

2002 Town of West Turin Survey

Final Report
May 16, 2002

Compiled by the NYS Tug Hill Commission

848 surveys were mailed out and 137 returned and tabulated, generating a response rate of 16%

Q-1: From the following list, what characteristics of the Town of West Turin do you like or dislike?

	Like		Dislike		No opinion		Did not respond	
	Sum	%	Sum	%	Sum	%	Sum	%
1. Rural atmosphere	135	99%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0
2. Small population	131	96%	0	0	3	2%	3	2%
3. Farmland	121	88%	0	0	14	10%	2	1%
4. Small town government	107	78%	8	6%	17	12%	5	4%
5. Low cost of land/housing	111	81%	4	3%	16	12%	6	4%
6. Recreational resources	94	69%	17	12%	21	15%	5	4%
7. Absence of public water & sewer	45	33%	27	20%	50	36%	15	11%
8. Absence of stores	44	32%	55	40%	27	20%	11	8%
9. Absence of industry	42	31%	73	53%	12	9%	10	7%

Comments on Q-1

- Need improvements in local politicians' interest. Employers of town should not be so tightly related (there's concern). Mayor should not have strip bar and serve minors alcohol. Drugs seem to be a problem, need more aggressive solutions.
- Could have more stores.
- I do not feel there is an absence of stores. (4)
- I feel there are a variety of stores with basics and with improving technology (internet) and close location to metropolitan areas this is basically a non-issue. I do not feel there is an absence of stores. (4)
- Too many snowmobiles.
- Country, not residentially crowded.
- Would like something to move into Lyons Falls Pulp and Paper! (3)
- Room for "recreational industry" such as guide businesses, outdoor stores, bed and breakfasts, snowmobile/bike rentals, etc.
- I live out of town and out of state. I like the isolation.
- Lack of industry obviously a concern because of high unemployment in county, but I chose to live in an area without a lot of big industries.
- More soft industry defrays taxes.
- Cottage type industry permitted.
- "Recreational resources" means ATV's and snowmobiles ruining the air, making terrible noise and drawing a most unattractive crowd of bar hoppers.
- We came to the country to enjoy the country.
- Could use some hi-tech business in the town, not just in Lyons Falls.
- Nature, freedom, clean water & air, it is required to preserve these aspects & more, with the private sector.
- I don't think that taxpayers should have to ask to use their land.
- I have personally witnessed the slow but steady loss or decline of all of the above in my home state of New Jersey, while the price of real estate went up, the quality of life went down.
- It's nice to have a few small stores close by and small local business would be fine.
- #5 - buying property is not a good investment compared to other areas!
- On question 1-#7, we pay taxes, but get no public water/sewer. Plus, the local snowplough ploughs up 5-7 ft. walls in front of our driveway. As I am basically a "small town" person I appreciate the village atmosphere and friendliness of West Turin.
- Recreational resources should not include private lands that snowmobiles and 4 wheelers destroy and do not respect.
- Instead of promoting tourism which is dependent on weather, etc., promote industry.
- I don't think recreation is the key to good employment. We need to focus on more full time industrial jobs.
- We need to do all we can to bring new business to area. (2)
- Dislike absence of recreational resources.
- We have both public water and sewer. (6)

- Low cost of land/housing? The people from out of state are paying exuberant, that most people around the area can't afford, much less pay their taxes.
- 3. Farmland-It would be nice if used for farming instead of lying dormant.
- 9. Industry, in the village of C-ville, you would have to go back to the 20's - 30's when the steam mills were on Sugar River. I haven't seen any since.
- The current approach to draw more snowmobiles and or ATV's in the area by our local politicians is not the answer.
- Most enjoy the clean air and natural places. I am more opposed to polluting such a beautiful place.
- We like the area "as is" and would prefer no changes. (2)
- That's why we live out here; we don't want "conveniences." We don't want people-we want nature, peace and quiet.
- I would like the opportunity to be connected with town sewer as we live in the village of Constableville.
- Employment opportunities are limited because of limited industry unfortunately. If Lyons Falls pulp & paper isn't sold in short order, arrangements should be started to dismantle the buildings.
- I believe in small and private business, and that they are better managed and better for community rather than big chain store and big industry.
- Let's keep from becoming a strong-arm government.
- The snowmobiler's are out of control.
- Work with your environment.

Q-2: What other things about the town do you really LIKE?

- The relaxed and pleasant atmosphere. (4)
- The small population. (3)
- Good ambulance and fire company. (2)
- The roads, which I think are very well maintained. (4)
- The remoteness, wildlife, people.
- Roads open to ATV's.
- Country, not residentially crowded.
- New motel on Route 12.
- Low crime (although my house was broken into), no strip development, good clean environment.
- Historical significance.
- The only land I have in West Turin is a garlic field.
- Peace and quiet. (4)
- Pristine water.
- People are friendly and willing to help others. (8)
- Emergency services.
- We have stores, restaurants and a motel.
- The roads are fairly good. (2)
- Your voice is heard.
- From a camp owners view all of the above Q-1 and the people.
- Environment
- That I can leave car and doors unlocked. The silent beauty.
- Lots of land to hunt & fish.
- Clean air (8)
- Highway dept. seems to be doing a good job.
- Recreation, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and ATViing.
- Visiting friends and relatives. Annual parade and field day.
- The country atmosphere. (2)
- The people are hard working. Business really cares and does the best for their customers.
- Absence of traffic.
- The ability to come and go, visit, not be pressured by (sub) urban issues.
- The fellowship and unity of the people.
- This survey is the perfect example of what I like about West Turin. You care about your future and cherish the special nature of your area. The people are warm and genuine if they let you get to know them.

