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All of the analyses, findings, data, and recommendations contained within this report are the exclusive property of the Town of Newtown with offices located in Newtown, Connecticut.

As required by the Code of Ethics of the National Council on Public Polls and the United States Privacy Act of 1974, The Center for Research and Public Policy maintains the anonymity of respondents to surveys the firm conducts. No information will be released that might, in any way, reveal the identity of the respondent.

Moreover, no information regarding these findings will be released without the written consent of an authorized representative of the Town of Newtown.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The Center for Research and Public Policy (CRPP) is pleased to present the results of a Community Planning Survey conducted among residents of Newtown, Connecticut.

The survey was designed to provide resident input on quality of life, local issues, community character, residential and economic development, environment, open space use, community facilities, and taxes.

The research study included a comprehensive telephone survey. Interviews were conducted among residents of Newtown by phone. CRPP, working together with Newtown officials, designed the survey instrument to be used when calling Newtown residents.

This report summarizes information collected from telephone surveys conducted May 21 – May 25, 2002.

The survey instrument employed in the Community Planning Survey included the following areas for investigation:

- Perception of local quality of life;
- Local issues of concern;
- Perception of community character;
- Views on residential development and housing;
- Perception of Newtown's economic development;
- Conservation and environmental issues;
- Support of open space use;
- Parks and recreational facilities;
- Views on taxes and regulations; and,
- Demographics.

Section II of this report discusses the Methodology used in the study, while Section III includes Highlights derived from an analysis of the quantitative research. Section IV is a Summary of Findings for the residential telephone surveys - a narrative account of the data.

Section V is an Appendix to the report containing a crosstabulation table, a copy of the survey instrument, and the composite aggregate data.

METHODOLOGY

Using a quantitative research design, CRPP completed 401 interviews with Newtown residents.

All telephone interviews were conducted between May 21 and May 25, 2002.

Survey input was provided by officials of the Town of Newtown

CRPP utilized a “super random digit” sampling procedure, which derives a working telephone sample of both listed and unlisted telephone numbers. This method of sample selection eliminates any bias toward only listed telephone numbers. Additionally, this process allows randomization of numbers, which equalizes the probability of qualified respondents being included in the sampling frame.

Sample was generated proportional to population contribution.

One survey instrument was used to elicit information from all Newtown residents. Respondents qualified for the survey if they confirmed they were heads of households, at least eighteen years of age, and were current residents of Newtown.

Training of telephone researchers and pre-test of the survey instruments occurred May 21, 2002.

All facets of the study were completed by CRPP’s senior staff and researchers. These aspects include: survey design, pre-test, computer programming, fielding, coding, editing, data entry, verification, validation and logic checks, computer analysis, analysis, and report writing.

Completion rates are a critical aspect of any telephone research survey research. Because one group of people might be easier to reach than another group, it is important that concentrated efforts are made to reach all groups to an equal degree.

A high completion rate means that a high percentage of the customers within the original sample were actually contacted, and the resulting sample is not biased toward one potential audience. CRPP maintained an 82% completion rate on all calls made during this Community Planning Survey. And, a high completion rate, many times indicates an interest in the topic.

Statistically, a sample of 401 surveys represents a margin for error of +/-5.0% at a 95% confidence level.

In theory, this sample of Newtown residents will differ no more than +/-5.0% than if all Newtown residents were contacted and included in the survey. That is, if random probability sampling procedures were reiterated over and over again, sample results may be expected to approximate the large population values within plus or minus +/-5.0% -- 95 out of 100 times.

Readers of this report should note that any survey is analogous to a snapshot in time and results are only reflective of the time period in which the survey was undertaken. Should concerted public information or relations campaign be undertaken during or shortly after the fielding of the survey, the results contained herein may be expected to change and should be, therefore, carefully interpreted and extrapolated.

