

Town of Canton, Connecticut
Economic Development Agency

Report of Survey Findings

Date: August 2010
Agency Members: J. Danajovits, B. Dickstein, M.
Dube, B. Fiora, and A. Raftery

Executive Summary

The Canton Economic Development Agency (CEDA) has begun the process of developing a strategic plan for economic development. To assist us in that work, the agency conducted a survey of town leaders to identify key elements of what board and commission members see as significant as we formulate a plan for a prosperous town future.

The response rate was very low, considering who received the survey and their respective responsibilities to the Town of Canton. Only 41% of the individuals surveyed responded. Of those who did respond, the responses yielded no consensus opinion as to where the CEDA should focus its efforts in the development of a strategic plan for economic development.

While the survey failed to achieve its objective, the result of the survey did identify the lack of effective communications among the town's boards and commissions. The absence of this communication limits the exchange of ideas and the sharing of information between boards and commissions. The CEDA sees effective communication within and between our boards and commissions as essential to setting and achieving our common goals.

The lack of effective communications among the town's governing boards and commissions is seen as a far greater challenge to the development and execution of a strategic plan for economic growth, than resource or economic constraints on the Town of Canton.

Our recommendation to overcome the internal as well as the external challenges to the development and execution of a strategic plan for economic growth is the creation of a standing commission composed of individuals from each of the town's boards and commissions for the purpose of providing updates to and from their respective board or commission. Through these updates, it is our belief each all boards and commissions will gain a greater knowledge of the issues and challenges each faces and thereby a greater sense of the interdependency that exists.

Discussion

The Canton Economic Development Agency (CEDA) has begun the process of developing a strategy for promoting favorable economic development in the Town of Canton. As the first step in this development process, the CEDA conducted a survey of town leaders responsible for Town governance. The purpose of the survey was to collect feedback from these town leaders to assist our agency to establish a planning direction for the town's future. This report reviews the results of this survey and presents commentary on the findings.

The survey was conducted between the May 1st and May 31st of 2010. The survey was targeted to members of the community who participate on town boards and commissions. The survey was distributed to the 125 individuals identified on Canton's Board of Selectman Commission Member List date March 19, 2010. *Appendix A identifies the individuals who were contacted to participate in the survey and board or commission assignment.*

The survey was comprised of six (6) questions formulated to gather each participant's opinions on issues important for Canton's economic growth. *Appendix B presents a copy of the survey used.*

Of the 125 commission members solicited, we received 51 responses. Of 30 commissions solicited, 25 are represented in the survey responses.

As was previously noted, the purpose of the survey was to determine if a consensus existed among town leaders as to issues of importance to the town's economic development. Unfortunately, the response rate was very low. From the responses received, we can only conclude these participants hold disparate views absent of a majority to form a consensus. *Appendix C summarizes the responses to survey questions 1, 2 and 3. Appendix D lists the responses to survey questions 1, 2, 3 and 6.*

Due to the nature of the survey and the individuals targeted for the survey, we had expected a much higher response rate. We believe this outcome speaks directly to the poor quality of communications between boards and commissions. The pattern of accomplishing board and commission decision-making without beneficial crosstalk and consultation has created a "silo" pattern as boards and commissions move forward on their specific agendas. We see this operating system as elemental in the failure to see opportunities for consensus building between boards and commissions. It is also limits the sharing of information and expertise as we face more complex challenges that cross board and commission lines and that have significant impact on the town's economic future.

The survey responses received also identify a diverse set of perspectives lacking a clear consensus on survey questions 1, 2 or 3. This outcome supports our belief of poor communication channels between boards and commissions as well as a lack of knowledge sharing and/or awareness of overarching issues relating to economic development. We believe that if this sharing and awareness were in place within our town governance structure, we would have seen more common ground in survey answers.

Survey questions 4 and 5, yielded very subjective answers and were of little value to the purpose of the survey. Except to say that it was significant to us as an agency, that the CEDA has no perceived influence on economic development in the Town of Canton and that there are not presently any “go-to” individuals or organizations that we can tap to give us immediate assistance in the formulation of our strategic plan.

Survey question 6 provides a wide range of suggestions to improve Canton’s tax revenue and/or improve the quality of life for its residents. The CEDA will refer to these suggestions as we progress on the development of economic strategic plan.

Conclusion

The goal of the survey was not achieved. However what was achieved was the realization of indicators identifying a very challenging environment in which to develop a strategic plan. More specifically, the development of an economic strategy with the current lack of communication and consensus among the members of our boards and commissions is a formidable task. In addition, assuming the CEDA was able to successfully create such a strategy for economic development, the successful execution of such a strategy is highly improbable, given the present governance landscape.