- Many fishing streams. (2)
- The forest and wildlife.
- The small town atmosphere. (4)
- Community atmosphere.
- What is there in Lyons Falls, (nothing) to be proud of?
- Open space.
- Natural beauty, water & Adirondack views.
- I like it when it is peaceful-not overrun with disrespectful snowmobilers.
- A good place to live and raise a family. (4)
- Small local school.
- Citizen patrol, highway department-snow plowing and road maintenance are excellent considering weather. (2)
- The friendly people. (11)
- Atmosphere and safety.
- No heavy industry, except in Lyons Falls. Wide spacious views. Like the way people have opened their houses to sports lovers.
- The way it is.
- The people. (3)
- Post office, that mailman is so sweet.
- Love the atmosphere when snowmobilers aren't here.
- For the most part quiet surroundings.
- Independent spirit of most citizens. The fact that every property is not identical to the next.
- Low taxes.
- Rural atmosphere. (2)
- New fire hall and recreation building, skating rink, etc.
- The tight knitted community and how this community works together in events and charity.
- Excellent care of roads.
- The things the way they are without the wrong type of change.
- Things the way they are.
- Quiet, friendly people.
- The natural and acquired demographics.
- Quiet and very friendly people.
- The people and the land around.
- The small town atmosphere and honesty of most people.

Q-3: What other things about the town do you really DISLIKE?

- Town needs to protect themselves from possible growth and unwanted problems associated with quick development.
- The lack of industry and jobs. (5)
- Roads.
- No more welfare housing or low income housing please!
- The lack of dog control, especially in villages. (5)
- Road qualities on main routes, West Rd and John St are terrible and have a lot of traffic.
- Two tax assessors are needed or a tax service.
- I don't like underage drinking and strippers in town. Don't let people drag down the nice town we have.
- No recycling and trash station available locally. (2)
- Don't like drugs, underage drinking.
- Too many abandoned farms/houses.
- More stores if possible.
- Narrow streets in Constableville.
- Major sub-development pressure, possibility of dump in West Leyden and lack of economic development for Q-1 #10.
- Condition of East Road and others that need repair.
- Too much agricultural land being lost or unused.

- Negativity regarding economic change.
- Time was when there was little cooperation with villages. Has this improved?
- Main street of Lyons Falls and C'ville are unattractive.
- General summer maintenance of the town roads, especially the Michigan Mills Road.
- Junk outside in view. Barns in disrepair.
- Poverty.
- That not enough is done to keep rowdy hunters, ATVerS, snowmobiles out - and that a bar with a repulsive name was given a permit to establish itself across from the library.
- Too many bars.
- The snowmobile outrage, they are uncontrolled, cause damage and upset our way of life.
- There is little thought given to future, town meeting place.
- Too many snowmobiles.
- How the government continues to ignore the area economy, yet hastens to put dumps in it. Overtaxing it, trying to force us to develop it.
- It has been stole by the snowmobile lovers.
- The streets, pavement, sidewalks & property pride are in a state of disrepair. (2)
- There is nothing we dislike. (3)
- I have never felt welcomed in all the years I have been frequenting the area for short hunting trips. I have always felt like an outsider, like I don't belong, not wanted.
- All the logging off our watershed and some snowmobilers who think they own everything here.
- Developing of new housing.
- County legislators trying to run the county without expert advice (We need a county manager.)
- Too much snowmobiling & ATV activity w/o proper monitoring (abiding to laws-respect for others) lack of specific government guidelines for small town living. "Good Ole Boys" syndrome alive and well!
- Lack of a coordinated effort to attract people i.e. maintain snowmobile trails even if you must charge.
- Lack of public water and sewer.
- Dislike Robert Cataldo (Mayor)
- The increase of arrogant, disrespectful snowmobilers and ATV riders.
- Historic landmarks could be better advertised for public tours and awareness.
- I have only visited West Turin twice. I would appreciate a good restaurant/bar.
- The clicky "old gang" atmosphere.
- Snowmobiles running sidewalks and streets. Ruining black top on private property and roads.
- Main street needs to be repaved.
- Junk yards, abandoned vehicles, dogs chasing cars, loggers leaving abandoned equipment (old skidder and truck tires, broken parts, etc.) should rough grade and clean area in sight of town roads and right of ways.
- Lack of things to do.
- Lack of alternate employment.
- Too many people moving in from other areas and making laws on where, what and how to build.
- Land use is too strict.
- The way this town is run.
- The industry.
- I heard the DEC want to regulate more than they already do!
- Too many snowmobiles, ATV's. (4)
- We do not need a local strip club! (5)
- How the bars and businesses promote more recreation in area-making "rules" for locals too.
- Winter.
- Dumps and garbage on side of roads, household garbage should be billed to everyone in taxes, then there would be reason to throw out along the road.
- Cemetery care is terrible, poor up keep, snowmobilers running anywhere they want including over my trees. Also mayor C-ville needs to go, along with the strippers.
- Poor road and street conditions. (2)
- Soiling of roadways with manure, litter and beer cans, collapsed barn and building and autos should be removed, as well as debris from logging.
- The junk and clutter law.