Furthermore, it is important to note that all surveys contain some component of “sampling error”. Error that is attributable to systematic bias has been significantly reduced by utilizing strict random probability procedures. This sample was strictly random in that selection of each potential respondent was an independent event, based on known probabilities.

Each qualified household within Newtown had an equal chance for participating in the study. Statistical random error, however, can never be eliminated but may be significantly reduced by increasing sample size.

HIGHLIGHTS

On Quality of Life...

- **Impressively, 99.3% of Newtown survey respondents reported that quality of life in town was very good (65.1%) or good (34.2%). A few respondents suggested that quality of life in Newtown was poor (0.7%). There were no respondents suggesting quality of life was very poor.**
- **Resident respondents offered fifty different ways in which the quality of life in Newtown could be improved. In declining order, the most frequently cited suggestions included: limiting development and building, more mass transit, reducing traffic, providing more recreation activities, fixing roads, slow residential development, improve use of space, allow more small business, improve education and add more cultural activities.**

On Local Issues...

- **High taxes, among forty-five issues named, were viewed as the “issue of most concern” by 40.1% of survey respondents.**
- **Second tier issues of most concern were overcrowding and over development (16.7%), heavy traffic (14.2%), development of residential housing (10.7%), concern over Fairfield Hills use (7.2%), improving education (7.2%), and the need for more small business (6.2%).**
- **Third tier issues included overcrowded classrooms (3.7%), repairing roads (3.2%), and drug use among young people (3.0%).**

On Community Character...

- **The primary reasons cited for deciding to live in Newtown included: rural setting (28.9%), good schools (25.7%), affordable housing (22.4%), small town (18.2%), and born in Newtown (14.5%).**
- **Large majorities of respondents considered Newtown’s rural setting and quality of schools as very important – 84.3% and 84.0% respectively.**
- **Smaller percentages, but majorities, considered open space, recreational opportunities and retail store availability as very important – 70.1%, 60.6% and 50.4% respectively.**

- **Just under half of all survey respondents noted that Newtown does have a unique rural character. This group described this unique rural character as: farmland/open space (33.3%), historic sites / Main Street (30.3%), and forest (12.1%). Others cited the mix of suburb and country, mostly residential community, the flag pole, a friendly town, farm animals, diverse population and people taking care of their homes.**

On Residential Development...

- **Majorities of residents surveyed believe Newtown needs more housing for first time buyers (67.6%), more moderate income housing (55.4%), and more rental apartments (54.1%).**
- **Few residents believe Newtown needs more single family homes. While 9.0% suggested there are too few, 63.9% noted there is currently about the right amount and 24.2% said there are too many.**
- **Most respondents, 55.1%, strongly or somewhat disagreed with a statement reading: “Newtown is an affordable place to live”. Another 44.9% agreed with the statement.**
- **Three quarters of respondents, 76.1%, agreed with a statement suggesting that new single family development will increase taxes by increasing the need for town services.**
- **While 16.2% agreed with the statement: “Newtown children can afford to live in out town once they move out and are on their own”, 79.0% disagreed.**
- **And, 59.4% disagreed with a statement suggesting that Newtown has enough affordable rental housing.**

On Economic Development...

- **Just over half of Newtown residents, 54.1%, suggest that the town needs more corporate offices. Further, significant percentages of respondents believe there are too few office parks (41.9%), research and development facilities (44.9%), Agri-businesses (40.1%) and retail stores (39.9%).**
- **More than three quarters of respondents, 79.1%, agreed with a statement that read: “Newtown should encourage more business development.”**
- **While 82.3% agreed that business development will reduce taxes for residents, just over a third (37.7%) believed that new active senior housing/condos would reduce taxes.**

- **Two thirds of respondents support additional economic commercial development at Fairfield Hills and Hawleyville – 65.1% and 64.6% respectively. However, just a majority, 50.9%, of residents support additional economic commercial development along Route 25.**

On Conservation and Environment...

