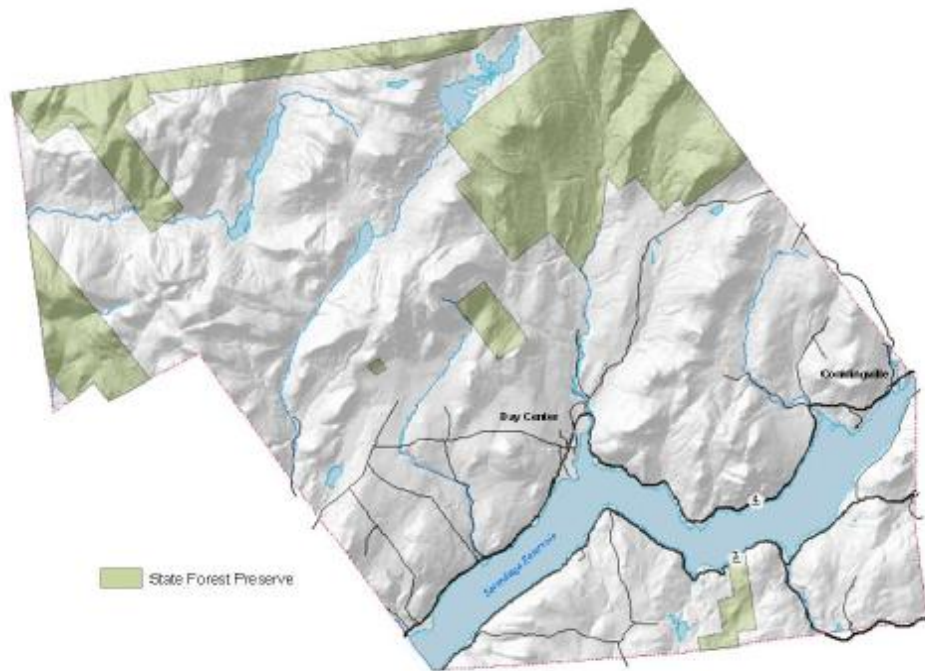


# **RESIDENT QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY ANALYSIS**

*A Supporting Document to the  
**TOWN OF DAY  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN***



Town of Day Comprehensive Plan Committee  
October 2009

In early January of 2009, 1583 surveys were mailed to the owners of property in the Town of Day. The tax roll provided the mailing list. 26 surveys were returned as not deliverable. All surveys returned by April 22, 2009 were analyzed. There were 804 responses. This is an extraordinary response rate of 51 %. Mail surveys usually receive only a 1% or 2% return. Even in mail surveys where people are really interested in the topic, a 30% response is unusual. The surveys were notable for the obvious thought that respondents put into their responses, and the candor and range of their written comments. The people who live in the Town of Day care greatly about the Town, and are committed to its future.

The results of the Survey analysis are presented below.

Section 1 contains an analysis of responses to Questions 1- 3. These were the questions that asked for responders' demographic information.

Section 2 contains the analysis of the numeric responses to questions about the importance of issues the Town is concerned with and covers Questions 4 – 17E.

Section 3 contains a compilation of the responses to the 4 open ended questions.

Note: 802 of the 804 responses were analyzed. One response was eliminated because it was a letter about why they didn't fill out the questionnaire, and the other was from the Hadley/Luzerne School District Bus Garage. They received a questionnaire because the District has deeded property in the Town, but were not included because they are a government agency.

The responses to the returned surveys were coded in an EXCEL format, and verified by an individual other than the coder. Textual responses to the open ended questions were coded in the same format, but in a "short hand" version of the verbatim comments made by responders. The content analysis was based on the "short hand" version. All the data is reported based on the number of responses, not the number of responders. Not every one answered every question, and many made a number of comments in responding to the open ended questions.

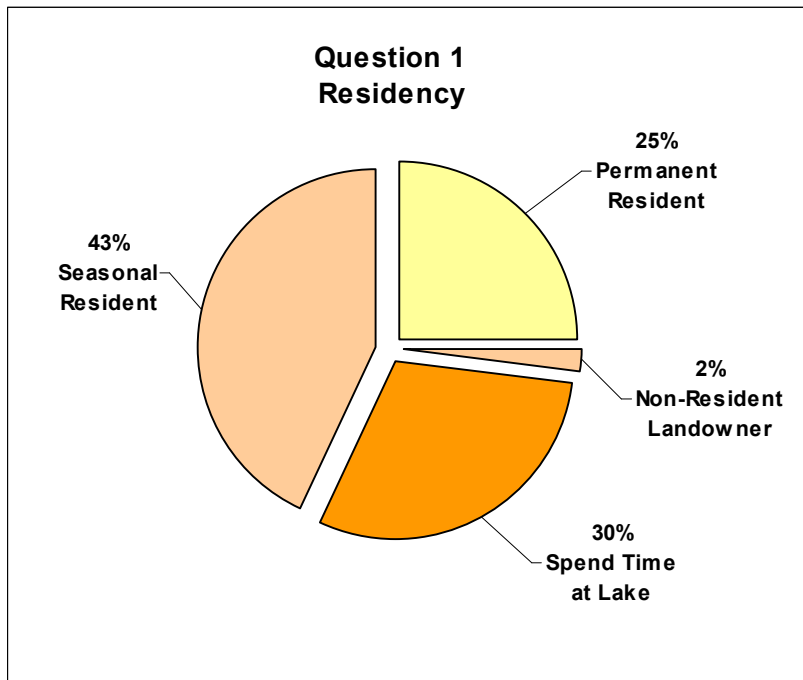
## Section 1: Demographics - Questions 1 – 3.

### 1. Which category best describes your residence in The Town of Day?

The responses to this question indicate that a “Land Owner” category should have been added as 15 respondents indicated this was the case for them. Some camped on the lot, for others, it was a wood lot, and for some, the residence was in an adjoining town like Corinth or Hadley. These respondents are category “iv” or “4” in the following analysis.

- i. Permanent resident - 202 Respondents or 25%
- ii. Seasonal resident. - 342 Respondents or 43%
- iii. Spend time at the lake year round, but have permanent residence some where else. - 243 Respondents or 30%
- iv. Land owners only. - 15 Respondents or 2%

Census data suggests that the ratio of seasonal residences to permanent residences is about 3/1. The pattern of responses conforms to that breakdown. It would appear that we have the expected distribution of responses between those for whom Day is a permanent residence, and those who live here only part of the time and have a permanent residence some place else.



2. Do you have a lake access permit?

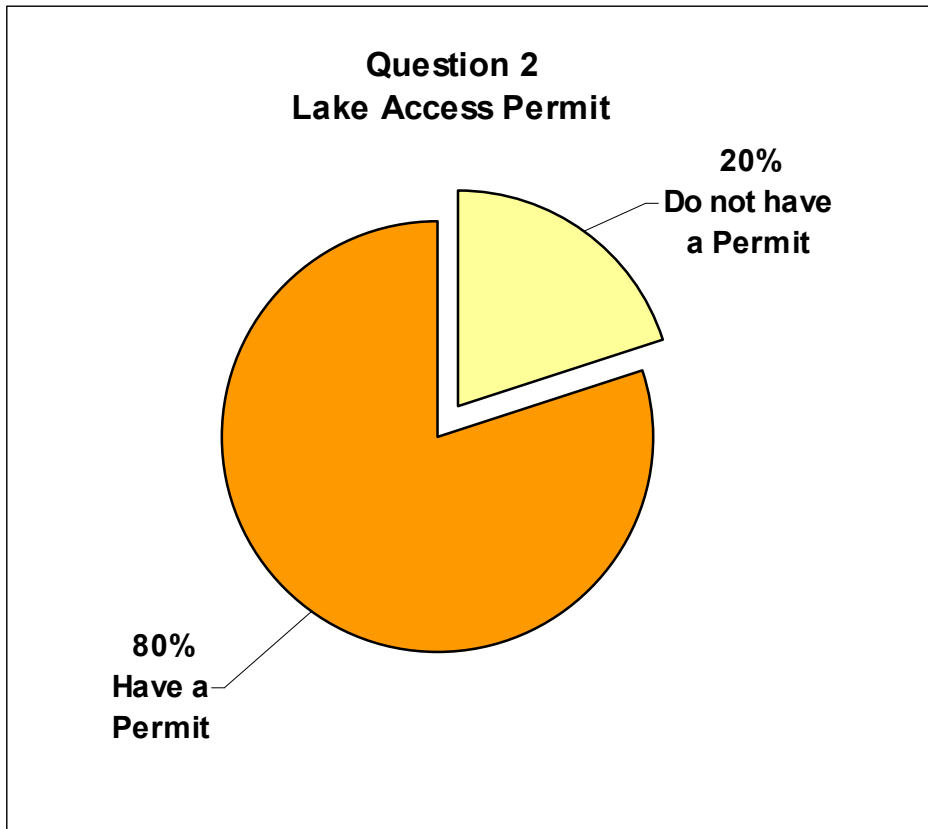
i. Yes: 592 or 80% of responders have a lake access permit

Residents = 71%

Seasonal = 85%

Year Round non Residents = 82%

ii. No: 146 or 20% indicate that they don't have a permit.

