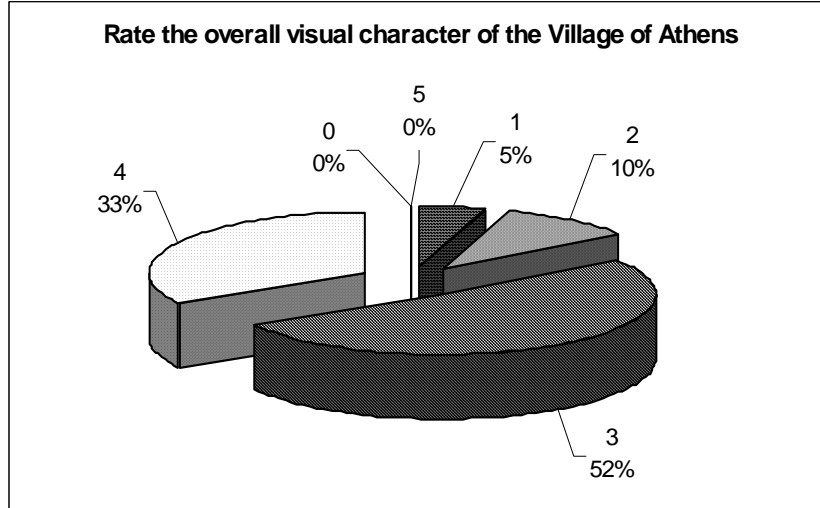


Town and Village of Athens Community Image Survey

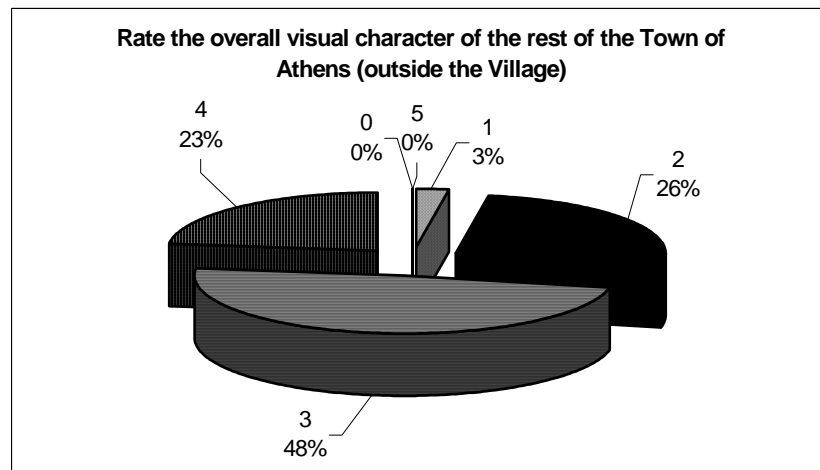
As part of the public outreach process, a Community Image Survey was developed. Residents of the Town and Village of Athens were invited to complete the survey. A total of 41 residents completed the survey.

Q1. How would you rate the overall visual character of the Village of Athens?