- **Just over three quarters of respondents believed the town is doing enough to protect historic sites and historical buildings.**
- **Nearly two thirds believed that the town is doing enough to protect wetlands, open space, and scenic roads.**
- **Just over half believe Newtown is doing enough to protect woodlands, wildlife habitats, scenic vistas and ground water.**
- **Fewer than half believe the town is doing enough to protect aquifers, farmlands and ridgelines.**

On Open Space...

- **If Newtown acquires new open space, 85.0% of residents surveyed suggest that the space be used for passive recreation such as walking trails. And, three quarters agree that the new space should also be used as a wildlife habitat and left as it is – 79.1% and 75.1% respectively.**
- **Just a majority, 51.9%, noted the new open space should include active recreation such as ball fields.**

On Parks and Recreation...

- **A majority of residents, 57.1%, suggest there are too few pedestrian walkways in town.**
- **And, significant percentages of respondents suggest there are too few walking trails (44.6%), biking trails (48.4%), and cross country ski trails (40.6%). The remaining percentages believe there are currently “about the right amount” rather than too many.**
- **There exists strong support for a Newtown Farmer’s Market (84.0%), for a skate boarding park (58.9%) and community gardens (49.4%).**

On Taxes and Regulations...

- **Three quarters of residents surveyed, 75.6%, believe that their taxes are too high for the level of services provided by the town. Another 23.4% believed taxes are currently about right and 1.0% were unsure.**
- **Two thirds, 68.8%, believe their taxes are currently higher than neighboring communities while 1.2% suggested they were lower and 22.2% noted they were about the same.**
- **However, 68.5% were willing to pay an additional \$50.00 annually in new taxes for new open space. Less than a majority, 46.5%, reported a willingness to pay \$150.00 annually in additional taxes for new open space.**
- **Only 21.2% and 27.7% were willing to pay additional taxes each year to secure a new town pool and new ball fields respectively.**

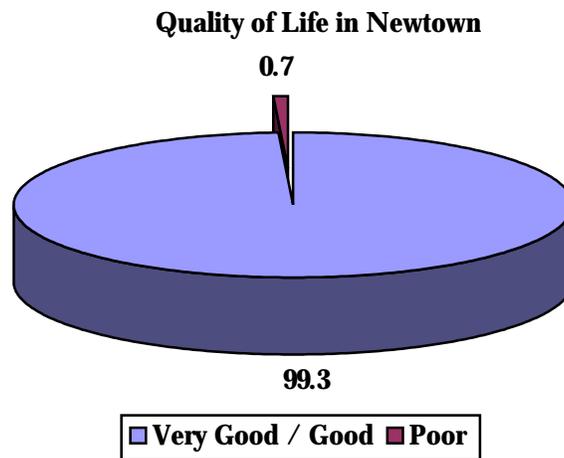
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Readers are reminded that the following section summarizes statistics collected from telephone interview surveys among 401 residents of Newtown, Connecticut.

QUALITY OF LIFE

All Newtown residents were asked how they would describe quality of life in Newtown. Each was asked if the quality of life in Newtown was very good, good, poor or very poor.

A large majority, 99.3%, report their quality of life in Newtown as very good (65.1%) or good (34.2%). Another 0.7% reported their quality of life as poor.



Researchers asked all respondents if, over the past two years, quality of life in Newtown had improved, remained good, remained poor, or declined. A large majority of respondents, 82.0%, suggested that quality of life in Newtown had improved (13.2%), or remained good (68.8%), while one sixth (16.5%) indicated their life had remained poor (1.5%) or declined (15.0%).

In an open-end question, all respondents were asked to provide two or three ways quality of life in Newtown might be improved. A total of 50 different responses were recorded.

The following table presents the top ten most frequently cited responses.

