

Crafting the Master Plan with Community Participation was a high priority from the beginning. Consequently it was guided by significant input from many sources, including during 20 working meetings with the York Village Study Committee, one-on-one interviews with many Business Leaders, and Property Owners and Merchants plus meetings with Non-profit Community Leaders, Emergency Services, Veterans and Utility Districts. In particular, over 240 people attended three Community Design Workshops.

The following summarize comments from **Community Design Workshop #1, October 4, 2014.**

A Village Vision	
1	<p>is a vital and beautiful York Village with a dynamic, safe, and sustainable town center reflecting the history of a community that is both welcoming to visitors and supportive of local businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Does this vision speak for you? Why?</i> • <i>Does this vision inspire you? How?</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, active words, understandable words • What is history (different views) and what are we trying to provide? • Particularly interested in seeing a safe and comfortable public gathering space • Pedestrian & bike friendly • Parking on the perimeter of central downtown zone • No chains or franchise stores – local businesses • Safety: slow traffic down, traffic calming • More trees • Underground utilities • Emphasize history as key asset and key opportunity for future • Overall agreement with vision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, inspires me & captures what it should • Narrow roads to make space for walking/biking paths • Form based zoning? • Make it safe for pedestrians/ bikers to access current and future businesses and parks • Maintain history • Pedestrian / bike friendly • Supportive for both locals + tourists • Strong vision statement • Include language for residents • A good statement with additions: residents, future, community functions adaptable • Statement not particularly inspiring – but some liked it

2

Arrival

is experiencing the distinct beginning of the village.

- *Where does the village begin? Why?*
- *Think qualitatively – what shifts or changes clue us to village arrival?*
- *Using red dots on the plan identify where arrival clues should occur.*
- *Imagine how better or new Arrivals might enhance the village and reinforce the vision.*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual cues – church/cemetery, business/commerce and architecture, garden club areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrians and drivers experience arrival at different points: At Church, At Bagel Basket, At Woodbridge Rd. & Long Sands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would like to expand it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs: “Welcome to York Village Established in 1632”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance at Lindsey Rd. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand locations considered arrival
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At York St – See first parish spire or closer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variety of Opinions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Woodbridge Rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving vs. walking -- biking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Moulton Lane 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger visions than map
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uphill past pond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define by: signage, lighting, distinctive paving, trees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key services or places (schools) or neighborhoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible parking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At York St. W. and Organug or at Route 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Long Sands and Ridge Road
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core/ nucleus to broader view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At York St. E. and 103
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in architecture / landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Lindsay Rd – Indian Trial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Entrance signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Organug Road (Baptist Church, Middle School, Architecture changes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the statue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Coastal Ridge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Village Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Fire Dept

3

Anchors & Destinations

are cultural, civic, commercial or spiritual icons & destinations that help define a community's identity. In addition, "3rd places" (neither home nor work) offer places to pause, gather and linger.

- *What and where are village Anchors and Destinations?*
- *Using yellow dots on the plan identify the most significant. Are any lacking? Why?*
- *Imagine how improved or new Anchors might enhance the village and reinforce the vision.*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anchors: churches, post office, historical society, town hall, library, hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bagel Basket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital, First Parish, Parsons Center, Town hall, Library, Old Goal, Cumberland/Rick's, Bagel Basket
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family restaurant (Davis land)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rick's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Galleries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Scoop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skating at Library
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public buildings (Town Hall, Post Office)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market/ coffee shop/ bakery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical / architectural interest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business/ residential mixed use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future / potential – Town property (parking); improvements (e.g. Cumby's); Fire house (relocate?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaps – more retail , restaurants, park, access to river 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential services are gone (hardware, pharmacy, clothes, coffee shops, family style sit-down restaurants)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evening attractions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destinations: Bagel Basket, Cumberland Farms, Rick's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needed Destinations: Upscale & Family restaurants, Evening restaurants/pub, Bakery, Bookstore, Retail stores (gifts, shoes, clothing, middle priced), Park (play, music performances, rest on benches, gathering), More access to river, Local shops, Movie theatre, Theatre, evening commerce/ activity 	

4

Village Pedestrian Connectivity

allows people to safely get to, from, and between Destinations.