- Cars speeding and unauthorized dumping.
- Snowmobilers from out-of-town. The locals are respectful. (2)
- The increasing population on the hill.
- County politics and political machinery trying to control and micro manage local government.
- Inconsiderate snowmobilers, high speed traveling, travel on village streets and sidewalks and drive in restricted areas. (9)
- Mobile home, cheap housing.
- People who move into the area and want to change the small town atmosphere.

Q-4: How do you feel about developing more recreational opportunities in the Town of West Turin?

	Strongly Encourage		Encourage		No Opinion		Discourage		Strongly Discourage		Did not respond	
	Sum	%	Sum	%	Sum	%	Sum	%	Sum	%	Sum	%
1. For yourself?	35	26%	30	22%	34	25%	11	8%	16	12%	11	8%
2. For local landowners?	32	23%	36	26%	27	20%	11	8%	19	14%	12	9%
3. For visitors?	38	28%	28	20%	24	18%	14	10%	23	17%	10	7%

Please suggest the types of recreation you would like to see:

- Improvements to our snowmobile system. Speed enforcement! Snowmobile system that is property owner friendly.
- Four wheelers and snowmobiles controlled good.
- More summer programs at Snow Ridge such as the Celtic festival, bluegrass, etc. Bring back Lyons Falls 4th of July celebration, more activities at Gould house (bands, ice cream socials, town picnic). Also river activities.
- A year-round interlinking system of developed trails (using roads only when absolutely necessary) for hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, 4 wheeling, snowmobiling. Trail pass required for both local and visitors to support-heavy fines for use without pass. Landowners pass could be lower cost, but should still be on fee system.
- Snowmobiling. (2)
- Recreation park.
- Swimming areas (2)
- Playground equipment, roller skating/ice skating facilities and exercise gyms.
- Kayaking
- Youth facilities (7), a place for teens to go with good supervision and leadership such as YMCA's, summer activities for youth and children.
- Utilize state trails and roads for mountain biking-maps of all trails, canoe access points, businesses and website.
- I can make my own.
- Boating areas.
- Wilderness atmosphere is enough! It's what we moved here for.
- Expansion of existing recreation. (2)
- Possibly a nature trail.
- Horseback riding trails. (2)
- More snowmobile trails, open local roads. It's difficult to get to the trails from many areas. Work with landowners to lessen problems.
- Open more state land for snowmobile trails taking them off the roads.
- I'm not a recreation person. I don't like to meet young children or 3 and 4 wheelers on the roads.
- Develop and provide park/camp areas for summer recreation visitors.
- Depends what type! Post school hours accessibility to gyms and pools at high school; longer, more frequent library hours would be great. No more snowmobile and ATV's.
- More local and state government support for winter sports (snowmobiling, skiing.)
- Hunting and non-motorized things.
- Picnic areas. (3)
- Snowshoeing area.

- With recreation comes structure, regulations, some areas serve best if left to themselves; that's what makes it beautiful. People who like that, stay, those who don't go elsewhere.
- The taxpayers should be paid for use of their land.
- I am very involved in school sports so I have recreation, kids use Snow Ridge, and we are very busy.
- Public hunting lands-parking areas, welcome signs, information and trout fishing.
- More fishing areas. (4)
- You already have what I like woods, streams, and peace and quiet. Development will only make these qualities worse.
- A "boilermaker" type of event for snowmobilers and friends during the winter.
- Depends what you see as "recreational". More cultural activities for young people. Less motorized brainless activities.
- Snowmobile races, community sports league-softball, soccer, football, everyone plays-all ages.
- The people and landowners who live here are harassed by the snowmobilers & 4 wheelers and law enforcement lacks, and there is no control over this.
- No motorized vehicles.
- Not too many more snowmobilies.
- Small park with multi-use trails and playing fields.
- Tennis, swimming, etc.
- There are too many bars already, many of the out of town people feel this is free range, they come to raise hell!
- Mountain bike trails and nature trails w/rest stops/picnic facilities (no fires).
- More organized snowmobiling and 4 wheeling.
- Would like to see snow sled and 4 wheelers off of roads and pay for repairs where they cross the roads.
- Keep snow sleds off the streets. Check the speeders.
- Things for kids to do-skateboard park, bike park.
- If we didn't encourage outsiders to come here, maybe we could enjoy our area more.
- Recreational activities that have a low impact on the environment, cross country skiing, fishing, etc.
- No more! (2)
- Water activities.
- It would be great for locals but we all know that every asshole from N.J. to Mass. ends up using it, destroying, trespassing and thinking they own it all. Yeah what about the litter? What protects farmers that have constant trespassing?
- Trail fees should be charged for out of towners to repair road damage and property damage. Example Allen Rd. crossing.
- More ATV trails for local people, not outsiders who won't stay on trail anyhow.
- Bars, restaurants, and gas stations profit, the rest of us are put at danger with the high traffic of snowmobilers.
- More money spent on snowmobile and ATV trails.
- Access to river, etc. for water recreation.
- One of the main reasons most of us are here is that the rest of the world isn't. Let's keep it that way!
- Snowmobiles have reached the saturation point. The traffic from ATV's is getting to that point. I would suggest non-impact types of recreation (hiking, skiing, bird watching, photography) for visitors.
- Stock the streams with trout again.
- Things are nice the way they are. Note: won't object to see more parking developed where possible, it's needed. Note: Let public be creative with small business ideas, gas, food, lodging, etc.
- We do not understand this question. (2)
- I hate snowmobilers and ATV riders.
- A town park with tennis courts, basketball courts, swings for kids.
- Winter sports.
- Create a county regulated trail grooming system, one of paid groomers not volunteer, so that all trails would be groomed equally. We could do it with 1/3 of the groomers if they would pay to run them.
- Camping area (s) (3)
- Trails for hiking (7)
- Trails for biking (8)
- Trails for ATVs (7)
- Cross country ski trails (11)
- Walking trails (3)