Ways to improve quality of life	Percent
Limit development / building	17.2%
More mass transit	15.2
Reduce traffic	10.7
Provide recreational activities for all ages	10.5
Fix the roads	8.2
Decrease the development of residential housing	7.7
Make the right decisions on how to use space	7.5
Allow small businesses to come in	6.0
Improve educational system	5.0
More cultural activities	4.2

Other less-frequently cited responses included: More mass transit, more activities for youth, preserve natural resources, more trails for hiking, use open spaces wisely, improve beautify downtown, add more retail shops downtown, provide lower income housing, vaccinations for children, more sidewalks in town, more senior housing, being more environmentally responsible, more playgrounds, better government, make the right decisions on how to use Fairfield Hills, more services in town, putting in lakeside communities, better zoning, effective use of healthcare, smaller classrooms in schools, paid fire department, more traffic lights, waste management project, senior transportation, enforcement of traffic laws, uphold zoning regulation, YMCA in town, not building low income housing, spend less on school budgets, public transportation system, improve Sandy Hook area, improve sewer system, taxes should pay for services, community involvement, more schools needed, maintain horse farms, stop signs needed at the flagpole, make people clean up their yards, and more land for horse trails.

LOCAL ISSUES

In an open-end question, all respondents were asked to report two or three issues or problems that concern them the most about living in Newtown. A total of 46 different issues were raised.

The following table presents the top nine issues or problems.

Issues / Problems of Most Concern	Percent
Taxes are too high	40.1%
Overcrowding and over development	16.7
Heavy traffic	14.2
Development of residential housing	10.7
Fairfield Hills	7.2
Improve education	7.2
Need more business in town to lower taxes	6.2
Overcrowded classrooms	3.7
Roads need to be fixed	3.2
Drug use among young people	3.0

Other issues or problems mentioned with less frequently included: High fees for parks, safety in schools, Lyme disease, let motorized recreation use open spaces, littering, zoning commission, too high prices for what town has to offer, speeding cars, big industries moving in, don't let older structures in town deteriorate, too large education budget, safety of the water, endangering wetlands and open spaces, lack of walk-in clinics, senior services, lack of recreation, lack of playgrounds, lack of sidewalks, lack of transportation for seniors, environmental safety, more police needed, biased local newspaper, commercial trucking in town, teenagers need more things to do, community center needed, underpaid teachers, the pipeline, misuse of town funds (the library), pointless usage of space, lack of affordable housing, lack of transportation for the disabled, diminished access to horse trails, and high cost of education.

COMMUNITY CHARACTER

All Newtown residents were asked why they decided to live in Newtown.

The following table depicts the reasons reported by respondents. Multiple responses were accepted.

Reasons for living in Newtown	Percent
Rural setting	28.9%
Good school system	25.7
Affordable housing	22.4
Small town	18.2
Born in Newtown	14.5
Close to work	7.7
High quality of life	5.5
Location – close to big cities	4.7
Good place to raise children	3.5
Safe	3.2

Other reasons mentioned with less frequency, for deciding to live in Newtown, included: transferred (work), close to family/friends, farm/raising animals, a lot of land available, land use restrictions, good for seniors, historical, parks and recreation, good learning program for the disabled, horse community, low taxes on farms, it used to be a nice town (now overcrowded), beautiful, strong working class community, and “classy”.

Researchers read respondents a number of community characteristics and asked how important each was to them personally. Respondents used a scale of one to ten, where one was very important and ten was not at all important.

The table below presents the cumulative totals for ratings of one through four (very important) and seven through ten (unimportant).

Characteristics	Very Important (1-4)	Unimportant (7-10)
Rural setting	84.3%	2.7%
Quality of schools	84.0	6.0
Open space	70.1	17.2
Recreational opportunities	60.6	15.4
Retail store availability	50.4	23.1

One half of residents interviewed (49.6%) suggested that Newtown has a unique rural character. To this group, researchers asked what that unique rural character is.

The following table holds the results for the top 10 most frequently cited responses.