To address this reality, we recommend the Board of Selectmen approve the approach proposed in Planning Commission’s memorandum of _ (date) _ as to the update the Town’s Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD.) If the temporary committee approach is adopted, we will be paying close attention to the outcomes. If successful, our recommendation will be to establish a standing commission of similar composition to facilitate knowledge sharing and consensus building among all boards and commissions as we look for sustained support of our Town’s economic development.

Appendix A – Survey Recipients and Participation

First Name	Last Name	Commission	Survey Response Received
Carol	York	BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	No
David	Sinish	BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Yes
Susan	Crowe	BOARD OF EDUCATION	No
Beth	Kandrysawtz	BOARD OF EDUCATION	No
Carlene	Rhea	BOARD OF EDUCATION	No
Susan	Saidel	BOARD OF EDUCATION	No
Jonathan	Webb	BOARD OF EDUCATION	No
Patricia	White	BOARD OF EDUCATION	No
Leslee	Hill	BOARD OF EDUCATION	Yes
Mark	Lange	BOARD OF EDUCATION	Yes
Kathleen	Corkum	BOARD OF FINANCE	No
Brian	First	BOARD OF FINANCE	No
Richard	Ohanesian	BOARD OF FINANCE	No
Mary	Tomolonius	BOARD OF FINANCE	No
Richard	Eickenhorst	BOARD OF FINANCE	Yes
Kenneth	Humphrey	BOARD OF FINANCE	Yes
Richard	Barlow	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	No
Marc	Cerniglia	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	No
Bruce	Lockwood	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	No
David	Gilchrist	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Yes
Stephen	Roberto	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Yes
Charles	Whitney	BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS	No
Christopher	Winsor	BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS	No
Kim	Bowen	CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	No
Sandra	Bridgman	CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	No
Nora	Hillman-Goeler	CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	No
Marianne	Burbank	CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Yes
Dale	Munroe	CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	No
Arthur	Rote	CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	No
Sarah	Cheney	CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Yes
David	Fisher	CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Yes
Karen	Berger	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
Lee	Foley	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
Walter	Gillette	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
Bonita	Hansen	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
Michael	Leonard	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
Richard	Matos	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
Patricia	McGarry	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
David	Owen	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	No
Carol	Merritt	CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Yes
Richard	Hutchings	CHIEF OF FIRE/EMS	No
Eric	Jackson	COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	No
Walter	Kendra	COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	No

First Name	Last Name	Commission	Survey Response Received
David	Leff	COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	No
Sylvia	Cancela	COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Yes
Stephen	Veilette	COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Yes
Kathleen	Woolam	COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Yes
Evelyn	Kubas	COMMISSION ON AGING	No
Lorraine	MacDonald	COMMISSION ON AGING	No
Lynn	Miner	COMMISSION ON AGING	No
Dorothea	Murray	COMMISSION ON AGING	No
Lawrence	Soliani	COMMISSION ON AGING	No
Arthur	Blondin	COMMISSION ON AGING	Yes
Michie	Hesselbrock	COMMISSION ON AGING	Yes
James	Davis	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	No
Kenneth	Eifes	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	No
Maureen	Flynn	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	No
Wendy	Madigan	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	No
Sara	Faulkner	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Yes
Jay	Kaplan	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Yes
James	Harris	DESIGN REVIEW TEAM	No
Gary	Hath	DESIGN REVIEW TEAM	No
Frank	Mairano	DESIGN REVIEW TEAM	No
Joseph	Danajovits	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Yes
Michele	Dube	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Yes
Betty	Fiora	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Yes
Anne	Raftery	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Yes
Adam	Libros	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR	No
Cherie	Robinson	FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	No
William	Roberts	FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Yes
Edwin	Evonsion	INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	No
Jennifer	Helfrich	INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	No
Robert	Oswald	INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	No
Michael	Mischak	INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Yes
David	Shepard	INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Yes
Claire	Cote	MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Yes
Andrew	Pidgeon	OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	No
William	Spatcher	OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	No
Hedy	Barton	OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Yes
Charlie	DeWeese	OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Yes
Andrea	O'Neil	PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	No
Rebecca	Andrews	PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Yes
Christopher	Eckert	PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Yes
Julius	Fialkiewicz	PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Yes
Beverly	Hammond	PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Yes