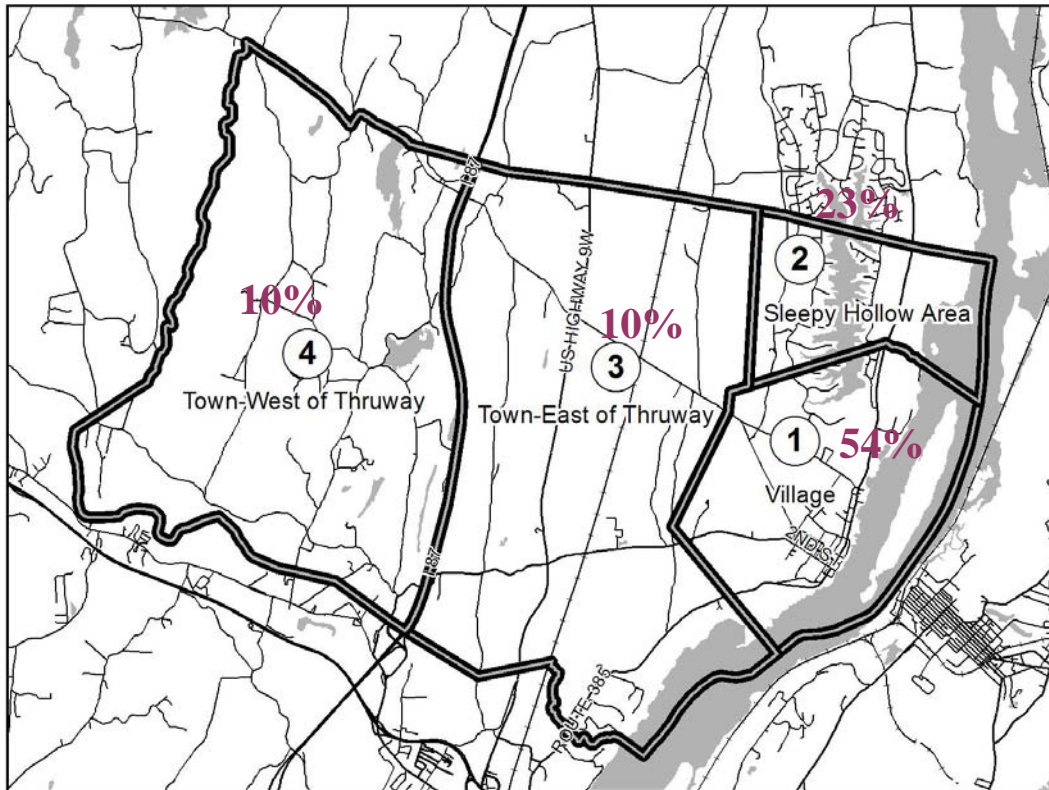
Respondents were asked to rate the overall visual character of the Village of Athens on a scale of 0 (worst) to 5 (best). According to the responses received, more than half of all respondents (52%) rated the overall visual character of the Village of Athens as a “3”. More than one-third of all respondents (33%) rated the Village as a “4”. Another 10% rated the Village’s visual character as a “2”. No respondents rated the Village’s visual character as being the best or the worst.

Q2. How would you rate the overall visual character of the rest of the Town of Athens (outside the Village)?



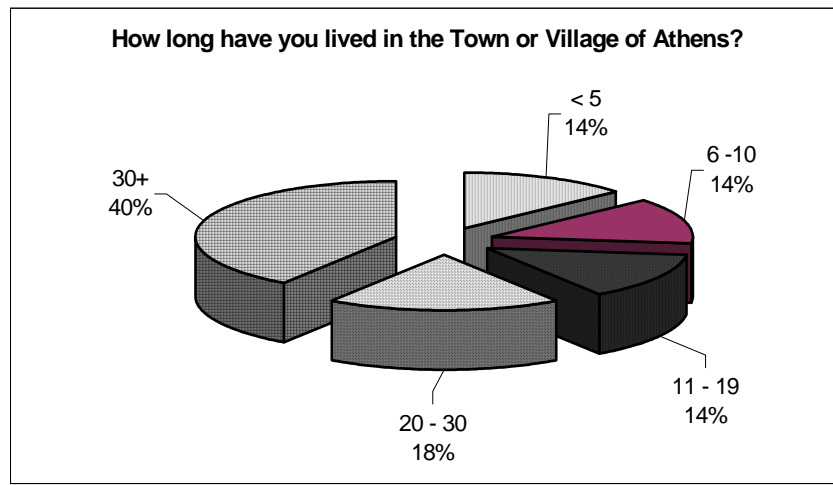
Respondents were asked to rate the overall visual character of the rest of the Town Athens (outside the Village) on a scale of 0 (worst) to 5 (best). According to the responses received, almost half of all the respondents (48%) rated the overall visual character of the Town of Athens (excluding the Village) as a “3”. About 26% of respondents rated the Town (outside the Village) as a “2”, while 23% rated it as a “4”. No respondents rated the visual character of the Town outside the Village as being the best or the worst.

Q9. Identify the general location of town where you live?



Respondents were asked to indicate where in the Town of Athens they lived. Options included the Village of Athens, the Town - West of Thruway, the Town - East of Thruway, and the Sleepy Hollow Area. More than half of all respondents (54%) indicated that they live in the Village. About 23% reside in the Sleepy Hollow Area, while 10% live west of the Thruway and another 10% live east of the Thruway.

Q10. How long have you lived in the Town or Village of Athens?



Respondents were asked to indicate how long have they lived in Athens. A high percentage (40%) of respondents indicated that they have lived in the community for more than 30 years. About 18% of respondents have lived in the community between 20 and 30 years. The percentage of resident respondents who have lived in Athens less than 5 years, between 6 and 10 years, and between 11 and 19 years each equals approximately 14%.

Open – ended Questions:

Q3. Describe the attributes that contribute to the positive visual character of the Village of Athens.