Q-5: Is the open disposal of trash and other waste material around the town a problem?

	Sum	%
Yes	44	32%
No	84	61%
Did not Respond	9	7%

Q-5 Comments

- Only if everyone takes trash to the proper location, not around their house.
- Burning barrels a problem.
- In places.
- In the village.
- A "reasonable" cost to the people should be available, to make it cheaper & self-satisfying to do the right things instead of wrong, but not controlled by county(s) or state government.
- We do not enforce junk laws. Properties allowed to accumulate endless amounts-old cars, trucks, camping trailers and household junk.
- Snowmobilers and 4 wheelers throw trash everywhere.
- It depends.
- If you are referring to farmers who park the old equipment, it's on their property and not costing anyone. Garbage belongs in dumps.
- Enforce current rules.
- Some of our neighbors have junk in their yard and they don't pick up.

Q-6: Currently, the town has a junkyard law as well as a clutter, litter and debris law on the books. Do you think these laws:

	Sum	%
1. Should be enforced more vigorously	70	51%
2. Are enforced about right	51	37%
3. Are too strict	7	5%
4. Did not respond	9	7%

Q-6 Comments

- Too many farmers are allowed to keep debris and junk around.
- I'm not sure, but everyone is accountable for keeping the environment clean.
- Example: Corner of Fish Creek Road and Byrons Corners Road.
- No matter who the person may be or what \$ they have.
- Owners of junked vehicles should be required to remove these eyesores from private property.
- They are not enforced.
- What a joke! Take a ride over Mohawk hill Route 26, lot of junk. Has anyone ever enforced this law?

Q-7: In which district/area do you own property?

	Sum	%
1. Hamlet	8	6%
2. Rural Residential	23	17%
3. Agriculture	63	46%
4. Forest	36	26%
5. Village of Constableville	31	23%
6. Village of Lyons Falls	18	13%

Q-8: The Rural Residential district requires a minimum lot size of 1½ acres (and 210 feet of road frontage). Do you think this lot size is:

	Sum	%
1. Too small	34	25%
2. Too big	16	12%
3. Just right	77	56%
4. Did not respond	10	7%

Q-9: The Agricultural district requires a minimum lot size of 2 acres (and 300 feet of road frontage). Do you think this lot size is:

	Sum	%
1. Too small	36	26%
2. Too big	22	16%
3. Just right	66	48%
4. Did not respond	13	9%

Q-10: The Hamlet district does not require a minimum lot size, but does require a minimum lot frontage along the road of 200 feet. Do you think this minimum lot frontage is:

	Sum	%
1. Too small	17	12%
2. Too big	20	15%
3. Just right	82	60%
4. Did not respond	18	13%

Q-11: The Forest district does not require a minimum lot size, but does require a minimum lot frontage along the road of 500 feet. Do you think this minimum lot frontage is:

	Sum	%
1. Too small	24	18%
2. Too big	27	20%
3. Just right	74	54%
4. Did not respond	12	9%

Q-12: Should the town board be actively encouraging growth or finding jobs for the area?

	Sum	%
Yes	97	71%
No	26	19%
Did Not Respond	14	10%

Q-12: Please give some examples of growth or jobs you would like to see:

- Growth is necessary but remember there is always a price to pay, more services demanded means higher taxes. Jobs are needed, but safe, clean-industry is the answer. Zoning concerns must be addressed first, make ourselves aware of what might happen. Slow down development until zoning is addressed.
- More opportunities for professional jobs, RN's, teachers, doctors or just minimum wage employment. NO Prisons!
- Recreation related (3), including hotels/restaurants especially recreation activities need to be more regulated, like snowmobile trails-a pass system is needed. Currently, I would not ride on trails on a Saturday night, all the out of town drunks are out then, I would think we all need to pay for good multi-use trails.
- Give breaks to new businesses or existing businesses to encourage growth.
- Any kind of industry.

