



Yarmouth Community Visioning

Setting Our Course • Charting Our Future

Visioning Summary: Series #1
Presentation to the Planning Board

MARCH 17, 2021

Series #1 Activities

- Community Survey – 382 responses
November 2020 – January 15, 2021
- 3 Workshops – 82 participants
November 18, 2020
December 7, 2020
December 15, 2020
- Business Roundtable – 6 participants
January 27, 2021

What did we ask?



1. What are Yarmouth's strengths and assets?



2. What are Yarmouth's challenges?



3. What is your vision for Yarmouth?

Major Themes

History and Culture

Recreation

Natural Areas, Open Space, and Conservation

Social Networks

Affordability and Housing

Age-Friendly Community

Municipal

Location on the Cape

Land Development/Town Center

Economic Development

Technology/Broadband Access

Sustainability

Connectivity and Mobility

Public Health

Education

History and Culture



Strength

Historic sites and districts
Cultural Center of Cape Cod
Overall beauty and aesthetics



Challenge

Pressure of new development
and redevelopment



Vision

Continue preservation
Expand opportunities for
artists
Build cultural assets

Recreation



Strength

Diverse opportunities and facilities

Family-friendly activities



Challenge

Heavy usage

Overcrowding

Not a lot of spaces for multigenerational activities



Vision

Maintain existing facilities

Expand opportunities for all age groups to come together

Natural Areas, Open Space, and Conservation



Strength

Ocean, beaches, ponds, and rivers

Walking/hiking/biking trails

Protected natural features



Challenge

Pressure of new development and redevelopment

Maintenance of conservation areas



Vision

Continue conservation efforts for multiple benefits

Social Networks



Strength

Local celebrations and events

Quiet and safe neighborhoods

The people of Yarmouth



Challenge

Lack young people and young families

Lack of diversity in our community



Vision

Keep small town, Cape feel

Attract young people, young families, and more culturally diverse people

Promote inclusivity

Expand events for residents and tourists

Affordability and Housing



Strength

Current affordable housing efforts

Yarmouth affordable compared to other Cape towns



Challenge

Housing costs out of reach for young people, young families, seasonal workers, lower income households, seniors, veterans

Rising cost of living



Vision

More affordable housing options

Resources to help residents in need

Community effort to help neighbors

Age Friendly Community



Strength

Senior Center



Challenge

Accessibility of public facilities, sidewalks

Public health needs of seniors, including isolation and dementia

Lack of multigenerational activities and spaces



Vision

Support and investment in resources for seniors

Bring all ages together

Municipal



Strength

Police, Fire, DPW, Recreation,
Senior Center, Transfer
Station, Libraries

Communication between
Town Hall and residents

Response during COVID-19



Challenge

Maintenance of town
buildings and facilities

Upgrading Libraries

Wastewater management

Needed funds for
maintenance, upgrades, and
new facilities and
infrastructure



Vision

Fiscally responsible
government

Maintained public buildings
and infrastructure

New wastewater
management system

Location on Cape Cod



Strength

Mid Cape

Easy access to Nantucket
Sound and Cape Cod Bay

Easy access to Boston



Challenge



Vision



Land Development/Town Center



Strength

Balancing development with open space conservation



Challenge

Pressure of new development and redevelopment on natural resources

Lack of a town center

Lack of town identity

Route 28 is unattractive



Vision

Continue to balance development with conservation

Town Green or Center for community events, focal point

Vibrant business corridor

Economic Development



Strength

Local shops and restaurants
Family-friendly businesses



Challenge

Attract businesses not
focused on tourism
More year-round jobs,
shopping, dining
opportunities
Redevelopment of Rt 28



Vision

Thriving business corridor
Jobs that pay a livable wage
Municipal wastewater system
to support business growth
and environmental protection
Relationship/communication
between Town Hall and the
business community