First Name	Last Name	Commission	Survey Response Received
Todd	Jacobs	PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Yes
David	Madigan	PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	No
Peter	Reynolds	PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	No
Karen	Berry	PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Yes
Ronald	Dymicki	PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Yes
Harvey	Jassem	PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Yes
Bruce	Mortimer	PLANNING COMMISSION	No
Jonathan	Thiesse	PLANNING COMMISSION	No
Rosemary	Aldridge	PLANNING COMMISSION	Yes
Michael	DiPinto	PLANNING COMMISSION	Yes
Arthur	Fournier	TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	No
Matthew	Stone	TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	No
Candace	Langlois	TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Yes
Nancy	Miller	TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Yes
James	Bixler	TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	No
Lorinda	Pane	TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	Yes
Stuart	Greacen	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	No
Paul	Balavender	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Yes
Matthew	Schoenhardt	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Yes
Robert	Suttmiller	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Yes
Alis	Ohlheiser	WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY COMMITTEE	No
Peter	Black	YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	No
Stan	Krzanowski	YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	No
Clinton	Montgomery	YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	No
Glenn	Barger	YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Yes
Laura	Meheran	YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Yes
Robert	Brainard	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	No
Jay	Eustace	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	No
Robert	Sigman	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	No
Paul	Volovski	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	No
Anthony	DeVito	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Yes
Peter	Stein	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Yes
Kathy	Hooker	ZONING COMMISSION	No
Jeffrey	Johnson	ZONING COMMISSION	No
Philip	Pane	ZONING COMMISSION	No
Mark	Podesla	ZONING COMMISSION	No
Sandra	Trionfini	ZONING COMMISSION	No
Peter	Clarke	ZONING COMMISSION	Yes
Richard	Narowski	ZONING COMMISSION	Yes
Jay	Weintraub	ZONING COMMISSION	Yes

Appendix B – Survey Questions



Town of Canton
P.O. Box 168, 4 Market Street
Collinsville, CT 06022

Canton's Economic Development Agency Survey

Canton's Economic Development Agency is conducting a survey to identify the economic needs of our community. We value your opinions and ideas on what should be done to make this town a better place to live, work, raise children, conduct business, and enjoy life.

Our goal is to use this information to help guide the creation of an economic development strategy to meet our community's needs.

Your answers to this survey will assist in the achievement of this goal. Please be as candid and as specific as possible in your answers.

We also ask that you please respond to the EDA survey by May 23, 2010.

Thank you!

*** 1. Please identify what strengths or advantages Canton possesses, which could lead to future economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)**

Strength/Advantages

1st Choice
(most
important)

2nd Choice

3rd Choice

4th Choice

5th Choice
(least
important)

Other (please specify)

*** 2. Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for**

achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)

Problems/Obstacles

#1 Challenge (most important)

#2 Challenge

#3 Challenge

#4 Challenge

#5 Challenge (least important)

Other (please specify)

3. Please prioritize (1 thru 8) the following issues Canton’s Economic Development Agency should consider in the development of a strategic plan, with highest priority rated #1.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Quality of Life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Downtown Revitalization	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expansion of Local Industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expansion Tourism Industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creation of Home Based Businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expansion of Community Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Retail & Commercial Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Retirement Industry Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. In your opinion, what individuals are most influential to Canton’s economic growth?

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

5. What organizations, clubs, businesses, or groups have accomplished the most good towards the economic growth of Canton?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

6. Do you have any other ideas or ways to improve Canton's tax revenue and/or the quality of life for Canton residents?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Appendix C – Survey Response Summary to Questions 1, 2 & 3

Question 1 - Top 3 Strengths or Advantages Selected of Greatest Importance

1. Downtown Collinsville - 35% (18 votes)
2. Natural Resources/Open Space – 29% (15 votes)
3. Community Affluence – 16% (8 votes)

Question 2 - Top 3 Problems or Obstacles Challenging Canton's Economic Growth

1. No Strategic Plan - 25% (13 votes)
2. Demands on Economic Resources – 18% (9 votes)
3. (Tie) Geographic Location and Land Availability – 12% (6 votes each)

Question 3 - Top 3 Priorities The CEDA should Consider When Developing a Strategic Plan

1. Quality of Life - 47% (24 votes)
2. Downtown Revitalization - 23% (12 votes)
3. Retail Commercial Development - 14% (7 votes each)

Appendix D – Survey Responses to Questions 1, 2, 3 & 6

Question #1	Please identify what strengths or advantages Canton possesses, which could lead to future economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)	
Commission	Q1 C1	Q1 C2
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Retail Center Offerings/Access	Downtown Collinsville
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Retail Center Offerings/Access	Downtown Collinsville
BOARD OF FINANCE	Downtown Collinsville	Retail Center Offerings/Access
BOARD OF FINANCE	Retail Center Offerings/Access	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Downtown Collinsville	Community Affluence
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Community Affluence	Downtown Collinsville
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville	Natural Resources/Open Space
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Natural Resources/Open Space	Community Affluence
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville	
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Community Affluence	Natural Resources/Open Space
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Community Affluence	
COMMISSION ON AGING	Downtown Collinsville	Natural Resources/Open Space
COMMISSION ON AGING	Natural Resources/Open Space	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	School System	Natural Resources/Open Space
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Natural Resources/Open Space
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Downtown Collinsville
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Downtown Collinsville	Natural Resources/Open Space
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Downtown Collinsville	Retail Center Offerings/Access
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Downtown Collinsville	Natural Resources/Open Space
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Community Affluence	Downtown Collinsville
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Community Affluence	Housing Conditions
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Community Affluence	Natural Resources/Open Space
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville	Natural Resources/Open Space
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville

Question #1	Please identify what strengths or advantages Canton possesses, which could lead to future economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)	
Commission	Q1 C1	Q1 C2
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Community Affluence	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	School System	Downtown Collinsville
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Retail Center Offerings/Access	Downtown Collinsville
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	School System	Downtown Collinsville
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Natural Resources/Open Space	Community
PLANNING COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
PLANNING COMMISSION	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Community Affluence
PLANNING COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville	Retail Center Offerings/Access
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Downtown Collinsville	Community Affluence
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	diversity of the population	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Downtown Collinsville	Housing Conditions
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Downtown Collinsville	Downtown Collinsville
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Downtown Collinsville	Natural Resources/Open Space
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Downtown Collinsville	Policies Supporting Business Development
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Downtown Collinsville	Community Affluence
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Downtown Collinsville	Housing Conditions
ZONING COMMISSION	Policies Supporting Business Development	Downtown Collinsville
ZONING COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville	Natural Resources/Open Space
ZONING COMMISSION	Community Affluence	Housing Conditions
ZONING COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space	Downtown Collinsville

Question #1		Please identify what strengths or advantages Canton possesses, which could lead to future economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)	
Commission	Q1 C3	Q1 C4	
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Policies Supporting Business Development	
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Community Affluence	
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Community Affluence		
BOARD OF FINANCE	Workforce Experience/Knowledge		
BOARD OF FINANCE	Policies Supporting Business Development	Downtown Collinsville	
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Policies Supporting Business Development	Retail Center Offerings/Access	
BOARD OF SELECTMEN			
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Housing Conditions	
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Natural Resources/Open Space	Natural Resources/Open Space	
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Policies Supporting Business Development	Policies Supporting Business Development	
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Retail Center Offerings/Access	
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION			
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Housing Conditions	Retail Center Offerings/Access	
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION			
COMMISSION ON AGING	Housing Conditions	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	
COMMISSION ON AGING	Retail Center Offerings/Access		
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville	Policies Supporting Business Development	
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Policies Supporting Business Development	Housing Conditions	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Natural Resources/Open Space	Community Affluence	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Community Affluence	School system	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Recreational Tourism	Cultural Tourism	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Community Affluence	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Natural Resources/Open Space	Policies Supporting Business Development	
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Housing Conditions	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY			
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Policies Supporting Business Development	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Community Affluence	Charm and rural characteristics	
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Policies Supporting Business Development	Housing Conditions	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Community Affluence		
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Housing Conditions	Community Affluence	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville	Community	

Question #1

Please identify what strengths or advantages Canton possesses, which could lead to future economic growth?
(Please list in order of importance)

Commission	Q1 C3	Q1 C4
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION		
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Housing Conditions	Natural Resources/Open Space
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Community Affluence	Policies Supporting Business Development
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Housing Conditions	Natural Resources/Open Space
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Tourism Attractions	
PLANNING COMMISSION	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	school system
PLANNING COMMISSION	Housing Conditions	Natural Resources/Open Space
PLANNING COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space	Community Affluence
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Policies Supporting Business Development	Retail Center Offerings/Access
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Policies Supporting Business Development	Retail Center Offerings/Access
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS		
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Community Affluence	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Retail Center Offerings/Access	Policies Supporting Business Development
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Downtown Collinsville	Downtown Collinsville
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Workforce Experience/Knowledge	Community Affluence
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Natural Resources/Open Space	Retail Center Offerings/Access
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Natural Resources/Open Space	Housing Conditions
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS		
ZONING COMMISSION	Retail Center Offerings/Access	Housing Conditions
ZONING COMMISSION	Community Affluence	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
ZONING COMMISSION	Retail Center Offerings/Access	
ZONING COMMISSION	Community Affluence	excellent education system

Question #1	Please identify what strengths or advantages Canton possesses, which could lead to future economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q1 C5
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Retail Center Offerings/Access
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Natural Resources/Open Space
BOARD OF EDUCATION	
BOARD OF FINANCE	
BOARD OF FINANCE	Community Affluence
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Community Affluence
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Natural Resources/Open Space
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Community Affluence
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Downtown Collinsville
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Downtown Collinsville
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
COMMISSION ON AGING	Community Affluence
COMMISSION ON AGING	
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Community Affluence
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Retail Center Offerings/Access
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Retail Center Offerings/Access
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Policies Supporting Business Development
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Housing Conditions
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Retail Center Offerings/Access
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Policies Supporting Business Development
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Housing Conditions
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Housing Conditions
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Open Space
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Central CT location