- Need to entice industry to the area for jobs.
- Computer services and department stores.
- Repeat something to take over LFPP area!
- Agricultural breaks for existing farms (taxes, etc.) New stores or YMCA's to open new jobs.
- More small business, more industrial services and encourage public/private managed parks/campgrounds.
- Expand highway crew or develop "park staff" to develop, mark, and maintain trail system. Research economic development money for recreational, "traditional industry" type businesses-such as woodworking, agricultural services, and organic farming.
- Tourism. (2)
- None. (3)
- Industry.
- Create tech jobs.
- More recreational home sites, these people are here only seasonally.
- Tourism, kayaking, ATV, snowmobiles and computer jobs of any kind.
- An Olive Garden restaurant.
- Encourage motel/hotel facilities to attract and keep visitors who enjoy outdoor recreation such as hunting, fishing, ATV and snowmobiles.
- Tourism all year round, outdoor activities, specialty shops, perhaps large flea market, antique shows, craft fairs, perhaps a community college.
- The area is ideal for people who work out of their homes. Especially retirees starting new careers. Also small businesses of 2-15 employees.
- Something that would provide value added to the logs that we have in the area.
- Wind power generator, some medium size stores or business.
- The town should advertise itself to bring in new business. Small businesses better than no business.
- We need manufacturing jobs. The state needs to assist us in attractive industry. We have power, water and workers.
- Small businesses that can provide local people local jobs.
- Industry etc should only be allowed to occur in certain areas, to maintain nature's balance. If 3 areas existed, plant A may be okay for area #2, but not for #1, or #3.
- Centralized growth in or near village and hamlets only. Try to attract an up and coming quality mail order business along the lines of Orvis or LL Bean (someday), water bottling companies, dairy (ice cream), and maple syrup.
- I would like to see a General Store in Constableville, with hardware, lumber and electrical supplies.
- The town should support and encourage what you already have-such as farming, forest industry, small related business like sawmills, farm supplies, etc. Let the country and state handle trying to lure new industry to the county.
- Due to the major loss of jobs for Lyons Falls and C-ville, it should have a few jobs to keep our families and children here in the future.
- Small industry for Lyons Falls school, tear down the mill.
- Manufacturing is no longer an area we can rely on. High-tech, service, non-polluting businesses should be encouraged.
- Use of your natural resources i.e., water and snow and make sure it is maintained to attract visitors.
- Wood industry-paper mill, lumber Dairy industry-Dairy products-milk, butter, etc. Recreation industry-parks, water, snow, etc.
- Encourage dairy farming.
- Return of paper mill in Lyons Falls. (3)
- Recreational tours for all age groups, to capitalize on the area's natural beauty.
- Entertainment and restaurants/bar. Encouragement of small businesses and entrepreneurs.
- Very technical machine shop type sub-contractors to military and defense.
- County should quit their party politics and get industry up here-we are dying but tourism is hit and miss.
- Any new business.
- Hydroelectric for old mill in Lyons Falls? Fish hatchery, game farms. Restoration.
- Industries and stores.
- It is nice the way it is except for Lyons Falls. Would like to see the mill taken over.
- The forest industry is a good start. Trying to get paper mills that are down, up and operating.
- More farms.
- Small industries that would hire 20 - 50 people each, such as assembly lines or baking or small canning factory.

- Promote historical richness of area, agricultural diversity and forest industry-past and present.
- Shouldn't have pushed so many dairy farms out of business.
- We need to bring industry back in this area. That way more than just a few bars would benefit.
- Considering the corporate environment, corporations are looking to take advantage and at the lands and local people's expense. Corporations should only be allowed in if they give concessions and are regulated heavy.
- None-thank you, we moved here 14 years ago to get away from hustle and busy towns, don't make it that way.
- Shopping and restaurants.
- None-we don't want it: with it comes crime, littering, lowering of moral standards and general public that is not native and disrespectful to the area.
- Reopening of paper mill-example of large employer. Example of small business-Baruth's Garage oil change place or weld and machine shop, there is a need and farm mill processor with store to get fresh products.
- It's really hard to attract business to a town with a mayor joke we have and the poor road conditions we also have. Also maybe you could do something about all the junk in this town.
- Businesses need better incentives to establish in our area, electric and tax reduction.
- Jobs need to be something that will support workers not tourism! Tourism jobs are seasonal and low pay. We need some solid, full-time jobs, which can support our citizens.
- Road systems are adequate to travel 20 - 30 miles for employment which most do now.
- Industry of all sorts.
- Electrical, mechanical and plumbing.
- Would like to see Lyons Falls paper mill open to some business. (2)
- Any job with an income would help.
- One fast food restaurant, example: KFC or McDonalds.
- Forest industry related.
- Any recreational resources should be run by the town's people, a share in the business.
- Snowmobile industry, lodging, grooming, etc. A minimum security prison, work gangs to maintain and create trail systems, cut firewood and lumber on state land.

Q-13: Please describe your thoughts for the future of the town.