Unique Rural Characteristic	Percent
Farmland – open space	33.3%
Historic sites / Main street	30.3
Forest	12.1
Mix of suburb and country	8.1
Mostly residential town	7.6
Flag pole	7.1
A friendly town	5.6
Farm animals / horses	5.1
Diverse population	4.0
People take care of their homes	3.5

Other characteristics mentioned with less frequently included: Convenient location, high acre zoning, safe, lakes, not crowded, a horse and a buggy in town, beautiful hiking area, not too much traffic, good quality of family life, horse trails, clean, no violence, no commercial business (i.e. McDonalds), no apartment buildings, and community services.

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

All respondents were asked about the mix of housing in Newtown today. A number of different types of housing were presented to respondents. Each was asked if there were too many, too few or the number was about right for each type of housing.

The following table depicts the results as collected.

Residential Development	Too Many	About Right	Too Few
Housing for first time buyers	6.2%	21.9%	67.6%
Moderate income housing	2.0	36.9	55.4
Rental apartments	4.7	26.4	54.1
Condominiums for all ages	9.5	39.2	43.1
Condominiums for those over 55	6.5	39.4	36.7
Active Senior housing	3.2	51.4	31.4
Assisted living for seniors	2.5	49.4	31.2
Single family homes	24.2	63.9	9.0

Researchers read respondents four statements regarding residential development in Newtown. For each they were asked to tell us if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed, or strongly disagreed.

The following table presents the cumulative totals recorded for strongly agree and somewhat agree and similar cumulative totals for somewhat disagree and strongly disagree.

Characteristics	Strongly and Somewhat Agree	Somewhat and Strongly Disagree
New single-family residential development will increase taxes by increasing need for town services	76.1%	18.7%
Newtown is an affordable place to live	44.9	55.1
Newtown has enough affordable rental housing	29.4	59.4
Newtown children can afford to live in our town, once they move out and are on their own.	16.2	79.0

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Researchers read respondents seven different types of businesses, and asked if they thought there are too many, too few, or about the right amount of each in Newtown today.

The following table holds the results.

Businesses	Too Many	About Right	Too Few
Corporate offices	2.2%	35.4%	54.1%
Research and development facilities	1.0	29.2	44.9
Office parks	5.7	43.6	41.9
Agri-business	4.2	37.4	40.1
Retail stores	4.2	55.4	39.9
Clean industrial facilities	4.2	43.4	38.2
Small business offices	2.0	65.6	27.7

All respondents were read a series of statements regarding economic development in Newtown. Following each statement, researchers asked respondents if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed with each statement.

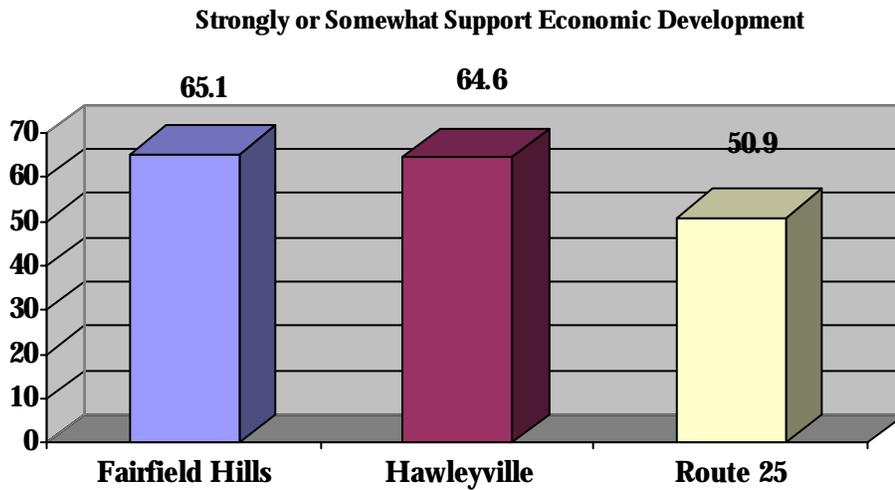
The following tables present the cumulative totals recorded for strongly agree and somewhat agree and similar cumulative totals for somewhat disagree and strongly disagree.