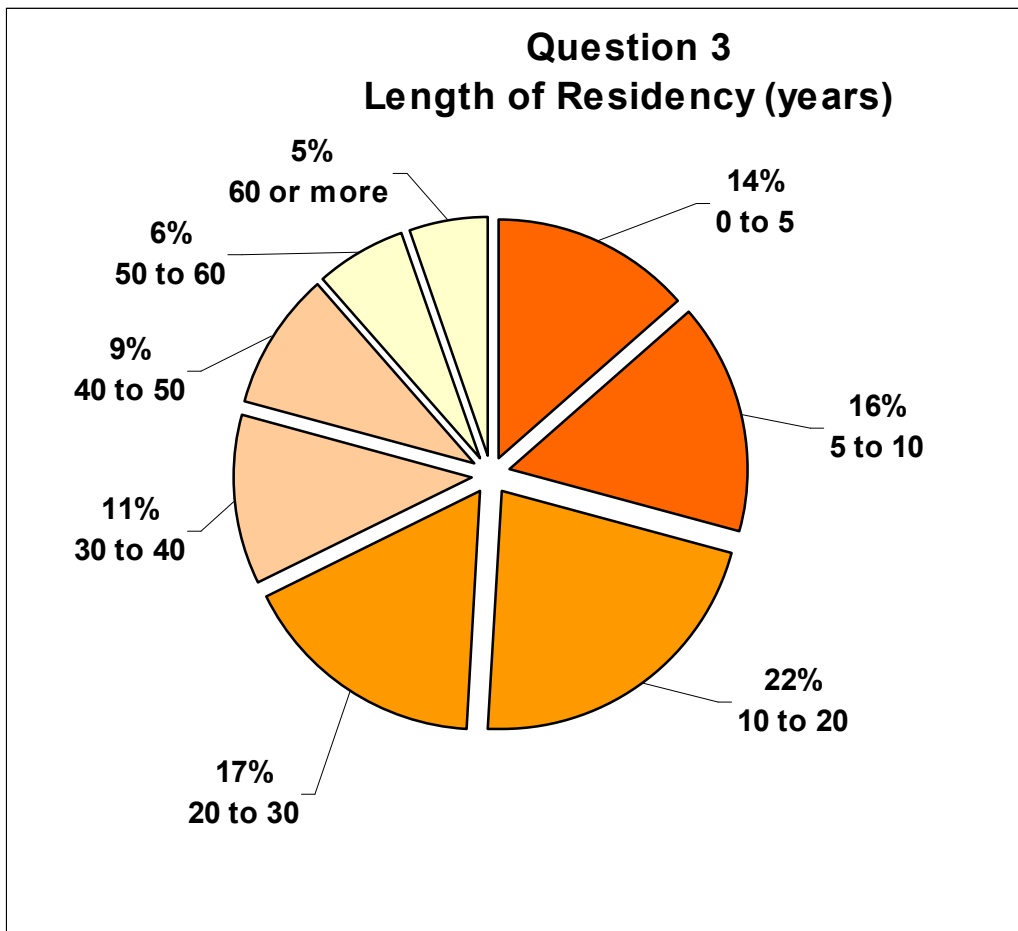


3. About how long have you lived in the Town of Day?  
 i. \_\_\_\_\_ years.

This question created some confusion as a number of respondents left this blank, or suggested it wasn't applicable because they were not permanent residents of the Town. Some put in "0." In many cases, these respondents left marginal notes indicating that they or their family had been here a long time. These totaled 38 respondents out of 738, so we're comfortable that the averages below are meaningful even though the 38 were excluded. However we compute it, it is clear that responders have had a very long association with life in the Town of Day.

Average for all = 26 years. Median (mid point - half greater & half less) = 20.

1. Permanent Residence avg = 22.8 years. Median = 18 years. The range was 1 year to 80 years
2. Seasonal residence avg = 29.5 years Median = 28. The range was 1 year to 80 years
3. Spend time at lake year round avg= 22.8 years. Median = 20 years. The range was 1 year to 78.
4. Land owners et.al. avg. = 30 years Median = 30 years. The range was 5 years to 60 years



## **Section 2: Importance of Issues. Questions 4 – 17E.**

The next set of questions asked about how strongly respondents felt on a number of issues that are of concern in the Town. The responses were “scored” on a 6 point scale with “Very Important” receiving a “6” and “Not Important at all” receiving a “1.” The questionnaire was constructed so that there was no middle score allowed, but a few respondents felt so strongly that they “split the difference” and filled in a circle that wasn’t there! The response was coded as it was written. If a respondent wrote “3.5” it was averaged in as 3.5, and rounded up to “4” for the frequency count. Some respondents qualified responses with written comments. These comments were captured in the analysis of the open ended questions.

The Tables below are displayed below the exact question that was asked on the Survey. The charts tabulate the total of all responses to the specific question, and also show responses displayed in terms of the way respondents described their residence in Day. #1 are Permanent residents, #2 are Seasonal residents, and #3 are those who said they spent time here year around, but had permanent residences some place else. Land owners are not shown as a separate category in the tables because they were so few in number and they left many questions blank. They are included in the Total. The Tables show the number responding in a particular category and the % they represent of that category. That is, the number of responders who responded “Very Important” and scored a “6” on the issue down to the number who thought it wasn’t important at all and scored it a “1” The total responses may not add up to the number of responders because some didn’t answer all the questions. %’s may not add to 100% because of rounding.

We see no important difference in the response patterns of the demographic groups. The relative importance of issues doesn’t appear to differ based on whether or not people live here seasonally or year around.

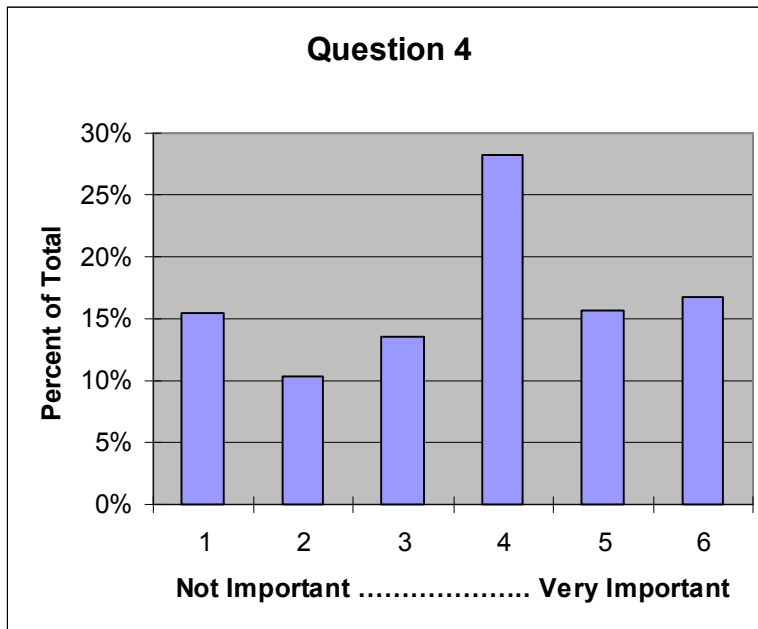
**Economic Growth:** The Town of Day envisions modest growth over the next 10 years. Over the last several years, we believe the Town has gotten “older” as retirees move in.

4. How important is it that the Town of Day experience economic growth?

Very Important

Not important at all.

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	50	31	52	21	14	32	3.93
Permanent %	25%	16%	26%	11%	7%	16%	
Seasonal	49	52	102	53	40	44	3.66
Seasonal %	14%	15%	30%	16%	12%	13%	
Yr round non res	32	37	67	33	25	44	3.52
Yr round non res %	13%	16%	28%	14%	11%	18%	
Total	133	123	225	107	82	122	3.69
Total %	17%	16%	28%	14%	10%	15%	



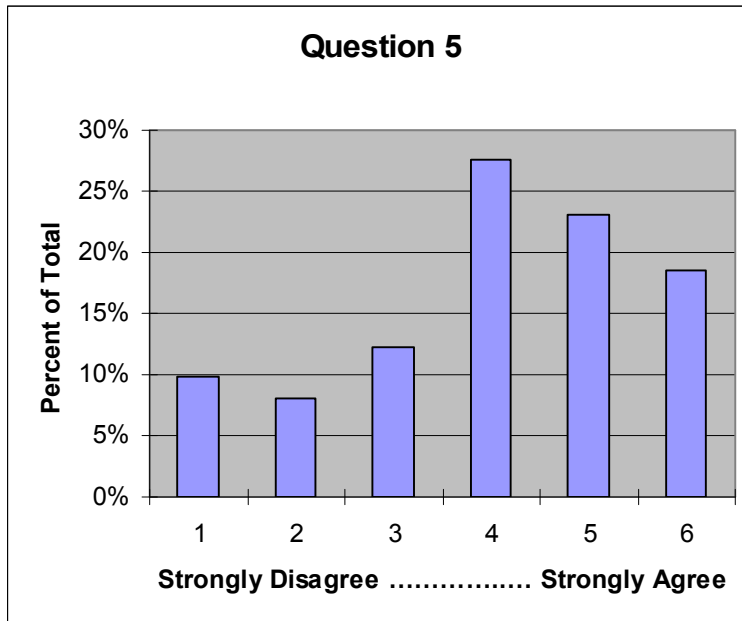
Average score = **3.69**  
 Percent not important (responses 1 and 2) = **26%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **42%**  
 Percent important (responses 5 and 6) = **32%**

5. Growth should be primarily through residential development. That is, through the construction of new residences and the rebuilding of older residences.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	46	45	54	23	15	16	4.18
Permanent %	23%	23%	27%	12%	8%	8%	
Seasonal	60	80	102	35	25	36	4.02
Seasonal %	18%	24%	30%	10%	7%	11%	
Yr round non res	39	53	59	38	24	24	3.89
Yr round non res %	16%	22%	25%	16%	10%	10%	
Total	148	181	218	98	64	78	4.02
Total %	19%	23%	28%	12%	8%	10%	



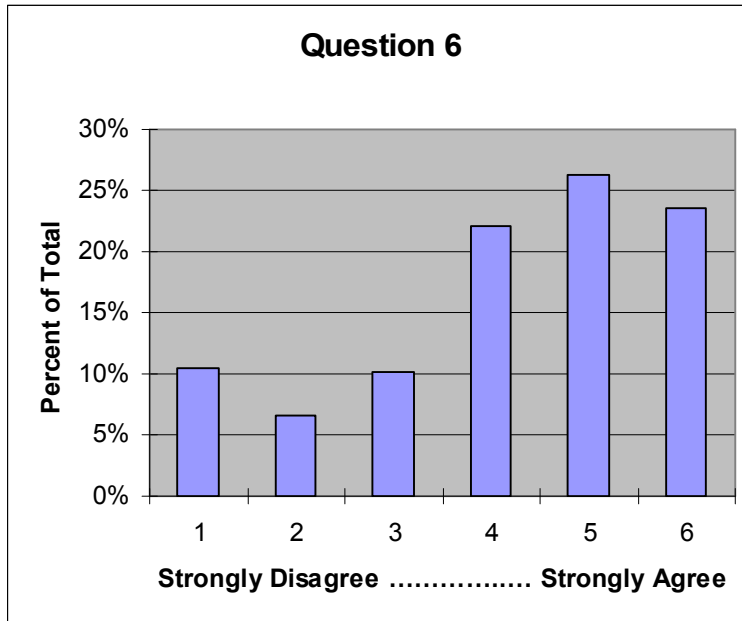
Average score = **4.02**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **18%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **40%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **42%**