Aesthetics (Architecture/Scenic) - Architectural Pride, Architecture (6), Picturesque, Elegant, Charming houses, Charming, Scenery, Scenic (4)

Historical Resources - Historic (16), Historic homes (2), Steward House Area, Lighthouse

Community Character – Cleanliness/Neat (4), Rural Visibility, Charming, Comfortable, Quaint (7), Little, Cute, Small Town Look (4), River town, Country (2), Authentic, Cozy, Friendly (3), Consolidated, Growing, Homely, Colorful, Varied, Unspoiled, Nice, Size, Could grow

Waterfront/River resources/Recreation -Waterfront (8), Riverside (9), River view (3), Boat Dock/Boat Launch (2), Recreational, Children Park, Athens pool and other recreational facilities

Location/Infrastructure & Accessibility - Location, Village Setting and streets, Buildings, Accessibility

Natural Resources – Flowers, Trees (2), Streetscape, Gardens

Business and Industry - Old Business, McDonalds, Older Buildings

Others

Timeless

Q4. Describe the attributes that contribute to the positive visual character of the rest of the Town of Athens (outside the Village).

Scenic View/ Beauty – Country Vistas/Vistas (2), Scenic (4), Views/View shed (4), Riverview, View of Mountains (8)

Riverfront/Recreation – River (2), Waterfront, Sleepy Hollow Lake, Lakes (2)

Housing – Well kept property, Some Beautiful Homes

Community Character – Countryside (3), Rural (11), Quaint (2), Family, Uncluttered, Clean (2), Varied, Friendly, Undeveloped Space/ Open (4), Green (2), Spacious, Colorful, Residential

Natural Resources - Farm lands animals/Farms/Agricultural/Farm-Oriented (12), Wildlife, Mountains (2), Catskill, Hills, Nature, Open Land/Open Space (2), Pastoral/Woods/Trees/Rural landscape (5) Landscapes

Transportation - Railroad Tracks, Access to roads

Others - Negative Subdivision, Industrial, Little Suburban Sprawl, Can be build up, Location

Q5. Where is the most positive and visual **pleasing location in the Village?**

- 1. Franklin St.** - S. Franklin St. (3), Intersections around 2nd St. and Franklin and Washington, Lower Franklin St., South Franklin St. homes remind us of the successful past life in the Village, Triangle Park (Franklin and 5th Street)
- 2. Roads** - Union St., Water Street (3), Second Street/Main Street, Route 385 North of the Village - around Vosburghs, River Street, S. Washington Street between 2nd and 3rd
- 3. Library**
- 4. Nursery**
- 5. Lighthouse**/Standing on the road and looking towards the lighthouses (4)
- 6. Riverfront/Waterfront Views/Recreation** - View of Hudson, River view/Waterfront view (5), Riverfront/Waterfront– great combination of views, homes, and businesses, Riverfront – natural beauty of the river valley, Waterfront – the

- riverfront view stops at the Island Blocking the City of Hudson (10), Hagar's Harbor (2), Access to the river, Boat launch - Great place to enjoy creek and river - south end is nice but distant from river and power lines
7. **Architecture** - Entire lower historic district because of the incredible array of historic architecture, Steward House, Historic homes/Beautiful houses (4), Southern entrances to the Village, Well kept homes
 8. **Local Parks** - Village Park (2), Riverfront Park/Waterfront Park/Riverside Park/River Park with a great view of the 2nd street and some of the nicest buildings in the Village (8), Walking Southside by Park
 9. **Agrarian/Farmland** – Wonderful view of the farmland/woods
 10. **Others** – Comfortable, Quiet

Q6. Where is the most positive and visually pleasing location in the town outside of the Village in the Town of Athens?

1. **Leeds Athens Rd.** - Intersection of Leeds - Athens Road and Howard Hall Road – Looking west, Leeds Athens Road – East of Train Tracks, Leeds Athens Rd. – Beautiful Vistas
2. **Route 385** - Route 385 – north and south of the village (2), Route 57 and Route 385 – views of the mountains, Route 385 – scenic - north of Cossackie's, High on Schoharie Trpk. - where you can view the natural beauty of hills, fields, and mountains, North of the Village – Route 385 - where you can see Hudson River to east and Catskills mountains to the west
3. **Farm to Market Road** facility east and west (2), Small Park off Union St. east of farm to market, Farm to market – mountain views
4. **Vosborg's Nursery** - Wonderful view of the river/farmlands/woods, Route 385 North – near Vosborg's nursery - views over river and towards Catskills are spectacular as are near by open fields, Route 385 - North of the Village around Vosburghs, Vosbergs Scenic Riverview
5. **Riverfront/Lake** - Green Lake (7) – Lake and Mountain Views, Hudson Valley, Boat launch
6. **Town Park** - Town Park – only park in the town
7. **Roads** - Sandy Plain roads, Winding roads, Flats road (2), Bach road
8. **Natural Resources/Character** - Rural, Country, Open (2), Undeveloped (2) Green space, Agriculture, Farms, Lots of wildlife (2)
9. **Scenic View/Mountains** - Great views of the Catskill, High hill road view (2), Great sunrise and sunset, Very quite and river views, View of mountains/Views of nature and mountains (3)
10. **Housing** - Variety of housing styles, Sleepy Hollow Lake Community (2)
11. **Others** - Underground utilities

Q7. Where is the most negative and visually displeasing location in the Village? Why?