Statement	Strongly and Somewhat Agree	Somewhat and Strongly Disagree
Business development will reduce taxes for residents	82.3%	13.4%
Newtown should encourage more business development	79.1	20.2
The addition of new active senior housing / active senior condos is a way to reduce taxes.	37.7	45.8

Researchers read all respondents the following question: “Some Newtown residents have encouraged additional economic commercial development in specific areas of town while other are opposed. As I read each area, please tell me if you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose additional economic commercial development there”.

The following table holds the cumulative totals recorded for strongly support and somewhat support, as well as cumulative totals for somewhat oppose and strongly oppose.

Area	Strongly and Somewhat Support	Somewhat and Strongly Oppose
Fairfield Hills	65.1%	30.7%
Hawleyville	64.6	30.7
Route 25	50.9	46.9



CONSERVATION / ENVIRONEMNT

Researchers read respondents twelve statements regarding conservation and environmental issues in Newtown. For each, respondents were asked to tell us if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed, or strongly disagreed.

The following tables present the cumulative totals recorded for strongly agree and somewhat agree and similar cumulative totals for somewhat disagree and strongly disagree.

Statement	Strongly and Somewhat Agree	Somewhat and Strongly Disagree
The town is doing enough to protect historic sites	76.6%	12.7%
The town is doing enough to protect historical buildings	75.8	13.5
The town is doing enough to protect wetlands	61.8	23.7
Newtown if doing enough to acquire new open space	61.1	34.9
The town is doing enough to protect scenic roads	60.1	27.7
The town is doing enough to protect woodlands	58.9	34.0
The town is doing enough to protect wildlife habitats	54.9	30.7
The town is doing enough to protect scenic vistas	53.6	29.9
The town is doing enough to protect groundwater	52.1	27.2
The town is doing enough to protect aquifers	47.9	32.2
The town is doing enough to protect farmlands	41.6	45.6
The town is doing enough to protect ridgelines	38.4	22.9

OPEN SPACE USE

Researchers read respondents the following question: “If Newtown does acquire new open space, there are several potential uses for the space. As I read each, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each as a use for the space”.

The following tables depicts the cumulative totals for strongly agree and somewhat agree, compared to the cumulative totals for somewhat disagree and strongly disagree.

Uses	Strongly and Somewhat Agree	Somewhat and Strongly Disagree
Passive recreation such as walking trails	85.0%	14.5%
Foster a wildlife habitat	79.1	18.5
Leave it as is	75.1	22.9
Active reaction such as ball fields	51.9	44.9

PARKS AND RECREATION

Researchers provided respondents with ten different recreational facilities and opportunities, and asked them if they thought there are too many, too few, or about the right amount of them in Newtown today.

The following table depicts the results as collected.

Recreational Facilities	Too Many	About Right	Too Few
Pedestrian walkways	1.7%	32.2%	57.1%
Biking trails	1.7	31.7	48.4
Walking trails	3.5	42.9	44.6
Cross country ski trails	1.7	21.2	40.6
Swimming facilities	2.7	60.8	28.7
Tennis courts	4.7	51.1	27.9
Golf courses	6.5	59.4	25.4
Ball fields	9.7	56.9	25.2
Public boat docks	2.7	49.1	22.4
Horse riding trails	5.5	53.1	16.7

