

**BELMONT MASTER PLAN  
COMMUNITY MEETING QUESTIONNAIRES  
Final Tally as of 2/1/02**

**Process Comments:**

Community Meeting Polls were distributed at the November 2, 2001 Community Meeting and after the meeting at the Town Hall, Library and Mill. 1992 Goals Review Questionnaire was distributed at the November 2, 2001 Community Meeting, after the meeting at the Town Hall, Library and Mill, and in the December, 2001 Belmont Better Times. A deadline of February 1, 2002, was set for return of all polls and questionnaires. Result tallies were conducted on:

- **November 5, 2001** – 82 returns;
- **December 6, 2001** – An additional 12 returns;
- **January 8, 2002** – An additional 21 returns (After distribution of Belmont Better Times issue);
- **February 7, 2002** – An additional 2 returns (Final tally).

Total number of forms returned was 117. The total number of returns for each included:

- 1992 Goals Review - 29
- Belmont Quiz - 2
- Community Facilities - 5
- Conservation & Preservation - 11
- Housing - 14
- Land Use - 12
- Recreation - 18
- Transportation - 26

Highlights as well as full return results follow:

**Highlights of returns include:**

**1992 Goals Review** – Seven of the ten identified 1992 goals received strong support for their continued importance. The remaining three goals (development of quality, moderate cost housing options; public transportation & commuter service; second water tank & line extensions) received in excess of 50% support, but not as strong as the remaining goals. Comments included retain rural character, encourage small quality business development; need better enforcement; specific transportation safety issues.

**Belmont Quiz** – S. Jesseman highest score (80 out of possible 160).

**Community Facilities** – Recommended recreation building, recycling, better accessibility, historical museum, specific sites for possible new school facility. Did not support emergency substation.

**Conservation & Preservation** – Recommended support of specific recreational uses (hunting, fishing, biking, hiking, wildlife viewing, snowmobiles, OHRVs; agriculture); defined “rural characteristics” (stonewalls, agriculture, dirt roads, architecture, size, open space, views, recreation); supported conservation & preservation efforts.

**Housing** – Did not support accessory apartments or subsidizing elderly housing. Supported growth management, charging building fees, current zoning districts.

**Land Use** – Supported adopting an environmental conditions map.

**Recreation** – Supported need for additional recreation, recreation areas/hall, use of school facilities for non-school related recreation for small fee. Listed types of existing/needed recreation.

**Transportation** – Supported park & ride, restriction on billboard numbers. Majority appear to have available individual transportation options. Split on desire to use/knowledge of alternative forms of transportation. Identified specific transportation hazard sites (Rte 140/Church St/N.Main, Rte 106/Seavy, Union/Rte 3, Federal/Leavitt).

## **Full Return Information:**

### **Belmont Master Plan 1992 Goals Review:**

1. Continue to protect the Tioga River Watershed by requiring development near wetlands to meet certain performance standards.

**Important - 26      Not Important - 3**

2. Identify unique town environmental areas to protect and preserve for future generations to enjoy.

**Important - 25      Not Important - 4**

Additional Comments:

**Essential.**

**At this point.**

3. Build and revitalize community identity through civic activities and regional promotion of Belmont advantage and amenities.

**Important - 21      Not Important - 5**

Additional Comments:

**We seem to have a lot of the former (activities) but very little of the latter (promotion).**

**Don't see this being done.**

**Only if it can be made true.**

**These need to be located, defined, and possible promoted first.**

4. Promote the development of quality, moderate cost housing options.

**Important - 14      Not Important - 13**

Additional Comments:

**Belmont has more than its fair share now, especially manufactured homes.**

**Current # of mobile homes more than adequately supplies that need.**

**Very.**

**As opposed to what?**

5. Retain the dominant rural character, as still exists in Eastern Belmont.

**Important - 22      Not Important - 6**

Additional Comments:

**How could it be possible with 106, 104, 3/11, bypass, etc. intersecting our village?**

**Somewhat**

6. Encourage the development of additional residences and businesses in the Village area.

**Important - 16      Not Important - 9**

Additional Comments:

**Making the existing village more attractive should be a higher priority.**

**Very.**

**Improvement-you need a grant to help property owners fix up their structures.**

**Needs redevelopment, not more development.**

**Village District needs definition and cleanup/condemnation of trashy buildings.**

7. Identify and reserve land parcels for recreational use, especially considering the needs of youth and young adults.

**Important - 21      Not Important - 6**

Additional Comments:

**The park in town is hardly used – Skateboards on road & sidewalks instead of in town park.**

**Simply continue Town Forest development.**

**Emphasis should be on non-destructive, non-gasoline powered forms of recreation.**

**Done for school, beach – improve or expand park for running, biking paths or trails.**

**Not a real problem or need at this time – we have more than adequate supply.**

8. Research further alternatives for public transportation and commuter service

**Important - 14      Not Important - 13**

Additional Comments:

**GLTA handles well, include their schedule on website.**

**Could we work with GLTA to provide some public transportation.**

**No evidence of this.**

9. Consider a feasibility study of a second water storage tank and water line extensions to the Seavey Road/Wildlife Boulevard neighborhood

**Important - 14      Not Important - 12**

Additional Comments:

**Case has not been made for need.**

**No opinion – not familiar with the issue.**

**School.**

**Wasn't aware of a need. Also heard town water quality was poor.**

**Important to those residents.**

10. Evaluate effects of development trends on town's infrastructure to minimize adverse impacts on the town tax rate.

**Important - 29**

**Not Important – 0**

Additional Comments:

**Should be top priority. This is an achievable goal and our best opportunity if carefully platted.**

**Very.**

Please share your idea(s) for the Belmont Master Plan:

**Safe place to have our kids play and supervised. We would like the town to grow but still stay as a town. School has good integrity and to keep it strong. Encourage small town businesses not big ones. Sidewalks and cross walk light at 106 so kids can get to school safely and equipment to maintain them. Make it safe for our children in the village to walk to school. Keep small town feel.**

**Wetland violations continue.**

**We should restrict the addition of mobile homes and low cost housing units. These bring in poor families with children. These families typically have a higher level of social problems.**

**They increase special education costs and bring down the overall quality of our schools. By not controlling low cost housing, we have become the slum town of the Lakes Region. The master plan should serve to increase the quality of our town, not perpetuate its decline.**

**Protect the vistas that remind us of agricultural and earlier heritages.**

**It is a shame we do not recycle. Should have large item pickup once a year.**

**Keep up the good work! Please keep us informed through newspaper articles.**

**Look at Meredith as a model of excellence. We need to pull in quality businesses to improve our image – restaurant, function facility, etc. We need a light (still) at the 140 intersection in town. Use the Gale School and 140 Meeting house for town or rental purposes!**

**We should allow more shopping places to come in. Instead of giving the other towns our money.**

**We can then keep it here in Belmont to help pay our taxes. It will also help to bring our property tax down. It will also help our Police & Fire Dept. & Schools.**

**I like the progress but once a development is approved you have no one to enforce the regulations. Some one is doing just what they want and you don't do a thing about it. We have no one in this town that will do and follow the rules. It's not what you know but who you know.**

**Please! Try to help seniors who are evaluated at the same tax rate as people who can afford rich taxes. Why should someone who has a \$60,000 home pay the same as a \$180,000 home?**

**Totally unfair for people on fixed incomes in their 80's to pay such high taxes.**

**Try to keep the rural feel of the town by restricting development and protecting open lands.**

**Belmont is a nice town & has gotten more respect over the years. Difficult to be between Concord & Laconia. Have to fight to make sure they don't "run us over". We do need to increase the tax base, but without losing our rural quality – woods, farms, etc. NO bypass please!! Good luck!!**

**The property taxes in Belmont are too high and need to be reduced. Spending by the town needs to be reduced and possibly some of the services provided should be reduced.**

### **Belmont Quiz:**

Top Scorers: S. Jesseman (80 out of possible 160) and Jan Boudreau (70 out of possible 160)

### **Community Facilities:**

1. What additional services or facilities would enhance your use of the Belmont Library?  
**A historical museum of Belmont.**  
**Just too small – cost to great to make it worthwhile – also not used that much – I go to Laconia Library where there is 100% more.**
2. If additional elementary school facilities are necessary in the future, in what area of the community do you feel they should be located?  
**Parent's pit.**  
**At the present elementary school land. Right where it is – they have 55 acres.**  
**Depends what elementary school they need, 1-4 or a middle school.**
3. Do you think the community should provide a substation in the Route 107 area to enhance emergency services (fire – police) in that area?  
**No – 2      Yes – 1**  
Additional Comments:  
**Fire.**  
**Not Yet.**  
**Definite**
4. Are there other improvements to community facilities that you would recommend or additional needed facilities?  
**Rec hall at old town shed.**  
**For a small town I think we provide a good choice for our citizens.**  
**Automatic door openers for handicapped.**  
**Recycle Center.**

### **Conservation & Preservation:**

1. Would you consider participating in some sort of conservation or preservation effort?  
**Yes – 6      No – 2**

Additional Comments:

## Maybe

2. Do you think that the town should utilize some of the parcels of land it already owns for the purpose of conservation?  
**Yes – 7      No – 1      Maybe - 3**
3. How would open spaces best fit your interest? (Check all that apply)  
**hunting/fishing - 8                      bird/wildlife viewing - 4**  
**biking/hiking trails - 7                snowmobile/ohrv - 8**  
**agricultural/forestry - 3                other: - 0**
4. Do you feel that the schools should have a continuing role in educating students about conservation/preservation?  
**Yes – 10      No – 0      Maybe - 1**
5. Would you consider donating/putting any lands into a conservation trust?  
**Yes – 2      No – 1      Maybe – 2**
6. What features attracted you to move to Belmont?  
**Family lived near**  
**Small growing town – great place to raise kids – great school system.**  
**Open areas**  
**School system**  
**“The Rural Character”**  
**Found piece of land that suited myself & family**
7. Where was your previous residence?  
**California**  
**Laconia (4)**  
**Lifelong**  
**Sanbornton**  
**Long Island, NY**
8. What features help define Belmont’s "Rural Character"? (Check all that apply)  
**Stonewalls – 10      dirt roads - 6      large trees - 7      scenic views/vistas - 6**  
**Agricultural - 8      farm/animals - 8      forestlands - 8      open spaces - 5**  
**Orchards - 6      old homes - 7      wetlands - 6      outdoor recreation - 4**  
**hunting/fishing - 4      small community - 6**

## Housing:

1. Should accessory apartments be allowed in all residential zones?  
**YES - 4      NO – 7      MAYBE - 1**  
Additional Comments:  
**Maybe. Limited Amount.**  
**No. Special Exceptions.**

2. The number of dwelling units in Belmont increased by 244 or 9% in the 10-year period from 1990 to 2000. Do you feel the Town should undergo a Growth Management Study to determine methods to manage/slow down growth?

**YES – 10 NO – 0 MAYBE – 3 UNDETERMINED - 1**

Additional Comments:

**Managed growth is not the same as slow growth**

**Manage growth**

3. Belmont currently does not charge any fee for building permits. Neighboring communities charge from \$50--\$300 for new residential, multi-family, modular/mobile, commercial, and industrial building permits. Do you feel Belmont should charge for building permits?

**YES - 11 NO – 1 MAYBE – 2**

Additional Comments:

**If revenue goes to specific cause.**

**With a specific earmarked use for the proceeds.**

If yes, what do you feel would be a fair and reasonable fee for each?

**new residential - \$25-1, \$50-5, \$100-5, \$150-1, \$500-1**

**new commercial - \$75-1, \$100-4, \$200-1, \$250-1, \$300-5, \$500-1**

**multi-family - \$50ea-1, \$75-1, \$100-3, \$150-1, \$175-1, \$200-3, \$250-1, \$300-2**

**new modular/mobile home - \$30-1, \$50-3, \$100-7, \$150-1, \$300-1**

**new industrial - \$100-3, \$200-3, \$300-5, \$500-2**

**accessory apts./conversions - \$30-1, \$50-3, \$100-5, \$200-2, \$250-1, \$300-1**

Additional comments:

**Stop Multi-Family**

4. Should Belmont taxpayers subsidize elderly housing development?

**YES - 2 NO – 7 MAYBE – 3**

5. After reviewing the zoning map, do you feel that the current zoning in Belmont needs to be modified?

**YES - 4 NO – 7 MAYBE – 2**

If yes where?

**All over town 3 acres.**

## **Land Use:**

Do you wish to adopt an Environmental Conditions Map that identifies four types of land classification?

1. Land not to be developed. ((Aquifers, floodplains, wetlands (including Hydric soils), and stream courses including setbacks, deeryards, significant wildlife habitat and corridors, slopes over 25%, and ridgelines and hilltops, town forests and protected land).
2. Marginally developable land (Land of moderate resource value comprising of agricultural soils of state importance and slopes between 15% and 25%).
3. Developable Land (Land that is not subject to the above environmental constraints).