6. Commercial growth should be primarily related to services for residents. That is, through services like Super Markets, gas stations, convenience stores, and Laundromats, etc

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	51	45	43	20	15	25	4.11
Permanent %	26%	23%	22%	10%	8%	13%	
Seasonal	84	87	83	36	24	25	4.28
Seasonal %	25%	26%	24%	11%	7%	7%	
Yr round non res	49	69	46	25	14	33	4.06
Yr round non res %	21%	29%	19%	11%	6%	14%	
Total	187	207	175	82	53	83	4.19
Total %	24%	26%	22%	10%	7%	11%	



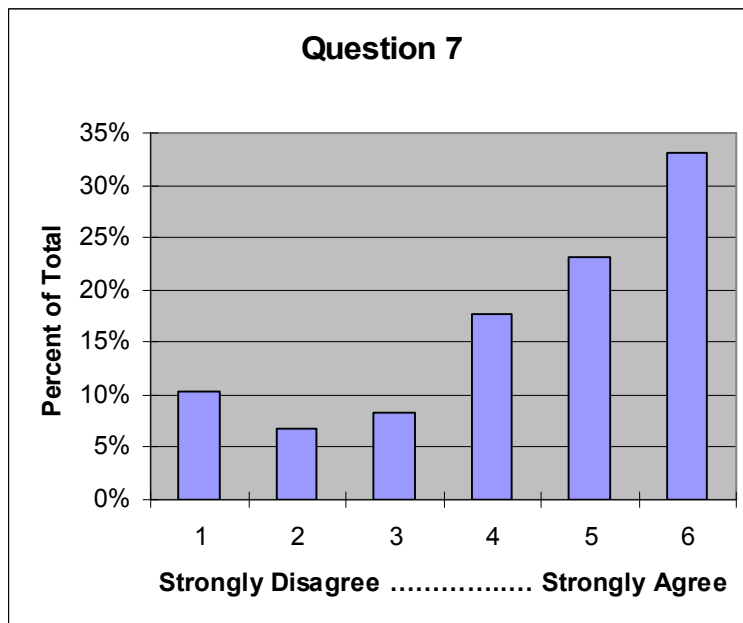
Average score = **4.19**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **17%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **33%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **50%**

7. It is important for the Town of Day to encourage economic growth through improved opportunities for recreation, travel, and tourism. This would include things like hiking, biking, ATV, and snow mobile trails, marinas, restaurants, and other forms of recreation and entertainment.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	67	40	44	17	15	16	4.4
Permanent %	34%	20%	22%	9%	8%	8%	
Seasonal	102	82	58	31	25	41	4.24
Seasonal %	30%	24%	17%	9%	7%	12%	
Yr round non res	89	56	39	16	14	23	4.51
Yr round non res %	38%	24%	16%	7%	6%	10%	
Total	263	182	142	65	55	81	4.37
Total %	33%	23%	18%	8%	7%	10%	



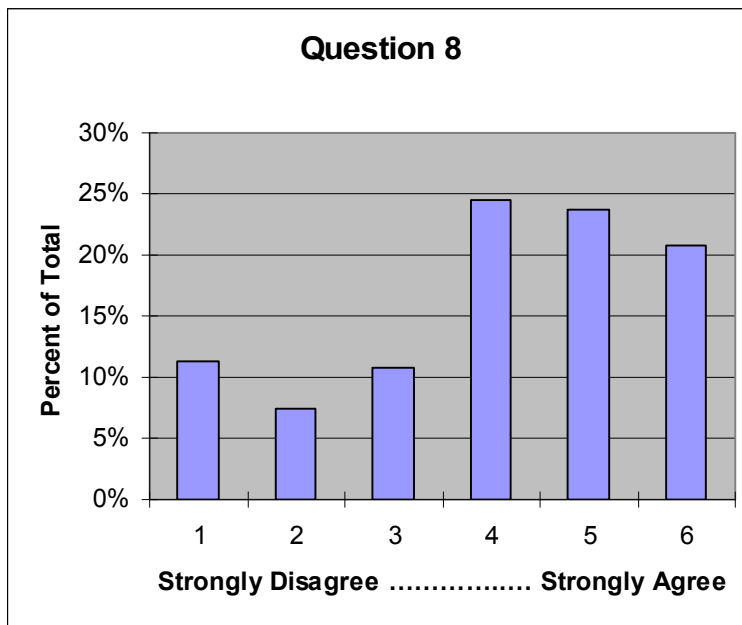
Average score = **4.37**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **17%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **26%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **57%**

8. It is important for the Town of Day to encourage economic growth through sustainable forestry and related forest products industries.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	49	36	56	20	15	23	4.08
Permanent %	25%	18%	26%	10%	8%	12%	
Seasonal	69	86	81	35	22	42	4.06
Seasonal %	21%	26%	24%	10%	7%	13%	
Yr round non res	45	61	55	29	21	25	4.02
Yr round non res %	19%	26%	23%	12%	9%	11%	
Total	165	187	195	86	60	90	4.06
Total %	21%	24%	25%	11%	8%	11%	



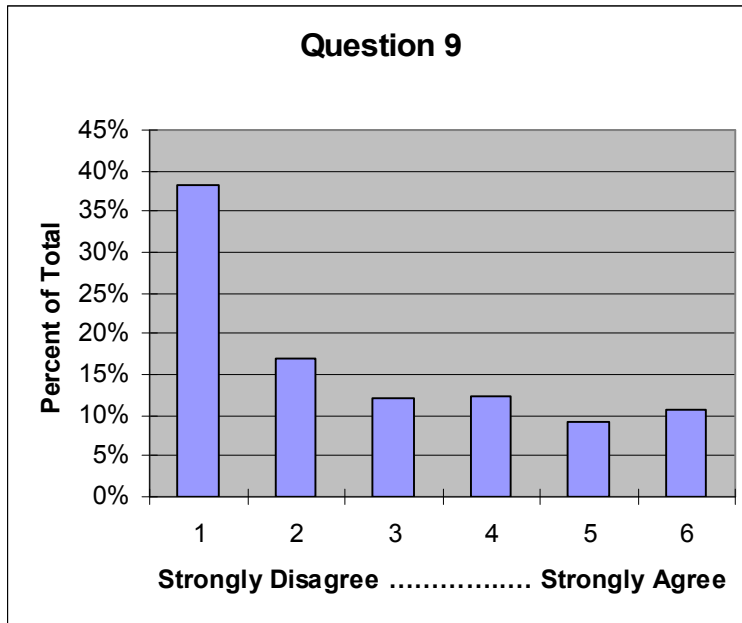
Average score = **4.06**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **19%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **36%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **45%**

9. The Town should encourage the development of new industries here. These might include manufacturing, light industry, and service centers.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	33	16	25	19	31	75	2.87
Permanent %	17%	8%	13%	10%	16%	38%	
Seasonal	33	33	40	42	59	132	2.65
Seasonal %	10%	10%	12%	12%	17%	39%	
Yr round non res	19	19	32	30	43	95	2.54
Yr round non res %	8%	8%	13%	13%	18%	40%	
Total	85	71	99	94	135	305	2.69
Total %	11%	9%	13%	12%	17%	39%	



Average score = **2.87**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **56%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **24%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **20%**

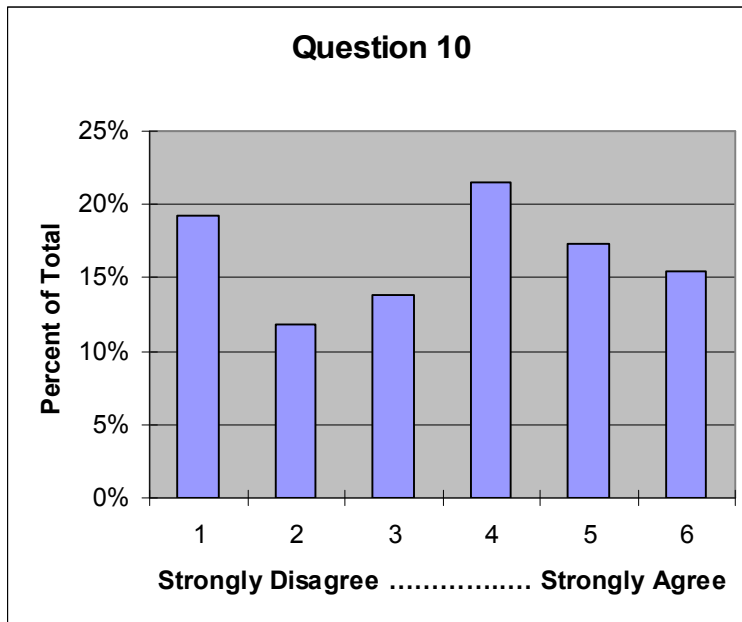
**Housing and Population Trends.** Even though the Town of Day is sparsely populated, we see some trends that suggest the Town residential pattern will become increasingly seasonal and concentrated around the lake shore.