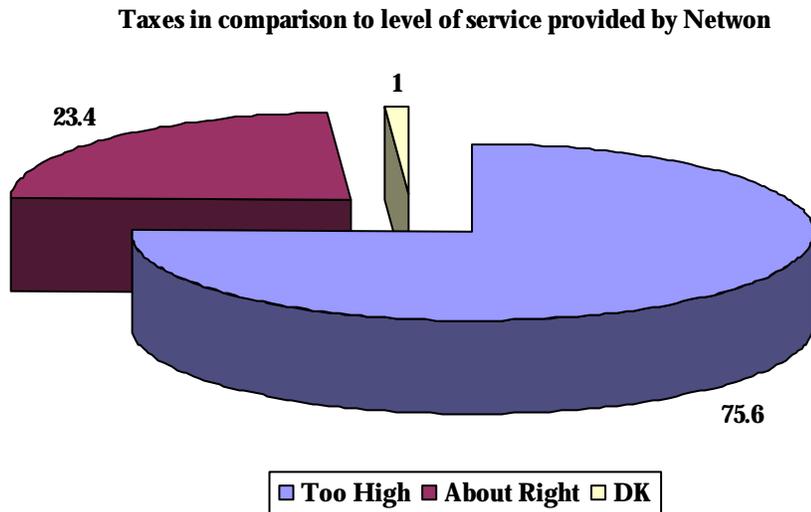
All respondents were then asked if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed with the need for three specific recreational facilities in Newtown.

The table below presents the results obtained.

Recreational Facilities	Strongly and Somewhat Agree	Somewhat and Strongly Disagree
Farmer's market	84.0%	14.2%
Skate boarding park	58.9	39.2
Community gardens	49.4	46.9

TAXES AND REGULATIONS

All respondents were asked to think about taxes and regulations in Newtown. Researchers then asked respondents if they thought that taxes in Newtown were too high, too low, or about right for the level of services provided by the town. Two thirds of respondents (75.6%) suggested taxes were too high, while just under a quarter (23.4%) indicated that taxes in Newtown were about right. A few respondents, 1.0%, did not know or were unsure.



Researchers asked respondents if they thought that taxes in Newtown are higher, lower, or about the same as taxes in neighboring communities. More than two thirds, 68.8%, indicated that taxes in Newtown were higher than in neighboring communities. Another 1.2% suggested these were actually lower, while less than a quarter, 22.2%, said they were about the same.

Researchers read respondents six different new or enhanced town facilities. Researchers asked if they would be very willing, somewhat willing, somewhat unwilling, or not at all willing to pay additional taxes each year to secure the new or enhanced facilities.

The following tables present the cumulative totals recorded for very willing and somewhat willing and similar cumulative totals for somewhat unwilling and not at all willing.

New or Enhanced Town Facility	Very and Somewhat Willing	Somewhat Unwilling and Not at all Willing
New open space	55.4%	42.6%
Purchase and preservation of farms	51.9	44.7
Community center	49.6	47.2
Walking/non-motorized biking trails	34.9	62.8
New ball fields	27.7	70.5
New town pool	21.2	77.6

Almost one half of all residents interviewed, 46.5%, reported being willing to pay \$150 in annual taxes for new open space in Newtown. Another 43.0% indicated not being willing to pay this amount.

Respondents not interested or willing to pay \$150 were asked if they would pay \$100. Another 7.0% suggested they would. A new cumulative total of 53.5% are willing to pay \$100 annually for new open space.

And, respondents not interested or willing to pay \$100 were asked if they would pay \$50. Another 15.0% suggested they would. The result is a cumulative total of 68.5% willing to pay \$50.00 annually for new open space.

Researchers asked all respondents how satisfied they were with restrictions put in place by the town with regards to land use. Two thirds of all respondents, 65.3%, suggested being very (19.2%) or somewhat (46.1%) satisfied, while 15.7% reported being somewhat dissatisfied (9.7%) or not at all satisfied (6.0%).

Respondents somewhat dissatisfied or not at all satisfied were asked for their reason.

The table below presents the results.