Technology/Broadband Access



Strength

None mentioned



Challenge

Lack of reliable WIFI and
access to broadband

Amplified during COVID-19

No alternative to Comcast



Vision

Access to high-speed internet

Increase desirability of area
for remote workers

Amenities to attract and
retain businesses

Sustainability



Strength

Steps to be energy efficient
Participation in Green
Communities Program
Development of renewable
energy (solar)



Challenge

Stresses on drinking water
supply
Threats of climate change,
such as sea level rise, beach
erosion



Vision

Resiliency
Reducing carbon footprint as
a community
Conserving and protecting
drinking water supply

Connectivity and Mobility



Strength

Cape Cod Rail Trail and other trails throughout town



Challenge

Lack of sidewalks and bike paths/lanes make walking and biking unsafe

Growing need for ride programs for seniors

Limited bus service



Vision

Walkable and bikeable town
Safety improvements for all modes

Increase transit/bus service for all residents

Public Health



Strength

Support during COVID-19



Challenge

Growing need for social services for those struggling with substance abuse, homelessness



Vision

Improved access to social and mental health services for those most in need

Increased access to medical care either locally or providing transportation to reach regional centers

Education



Strength

Support of public schools



Challenge

Need for new facilities

More families are sending students to charter schools

Tensions between Yarmouth and Dennis



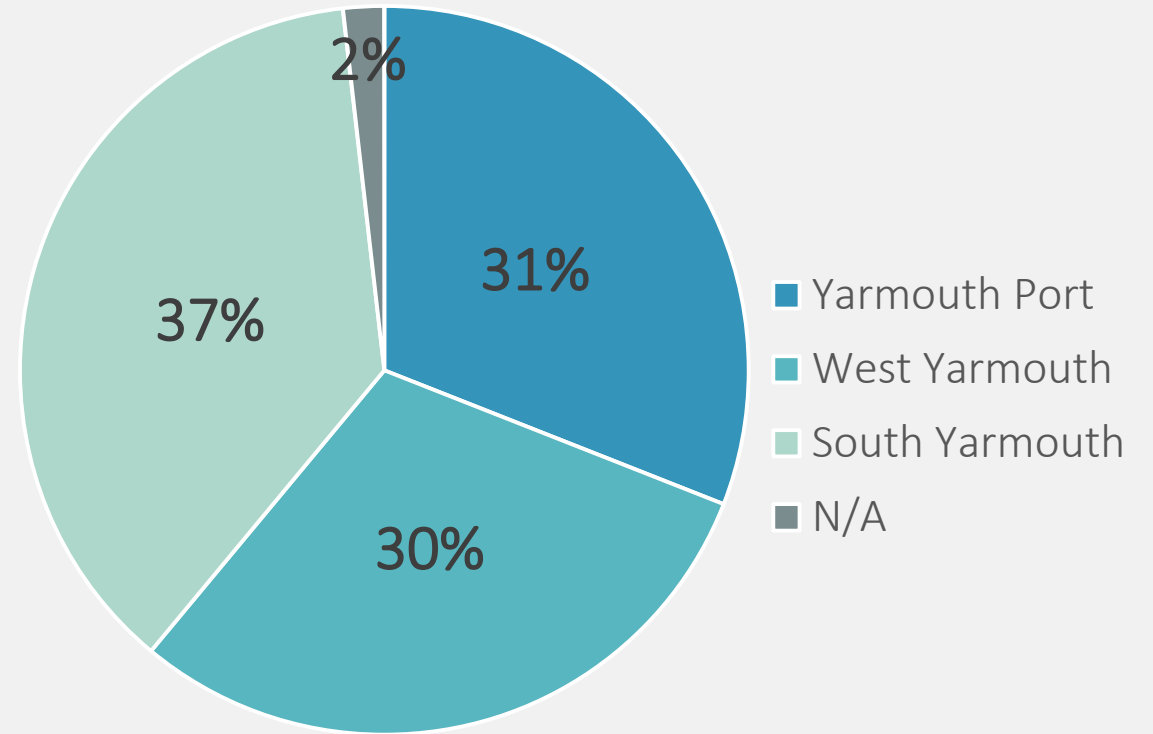
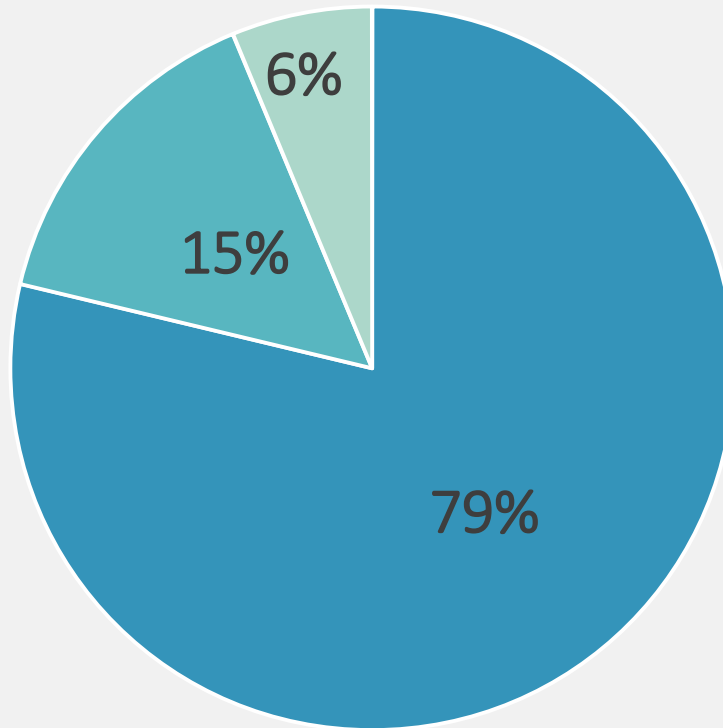
Vision

