

## Creating a Community Profile in Londonderry

A stakeholder forum was held in June 2003 to gain input into the Master Plan update. The steering committee saw the need for the broader community to aid in developing the vision for Londonderry and began planning for a Community Profile, led by UNH Cooperative Extension. The group decided to title the Profile the Londonderry Best Towns Process to guide citizens in thinking about how Londonderry should move forward in the future.

The event was catered by Jerome's Catering with financial support provided by the Town of Londonderry.

### Best Towns Steering Committee

Tom Dolan, Reed Clark, Pollyann Winslow, Mark Cohen, Laurie Riedel, Madeline Heath-Demeule, Cindi Rice Conley, Andre Garron, David Caron, Tim Thompson, Joy O'Connor, Barbara Camm

To view the Londonderry Community Profile report in its entirety, visit the UNH Cooperative Extension website at <http://ceinfo.unh.edu> or at Londonderry's website at <http://www.londonderry.org>.



# Londonderry Best Towns Process

October 18, 2003  
Matthew Thornton School

The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer. UNH, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and New Hampshire counties cooperating.

**The event began by breaking out into small groups to focus on the strengths, challenges and future of the following in Londonderry:**

*Informed Citizen Participation and Community Leadership  
Housing and Growth & Development  
Lifelong Education & Learning and Fostering Healthy  
Families, Individuals and Youth  
Public Services, Facilities & Utilities and Transportation  
Natural Resources, Conservation and the Environment;  
Historic Preservation and Recreation  
Business and Industry*

**Participants were then asked to think about projects in the different theme areas that arose from the previous small group work. These themes were:**

*Infrastructure and Economic Development  
Balancing Preservation of Community Character with Growth  
and Development  
Citizen Participation  
Sense of Community*

**Finally, each participant received five adhesive dots to use to “vote” on the project in each theme they thought were important for Londonderry to work on right away. The list of project ideas follows in descending order:**

1. Places to gather – easily accessible places for passive recreation, parks, pathways, safe bike trails, skating rinks, multi-purpose uses and performing arts theatre. **(37 votes)**
2. Refine and expand current open space plan including incentives to preserve agricultural land (including artificial green space around the airport). Identify external funding. **(34 votes)**

3. Build sidewalks in high demand areas for non motorized transportation and assess other opportunities track. **(33 votes)**
4. Expanded/interactive/user friendly web site and community calendar. **(32 votes)**
5. Create parks and recreation/community enrichment department. Continuing Education/Lifelong Learning – academic and recreational work with surrounding towns. Create partnerships to make it happen and hire staff. **(31 votes)**
6. Develop a plan for appropriate commercial and industrial development which includes identifying areas for commercial/industry growth and promoting appropriate commercial and industrial development. **(25 votes)**
7. Develop a plan to preserve, maintain and expand historic districts and structures (to include town common). **(20 votes)**
8. Improve mobility of citizens that cannot drive, through creation of shuttle service. **(13 votes)**
9. New resident packet. **(13 votes)**
10. Volunteer incentives tax (soft + hard) currency, compensation, awards, coordinated by part-time paid staffing. **(13 votes)**
11. Encourage adaptive re-use of existing buildings. **(6 votes)**
12. Fund roadway management program. **(6 votes)**

**Action teams were formed as a result of the voting in each theme area. The groups will begin mapping out their goals and objectives at the facilitated follow-up meeting scheduled for November 19, 2003 at 7 pm.**