10. It is important the Town encourage affordable housing so that we develop a population that is less seasonal and where people of different ages may live.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	54	38	32	20	20	36	3.89
Permanent %	27%	19%	16%	10%	10%	18%	
Seasonal	26	58	95	57	43	58	3.39
Seasonal %	8%	17%	28%	17%	13%	17%	
Yr round non res	38	40	43	31	28	57	3.4
Yr round non res %	16%	17%	18%	13%	12%	24%	
Total	121	138	172	110	93	153	3.53
Total %	15%	18%	22%	14%	12%	19%	



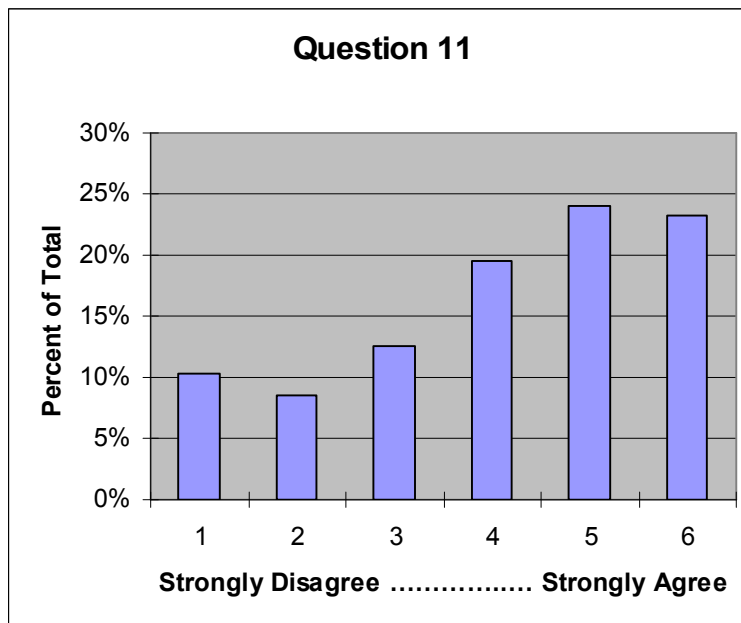
Average score = **3.53**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **31%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **36%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **33%**

11. It is important that the Town encourage residential development in areas that aren't around the lake shore.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	52	42	37	32	14	23	4.09
Permanent %	26%	21%	19%	16%	7%	12%	
Seasonal	74	88	74	42	23	30	4.18
Seasonal %	22%	27%	22%	13%	7%	9%	
Yr round non res	54	58	40	25	30	28	3.99
Yr round non res %	23%	25%	17%	11%	13%	12%	
Total	184	191	154	101	68	82	4.11
Total %	24%	24%	20%	13%	9%	11%	



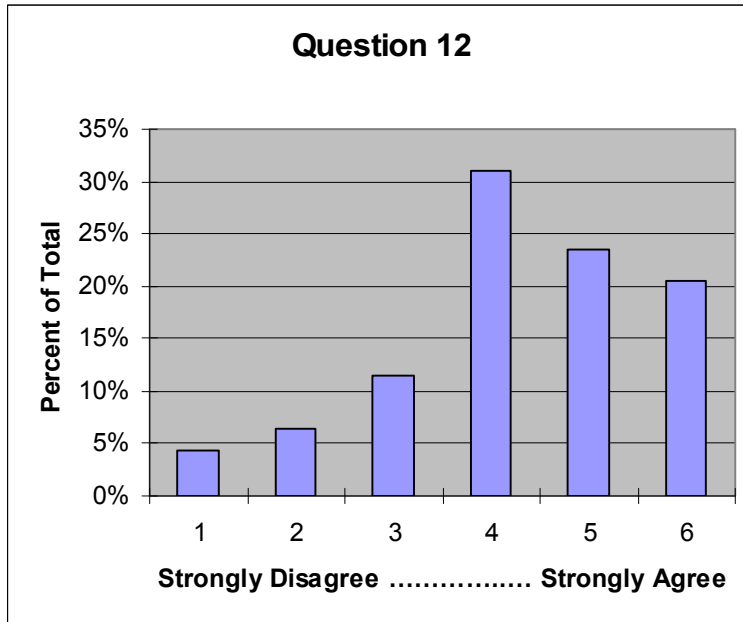
Average score = **4.11**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **19%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **33%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **48%**

12. The Town needs to enhance its services for Senior Citizens.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

<b># of responses value =</b>	6	5	4	3	2	1	<b>Average</b>
Permanent	63	44	52	21	8	11	4.5
Permanent %	32%	22%	26%	11%	4%	6%	
Seasonal	57	76	122	42	16	13	4.23
Seasonal %	17%	23%	37%	13%	5%	4%	
Yr round non res	42	57	72	26	26	9	4.16
Yr round non res %	18%	25%	31%	11%	11%	4%	
Total	163	186	250	91	50	34	4.29
Total %	21%	24%	32%	12%	6%	4%	



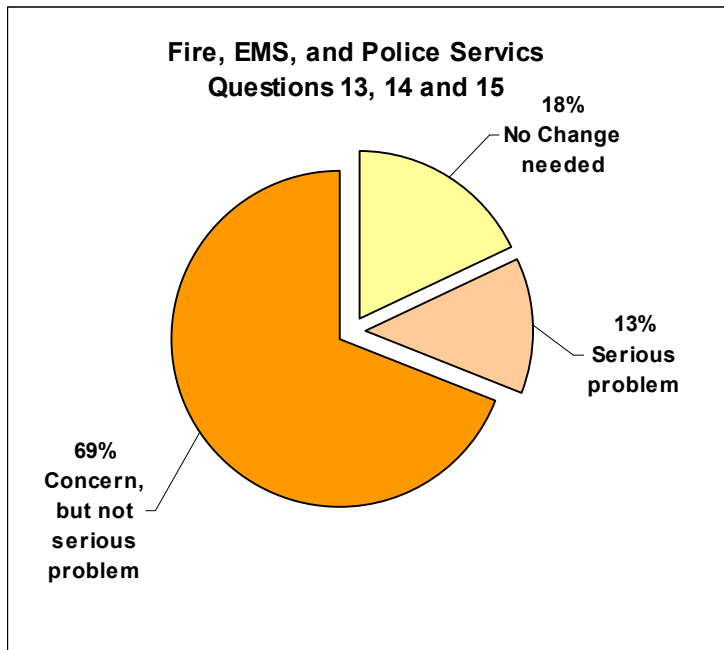
**Average score = 4.29**  
**Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = 11%**  
**Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = 44%**  
**Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = 45%**

**Public Safety:** Even though the lake shore is developed, the Town of Day is rural and sparsely populated. Public safety (police protection) is provided by Saratoga County and NY State. This is funded by County and State taxes. Fire and EMS services are provided by volunteer organizations located in Corinth, Edinburg and Hadley. The 2008 Town of Day budget for these services is \$51,085.

Please indicate which one of the following statements best shows your view of Fire, EMS and Police services in the Town of Day. **Circle your response.**

13. Fire, EMS and Police Services exceed my expectations about what would be available in the Town of Day. No change is needed.
14. Fire, EMS and Police Service are serious problems that need to be addressed and improved even though it will require an increase in taxes.
15. Fire, EMS and Police Service are important concerns of mine, but I don't believe additional investment is required unless current service levels and response times deteriorate

# of responses with value	13 – No change	14 - Problem	15 – Concern, but ...
Permanent	34	28	126
Permanent %	18%	15%	67%
Seasonal	50	39	208
Seasonal %	17%	13%	70%
Yr round non res	46	24	156
Yr round non res %	20%	11%	69%
Total	133	91	497
Total %	18%	13%	69%



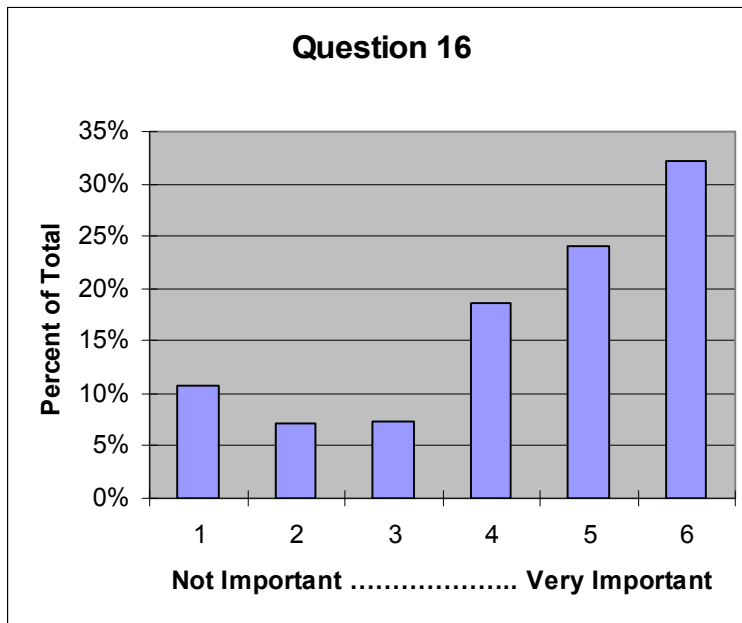
**Infrastructure:** Roads and telecommunication.

16. How important is it to you that all County and Town roads are of adequate width and surface to support all traffic, including bikers and walkers?

Very Important

Not important at all

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	76	41	35	12	9	27	4.1
Permanent %	38%	21%	18%	6%	5%	14%	
Seasonal	106	84	60	28	22	32	4.39
Seasonal %	32%	25%	18%	8%	7%	10%	
Yr round non res	63	60	48	16	24	24	4.21
Yr round non res %	27%	26%	20%	7%	10%	10%	
Total	250	188	146	58	55	83	4.36
Total %	32%	24%	19%	7%	7%	11%	



Average score = **4.36**  
 Percent not important (responses 1 and 2) = **18%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **26%**  
 Percent important (responses 5 and 6) = **56%**

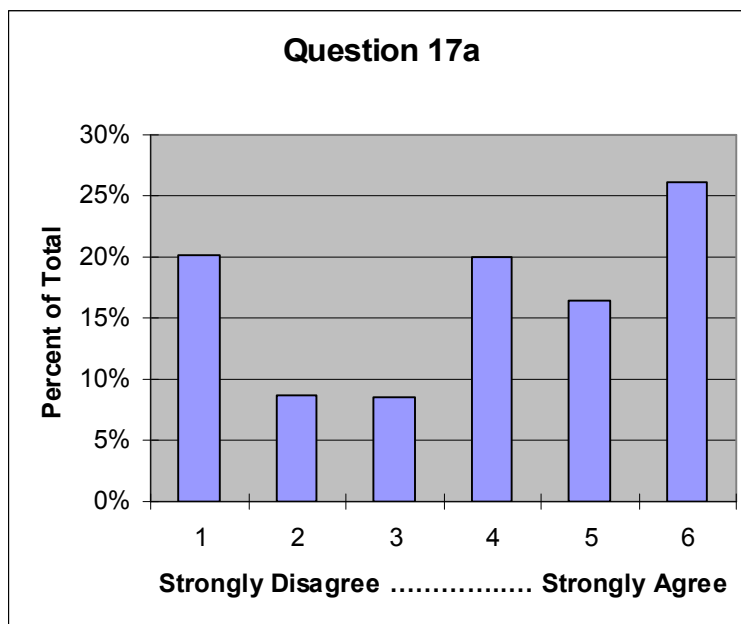
17. How important is it that the Town of Day be actively involved in improving:

a. Internet access?