Question #1	Please identify what strengths or advantages Canton possesses, which could lead to future economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q1 C5
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Community Affluence
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Housing Conditions
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	
PLANNING COMMISSION	
PLANNING COMMISSION	Central CT location
PLANNING COMMISSION	Housing Conditions
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Natural Resources/Open Space
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Retail Center Offerings/Access
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Downtown Collinsville
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Policies Supporting Business Development
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Workforce Experience/Knowledge
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Retail Center Offerings/Access
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
ZONING COMMISSION	Natural Resources/Open Space
ZONING COMMISSION	Retail Center Offerings/Access
ZONING COMMISSION	
ZONING COMMISSION	Workforce Experience/Knowledge

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C1
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Need for Strategic Planning
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Need for Strategic Planning
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Land Availability
BOARD OF FINANCE	Geographic Location
BOARD OF FINANCE	Land Availability
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Geographic Location
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Planning/Zoning Requirements
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Need for Strategic Planning
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Land Availability
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Demands on Economic Resources
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
COMMISSION ON AGING	Town Governance Participation
COMMISSION ON AGING	Aging Population
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Long-term Vision
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Geographic Location
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Land Availability
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Regulations Governing Development
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Need for Strategic Planning
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Need for Strategic Planning
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Need for Strategic Planning
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Geographic Location
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Funding Community Services
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Preservation of rural charm
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Aging Population
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Aging Population
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Protect what is important to the town
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Planning/Zoning Requirements

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C1
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Aging Population
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Funding Community Services
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Geographic Location
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Ugly Malls
PLANNING COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
PLANNING COMMISSION	Planning/Zoning Requirements
PLANNING COMMISSION	Land Availability
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Need for Strategic Planning
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Need for Strategic Planning
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	Demands on Economic Resources
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Geographic Location
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Need for Strategic Planning
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Aging Population
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Need for Strategic Planning
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Need for Strategic Planning
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Demands on Economic Resources
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Planning/Zoning Requirements
ZONING COMMISSION	Land Availability
ZONING COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
ZONING COMMISSION	Planning/Zoning Requirements
ZONING COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C2
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Town Governance Participation
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Demands on Economic Resources
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Funding Community Services
BOARD OF FINANCE	Inferior Transportation Structure
BOARD OF FINANCE	Planning/Zoning Requirements
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Land Availability
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Geographic Location
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Demands on Economic Resources
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Need for Strategic Planning
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Funding Community Services
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Aging Population
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Funding Community Services
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
COMMISSION ON AGING	Need for Strategic Planning
COMMISSION ON AGING	Demands on Economic Resources
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Land Availability
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Planning/Zoning Requirements
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Need for Strategic Planning
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Demands on Economic Resources
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Town Governance Participation
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Aging Population
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Town Governance Participation
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Town Governance Participation
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Need for Strategic Planning
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Geographic Location
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C2
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Funding Community Services
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Land Availability
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Land Availability
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Traffic
PLANNING COMMISSION	Funding Community Services
PLANNING COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation
PLANNING COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Funding Community Services
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Demands on Economic Resources
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	Geographic Location
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Planning/Zoning Requirements
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Creative Development
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Demands on Economic Resources
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Aging Population
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Need for Strategic Planning
ZONING COMMISSION	Geographic Location
ZONING COMMISSION	Funding Community Services
ZONING COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
ZONING COMMISSION	Funding Community Services

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C3
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Planning/Zoning Requirements
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Land Availability
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Planning/Zoning Requirements
BOARD OF FINANCE	
BOARD OF FINANCE	Need for Strategic Planning
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Demands on Economic Resources
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Land Availability
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Funding Community Services
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Land Availability
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Funding Community Services
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Land Availability
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Funding Community Services
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
COMMISSION ON AGING	Planning/Zoning Requirements
COMMISSION ON AGING	Funding Community Services
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Geographic Location
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Need for Strategic Planning
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Geographic Location
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Need for Strategic Planning
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Planning/Zoning Requirements
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Geographic Location
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Planning/Zoning Requirements
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Land Availability
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Demands on Economic Resources
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Planning/Zoning Requirements
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Land Availability
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C3
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Demands on Economic Resources
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Need for Strategic Planning
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Over-development
PLANNING COMMISSION	Land Availability
PLANNING COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
PLANNING COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Planning/Zoning Requirements
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Funding Community Services
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Land Availability
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Land Availability
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Planning/Zoning Requirements
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Land Availability
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Town Governance Participation
ZONING COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
ZONING COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation
ZONING COMMISSION	Geographic Location
ZONING COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C4
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Community Participation
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Funding Community Services
BOARD OF EDUCATION	
BOARD OF FINANCE	
BOARD OF FINANCE	Geographic Location
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Planning/Zoning Requirements
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Resistance to Change
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Aging Population
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Funding Community Services
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Planning/Zoning Requirements
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Planning/Zoning Requirements
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Land Availability
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
COMMISSION ON AGING	Funding Community Services
COMMISSION ON AGING	
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Geographic Location
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Land Availability
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Demands on Economic Resources
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Geographic Location
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Demands on Economic Resources
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Land Availability
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Demands on Economic Resources
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Planning/Zoning Requirements
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Funding Community Services
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Land Availability