- Lot size requirements must be increased or rapid development may occur. Stores must be clean, attractive and quaint. Search out state grants to encourage businesses to improve.
- I hope to see the town continue to work as well as in the past.
- Keep small town government and population down.
- We need a community college in Lewis County. Factory outlets in Lyons Falls Pulp & Paper mill or antique mall.
- I moved here because of the excellent outdoor recreation activities, I retired here for the same reason; we need to keep our rural, small town mix, but regulate recreation better.
- The lot frontage on agriculture if changed to 225' from 300' would yield 4 lots instead of 3 in 900'.
- It's nice to be a small town. Don't need any more bars and strippers!
- Would like to see town remain sparsely inhabited. To be able to provide jobs for local people.
- Unfortunately, the future as far as jobs/growth looks bleak. Possibly more wilderness vacation areas are possible.
- Given the natural resources we have, I believe we should encourage tourism-winter and summer sports, ATV, snowmobiles and skiing.
- Keep the farms in operation. Give incentives to fix and furnish older buildings.
- With the loss of Lyons Falls Pulp & Paper taxes may be a problem for Lyons Falls. We should be actively seeking new industry to help with this relief.
- If recreational activities are to be encouraged, the townships should be sure of adequate parking areas for snowmobilers (not in front of fire hall, etc.) fishermen and hunters, skiers and sightseers.
- I have lived (currently in Maine) throughout New England and Alaska-and there is no place like the Tug Hill. We need to protect the open space feel, have development on perm. Road frontage for year round housing only, and think about future generations.
- I like it as it is.
- The Town should not encourage undue expansion of residential, industrial or commercial without careful consideration of the costs of services involved.

- This country is running out of "down home" rural atmosphere. C'ville is one of the few that can still claim that. Leave it alone.
- Would like to see the expansion of the economic liability of the town.
- Loss of farms and industry will need to be replaced with jobs for telecommuters or in the tourist area.
- Our future is in recreation and its many farms. Keep the town clean and attractive and people will want to come and play.
- I worry about the impact of the Ava landfill on the quality of life in the Lyons Falls area.
- A town with large lot size zoning to keep open space high and population low-low population keeps school taxes down.
- West Turin is centrally located to Rome, Utica, Watertown, Old Forge just as we drive away to work-others would drive here.
- New York State has programs encouraging people from outside the state to visit and enjoy the natural resources of the state; it makes sense for the town to do likewise.
- Thank you for including us in your survey. We feel the people who live in West Turin are best qualified to answer the towns future.
- To keep more people in area something soon will have to develop.
- A lot of artists, writers, etc no longer can afford the cities. Utica offers a lot of attractions with its coed college and MWP link to Pratt. We have numbers of older farmhouses that are ideal studios and publicity and maybe some cheap restoration loans would attract such.
- Leave it as is, why spoil it?
- About 30 years ago a gas/oil well was drilled in High Market, the well struck gas but in quantities not economical at the time, maybe markets and drilling techniques have changed today. Perhaps we could pursue this; New York State has info on file on this oil/gas well. I hope that any changes made will not reflect property taxes.
- Keep it like it is, so others can enjoy it as much as we do.
- We need to look at the current growth of the town (more camps). These camps will some day become full time homes when baby boomers retire. We need to be ready for the future growth.
- Keep it rural.
- The area has become a destination for snowmobilers. It will continue to grow it needs to be managed/controlled. Need to change trail fees to support infrastructure that will be needed in future.
- Modest growth preserving the beauty of the forest and farmland.
- Be careful! It is so easy to be fooled on paper, but stung with reality. This area is already successful, it has survived. Money should not be the priority-those who own & live here know this and receive joy from all the other things in life.
- A polluted stink hole.
- There needs to be more property pride, abandoned buildings should be removed and cleaned-up. Sometimes this village looks horrible, Main Street is discouraging.
- We would like to see it stay as it is.
- Keep the rural flavor. Clean up the yards and farmyards, it spoils the incredible scenery. The fall season is spectacular. Promote your natural beauty and improve it, maintain it, preserve it. Establish hiking trails. Make visitors feel more welcome. Promote antique shops, farm tours and restaurants.
- I plan to retire to Highmarket in 2004, and I like it just the way it is, except the comment below.
- The economic backbone of this town as well as many others in that state has been agriculture and forest products. Both of these are encountering hard times and one of the main reasons is over regulation at all levels of government. Unless this trend changes I see no bright future for the town.
- Our major resources here are hunting, fishing and snowmobiles, so I guess we have to capitalize on what we have to work with, also agriculture.
- I see more interest in settling in Lyons Falls since the mill closed. Better use of our waterfronts.
- Consistent enforcement of current regulations & building codes is a start to correct current problems. Inter-cooperative actions between all local governments are necessary. Think of the bigger and more global picture. For our communities to be successful! County legislature (Republicans) are an embarrassment.
- Town needs to encourage growth if it is to survive. However, the growth must be balanced with the high quality of life in the area.
- New mayor