Very Important

Not important at all.

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	61	30	42	5	19	44	3.89
Permanent %	30%	15%	21%	2%	9%	22%	
Seasonal	82	59	71	36	29	56	3.88
Seasonal %	25%	18%	21%	11%	9%	17%	
Yr round non res	58	36	40	24	21	56	3.65
Yr round non res %	25%	15%	17%	10%	9%	24%	
Total	204	130	156	66	69	158	3.82
Total %	26%	17%	20%	8%	9%	20%	



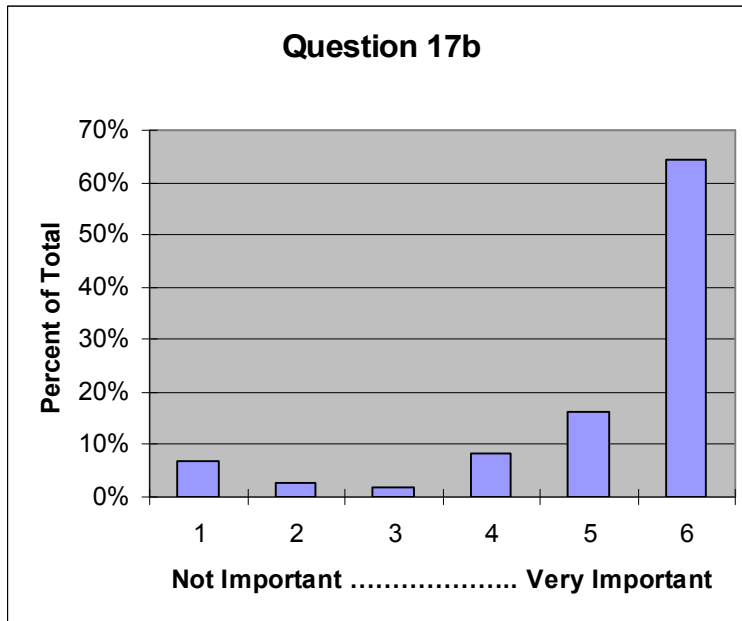
Average score = **3.82**  
 Percent strongly disagree (responses 1 and 2) = **29%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **28%**  
 Percent strongly agree (responses 5 and 6) = **43%**

b. Cell phone service?

Very Important

Not important at all.

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	134	27	11	4	6	19	5.1
Permanent %	67%	13%	5%	2%	3%	9%	
Seasonal	223	56	26	6	5	17	5.3
Seasonal %	67%	17%	8%	2%	1%	5%	
Yr round non res	142	42	25	4	9	16	5.08
Yr round non res %	60%	18%	11%	2%	4%	7%	
Total	506	128	66	15	20	53	5.17
Total %	64%	16%	8%	2%	3%	7%	



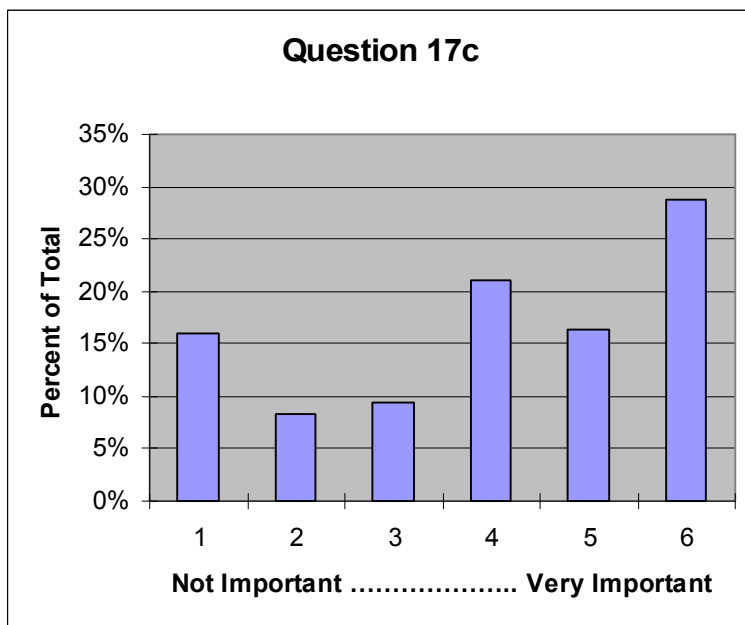
Average score = **5.17**  
 Percent not important (responses 1 and 2) = **9%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **10%**  
 Percent important (responses 5 and 6) = **80%**

c. Cable TV service?

Very Important.

Not important at all.

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	70	29	35	14	22	30	4.11
Permanent %	35%	15%	18%	7%	11%	15%	
Seasonal	96	57	70	37	24	51	4.03
Seasonal %	28%	17%	21%	11%	7%	15%	
Yr round non res	55	39	59	21	19	42	3.85
Yr round non res %	23%	17%	25%	9%	8%	18%	
Total	223	129	165	74	65	127	3.99
Total %	28%	16%	21%	9%	8%	16%	



Average score = **3.99**  
 Percent not important (responses 1 and 2) = **24%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **30%**  
 Percent important (responses 5 and 6) = **45%**

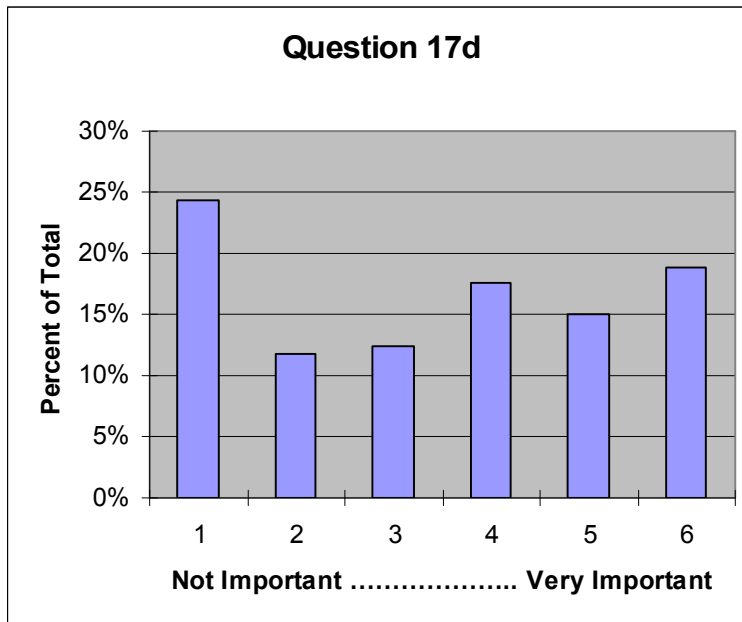
**Sacandaga Lake:** Sacandaga Lake, and its viewshed, are the dominant features of our town. Most of our population lives near the lake, and we have invested a lot in making sure that the land visible from the lake remains natural.

- d. How important is increased public access to the lake, including access through commercial entities like marinas as well as public spaces like the Saratoga County Park.?

Very Important

Not important at all.

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	49	24	27	33	16	51	3.52
Permanent %	25%	12%	14%	17%	8%	26%	
Seasonal	54	49	63	43	48	76	3.37
Seasonal %	16%	15%	19%	13%	14%	23%	
Yr round non res	40	42	45	20	27	62	3.41
Yr round non res %	17%	18%	19%	8%	11%	26%	
Total	146	118	138	97	92	190	3.44
Total %	19%	15%	18%	12%	12%	24%	



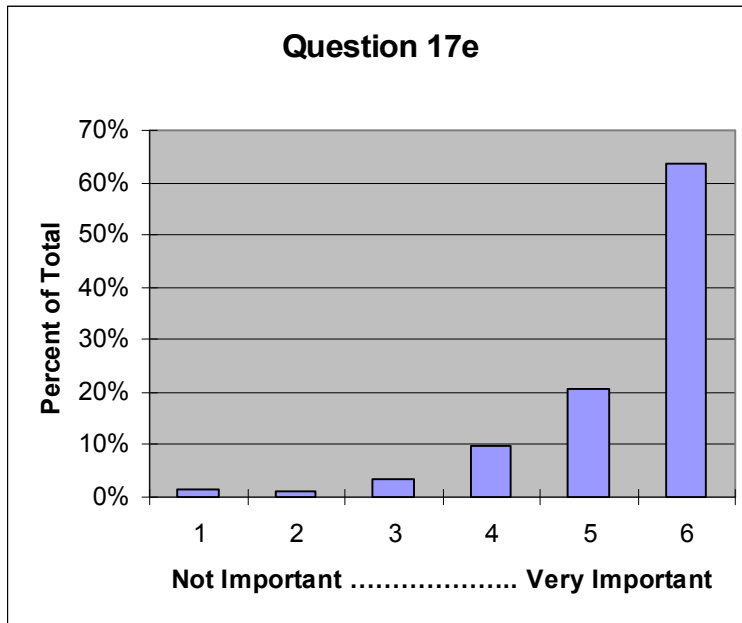
Average score = **3.44**  
 Percent not important (responses 1 and 2) = **36%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **30%**  
 Percent important (responses 5 and 6) = **34%**

- e. The Town of Day government should work proactively with the Hudson River Black River Regulating District to represent citizens in the Town of Day

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

# of responses value =	6	5	4	3	2	1	Average
Permanent	125	37	15	11	2	7	5.27
Permanent %	63%	19%	8%	6%	1%	4%	
Seasonal	206	71	38	7	4	3	5.4
Seasonal %	63%	22%	12%	2%	1%	1%	
Yr round non res	152	47	24	7	2	1	5.45
Yr round non res %	65%	20%	10%	3%	0.8%	0.4%	
Total	491	160	77	26	8	11	5.38
Total %	64%	21%	10%	3%	1%	1%	



Average score = **5.38**  
 Percent not important (responses 1 and 2) = **3%**  
 Percent no strong opinion (responses 3 and 4) = **13%**  
 Percent important (responses 5 and 6) = **84%**

### **Section 3: Content Analysis of Open Ended Questions.**

This question was designed to gather input from the Towns Property Owners on their personal view of the Town and its priorities.