1. **Rt. 385** - Rt. 385 – service stations with junkyards, Rt. 385 – Midtown (2), Rt. 385 between Market and Goodrich (Peckham Tanks), Rt. 385 between northern entrances to ridiculously huge out of place Village down to Market Street, Entry into Village South and on Rte 385, Intersection of Route 385 – market stewards and sewage treatment plant
2. **Peckham Septic System for Sleepy Hollow**, Sleepy Hollow Sewer Plant, Old barges and Peckham tanks, Sewer Plant – Peckham industries, Waste water treatment facility – detracts from the water St. ‘Luster’, Peckham Industries – It is an ugly blight on the Village and riverfront, Peckham Industries – spoils the river (2), Sunken barges north of Peckham, Oil Tanks, Village sewage plant, Peckham – located on Rt. 385 looks like industrial and wasted riverfront, Top of brick row and Rt. 385 – Sleepy Hollow Lake Waste Water (sewage) Plant – bad smell
3. **Washington St.** - North Washington St. by the garages, Washington St. and around corner of Water St.
4. **Second St.** - Lower Second St. uncared for buildings, Second St. – many homes need some renovation, 2nd St – no character – oil tanks on the river
5. **River Street** – Beautiful park but street is very cluttered north of park
6. Unkempt property – **the Tin Church**
7. **Brunner clean fill site**
8. **Waterfront/ Riverfront** - Waterfront North, Upper Village along the river - not the businesses but the mess on the river, Riverfront – north of the park, unkempt looking (photos in your slide show of riverfront)
9. **Trash Removal/Cleanup** – Dirty streets, Auto Junkyards, the wood pallet fences – looks junkie
10. **Structures** - Buildings run down, Old dated buildings and property, Amos Post
11. **Tanks/Trucks** - Tanks and Trucks
12. **Others** - I am sorry but I don’t generally view things as negatives as I make my way around Town. I am happy for the positives and I know I am in the minority when I say I actually appreciate those dreaded “Barges”, Top of Opera House, Overall,

Q8. Where is the most negative and visually unpleasing location in the town outside of the Village? Why?

1. **Sleepy Hollow Treatment Plant** - The Sleepy hollow treatment plant – it is unpleasing to the eyes and nose
2. **Athens Generating Plant** - Athens Gen./Generating Plant – nasty industrial site (3), Electric Generating Plant – unsightly, US Gen. and Power Station on Leeds Athens, Power Plant - ridiculously huge out of place (2)
3. **9W** - Bewer Lodge 9W – don’t like Strip malls, 9W car (junk yard), 9W – used car lots, Rt. 9W Power Plant, 9W – North and South car dealerships or both ends, 9W Corridor, 9W needs something to detract from this ugly property, 9W is not very appealing for a State Highway
4. **Schoharie Tpk.** - Industrial Park on Schoharie Tpk. (2), Auto Junkyards on Schoharie Tpk. by Greenlake (Junk yard), Junkyard – corner Schoharie road and Route 49, Mauers Junkyard – rundown housing along with junk all around yard -

Located on the corner of the Green Lake and Schoharie Tpk., Schoharie Tpk. from Union St. to 9W, Schoharie Tpk. around the railroads tracks - ugly construction, Corner of Schoharie Tpk. and Greenlake Rd., Schoharie Tpk. near the tracks from the Foundry to the tracks

5. **Vosberg Florist** – Vosberg Florist - It is a broken down dirty building. It is not a nice welcoming sign to Athens
6. **Foundry Building** - Former Foundry Building, Abandoned Wormuth Foundry - Symbol of Pre-zoning spot building and obvious visual detriment, Empty buildings
7. **Roads** - Roads not maintained, Lime Street, Entrance north of U. Hage, Rt. 28 – east and west of RR Tracks
8. **Others** - Run down homes (2), Not having small shopping means, Rusty Water Tank by Industrial Zone, Junkyards