Investing in new buildings and technology for students

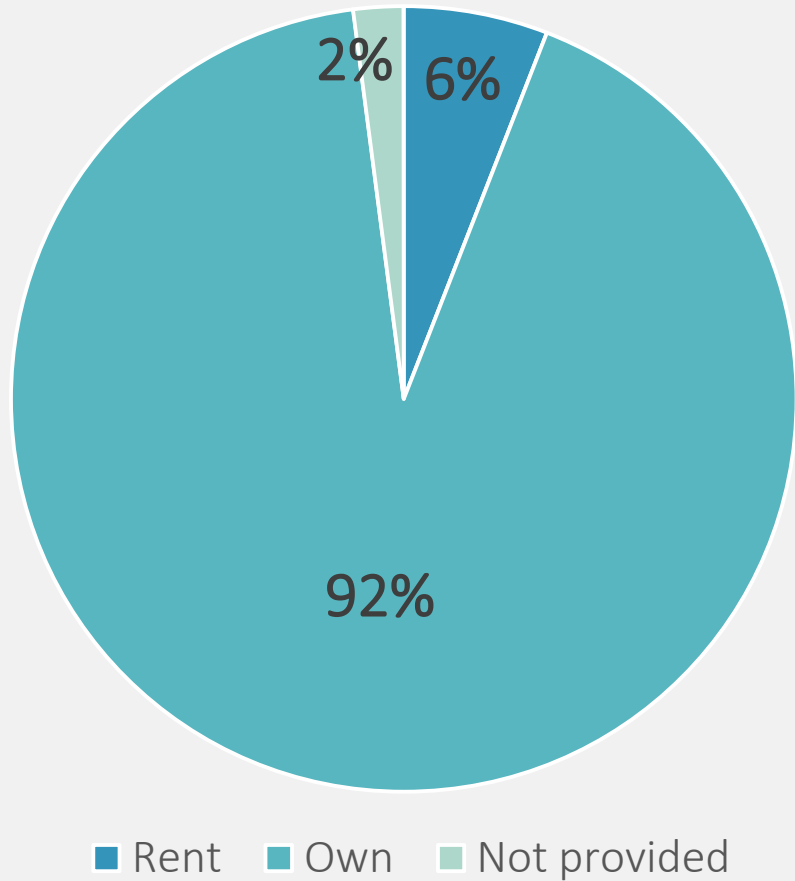
Opening opportunities for adult education and continued learning

Who participated?