Responders were invited to answer questions “in their own words.” While some limits were requested (“In one word...” or “The most ...”) responders often wrote many words. For analysis purposes, all responders were divided into groups based on the way they described their residence in Day. This was to allow us to capture any differences in the way people think about Day based on their occupancy.

The content analysis was conducted on each residential category as an independent group. Content categories were developed from a consideration of the words the people in that group used. Each sentence/comment was broken into the number of separate ideas it contained. The comments people made were grouped together based on a use of the same or similar words, or of similar meanings. After the comments were placed in different groups, a group “Title” was created based on the actual comments. For example, comments about the Town of Day government are grouped together, and gathered with comments about other government agencies under the general category “Governance.” There were no pre determined categories used, so the priorities reflected in the categories are those that evolved from the comments themselves. The original comments are maintained in the file of the actual questionnaires and serve as a verbatim record. The “short hand” versions that formed the basis of the content analysis and category development are available in the EXCEL spread sheet that also contains the numeric data files underlying the analysis in Section 1 and Section 2.

The “Number” in each category is the number of responses coded to the content category. Each separate comment/response was counted, and grouped and is reported below so that it is possible to see the number of times an idea is shared by respondents.

Here, as in the numeric data, we found no difference in the response patterns of the 3 groups. Every one says the same things about The Town of Day.

**Each and every comment made by a responder was a response to a specific question. When reviewing the content categories, and the single word comments, it is important to keep the Question in mind!**

#### **RESIDENT - OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS.**

##### **What do you think is the most important thing that the Town of Day Comprehensive Plan Committee should be focused on?**

**Keep it the same 35:** 35 responses were coded in this category. Individual responses typically talked about “maintaining” a range of qualities like “rural beauty,” “quiet,” “tranquility,” “small town environment,” etc. In addition, a number of respondents focused on specific issues that they felt needed to be improved or were at risk. More Community Activities - “Day Days” is an example (4), lake shore erosion (4), lake shore density/beauty (3), appearances of local homes (3), water quality (2), structure of scenery, lake, lumber (1).

**Cell Service 35:** 35 comments asked for cell service. Many of these comments asked for “cell towers.” In light of the emphasis on maintaining rural beauty and natural beauty, they were interpreted as being about the service, not the towers.

**Economic Development 32:** 32 responses were coded as being relevant to the general category of economic development, but they showed no particular agreement on the issue.

**Commercial Development 15.** No commercial development (7). Several of these said “No Lake George.” A need for commercial services for residents like grocery/restaurants/gas stations, etc. (5), commercial development & job creation (2), year around services (1).

#### **Plan for Residential Development 5**

##### **Economic growth. 2**

**Infrastructure other than cell service 18:** Several respondents pointed out that there are parts of the Town that don’t have electrical service or traditional phone service. Several of the road maintenance comments may have been about Private Roads. Traffic safety & road maintenance (7), telecommunication services like Internet and regular phone (6), power outages/electrical service (3), boat launch improvement (1), transportation (1).

##### **Governance 16:**

**Town of Day 6:** Concern with the efficiency of Town Operations and Services (3), concern with zoning and the ZBA (3), put young people on the Town Board (1).

**HRBRRD 5:** Town relationship with the District and the GSL (3), concern with the Permit system & fees (2).

**General 5:** Need to limit restrictions & rules (4), need to balance property rights and beauty of area (1).

**Taxes 14:** 14 comments were concerned with keeping taxes affordable or showed concern with rising taxes. Some respondents talked about the need to balance taxes and services.

**Fire & EMS Services 10:** 10 comments showed concern about the current levels of service.

**Senior Citizens 5:** 5 comments focused on services for seniors, including housing and transportation.

There were a number of comments that didn’t fall into any category. They are listed below, and each is a single comment about what the Planning Committee should focus on.

North Shore/.South Shore split by lake. The only church in Day. Geothermal energy. Local Fishery. ATV traffic, don’t know.

#### **What don’t you like about living in the Town of Day?**

Many respondents misread this question, and answered with what they “liked” about living in Day, rather than what they didn’t like. We could tell from how they answered the other questions – the same words showed up in the Question about “what brought you here, what keeps you here.” Some times the meaning of the response wasn’t so clear. In any case, we apologize for the confusion.

On the positive side:

**Don't Change a Thing 52:** 32 people told us change “nothing” or “everything” is O.K. or some variation of “I like it like it is.” 20 additional comments were clearly positive – statements like “Love it!” “Peaceful,” “Friendly, quiet, peaceful,” “Town is Eden,” etc.

On the negative side- things you really don't like:

**Isolation 25:** Isolation, and being a distance from services and friends (18), absence of local services like fresh food, markets, etc. and/or transportation to services (7).

**Taxes 16:** concern with taxes (16).

**Cell Service 13:** lack of cell service/phone service (13).

**Noise 11:** noise from boats, motorcycles, fire works, etc. particularly on weekends (11).

**HRBRRD 8:** attitude/behavior of HRBRRD & APA (8).

**Overdevelopment 5:** growth of lake shore home sizes, and clear cutting of lots/shore line (5).

**Road Maintenance 4:** road maintenance or snow clearing (4).

**Local Jobs 3:** lack of local jobs (3).

**EMS 3:** worried about EMS (3).

**Property restrictions 3:** don't like property restrictions (3).

**Litter around houses 2:** junk around houses, including winter boat storage (2).

**Seasonal residents 2:** displeasure with seasonal residents (2).

**Public Communications 2:** poor public communication and suggested a Town News Letter (2).

The following are single “negative” comments. Power outages. Night Lighting. Deer Jackers. Poker runs at my end of lake. Public Lake Access. Walking on road isn't safe. Need more technology, new things. Some change is needed. Lower speed limits. Lack of lake access. Lack of respect for solitude and privacy. Viewshed regulations. Speeding campers. A few rule the town. Lack of services/garbage pick up. Winter at minus 12. Black Flies.

The comment “4 Seasons” couldn't be categorized as either positive or negative.

**If you could change one thing about the Town of Day, what would you change?**

Not surprisingly, these responses mirrored many of the things mentioned in the previous question about what people didn't like about living in Day.

**Cell Service/Telephone Service/Internet Service 27:** Want cell service and/or telephone service (23), communications infrastructure in general (3), keep cell service out of Day (1).

**It's Perfect 25:** Day was perfect, and nothing should be changed (25).

**Taxes 22:** Taxes and services (15), increase taxes for seasonal residents (2), improve services for taxes we pay, or lower taxes (2), lower taxes for seasonal (1), lower taxes for seniors (1), reduce spending (1).

**Governance comments 19.**

**Town of Day 14.** Zoning laws (3), lot size regulations (2), more dissent on Town Board (1), consolidate Townships (1), let Town set HRBRRD rules for lake shore (1), Town should have nothing to do with HRBRRD (1), reduce government (1), assessor (1), viewshed regulations (1), change way things are run at Town Hall (1), Town Garage (1), noise ordinance (1).

**HRBRRD 5.** Eliminate HRBRRD (3).

**Economic Development 17:**

**Commercial development 7.** More stores (3) encourage commercial development & local jobs (2), encourage small business like coffee shop or restaurant (2).

**Development in general 5.** People who think growth is good thing (1), the threat of development (1), keep life in town simple (1), curb development (1) reduce growth (1).

**Residential development 5.** Less lake shore clearing (2), limit number of residences on lake (1), growing density (1), stop hill top houses (1).

**Lake Access/Boat Launches 11:** Boat ramp on South Shore (4), Town Beach (1), fees for non resident boat launchers (1).

**Noise Control 5:** Need for noise control (5)

**Litter & Eye sore properties 5.** Clean up homes that are eyesores (3), control littering (2)

**Snow Plowing 3.** Need for better snow plowing. (3)

**Bridge 3:** Wanted a new bridge across the lake in the middle of the Town (3).

**Community Activities 3.** More activities and recreation including things like movie nights (3).

**ATV 3.** Ban ATV's (2), Make Town ATV friendly (1).

**Post Office 2.** Need Town of Day Post Office

**EMS 2.**

**Town play area 2.** Requests to upgrade (2).

**Boat traffic 2.** Reduce boat traffic. (2).

The remaining suggestions for "One thing to change" were: Driver hitting my mail box, Public transportation, Keep our history alive, Laws for log trucks, increase law patrols, winter

weather, guide rails for north end of Kathan Rd., light up flag pole at Town Hall, pave Lake Desolation Rd., motor cycles, attitudes of natives toward new comers, open communication between residents, lake level during summer, allow permit area improvements with out fees.

**In one word, what brought you to live in the Town of Day or what keeps you here?**

**Peace & Quiet, Serenity 20.**

**Personal Circumstances 16.** This included things like “born here,” “work change,” “summer memories.” Family was cited 8 times.

**Lake. 12**

**Scenery, Mountains, Forests 7**

**Rural nature of area 7.** This included values like great out doors, & undeveloped non commercial.

**People 5.** Great people in Day (5).

**Beauty 5.**

**Affordability 5:** Day is affordable (4), can’t afford to move, but was concerned about rising taxes. (1).

**Life Style 2**

Comments that appeared only once were: Stars; Location; Summers; Wonderful place to live; ADK Park; non-restrictive; nature.