- We do not need change simply for the sake of change. We have to many snowmobiles & ATV's already and we don't need any more.
- Keep it low-key. Let's not get run over by tourists.
- Maintain an emphasis on environmental issues and conservation of clean air, water and the safe guarding of state forests and preservation of wildlife; thus insuring future habitat for hunting and fishing recreation.
- Preserve open space as best as possible including wooded areas.
- I hope West Turin can build up its business community while still retaining its village atmosphere and quality of life for its residents.
- Clean it up! Fix it up-help the farmers with barn restoration grants, etc.
- I would like to see snowmobiling put on a ballot so every voter could voice their opinion, I hear more people complaining, the only locals that are happy are the restaurants, bars and motels, but there needs to be control.
- Promote high speed data/telecommunication infrastructure to accommodate the (work at home) employee now popular with business and corporations. Promote higher education facilities.
- More blue collar jobs.
- The town/village life is nice small town America.
- I think the town has potential for recreation along with ag and rural living.
- Codes on building should only apply to contractors, not to individuals for own use unless they are building for a business, rental or resale.
- Would like to see go back to pre 1986 laws on land usage.
- You need a leader that can get grants from state and federal to help build town back. Roads, streets and homes.
- Hopefully more opportunity for employment, especially industry. I do not think the officials of Lewis County did enough to save Lyons Falls mill. The state senators didn't help much either.
- Keep it rural as much as possible.
- These meetings should not decide the outcome or ruling of privately owned properties. Everything should be voted on by the people who own the land!
- I like it the way it is. (4)
- I would like to think that we can come to our senses on the stupidity of promoting snowmobiles, and ATV's and bring some industry back, and promote agriculture again.
- In such difficult times, I would guess that forestry cooperatives, organic food co-ops and renewable resource industries could put C-ville at the cutting edge of future survival without the toxic environments that exist in urban areas.
- Please leave everything the way it is-love it now and don't want any changes.
- Keep it small, well-painted and beautiful, safe for anyone to walk or go trick or treating, it's precious the way it is.
- The reason for living here is the absence of houses on top of each other. The only way to stop them from being on top of each other is make the frontage increased.
- New mayor to start, new town highway supervisor who can put his time into road care not personal business. The roads are never sanded, also let employees plow driveways with town trucks, and would like to see better care of cemeteries.
- Constableville is a historic town however Main St is an embarrassment, we could do a lot to improve street conditions and "spruce" it up.
- Work together with other towns/villages to keep cost down. Lobby state to impose higher penalties for snowmobile violations so laws have teeth and community can haul some control over operation.
- If snowmobiling is "here to stay" we need to make it pay for itself and we need to ensure property owners are protected from damage and spacious lawsuits. We should charge a fee of some sort-local registration or trail fee and require clubs to carry bonding to prevent lawsuits against property owners. We don't believe that snowmobiling is the savior of southern Lewis county but we're apparently the minority. If we keep promoting this, we need enforcement in place before 30-40,000 sleds hit our trails.
- The town should concentrate on aesthetically improving what it has. Mega farms are soiling the roads in an every widening area. New ways to handle this manure is imperative. There will be less area left as they need more and more land to dispose of their waste. Snowmobile and ATV noise are a problem all over town. Steps should be taken to prevent this by not allowing modifications to these vehicles that are used here. There should also be a fee to help cover damage to roads and litter.
- I suggest finding a lawyer that is to be more responsive to town matters and guidance. In a more prompt way.
- Work more with the people in the towns.

- I would like to believe the town has a future, but as of now, it does not look good. Too much big city influence showing up.
- Zoning to prevent trailers and commercial ventures in otherwise residential areas. Must be some restrictions to prevent abandoned trailers from disintegrating in place! Dumping on Powell Road should be addressed, old cars towed away, etc.
- I will be leaving this town is you don't get the snowmobiling problem under control.
- I would like to see job growth in the area; however I feel any new construction should be in hamlet areas as to not spoil the true rural area, which are a very positive, plus for the town.
- With a limited budget, I feel the town does a pretty good job especially in today's financial times.
- I see our land becoming a playground for endless track vehicles and our residents a slave to the \$ diverted from the much ballyhooed "Ripple Effect" created by this so called "Economic Boom."
- As far as possible, it should remain as it has always been.
- It looks good, needs more advertising about the village and their attractions.
- Ski recreation, fishing, hunting, lumber, etc. The town's people should have the final say because they live here.
- If a pay trail system is created, the landowner could be compensated. The wood from the state lands could be donated to the elderly and poor for heat.