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C4
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Need for Strategic Planning
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Planning/Zoning Requirements
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Weak Zoning
PLANNING COMMISSION	Planning/Zoning Requirements
PLANNING COMMISSION	Aversion to Development
PLANNING COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Geographic Location
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Planning/Zoning Requirements
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	Town Governance Participation
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Funding Community Services
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Town Governance Participation
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Planning/Zoning Requirements
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
ZONING COMMISSION	Planning/Zoning Requirements
ZONING COMMISSION	Land Availability
ZONING COMMISSION	Aging Population
ZONING COMMISSION	Traffic

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C5
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	Demands on Economic Resources
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Aging Population
BOARD OF EDUCATION	
BOARD OF FINANCE	
BOARD OF FINANCE	CARE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Town Governance Participation
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Planning/Zoning Requirements
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	Geographic Location
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Aging Population
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	Planning/Zoning Requirements
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	
COMMISSION ON AGING	Demands on Economic Resources
COMMISSION ON AGING	
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Land Availability
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Demands on Economic Resources
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Funding Community Services
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Aging Population
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Funding Community Services
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	Town Governance Participation
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	Funding Community Services
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Town Governance Participation
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	Town Governance Participation
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Geographic Location
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Ill-informed Decision Makers

Question #2	Please identify what problems and/or obstacles Canton faces for achieving economic growth? (Please list in order of importance)
Commission	Q2 C5
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	Land Availability
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Aging Population
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	Planning/Zoning Requirements
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	Innovative development approaches
PLANNING COMMISSION	Geographic Location
PLANNING COMMISSION	Regulations
PLANNING COMMISSION	
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Aging Population
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Land Availability
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Planning/Zoning Requirements
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	Aging Population
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Town Governance Participation
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
ZONING COMMISSION	Not in my back yard mentality
ZONING COMMISSION	Aging Population
ZONING COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning
ZONING COMMISSION	Need for Strategic Planning

Question 3	Please prioritize (1 thru 8) the following issues Canton's Economic Development Agency should consider in the development of a strategic plan, with highest priority rated #1.			
Commission	Quality of Life	Downtown Revitalization	Expansion of Local Industry	Expansion Tourism Industry
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	1	3	5	2
BOARD OF EDUCATION	1	3	4	5
*	2	1	3	6
BOARD OF FINANCE	2	1	3	5
*	1	2	3	4
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	1	2	5	4
*	1	5	3	6
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	1	2	6	3
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	1	3	2	4
*	5	3	2	7
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	4	5	1	6
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	-	1	-	-
*	1	7	3	8
*	8	3	4	6
COMMISSION ON AGING	3	4	-	1
*	1	2	5	6
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	1	3	8	2
*	5	4	6	3
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	4	1	5	2
*	6	1	3	2
*	4	1	7	2
*	2	1	5	4
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	1	2	6	5
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	1	3	6	7
*	1	2	6	7
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	2	6	4	8
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	1	5	4	2
*	1	3	2	-
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	1	2	4	6
*	2	1	6	8
*	4	7	2	3
*	1	2	3	4
*	1	2	5	8
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	7	5	3	4
*	3	6	1	8
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	1	2	7	3
PLANNING COMMISSION	4	3	1	5

Question 3		Please prioritize (1 thru 8) the following issues Canton's Economic Development Agency should consider in the development of a strategic plan, with highest priority rated #1.			
Commission	Quality of Life	Downtown Revitalization	Expansion of Local Industry	Expansion Tourism Industry	
*	3	6	2	7	
*	4	1	3	2	
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	7	5	3	2	
*	1	2	5	4	
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	7	2	3	5	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	1	6	3	2	
*	-	1	3	0	
*	-	1	-	2	
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	1	2	7	4	
*	3	1	5	8	
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	-	-	1	5	
*	-	-	1	4	
ZONING COMMISSION	4	5	1	3	
*	1	2	4	7	
*	4	5	2	8	
*	1	3	7	4	