**SEASONAL OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS.**

**What do you think is the most important thing that the Town of Day Comprehensive Plan Committee should be focused on?**

**Keep it the same/preserve & protect 94:** “Keep it the same.” (53). Individual responses typically talked about “maintaining” a range of properties like “rural beauty,” “quiet,” “tranquility,” “small town environment,” etc. In addition, a number of respondents focused on specific issues that they felt needed to be improved or were at risk. Water quality or pollution, including, 1 call to inspect septics yearly (14), lake shore density/beauty/clear cutting (8). Some of these could be interpreted as calls to limit residential development. Keep lake quiet (6). concern with lake shore erosion (5), appearances of local homes (3), including 1 “no trailers.” more community spirit (2), preserve open space (2), keep Sacandaga secret (1).

**Economic Development 63:** 63 responses were coded as being relevant to the general category of economic development, but they showed no particular agreement on the issue.

**General 26.** Controlled growth or planned growth (19), economic development (6), rebuild town (1).

**Commercial Development 33.** Against commercial development (11). Several of these said “No Lake George.” Need for improved services for residents like grocery/restaurants/gas stations, etc., (9), hiking, biking nature trails (3), develop tourism (2), recreation (2), support forestry (2), develop industry (2), technology (1), jobs (1).

**Residential Development 4.** Residential building plan (3), affordable housing (1).

**Cell Service 46:** 46 comments asked for cell service. Many of these comments asked for “cell towers.” In light of the emphasis on maintaining rural beauty and natural beauty, they were interpreted as being about the service, not the towers. That said, several of the responses did say they wanted cell service in spite of the towers effect on scenery and one said we should balance technology with beauty.

**Governance 25.**

**Town of Day 4:** Concern with codes and code enforcement (2), maintain Town services (1), consolidate services with other towns (1).

**HRBRRD 19:** Managing the relationship with the HRBRRD and the APA (11), concern with the Permit system & fees (7), lower lake levels (1).

**General 2:** Protecting current land owner rights (2).

**Taxes 25:** 25 comments were concerned with keeping taxes affordable or showed concern with rising taxes. Some respondents talked about the need to balance taxes and services.

**Infrastructure other than cell service 19:** Traffic/pedestrian safety & road maintenance, including 1 private rd access (11), Telecommunication Services like Internet and regular phone (4), schools (2), power outages/electrical service (1), bus on North Shore (1).

**Fire & EMS Services 7:** Concern about the current levels of service (7).

**Beach Access/Public Beach 5:** These comments appeared to be different from those associated with Access Permit holder “rights.” They involved comments like “Beach at dam, beach on south side, etc.”

**Quality of Life: 4**

**Needs of Year Rounders: 3**

**Future Trends and Needs 2:**

In addition to these groups of responses, there were a number of comments that didn’t fall into any category. They are listed below, and each is a single comment about what the Planning Committee should focus on.

Lake only for residents, make the town more attractive, protect heritage, to know what the town to be, get rid of ATV’s on camp roads, roads Brown promised to keep up, keep up on the data and the issues, fee for use of town boat launch, ban cigarette boats, consider opinions of seasonal residents. One respondent said “you do a good job.” and one said “I’ll leave it to you, you live here.”

## **What don't you like about living in the Town of Day?**

Many respondents misread this question, and answered with what they “liked” about living in Day, rather than what they didn't like. This was clear from the way respondents answered the other questions – the same words showed up in Question about “what brought you here, what keeps you here.” Some times the meaning of the response wasn't so clear. In any case, we apologize for the confusion.

On the positive side:

**Don't Change a Thing 71:** About 50% of the responses said change “nothing” or “everything” is O.K. or some variation of “I like it like it is.” Additional comments ranged an appreciation for open spaces and natural beauty to a lament that respondents were only here “part time.”

**Acts of God 6:** These are comments about things we judge to be outside of the Committee's scope. Black flies (2), cold in the winter (2), bugs (1), rainy weekends (1).

On the negative side- things respondents really don't like:

**Isolation or Lack of services 32:** These comments were generally about the distance from convenience stores and restaurants. Two comments were about lack of community or “rainy day” activities. One asked for more winter activities, one said they didn't drive

**Cell Service/Internet/Telecommunication 27:** 21 reiterated lack of cell service/phone service. The rest were concerned with telecommunications in general, or internet service.

**Taxes 24:** Showed concern with taxes, and several suggested that taxes on seasonal residents were unfair (24).

**HRBRRD 12:** Attitude/behavior of HRBRRD or new regulations (7), beach erosion as a problem (3), fluctuating lake levels (2).

**Overdevelopment 9:** Clear cutting of lots/shore line (6). Large homes and population growth were also noted.

**Noise 8:** Noise from boats, motorcycles, fire works, etc. particularly on weekends (8).

**N/A 6:** These are seasonal residents who didn't respond to the question because they don't live here year around.

**ATV's 5:** ATV's on roads (3) kids on ATV's (1), ATV noise (1).

**Seasonal Comments 4:** These are comments that are uniquely from seasonal residents. Town doesn't capitalize on seasonal people's interests (1), “seasonals” can't vote (1), residents keep new people from building their homes (1), don't make seasonal people responsible for every thing (1).

**Roads 4:** Side road conditions (2), private road in bad shape (1), speed on North Shore Rd. (1).

**Neglected Properties 3:** Concern with property maintenance or run down properties (3).

**EMS 2:** Worried about EMS (2).

The following are single “negative” comments.

Local court; where is the TOWN?; police harassment on lake; highway department blocked my drive way; politics, power outages; cable outages; vandalism; as land owner never get lake communication; town officials lied about road; unruly neighbors; too many restrictions; lake shore owners have more rights than back lotters; loose inspections; lack of respect for lake shore; 35 mile round trip to vote; some people think they own every thing; properties off lake are less valued; hiking & biking limited by narrow roads; poor quality of County Boat Ramp; traffic volume on summer weekends; no public access except Town Park; electricity on Hadley Hill; people who think shore rights are guaranteed; grievance day on Wednesday.

**If you could change one thing about the Town of day, what would you change?**

Not surprisingly, these responses mirrored many of the things mentioned in the previous question about what people didn’t like about living in Day.

**Governance comments 45.**

**General 4:** Less government regulation (2), regional effort to improve economy and APA regulation (1), own lake access rights (1).

**Town of Day 29.**

**More participation in Town of Day government 12.** Vote in local elections (4); remote participation in Town meetings (1) Board minutes on web faster (1), info mailing to seasonals (1), form a seasonal rep committee (1), more info to public/news letter (1), meetings more often in summer (1), open Town offices on weekends in summer (1), information on Day history (1).

**Zoning and Codes 7:** Strict code enforcement (3), illegal subdivision next to me (1), lot size restrictions (1), coordinate building permits between Town, APA, HRBRRD, DEC (1), redo building permit rules (1).

**Town Services 6:** Publicize large trash pick up day (2), annual garage sale (1), guarantee town owns roads (1), closer trash pick up (1), leaves/needles to recycle (1).

**Town Governance 4:** Consolidate with other towns (1), Town is well managed (1), rename as Conklinville (1), split into two Towns – North & South (1).

**HRBRRD 11:** Lake level (3), lake shore erosion (3), beach rights/access fees (1).

**APA 2:** eliminate 100’ set back (1)

**Change nothing 41:** Responses that told us, in one way or another, that Day was perfect, and nothing should be changed (34). Responders who said they had no strong feelings (5), “make it closer to permanent residence” (1), “don’t change Mary Ann.”

**Cell Service/Telephone Service/Internet Service 34:** Interested in cell service (31), Internet (1), call for competitive services (1), more service (1).

**Recreation 34:**

**Lake Access/Boat Launches 7:** Improve public lake access (3), ramp at boat launch (1), boat launch for residents (1), south shore launch (1), launch near dam (1).

**Trails 7:** Bike (2), XC ski (1), hiking (1), walking on North Shore (1), ATV (1), sidewalks (1).

**Fishing and Hunting 6:** More fish (3), use of fire arms near homes (2), land to hunt & fish (1).

**Boat traffic 5:** Control jet skis (2), limit boat size (1), too many boats (1), speed limit on lake (1).

**ATV 4:** Restrict ATV use – no ATV’s on Town property (1), no kids on ATV’s (1), no ATV’s & snow mobiles on private roads (1), restrict ATV activity (1).

**Community Activities 3:** Activities (1), out door festivals (1), adult ed courses (1).

**Town Beach 2:** Day public beach (2).

**Taxes 25:** These comments parallel the responses on the previous question. Seasonal residents are concerned about tax levels, but they are also concerned about being taxed where they don’t vote. One wanted more income, but no higher taxes.

**Economic Development 25:**

**General 9:** Limit growth (5), favored growth (2), jobs to support locals (2), stop growth (1), too populated (1), development beyond lake (1), slow growth (1), lake shore is crowded (1).

**Commercial development 14:** Stores/retail services/restaurants (11), golf course (1), tour boats on lake (1), more tourism (1).

**Residential development 2:** Clear cut building lots (2)

**Noise Control 6:** Boat (4), traffic (1), bike (1).

**Litter & Eye sore properties 5.** Control littering (2), keep up properties (1), brush & yard waste (1), low income housing near Town Hall (1).

**EMS 4**

The remaining suggestions for “One thing to change” were: electricity; no flies in May; log trucks on North Shore; speed on North Shore; limit police car speed; pave Town dirt roads; keep big city residents off Town Board; more local people year around; people who disrespect the environment; negative attitude toward summer residents who pay taxes; get rid of cry babies.

**In one word, what brought you to live in the Town of Day or what keeps you here?**

**Lake 129:**

**Peace & Quiet, Serenity 47.**

**Beauty 45:** People used words like “beauty,” “rural,” pristine, pastoral, unspoiled

**Scenery, Mountains, Forests 44.** Included here were references to landscapes, trees, open space, etc. Mountains (15), the woods (6).

**Personal Circumstances 37:** This included reasons like “family property,” and “retirement” Family was cited most frequently.

**Recreation 14:** Boating (5), Fishing (3), Swimming (2), hunting (2), sailing (1), camping (1).

**People 13:** People and friends were cited as reasons for being in Day

**Nature & Environment 11:**

**Lack of Development 10:** “small population (3), non commercial (1), under developed (1).

**Life Style10:** Place to think (3), seasonal or family place (3), enjoyment (1), work/life style balance (1), relaxation (1), vacation (1).