Q-14: Additional comments

- I don't want to see trailers placed everywhere and anywhere. The smaller the lots the more chance of village center living instead of a rural life.
- Village wide garage sales for Lyons Falls. Town Festival.
- An important type of development would be multi-use not just one type of activity. Also logging, farming are the basic industry which should be encouraged along with tourism, motels, restaurants, parking for outdoor tourism activities.
- The historical buildings in the village of C-vile could lead to "The Lake Placid" of Tug Hill if the residents would work together to improve the village, look at Sackets Harbor for an example.
- Maine is losing its rural lifestyle and becoming urban especially along interstate routes. West Turin has the advantage of being a distance from urban areas and interstates. People are looking for rural and quiet places to recreate and spend money. Snowmobiles are a given. How about mountain bike races, canoe races, dogsled races, etc. to bring people in?
- I cannot comment too much as I live about 400 miles away.
- Village of Constableville; explore the possibilities (if not so done) of becoming a historic district, obtaining grants for refurbishing buildings some of the oldest in Lewis County.
- We have been proud owners of camp for 23 years and enjoy the rural atmosphere summer and winter.
- I think that like many New Hampshire and Vermont towns we have all to attract retirees, and younger people tired of cities. Our schools alone are a treat. Why not work at attracting year round quiet, intelligent folk rather than rowdies?
- I don't like our representatives making decisions to increase snowmobiling because the local bars and businesses like it. Try listening to the average taxpayer!
- A town hall would be a good idea; maybe if the town had a better meeting place, more town people may come to the meetings. Stop using the town barn for meetings, there is too much liability for the town.
- In the future, water will become more of an attraction to entice industries. We need to get this message out there. We have labor, which is not available in other parts of the country.
- Support conservation efforts and organizations such as Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust.
- The main culprit for this area would be people-to many people, with diverse opinions, self-serving motives, and the leveraging of people and land to get it. Big money, greed & lies would divide and conquer. Better to have a few who you know and trust, than be lost in a crowd of wandering fools.
- I am still waiting for land use permit I argued for 11-15-99.
- You should have much pride in your geography, natural beauty and rural flavor. Clean up the area. Grow carefully with attention to aesthetics and curb appeal. Promote good clean tourism with an emphasis on hiking, trout fishing, and fall splendor. Farm tours, environmental education, don't push anymore snowmobiling, that's all you will have.
- I think that zoning would be a priority. Nuisance businesses such as Barrows sled shop on High Market Rd., should not be allowed in a residential area. I am curious how that was allowed when he doesn't meet the minimum lot size requirement for the Forest District?

- The town and county let the DEC drive your biggest employers out of business, with hardly a whimper of protest, now DEC is doing its best to do the same to farmers and loggers. If the town doesn't become proactive in trying to save what you have left, you'll soon have nothing left to save.
- I think it is a great place to live and raise families. Being a deprived area as we are called is really not bad but a good thing.
- Perhaps the hotel people can cooperate and organize a golf journey for tourists-one round at each course, I'll be glad to help organize it.
- As a taxpayer I don't want to subsidize new business, bar rooms, snowmobilers or ATVers.
- You are doing a good job!
- Please discourage suburban sprawl from our town especially to limit the development of subdivisions and strip malls and other retail honky-tonk.
- My compliments to the road supervisor and his crew throughout the winter.
- My husband and I work in New York City, so we much appreciate West Turin, Constableville and Boonville, when we come up on weekends and holidays. Please keep the country roads beautiful.
- You people take too much for granted-people who own property here should be told when, and asked to vote on everything described herein-it is definitely not your privilege to decide what we can and cannot do with our properties. Okay?
- The snowmobile clubs should charge for riding trails, the county should set a fee and all trails should be off roads and streets. It cost the county more for the law enforcement than any money that stays in the county until there is some control, which costs a lot, we should not encourage tourism.
- Encourage homeowners to paint and fix-up and remove all junk in their yards.
- Getting the paper mill up and operating to get them to take over some of the tax load.
- I think the frontage requirement is way too much, also the set back, after all we pay taxes from the center of the road.
- To strict on building codes.
- Keep snowmobiles off roads.
- Thank you for sending out this survey.
- The only thing that will save this community economically is a push to encourage a forest product industry and agriculture. These are more than just "fair weather" boons.
- West Turin is a beautiful place that has many treasures. It would be a shame to see it polluted and damaged for money.
- Local shops, clothing, dry goods, ice cream shop, etc.
- None, dairy farms are being pushed out and all the old barns are falling down, help, get a grant to fix old barns and do not promote "recreation" it is the downfall to all that's beautiful.
- Catch and fine the litters, go thru garbage get names and punish. Leave out of sight garbage and litter alone in sight. Clamp down some maybe will help, don't be vigilante but firm and work with the parties involved.
- We love living here, for most of the people, atmosphere, but we need to start thinking of the people who aren't all for the snowmobiles. We also pay taxes, and they run over our trees and throw their garbage on our land. Get rid of the longhaired, perverted mayor, and get a new highway supervisor.
- It has been shared with me that grants are available for small towns like ours-let's look into this!
- The junkyard law needs to be enforced. Based on what I have seen in the community, I didn't think such a law existed.
- Clean air, good school, no garbage, and good roads, keep the rural atmosphere.
- I feel the landowner has lost a lot of right. Don't need any new restrictions.
- I would like to see the people able to live together, without big brother standing on their shoulders watching.
- All and any trash is a problem; I am not familiar with the junkyard law so am unable to comment.
- My father Irving Lothridge has passed away, the property on Smith Rd was willed to my brother, and me we are now the owners.
- You have a lot of snow winter sports, start small work together and slowly expand.
- Our three main resources are farmland, snow and woods. The farming economy sucks; the lumber industry has butchered off Tug Hill and moved off so it will be years before the land is useful for lumber, so all we have is snow.