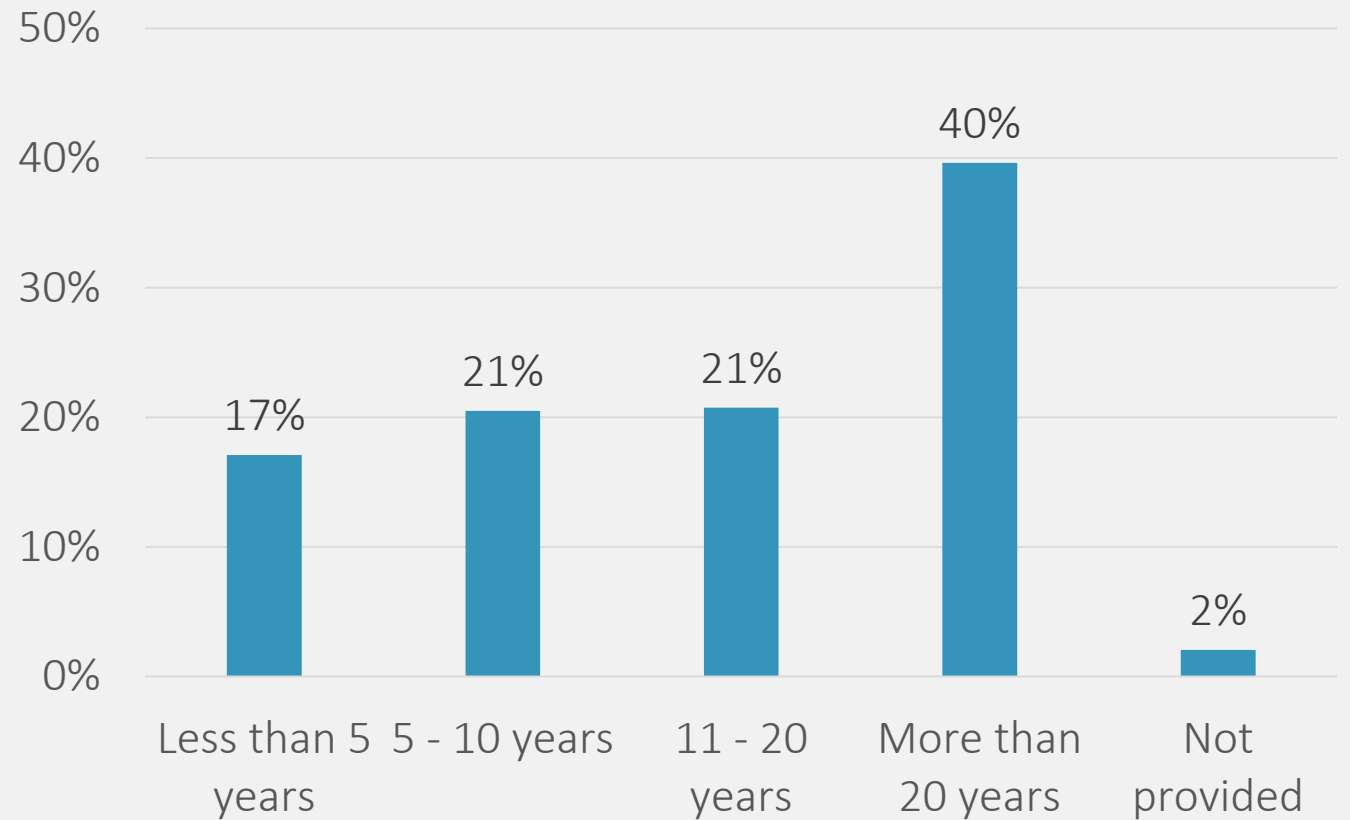
- I live full-time in Yarmouth
- I live part-time in Yarmouth (Yarmouth is not my permanent residency).
- I do not live in Yarmouth.