**Affordability 7:** Day is affordable (6), thinking of selling because of taxes (1).

**Accessibility 3:** Proximity to Saratoga, Albany.

**Heaven 3:**

Comments that appeared only once were: investment, Adirondack Eden, love the area, remote & charming, atmosphere, wild life, spectacular, and unchanging.

## **YEAR AROUND NON-RESIDENT OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS.**

### **What do you think is the most important thing the Town of Day Comprehensive Plan Committee should be focused on?**

**Economic Development 87:**

**General: 43:** Control development (8), not Lake George (5), jobs (4), build on strength – natural beauty (3), don’t over develop (2), limit population (2), improve property values (2), prevent development/growth (2), balance growth with beauty and charm of lake (2), w/o damaging beauty (2), sustainable clean (2), don’t let environment over shadow economic development, intelligent (1).

**Commercial development 39:** limit/avoid commercialization (14), basic commercial services for residents (6), improve tourism & recreation (5) small stores (4), restaurants (3), marinas (2), business & industry (1), no logging (1), alternative energy (1).

**Residential Development 5:** limit (2), space houses (1), 2 acre lots (1), stop shore line construction (1).

**Protect and Maintain 62:** beauty & natural environment (19), keep as is (10), rural (5), quality of life (4), peaceful (4), maintain character (3), green (2), keep lake area natural (2), woods (1), handle gently (1), increasing traffic and population (1), keep pretty & uncongested (1), keep Day a hidden beauty (1), open space (1), viewshed (1), proud to be part of community that preserves natural beauty (1).

**Governance 31:**

**Town of Day 13:** work with HRBRRD (3), represent permit holders at HRBRRD (1), convince HRBRRD to sell lake front to lease holders (1), secure grants for town facilities (1), trash removal (1), decision making (1), building codes & zoning (1), land use (1), maintain town services (1), code enforcement (1), term limits (1).

**HRBRRD 18:** Stabilize/manage lake level (7), Beach Erosion/erosion (5), protect lake access permit system (1), improved lake shore management (1), keep permits affordable (1), permits should stay with land (1).

**Taxes 24:** Fair (1), affordable (1), lower (1), not farm land (1), cost down (1) school (1), stable (1).

**Cell Service: 22:** but maintain beauty (1)

**Recreation 10:** one good lane around lake to walk & bike (3), limit boat & PWC traffic (2), snow mobile friendly (1), open land for recreation (1), lighten restrictions on hunting camps (1), boaters sewage (1), boat noise (1).

**EMS 13:** fire (2), safety (2), safety on lake (2), police (1).

**Lake Access 5:** charge for non resident lake access (1), improve (1) park on south shore by dam (1).

**Clean water 3:**

**N/A or not enough experience to comment 3:**

**Affordable Housing 2:**

**Roads 2:** safe (1).

**Comments that only appeared once:** Cable Service; Telecommunication; black flies; build sense of community; provide opportunities for seasonal residents to participate in town; develop a down town center; focus on what's right & good for town; maintain essential services at affordable cost

### **What don't you like about living in the Town of Day?**

Many misread this question, and answered with what they "liked" about living in Day, rather than what they didn't like. This was clear from the answers to the other questions – the same words showed up in the question about "what brought you here, what keeps you here." Some times the meaning of the response wasn't so clear. In any case, we apologize for the confusion.

**It's beautiful or there's nothing I don't like about living in Day 61:** change nothing (24), best kept secret on lake (1) fine as is (1), it's quiet, peaceful and serene (1), no issues (1). Etc.

**I don't live in Day 11:** N/A (6) 10 people in this group (a higher % than Seasonal residents) indicated that they wouldn't respond because they were not in or from Day.

**Acts of God and other issues beyond control 5:** black flies (2), weather (1), distance from permanent home (1) moving for warmth and family (1).

Things people didn't like.

**Governance 27:**

**General 8:** Increased restrictions to property use (3), politics (2), layers of governance (1), lack of two party system (1), lack of land preservation (1), building restrictions (1).

**Town of Day 9:** others dictate what an owner can do just because it's visible (2), Town burns garbage (1), garbage in winter (1), bulk garbage (1), Planning & Zoning Boards (1), recycling not convenient (1), work better with differences between property owners (1), Allens have too much power (1).

**HRBRRD 11:** water height (2), regulations (2), beach rights (1), shore erosion (1), lack of transparency (1), no representative (1).

**Cell service 22:**

**Isolation & Lack of Services like shops and restaurants 17:** distance to services (6), too rural (1).

**Taxes 14:** high (6), ridiculous property values/assessments (2), fixed income & increasing taxes (1).

**Roads 9:** excessive speed (3), winter access (2), better road lights (1), plow dirt roads (1), traffic noise (1), traffic (1).

**Infrastructure other than cell 3:** cable/internet (2), electricity (1).

**Unkempt residences 4:** disrepair, junk.

**More activities 2:**

**Comments that only appeared once:** Day use of lake doesn't add to tax base; dirty foam on water; hostile neighbor; drunk lake side neighbor; no dock or boat launch; people who trespass; population expansion; snobby out of staters; right of ways & EMS having trouble finding homes; too many racing boats on lake; on verge of over development. large homes squeeze out trees; no bike trails; info sheet on EMS & time to hospital.

**If you could change one thing about the Town of day, what would you change?**

**Leave as is 33:** change nothing (21), love it as is (1) wouldn't change the quaint slow pace (1).

**Recreation 28:** lake access (7), hiking paths (3), boat launch on South Shore (3), public beach (3), improve boat ramp (2), add bike paths (2), lake access by Dam (2), improve Town play ground (1), tennis court (1), snow mobile trails (1). **Against:** ban jet skis (1), limit boat power (1), limit ATV use (1), loud boats (1).

**Cell Service 24:**

**Governance 23:** reduce cost to taxpayer; reduce government;

**Town of Day 12:** dog leash law (1), dog barking laws (1), 3 person assessor (1), shield recycling center (1), Town of Day hours (1), winter plowing (1), zoning and planning board (1), Board respond to property owners needs (1), less restrictions on garbage pick up (1), make right of ways town roads (1), more lenient policy on camps w/o utilities (1), open Board to outsiders (1).

**HRBRRD 9:** lake levels (4), shore erosion (2), representative for permit holders (1), lake shore management (1), rules uneven (1).

**Taxes 20:** every one pay fair share (1), high assessments (1), lower taxes (1), etc.

**Development 13:** over development (3), jobs (2), better protect natural resources (1), keep Day rural (1), large expansive beach front properties ruin lake side (1), limit development (1), look to balance citizen needs with environment (1), nicer homes like you see in magazines (1), no trailers (1), too many docks (1).

**Commercial Development 10:** commerce on lake (3), grocery (2), businesses (1), farmers market (1), restaurant (1), Laundromat (1), retail (1).

**Traffic 9:** lower speed limits (6), control motor cycles (2), roads (1).

**Unkempt Properties 8:** litter (1), dog waste (1), remove abandoned camps (1), upper section of Min Allen Rd is bad again (1).

**Community Life 7:** connect 2 halves of town (1), encourage a vibrant, multigenerational community with traditions (1), go back to way it was in '60's (1), make it more active (1), make it more of a town (1), more community events (1), bring back town party at ramp (1).

**Not Resident or N/A 7:**

**Internet Service 2:**

**Electrical Service 2:** every where (1), power outages (1).

**Water Quality 2:** septic drainage in lake (1).

**Comments appearing only once:** Attitude; black flies; don't change Mary Ann; lake day use people should contribute; lights on speed limit buoys; old boy network; ring of fire; residents from other areas not being able to rent homes out for a week; small town attitude about outsiders; steep access to beach;

**In one word, what brought you to live in the Town of Day or what keeps you here?**

**Lake 74:** several people cited the quality and cleanliness of water.

**Peace, Quiet, Tranquility. Calm, Serenity 35:** peacefulness (8), quiet (8), serenity (7).

**Beauty 35:** beauty (16), mountains (1), scenery (1), surroundings (1), wilderness (1), unspoiled (1).

**Environment, Nature, Rustic Rural 27:** rural (8), isn't over developed or over populated (5), nature (4), scenic (3), rustic (2), views (1), woods (1).

**Life Style 21:** Friends and neighbors (3), privacy (3), relaxation (2), old timers are my kind (2), country (1), Adirondack (1), community (1), quaintness (1), simple (1).

**Family 19:** family (6), tradition (1), ancestors (1), father built camp before reservoir (1), etc.

**Recreation 7:** hunting (3), blue collar (1), fishing (1), swimming (1).

**Proximity 4:** familiar with area (1), near NYC (1), work (1).

**N/A 2:**

**Comments that appeared only once:** Car, I don't; I love it; investment; June Dixon; land; low taxes; periodic visits since 1957; summer home near lake; summer time; whole area.

### **LAND OWNER OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS.**

There were 15 respondents that identified themselves as land owners, with no residence on their property that was in the Town Of Day. Their responses to the open ended questions appear to reflect the same issues as the other three groups.

#### **What do you think is the most important thing that the Town of Day Comprehensive Plan Committee should be focused on?**

Note: This question was designed to gather input from the Towns Property Owners on their priorities for the Town. Many respondents gave more than one answer. Responses were grouped into categories based on their similarities. The "Number" in each category is the number of responses coded to the category.

**Development 5:** Keep development in check (1), don't be Lake George (1), services for land owners (1), good marketing & promotions for recreation (1), trails (1), water sports (1), enhance tax base (1), replace old non complying camps (1).

**Lake Access:** Free access and beach (1).

#### **What don't you like about living in the Town of Day?**

**Not Resident or no comment 3:**

**Single comments:** Grandiose houses being built; no place is perfect, you make it; lake access; fish & game poachers.

**If you could change one thing about the Town of Day, what would you change?**

**No Comment/Not applicable 3:**

**Single comments:** a few good restaurants and shops; poachers.

**In one word, what brought you to live in the Town of Day or what keeps you here?**

**Beauty 2:**

**Single comments:** woods, lake affordable THEN; land was gift; vacation get away property; services offered could help me to decide to build on land; N/A.