- *Is there a clear, convenient and safe network connecting Anchors & Destinations? Why? Why not?*
- *What works, and what does not?*
- *Using yellow strips, identify three improved or new connections to receive top-priority.*
- *Imagine how Connections might enhance the village and reinforce the vision.*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear network? – No! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe sidewalk or designated walkway connecting village businesses and natural beauty we have
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find parking, move or get rid of monument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parsons Center to Village Center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get rid of parking in front of Cox's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodbridge to Village Center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need – more bike and pedestrian friendly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately around monument
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need – signage of bike paths on pavement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bagel Basket to monument
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need – slow traffic (unsafe) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southside access to Village
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of safe, continuous, pedestrian paths/sidewalks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not clear connectivity – sidewalks and crosswalks not contiguous or clear
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sidewalks at both sides (especially York St.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pull-in parking dangerous
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New parking lot (Town Hall property) to Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perpendicular crosswalks/ fewer crosswalks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodbridge Road to Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve York St./ sidewalks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Sands Road sidewalks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connection from Woodbridge to York St.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve hospital (access/ egress) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rethink cross walks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trolley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rethink walking paths (plan where people actually walk, not where want them to walk). Do video studies in different seasons to see where actually walk. 	

5

Natural Features, Recreation & Open Space

are essential to Quality of Life.

- *Using green dots and strips identify Features & Open Space in and around the village.*
- *Are there undiscovered or unused features?*
- *Imagine how a network of Features, Trails & Open Space might enhance the village and vision.*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would be nice to have a park within walking distance of town for picnicking and playground. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path behind Long Sands Plaza
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational walking trails surrounding town could be enhanced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf Course (snowshoe)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green space and access to already-owned town land, and to beautiful parts like ice skating (library) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From green spaces to village center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davis Property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Southside to village center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library pond to Remick Barn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davis Property to village center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moulton Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Side Rd. -- hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creek between library and Bagel Basket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davis Property (both sides)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behind First Parish Cemetery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Parish (both sides of York St.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property behind Country Hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town-owned property (proposed Town Hall)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davis Property to Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parsons Property
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shore to library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upper and lower Mill Pond
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cemeteries, Parish Island, Davis Property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path on railroad bed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path on Lindsay Rd. to Steedman Woods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

6

Village Special Events & Activities

such as parades, festivals, celebrations and markets, bring people together and help define community identity.

- *What Special Events and Activities occur in the village? List them and their season.*
- *Imagine how improved or new Special Events and Activities might enhance the village and vision.*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter - Christmas (parade), Festival of Lights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive-thru Nativity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring - Memorial Day (parade), Village Firemen's Muster (parade) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HarvestFest locally driven
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer – Book sale at Library, Movies, Concerts – 4th of July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move farmers' market – Moulton Park or behind VES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall - Halloween Parade, Market Fest, Turkey Trot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MarketFest / HarvestFest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MarketFest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road races
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show House 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Want – Concerts, Farmers' Market, 4th of July, family oriented
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parades – Memorial Day, Christmas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be conscious whether events are for locals or not or both
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent smaller summer events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New – Farmers' market in the village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Farmers' Market
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York days in the village – summer? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More events for residents

7

Models of Success

of villages that “work” well, are informative and inspiring for others.

- Identify a villages or villages that work well. Why?
- How does York Village compare?
- Identify 3 things that might help make York Village a model of success for others.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This town could be a destination for beautiful walks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Village Flowers” competition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kittery great example of restructuring. Focus on parking once and walk from there 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kennebunk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kennebunk – Revitalization: lights, storefronts, flowers, sidewalks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newburyport
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exeter – Parking, variety of stores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kittery Foreside
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portsmouth – Sidewalks, lights, crosswalks, parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York Beach Short Sands (traffic calmers)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streetlights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River – user friendly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damariscotta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “It’s the little things that count”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kittery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kennebunk revitalized
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exeter, NH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIF district fund set aside for improvements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kennebunk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York beach (+ greenery)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charming combination of new and old business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portsmouth (debated) not city
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newburyport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newburyport: shops, food, walkability, beauty, off-street parking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Sands traffic calming (model of success) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kennebunk: historic nature emphasized, pedestrian friendly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery trucks can be difficult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kittery: activity, retail, food, bars, dance hall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and follow master plan; public/ private: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York doesn’t have restaurants or many shops (mostly service)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar Harbor: walkability, parking in back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. Walkability 2. Food and shops 3. Aesthetics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. Preservation of historical buildings 2. Focus on community 3. Retain/ enhance beauty 4. Things to do in evening – all ages (community center) 	