Who participated?



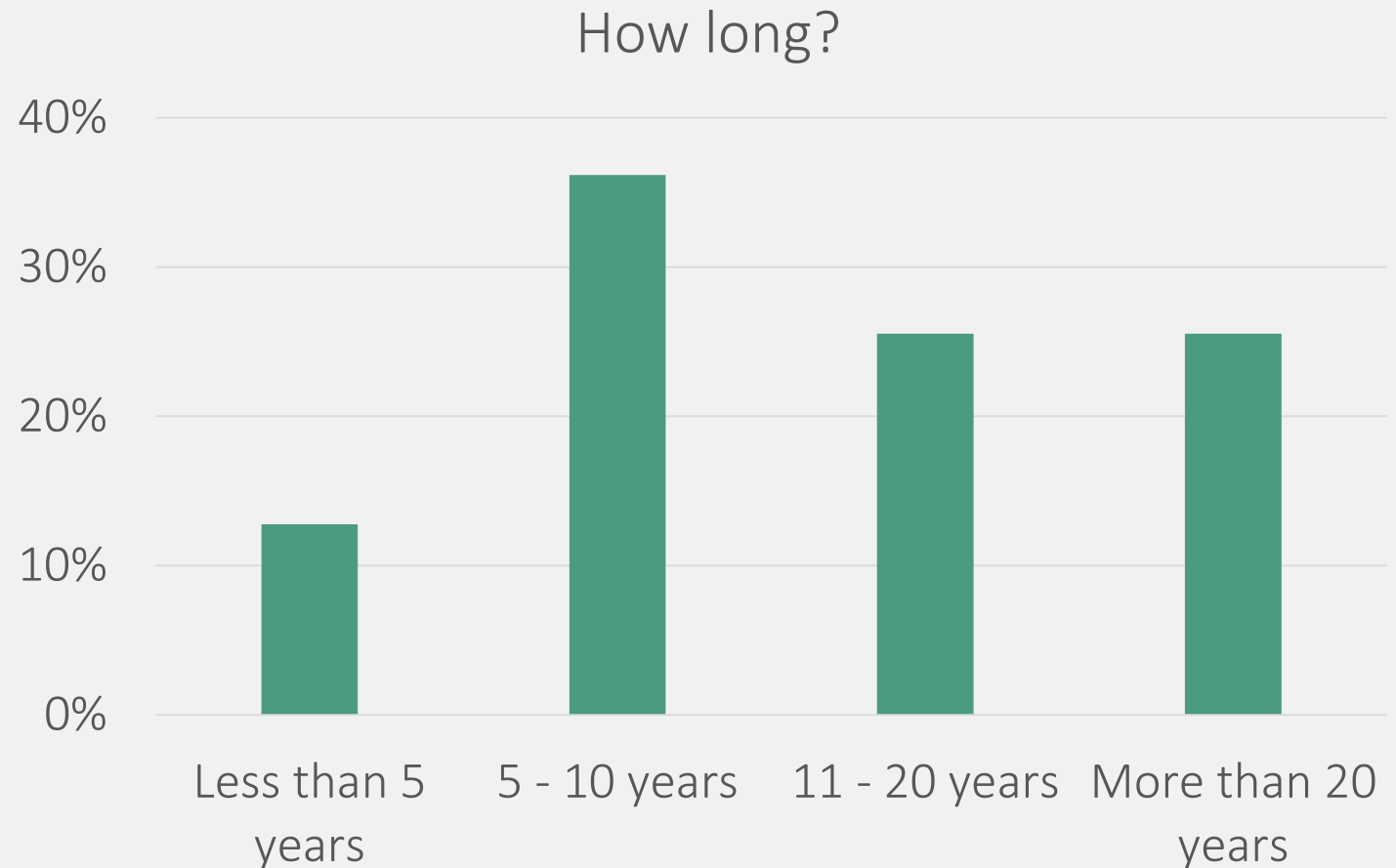
How long have you lived in Yarmouth?



