists, lawyers, barbers
- Car wash/hardware/everyday needs V/T/B 1 dot
- Basic services needed stores for food/drugs V 3 dots
- Town/Village outdoor kiosk V/T/B
- No access to museum V
- No restaurants V/T/B
- Lack of retail V/T/B
- Lack of restaurants V/T/B
- No supermarket V/T/B
- Lack of places to shop V/T/B
- Novelty/grocery/gift stores V/T/B
- Lack of shops V/T/B
- Lack of restaurants V/T/B
- Need hotels
- Need stores V
- Need grocery store V

### **Infrastructure- Water**

- Lack of infrastructure B 1 dot
- Water quality V
- Water for fire protection V/T/B 1 dot

- Water quality V 1 dot
- Lack of public water T 1 dot
- **Lack of water** /sewer (9W & Schaghticoke Tpk) T 1 dot
- Water quality V/T/B
- Water quality V
- Infrastructure problems – roads, **water meters** V
- Public drinking water V/T/B

### Drainage

- Lack of infrastructure B 1 dot
- Drainage problems V
- No drainage V
- Drainage problems V 2 dots
- Drainage problems V

### Sewer

- Sleepy Hollow sewage odor 1 dot
- Lack of water /**sewer** (9W & Schaghticoke Tpk) T 1 dot
- Sewer smell from Sleepy Hollow 1 dot
- Peckham bad odors
- SHL sewer plant odors
- Sleepy Hollow sewer stinks at night
- SHL sewer 1 dot
- Lack of infrastructure B 1 dot

### Municipal Cooperation

- Duplication of municipal services
- Combine municipal services V/T/B
- Combine V&T into 1 municipality – stop duplicating.
- Village is part of the Town but Town not part of the Village V/T/B 1 dot
- Lack of coordination between V/T V/T/B 2 dots
- Town/Village work together more V/T/B 1 dot
- Lack of co-op between T/V offices V/T/B
- Duplicate government V/T/B

### Land Use Development/Planning

- Outdated plan B 1 dot

- Too much unplanned growth V/T/B 3 dots
- Residential & commercial zoning mixed V/T/B
- Change zoning laws for light industry/no tel/car wash etc V/T/B
- Restrict dev. of big industrial business to protect bedroom community V/T/B
- Houses too close together V
- Trailers in Village V
- Not enough open space being preserved V/T/B 1 dot

### Regulations

- Too many protective land use V 1 dot
- Lack of local law enforcement
- Too many regulations V/T/B
- Inconsistent Zoning & Zoning Enforcement V/T/B
- Clarification of codes V/T/B
- Lack of enforcement of existing junk yard ordinance/ abandoned houses V/T/B 1 dot
- Enforce stricter zoning on unregistered vehicles V/T/B
- Inconsistent Code Enforcement V
- Code enforcement lax V/T/B 1 dot
- Code enforcement V/T/B

### Transportation - Parking

- Village needs parking V
- Parking V
- No parking (Water Street) V 1 dot
- Parking V
- Traffic control over speeding, parking V 1 dot
- Lack of parking for business/renters V
- Better rules for parking during winter V
- Parking V 1 dot

### Transportation –signage/controls

- Consistent signage V/T/B
- Lack of traffic light at main intersection V
- Speed traps V/T/B

### Transportation –traffic/speeding

- Speeding – traffic V/T/B

- 55 mph too much for rural roads
- Traffic on Schoharie Tpk speed, trucks V
- Speed limits Schoharie V
- Speeding on Village streets V
- Industrial traffic on 385 V/T/B
- Traffic on 385 at 4pm V/T/B 1 dot
- Traffic control **over speeding**, parking V 1 dot
- Traffic on Schoharie Turnpike V/T/B
- Traffic V/T/B
- Traffic enforcement V/T/B
- Traffic on Vermon Street – School V

### Transportation –pedestrian/bike

- Uneven pavements walk-ins
- Sidewalk conditions V 1 dot
- Sidewalks needed in areas & need improvement V V
- Sidewalk issues V
- Sidewalks in disrepair V
- Lack of safe places to walk  
dog/blocked sidewalks V
- Sidewalks on Schoharie Tpk V 1 do
- Sidewalks on Vernon Street V 1 dot
- Sidewalks V
- Poor condition of sidewalks V/T/B
- Poor maintenance of alleyways V
- Street pattern (keep grid pattern) V 1dot
- Absence of bicycle paths V/T/B

### Transportation access

- No transportation V/T/B
- Poor transportation
- RR crossings need attention V/T/B

### Housing

- Lack of moderate housing V/T/B 1 dot
- Multiple families living in S.F. Dwellings
- Absentee landlords V
- Changing SF into multifamily V
- Support first time homebuyers V/T/B
- Lack of affordable housing V/T/B 1 dot

**Schools**

- School districts – not following municipal boundaries.
- Not enough school activities 1 dot
- No distinct school district V/T/B 1 dot
- Public schools V/T/B

**Government Services**

- Athens postal district partially in Catskill  
(west side of 9W) not receive appropriate notices.
- Government not using technology V/T/B

**Community Character/Identity Issues**

- Lack of emphasis on Village V
- Lack of identity need a vision V/T/B 2 dots
- No identity T
- Determine identity & move to goal V/T/B
- Encourage Sleepy Hollow Lake to  
join community V
- Not always welcoming
- Nothing to draw people to area V/T/B 2 dots
- Lack of community cohesiveness V/T/B
- Keep more quaint; bedroom  
community characteristics V/T/B 2 dots
- Encourage pride in property  
and community V/T/B
- Provide things people will  
want to live by for bedroom comm. V/T/B
- Lack of historic street lighting V
- Keep historical nuance V

**Quality of Life**

- Athens Street Festival/nighttime noise
- Noise V/T/B
- Too much noise V/T/B 1 dot
- Noise – 4 wheelers V 1 dot
- Snowmobiling in Village V
- Stray dogs and cats V/T/B 1 dot

**Emergency Services**

- Not enough police coverage V/T/B 1 dot
- Too much police coverage V
- Lack of Village police after 12AM V/T/B
- More police patrol V

**Seniors**

- Seniors need help V/T/B
- Changing negative for elderly
- Senior Center needs attention V 1 dot
- Not enough services for seniors V/T/B

**Youths**

- Summer camps V/T/B
- Lack of youth activities V/T/B
- Limited recreation for teens & youth V
- Not enough activities for youth V/T/B 1 dot
- No youth programs V/T/B
- Not enough for young married couples V/T/B
- Opportunity for young people V

**Recreation**

- Need bike trail B
- Recreation V/T/B
- Dog parks for walking dogs V/T/B
- Lack of recreational areas in Town T
- Expand pool hours & improve facilities
- Lack of benches on Second Street
- Maintenance of V/T parks V/T/B
- Community Center renovation V

**Riverfront**

- Riverfront underdeveloped V
- Waterfront run down V 2 dots
- No swimming beach
- Waterfront not developed for rec.
- Grant money to beautify river V/T/B
- Lack of recreation/exposure to Green Lake T
- No recreational beaches V

- No marina on park

**What is this?**

- Strip of land between 385 – no