4. Developed Land (Landowners fully presumed to have fully exercised the development rights of their properties).  
YES – 12 NO – 0

**Recreation:**

1. Do you feel the need to be involved in some sort of recreation?  
YES - 10 NO – 3 MAYBE (if there were more to choose from) - 5  
Additional Comments:  
**Senior Center**
2. Do you think that the town should utilize the parcels of land it already owns for the purpose of expanding indoor/outdoor recreation to minimize cost to taxpayers?  
YES - 16 NO – 0 MAYBE - 2  
Additional Comments:  
**Maintain character of conservation by using for hiking and low-impact recreation.  
The children in Belmont need something.**
3. Is there enough recreation throughout the town for all age groups?  
YES - 2 NO - 13 Wish more for \_\_\_\_ age group – 1  
Additional Comments: All - 2  
Young - 1  
60+up – 1  
6yr to 75 yr-1
4. How many in household, sex, and age?  
4 (2-male 35&14, 2-female 35 &1)  
5 (4-male 48, 20, 21 & 23; 1-female 46)  
2 (1-male, 1-female)  
4 (3-male 29, 5 & 2; 1-female 31)  
5 (2-male, 40 & 19; 3-female 40, 21 & 10)  
5 (2-male 46 & 19; 3-female 41, 21 & 10)  
1 (1-male 36)  
2 (1-male 50, 1-female 55)  
4 (2-male 56 & 27; 2-female 54 & 76)  
2 (1-male, 1-female)  
2 (1-male, 1-female)  
5 (4-male, 73 & 3; 1-female 75)  
2 (1-male, 1-female)  
3  
5 (2-male, 46 & 19; 3-female, 21, 40 & 10)  
2 (1-male, 1-female)  
3 (1-male,1,5&32; 1-female, 3,27&56)
5. What kind of organized recreation would best fit your lifestyle? (Check all that apply)  
**family oriented - 8 solo oriented - 3**

**adult oriented - 9**  
**child oriented -5**

**team oriented - 3**  
**other – Co-ed –1**  
**Other - 1**

6. Do you participate in any indoor or outdoor recreational activities?

**YES - 13 NO - 5**

Additional Comments:

**Camping, hiking.**  
**Outdoor**

7. Should the town purchase easements across lands for new/old trails for the purpose of making loop trails for year-round recreation?

**YES - 12 NO - 2 MAYBE - 5**

Additional comment:

**No need to purchase – maybe by agreement?**  
**As long as you don't limit use**

8. Do you feel that the schools and their grounds should be utilized by taxpayers for adult organized recreation?

**YES - 13 NO – 1 MAYBE (depending on recreation) - 3**

9. Would you be willing to pay (small \$5 fee) to play adult organized recreation at the schools to help with cost of equipment, cleanup, utilities?

**YES - 13 NO – 0 MAYBE ( if the fee was \$\_\_\_\_\_ ) - 0**

Additional comments:

**More for seasonal pass.**  
**I like Belmont the way it is.**

10. List recreational activities that you or your family participate in throughout the year.

<b>Camping – 1</b>	<b>Bicycling – 1</b>	<b>Horse Shoes – 1</b>
<b>Hiking – 2</b>	<b>Walking – 1</b>	<b>Kayaking – 1</b>
<b>Swimming – 1</b>	<b>Boating – 2</b>	<b>X-Country Skiing – 2</b>
<b>Skiing – 1</b>	<b>Snowmobiling – 5</b>	<b>4-wheeler – 1</b>
<b>Soccer – 1</b>	<b>T/Baseball – 1</b>	<b>Hunting – 2</b>
<b>Fishing – 3</b>	<b>Snowshoeing – 1</b>	<b>Ice Skating – 1</b>
<b>Sledding – 1</b>	<b>Basketball – 2</b>	<b>Volleyball – 2</b>
<b>Cards – 1</b>	<b>Archery – 1</b>	<b>Outdoor Parks – 1</b>
<b>RV – 1</b>	<b>Rollerblading – 1</b>	<b>Softball - 1</b>
<b>Flying – 1</b>	<b>None –1</b>	

11. List recreational activities you would participate in if they were available in town.

<b>Hiking – 1</b>	<b>Snowshoeing – 1</b>	<b>Ice Skating – 1</b>
<b>Sledding – 1</b>	<b>Basketball – 1</b>	<b>Volleyball – 2</b>
<b>Snowmobiling – 1</b>	<b>Softball – 2</b>	<b>Parks – 1</b>

**None - 1**

12. List recreational businesses that you would like to see,

**None – 1**

13. Additional Comments:

**This town needs a rec hall for our young teens for winter months or some type of inside activities/rope tow for snowboarding and sledding.**

**Transportation:**

1. Do you think a Park and Ride would be beneficial and help relieve congestion on Rte 106, or 3-11?

**Yes - 16      No – 8**

2. Would you support not having additional Billboards on our roads?

**Yes – 17      No – 7**

Additional Comments:

**Yes - And Car Lots**

3. Do you often help an elderly, disabled, or other person without transportation with a ride?

**Yes – 11      No – 13**

4. Do you often stay at home because of no transportation?

**Yes – 1      No – 21**

5. How do you get around now?

**Car – 24, Bus – 0, Senior Transit – 1, Family – 2, Friends – 0**

6. If you had access to other forms of transportation, such as ride share, bus, train, would you use them?

**Yes – 9      No – 12**

Additional comments:

**If I couldn't drive.**

**Some day yes – no for now.**

7. Do you know the transportation options in Belmont?

**Yes – 11      No – 14**

8. Do you report traffic or road problems to the Public Works Office?

**Yes – 14      No – 9**

9. Are there any intersections in town where you feel the additional of traffic lights or signage would be helpful?

Yes – 1      No – 4

Additional Comments:

**By the Church across from Church St. Laundry.**

**Corner of 140, N. Main & Church (2)**

**106 and Seavey Road.**

**Union Road & Rte 3 intersection.**

**Stop sign on Federal & Leavitt Road – going east you cannot see down Federal Street until you are in center of road. Spoke to Police Chief and Public Works to no avail (not sure about this word from form). Let see what you can do.**

10. Problems or ideas?

**Keep our rural town rural – to heck with building roads to bypass our town.**

**Add stop lights at the Church across from Church St. Laundry.**

**I would like to see Belmont known for something very distinct (something positive that is).**

**It could be something like having Main St or sections of it lined with lilacs, having a lilac festival and having Belmont known as the Lilac Capital of the nation or, at least, of NH or New England. Can we do something with our bandstand? Problem: it's not enough to plan. We also have to better effect existing plans. I would like to see the town do a better job of enforcing existing town and state regulations. It's not enough for Main St to be beautified, side roads should have properties that are neat and attractive. There are too many junkyards in town, there are too many properties where there are too many junky and unregistered vehicles. Let's clean the town up. The ordinances are there, let them be enforced.**

**Still driving own car.**

**No sidewalk from school.**

**Dumping of trash on rural roads.**

**Big Problem – Brown Hill Road.**

**Limit heavy trucks from running class V roads.**

**Limit heavy trucks on class V roads. Repave Brown Hill Rd.**

**Limit truck on town road that cross from 106 to 107 to no more than two axles.**

**Speed on Main & Concord.**

**Partial List of 11/2/01 Meeting Attendees:**

Albert Akerstrom, department head

Scott Alward (media) & local business

Linda Ashbaugh (new resident)

Richard Ashbaugh \* (new resident)

Sue Austin

Everett Bailey

Richard Ball, Staff

David Barrett

Rep.\* and Mrs. Gordon Bartlett

Robert Bennett, department head

Flora Betourne

Richard Binette, Jr.

Jim Bolduc, SEA Consultants  
Mary Bognaski, department head  
Brien Bognaski  
Renee\* & Dave Bolles  
William\* and Helga Brunkhardt  
Naomi Caldwell\*  
Reginald Caldwell, Selectman  
Ray & Jane Carbone  
Tom Carroll\*  
Michael Cass  
Tom Clairmont  
Mark Condodemetrakya \*  
George Condodemetrakya \*  
Susan Condodemetrakya \*  
Kevin Conway \*  
Brad & Helen Corriveau  
Michael Cozort\*  
Geoff Cunningham (media)  
Candace Daigle, Staff  
Cheryl & Ken Ellis  
Gary Flack \*  
Linda Frawley \*  
Tom Garfield  
Tom Goulette  
Phyllis Graham (new resident)  
Doralyn Harper, Selectman\*  
Marcia Hayward  
Peter Harris \*  
Steve & Jane Jesseman  
Ray Korber, SEA Consultants  
Carol Lacasse, department head  
Jackie Landry  
Peter & Jewel LaPointe  
Michael Leclair  
Mark Lewandoski  
Mr.\* & Mrs. Brian Loanes  
Paul & Laurel Lomanno  
David & Lisa Magerer  
Jeffrey Marden \*  
Lewis and Shirley Marden  
Donald P. McLelland, Sr.\*  
Carolyn Mirabello (new resident)  
David Morse\*  
Jack Mosel  
Elaine Murphy, Staff  
Fred Naiva

Bill Oberhausen  
Mr.\* & Mrs.\* Claude Patten  
Esther Peters  
Ward Peterson, Selectman  
Mr.\* & Mrs. Jonathan Pike  
Dr.\* & Mrs.\* James Pilliod  
Robert Rein  
Wallace Rhodes \*  
Mark Roberts  
Sue Roberts \*  
Golda Schohan (business owner)  
Beth & Jack Scott  
Clayton Shibles  
Nils Skorve (business owner)  
Paul Sottak  
Hyman Steiman  
Kevin Sturgeon  
John Thomas  
Tuthill family (Preston, Lisa & children)

\*MP volunteers