Reason for dissatisfaction	Percent
Sell out to developers	27.0%
Restrictions apply to individuals and not developers	20.6
Keeping businesses out	14.3
Do not enforce the current laws	11.1
Prevents good projects	7.9
Building too many houses	4.8
Do not allow to walk horses	3.2
Make bad decision	1.6
Should take better care of the wetlands	1.6
Estate maintenance problems	1.6
Developers give unusable portions of land back to town	1.6
The government controls the private property too much	1.6
Permit unsightly buildings	1.6
Should allow 2 acre lots for residents	1.6

Demographics

Education	<i>Percent</i>
Some high school	0.2%
High school graduate	16.5
Some college	25.2
College graduate	37.4
Post graduate	20.0

Children living at home	<i>Percent</i>
1	13.0%
2	20.4
3	6.2
4	3.5
None	56.9

Years living in Newtown	<i>Percent</i>
1 – 10	29.4%
11 – 20	33.2
21 – 30	17.2
31 – 40	10.2
41 – 50	5.0
51 – 60	1.5
61 – 70	1.0
More than 70	2.5

Age	<i>Percent</i>
18 < 25	1.0%
25 < 35	10.5
35 < 45	27.7
45 < 55	25.9
55 < 65	15.5
65 and older	19.0
Refused	0.5

Work in Newtown?	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	24.9%
No	75.1

Own a business in Newtown?	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	16.5%
No	83.5

How many years plan on living in Newtown?	<i>Percent</i>
1 – 5	6.7%
6 – 10	11.3
11 -20	6.2
21 – 30	2.2
31 – 40	1.5
41 – 50	0.9
No plans to move	62.3

Marital status	<i>Percent</i>
Single	6.0%
Married	79.8
Separated	2.0
Divorced	3.7
Widowed	6.2

Section of Town	<i>Percent</i>
Hawleyville	13.7%
Sandy Hook	24.7
Dodgington	11.7
Botsford	12.7
Newtown Borough	28.2

Own or Rent?	<i>Percent</i>
Own	2.2%
Rent	97.8

Type of Housing	<i>Percent</i>
Single Family	95.5%
Duplex	0.7
Apartment	0.2
Condo	2.5
Trailer	0.5
DK	0.5

Income	Percent
Under \$50,000	11.0%
\$50,000 to less than \$100,000	25.9
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	17.7
\$150,000 to less than \$200,000	5.0
\$200,000 or more	6.2

Gender	Percent
Male	48.1%
Female	51.9

5 APPENDIX

INTERPRETATION OF AGGREGATE RESULTS

The computer processed data for this survey is presented in the following frequency distributions. It is important to note that the wordings of the variable labels and value labels in the computer-processed data are largely abbreviated descriptions of the Questionnaire items and available response categories.

The frequency distributions include the category or response for the question items. Responses deemed not appropriate for classification have been grouped together under the “Other” code.

The “NA” category label refers to “No Answer” or “Not Applicable”. This code is also used to classify ambiguous responses. In addition, the “DK/RF” category includes those respondents who did not know their answer to a question or declined to answer it. In many of the tables, a group of responses may be tagged as “Missing” – occasionally, certain individual’s responses may not be required to specific questions and thus are excluded. Although when this category of response is used, the computations of percentages are presented in two (2) ways in the frequency distributions: 1) with their inclusion (as a proportion of the total sample), and 2) their exclusion (as a proportion of a sample sub-group).

Each frequency distribution includes the absolute observed occurrence of each response (i.e. the total number of cases in each category). Immediately adjacent to the right of the column of absolute frequencies is the column of relative frequencies. These are the percentages of cases falling in each category response, including those cases designated as missing data. To the right of the relative frequency column is the adjusted frequency distribution column that contains the relative frequencies based on the legitimate (i.e. non-missing) cases. That is, the total base for the adjusted frequency distribution excludes the missing data. For many Questionnaire items, the relative frequencies and the adjusted frequencies will be nearly the same. However, some items that elicit a sizable number of missing data will produce quite substantial percentage differences between the two columns of frequencies. The careful analyst will cautiously consider both distributions.

The last column of data within the frequency distribution is the cumulative frequency distribution (Cum Freq.). This column is simply an adjusted frequency distribution of the sum of all previous categories of response and the current category of response. Its primary usefulness is to gauge some ordered or ranked meaning.