Question 3	Please prioritize (1 thru 8) the following issues Canton's Economic Development Agency should consider in the development of a strategic plan, with highest priority rated #1.			
Commission	Creation of Home Based Businesses	Expansion of Community Services	Retail & Commercial Development	Retirement Industry Development
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	4	7	8	6
BOARD OF EDUCATION	8	7	2	6
*	5	7	4	8
BOARD OF FINANCE	8	7	4	6
*	8	6	5	7
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	3	8	6	7
*	7	4	2	8
CANTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	5	4	8	7
CANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	5	6	8	7
*	6	-	1	8
CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	2	7	8	3
COLLINSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	-	5	2	8
*	6	4	2	5
*	5	-	2	-
COMMISSION ON AGING	7	5	8	6
*	3	4	7	8
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	7	6	5	4
*	8	7	1	2
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	3	8	6	7
*	5	4	7	8
*	8	6	3	5
*	6	7	3	8
FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE	4	3	8	7
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY	8	2	4	5
*	5	4	3	8
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	5	1	7	3
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ACQUISITION COMMISSION	3	8	6	7
*	-	4	5	6
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	7	3	5	8
*	3	4	5	7
*	8	5	1	6
*	5	-	7	8
*	7	3	4	6
PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE	2	6	1	8
*	7	4	2	5
PLAINVILLE AREA CABLE TELE. ADVISORY COUNCIL	5	4	8	6
PLANNING COMMISSION	6	2	7	8

Question 3	Please prioritize (1 thru 8) the following issues Canton's Economic Development Agency should consider in the development of a strategic plan, with highest priority rated #1.			
Commission	Creation of Home Based Businesses	Expansion of Community Services	Retail & Commercial Development	Retirement Industry Development
*	4	5	1	8
*	8	5	6	7
TEMPORARY HYDRO PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	4	6	8	1
*	8	3	7	6
TOWN MEETING MODERATORS	6	8	1	4
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY	7	4	5	8
*	-	-	2	-
*	-	-	-	-
YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU	3	6	8	5
*	4	2	7	6
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	-	3	4	2
*	-	-	2	-
ZONING COMMISSION	7	6	2	8
*	5	8	3	6
*	7	6	1	3
*	8	2	5	6

Question 6

Do you have any other ideas or ways to improve Canton's tax revenue and/or the quality of life for Canton residents?				
Please Note: Each column is sorted alphabetically. Columns have no related to one another (e.g. rows are not the opinion of a single individual.)				
1	2	3	4	5
Canton need to be more inviting to prospective business.	Aim for attracting over 55 crowd	create tourism committee to encourage Collinsville growth	aid in re-development of downtown Collinsville/mill complex in an APPROPRIATE, SENSITIVE way	As further development occurs, develop around green spaces that are conducive to recreation, outdoor dining and minimize "big box" stores.
connect organizations to maximize efficiency of efforts	Become business friendly, incentives for doing business in Canton. Study why Canton businesses have moved to New Hartford, Torrington and Avon? New Hartford has a Home Depot and it has not prevented many Canton businesses from moving to New Hartford.	Develop Collinsville in a way that is consistent with its current mix of UNIQUE businesses, recreation and restaurants, ensuring that it remains charming and friendly.	better access to the Farmington River	embrace new ideas and trendy business opportunities
Develop the factory with community oriented businesses, services	Create as many recreation and scenic areas as possible.	Develop creative strategies to manage real estate taxes. ie. share services with neighboring towns, facilitate ease of commercial development	Better leverage river area	Have town gov't hire a grant writer and seek grants for open space protection, expanded recreation opportunities, and redevelopment
development of the Axe Factory and Collinsville.	Develop a much more aggressive land use policy to foster commercial and industrial development.	Focus on Collinsville development	Branding and Promoting Canton and Collinsville. Promoting Canton's strengths such as Outdoor Recreation, Science, Farms, & Nature, History & Antiques, Arts & Culture, Dog Park & Pet Related, and Retail & Dining. Have a significant cultural attraction once again in Canton. Have Bed & Breakfasts & Hotel. Promoting may be done by web, print, signage, and events.	Hold a charette for future planning as recommended by CARE
Drive commercial development in industrial park and at Power Mill	develop opportunities for youth and teen programs	Go Green!	educate the members of the boards as to what their charge is and to stay out of other boards areas	limit housing development- that brings expenses. Don't rezone for easier development.
elected officials lobby to change education funding	don't give CARE the credit that they are getting. They are just a handful.	Have the league of women voters stay out of development	example of living in the past, while "ROME" is a fire.	Preserve Open Space
Encourage retention of older taxpayers	don't meddle with things you can not control. That always results in failure	Improve quality of retail development on Route 44	Focus on local Tourism	PRAISE all our volunteers!
Exactly what is economic development, how is success measured?	Employment/Workforce Training	keep the schools excellent; don't underfund them	Invest in the tourist qualities of river, Collinsville, shops, etc	Try to attract businesses that are synergistic to Canton's existing business. Recreational related businesses such as a manufacture of equipment. Tourist and vacation businesses a winery like the one in New Hartford, maybe an existing CT winery is looking to expand, attract them to Canton. Art Supply Store there are 4 major chains, one is in West Hartford, one is in Farmington. This seem to be the favored New England area for art supply stores, try to interest one of the remaining two to open in Canton it would work well with the Galleries and Artist's Studios. New Hartford has done what the consultants advised Canton to do 10 years ago. We have lost businesses and revenue.
Expansion of Community Services	expansion of rails to trails	Neil's plan to connect Canton's two commerce centers. The renovated Collinsville Axe Factory and Shoppes at Farmington Valley by Rails to Trails will increase quality of life and enhance recreational tourism.	keep business environment friendly and affordable	
first, make our town bureaucracy much more business friendly. I think that our maze of commissions are terribly business unfriendly.	Focus on what makes Canton unique	our main resource is the beauty & people. Anyplace can have strip malls. Most do. Let's not! That can be our key.	limit retail development	
Focus on downtown Collinsville instead of strip malls	Get the damn producing electricity for us!	Preserve our open space. Canton is a rural town. That is why we came. Turn it into something else and the people that made the town what it is will leave. What's left will not be so good	limit spending on extraneous items and learn to make do or fix what we've got	
focus on tourism industry -- protect the riverfront and make it more accessible to the public	increase fees for parks and rec programs/camps	Promote local green industry - attract new green industry	Recognize businesses that have made an effort to improve the appearance of their location	
get rid of design review	lighten up on commercial development	promotion of mixed use planning concepts	Recognize Canton's limitations and also its strengths with respect to future growth	