Who participated?

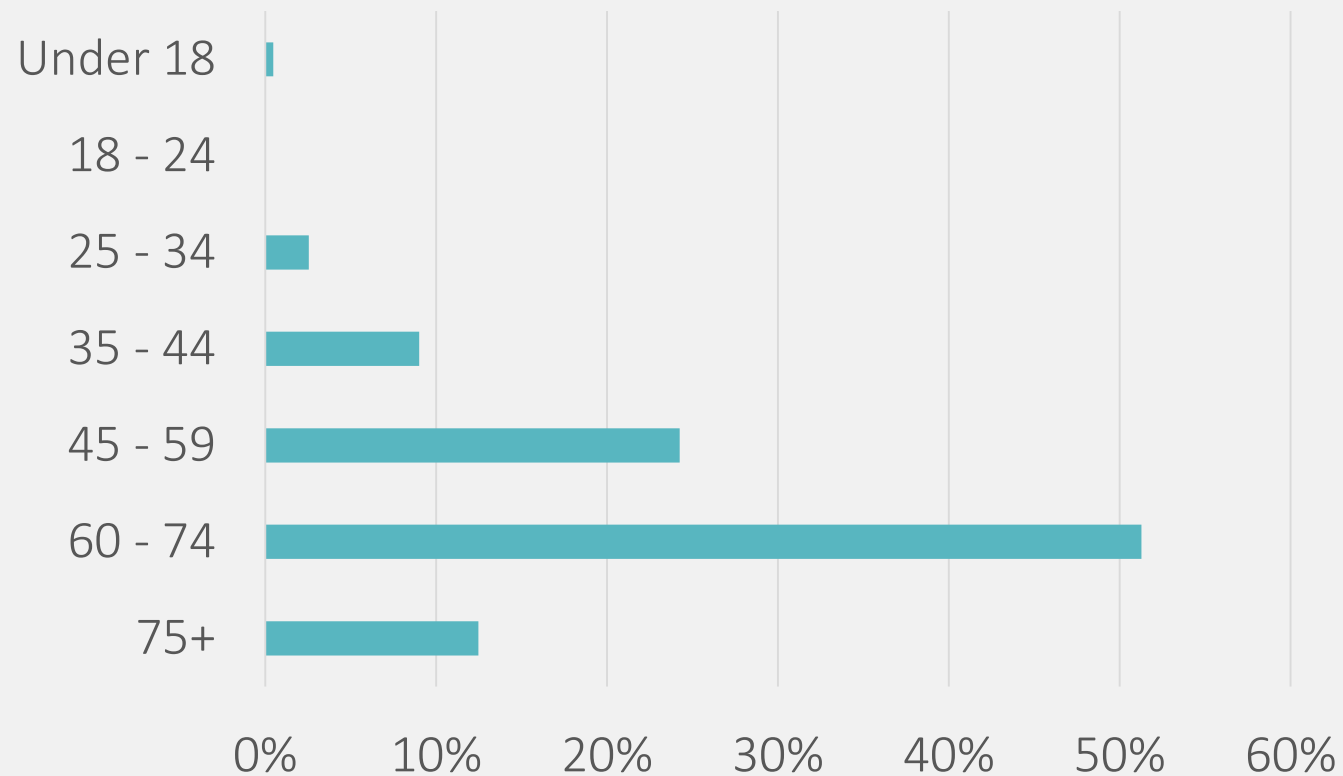
Do you own a business in Yarmouth?

Yes	10%
No	90%



Who participated?

How old are you?



Do you have children under 18 in your home?

Yes	17%
No	83%

Questions and Comments



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Thank you!

www.yarmouth.ma.us/1838/community-visioning