Question 6

Do you have any other ideas or ways to improve Canton's tax revenue and/or the quality of life for Canton residents?				
Please Note: Each column is sorted alphabetically. Columns have no related to one another (e.g. rows are not the opinion of a single individual.)				
1	2	3	4	5
Get the factory approved !!!	longer answer: a lot of young families move out due to high taxes, i am pretty sure the aging population probably does the same but I have less info on that. the taxes are there but do not go to provide after care for kids in the school, or extensive community resources, a track andfield for the town. I hear the frustration in some people that while we dont want to be avon- we pay pretty high taxes and would like some of the amenities of those. I am not an economist so leave that to everyone on the economic development crew but am happy to pass those comments that i have received on to them	Recognize businesses that have been in Canton for a significant period of time, 10,20,30 years, etc.	Replace "chain" department stores in Shoppes at Farmington Valley and along Route 44 with as many unique and shops as possible.	
Improve town decision making process	make Collinsville (& maybe Route 44 & Maple)mixed use- residential over retail/business	simplify the permit process	speed up the permit process	
In my opinion tax revenue has peaked and The town,	Outreach to small businesses with virtual workforces	Support Canton schools and school budgets as good schools improve quality of life for all residents, whether they have children attending schools or not		
increase cost of sports; pay to play	Preference or at least equal consideration for Canton Residents applying for Town Employment. We seem to have a fixation for out of town applicants.	Support Retirees in continuing to work		
Let comercial developers work with out hinderance	protect our open spaces -- they bring in tourists and increase housing value	The recent sessions of our state electees are a prime		
Long Range cohesive planning between all governing boards	quality schools will lead to affluence in the community.	write more grants for prioritized projects of interest		
Maintain and continue to preserve open space aggressively.	Recognize that maintaining open space is of value as demonstrated by prior surveys			
Offer Lowe's a new deal. Having Lowe's at that location in Canton is like having a cash cow without having to smell the barn. Revisit our requirements and offer them a cheaper and easier build in the same location before the property is sold in pieces or Simsbury / New Hartford makes them an offer they can't refuse. The Lowe's site is at the edge of town and was not really known to be Canton property until Lowe's was mentioned. It is set back from the road and pretty much obscured. The tax revenue and the charitable contributions Lowe's is known for could enable us to keep our schools at the level we have become accustom to. How does anyone in this town think we will be able to achieve this level of education without business revenue? A school tax? A return to classroom size of 30+? Major curriculum cuts? Find out what we would be receiving for revenue from Lowe's. How easy is it to come up with that much money?	Reinvgorate Collinsville as tourist/leisure destination			
promote Roaring Brook, conservation & the arts and music	Residents may feel that is contrary to improving quality of life.			
Protect what we have. We pay the taxes because we like what is here now	the region and the state,must get down to business			
Realize that residential development does not help Canton's tax base, but rather comes at a cost to the Town and its residents	What other way is there but a property tax.			
redevelopment of collinsville axe factory complex				
Research small businesses with virtual workforces				
short answer: revitalize down town, have the town grow a little but not too much, more industry and a lower mill rate				
Stop building houses / set minimum 2 acre lots				
stop nickel & diming people with taxes				
The quality of life in Canton is fine				
think outside the box				