

Cotuit

STRENGTHS	
<i>Group Response</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finally started sewer program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friendly staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Representatives and Town Councilors
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parks and recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Department staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	Library
<input type="checkbox"/>	Waterways
<i>Individual Comment Box Responses</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Good financial position
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wonderful village
<input type="checkbox"/>	Variety of beaches

OPPORTUNITIES

Group Response

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Enhance parks and recreation specifically here in Cotuit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Desire for a new Fire Department building and an emergency shelter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Alternative septic systems can be coordinated, for the time being, in advance of sewer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Collaborate with adjacent towns, like Mashpee, for best practices related to sewer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The elementary school could be converted to a community center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Streets can be improved to be more bike friendly and improved for enhanced pedestrian safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Residential trash pickup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Review and consider updating current zoning to provide more opportunities for businesses |

Individual Comment Box Responses

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Start planning for preventing water pollution from happening...rather than trying to remediate pollution once it's affecting our water resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | To protect water now we need <u>sewers!</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ability to address weaknesses and threats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Develop more senior housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Draw and <u>keep</u> medical professionals |

WEAKNESSES

Group Response

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Traffic control and speed enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Absence of open space and recreational areas in Cotuit. Particular concern for lack of play areas for younger children was noted. And the fields at the school property are in very rough shape - especially given that they are the only readily available recreation area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Current condition of Pomponeset Bay and Cotuit Harbor. Efforts should be coordinate to restore and "bring back to life" |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Poor planning in the 1970s. During the 1970's neighborhoods were developed and coordinated with Town staff without infrastructure, drainage, or sidewalks and now we are paying for it. |

Individual Comment Box Responses

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|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Inadequate beach parking/poor enforcement of non-stickered cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Lack of traffic patrol and speed enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Beach cleanliness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Overdevelopment in sensitive natural areas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Diminution in health of habitat, ecosystems, waterbodies, and watersheds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Popponesett and Shoe String Bay DEAD and Cotuit Harbor dead, dead, dying |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Septic systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Housing for low/middle income |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Building Department |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Lack of affordable housing and professional blue and white collar employment |

CHALLENGES

Group Response

<input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinating common values that balance the Towns varied geography and economic development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Capturing the voice of summer residents
<input type="checkbox"/>	Communication. It can be challenging to ensure that all residents are informed and it is important to consider all opportunities to spread the word about current and future efforts.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water quality. Extremely poor and degrading condition of area waterways. This includes our fresh water aquifer and the sludge in Cotuit Harbor as well as the Marstons Mills River, Santuit River and Little River. Sewer is not expected for 20+ years. A west bound sewer plan should be developed immediately. We cannot wait 20 or so years for sewer. We need to act now. Innovative systems need to be considered; we have failed our septic systems. Additionally, connecting to sewer is expensive and funding opportunities for residents should be coordinated. The waters are a great asset and a major weakness is the absence of steps to take care of that great asset.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued growth of AirBnB rentals and desire for regulations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inadequate beach parking/poor enforcement of non-stickered cars
<input type="checkbox"/>	Desire for more funding and Town resources to be allocated to Cotuit. Cotuit does not seem to rank evenly with other villages.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Cotuit Elementary School should be protected in perpetuity and we should consider adding a playground
<input type="checkbox"/>	We have an aging population and we need to plan ahead for residents to be able to age in place
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seasonal fluctuation which impacts population, traffic and economic development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining our character. Cotuit needs a village design criteria to ensure that our character is preserved. There has been an invasion of traffic signs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traffic and speed of vehicles is a major concern, especially for families. Speed enforcement. Subsequently, if speeding is addressed we could limit the amount of traffic signs. Speed needs to be addressed both on land and on water.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of existing healthcare facilities and need to retain existing healthcare facilities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pressure to expand mooring field. Desire to review how moorings are passed down and consider establishing a limit on the number of moorings.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Need for mental health facilities that are accessible for all residents
<input type="checkbox"/>	Need to develop strategies for recruiting and retaining public services especially entry level positions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintenance of our private and public roads and coordination with future sewer development including the need to coordinate easements

<input type="checkbox"/>	Our waterways are both a strength and a weakness; they need to be protected
<input type="checkbox"/>	When goals are established, we need to promptly prioritize actions that are defined for immediate action. We need to ensure that performance measures are developed to keep track of progress in achieving goals.
<i>Individual Comment Box Responses</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued growth of AirBnB rentals with no parameters on minimum length of stay and no enforcement of noise/nuisance ordinance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of availability of healthcare providers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water pollution is increasing: nitrogen -phosphorus; contaminants of emerging concern; virus-pharmaceuticals; PFA's

What is your favorite place in Barnstable?	
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<i>Comment Wall #1 Responses</i>	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandy Neck Beach
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kalmus Beach
<input type="checkbox"/>	Craigville Beach
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prince's Cove
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shoestring Bay
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crocker's Neck
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dead Neck
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meadow Point
<input type="checkbox"/>	Loop Beach
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dead Neck
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cotuit Harbor

What is your favorite road to travel down?	
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<i>Comment Wall #2 Responses</i>	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	6A
<input type="checkbox"/>	149

General Comments

Individual Comment Box Responses

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The sewerage infrastructure project started 10 years too late. Now the bays and their estuaries are under pressure from accelerated eutrophication. Some bays like Shoestring Bay/Popponesset may not be able to sustain the estuaries due to nitrogen input from Title 5 septic. The plan for sewerage must be amended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eliminate all Title 5 permitting for new construction and replacement systems within nitrogen-sensitive areas ▪ Accelerate the sewerage infrastructure project to a 10-year timeline ▪ Approve more nitrogen-removal systems for septic <p>Without a serious change to the current approach, our waterways will be diminished leading to a falloff in tourism and real estate property values.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sewers and water quality can NOT WAIT!
<input type="checkbox"/>	Why does the town have so many private roads?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Desire a multi-use path for access from village center to Marstons Mills, Osterville and then Hyannis without vehicle traffic.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Get rid of 2 acres zoning. Allow easier construction of living quarters besides detached houses.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consider a sidewalk from 28 along Putnam into the center of the Village be considered? I know there was talk of it pre-Covid.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consider a remapping of the mooring field in Cotuit Bay. The moorings could be more efficiently placed if they were in rows or a grid and quite possibly more moorings could be made available.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Could an exception be made by Conservation in the summer months to allow for beach raking at Loop and Oregon to take the seaweed not just from the high tide mark but from the low tide mark also? The birds have plenty to eat over at Sampson's. The odor from the decaying seaweed is obnoxious and the bacteria levels which closed Loop for over a week this summer are hazardous to our residents.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Harbor Congestion: As an active CMYC sailor for near 60 years, I'm concerned about the future of sailing in the harbor. The good news is that Cotuit's iconic Skiff fleet is as healthy as ever. The bad news is we are quite constrained with where we can sail. The massively expanded mooring field (once two separate fields at Town Dock and Ropes) has cut off much of the area where we once raced. In 1994 the Waterways Committee and Harbormaster agreed to a boundary the mooring field but have pushed out that boundary in recent years. At the same time, the CMYC has agreed with the Cotuit Oyster Company to make their oyster cages out of bounds and thus the racing area is pinched down to a fairly narrow corridor. We do get out of the harbor some, but the parade of speeding motorboats on weekends renders the waters near the outside channel to choppy for small boat sailing. It will be hard to get those genie's back in the bottle but it's critical to the future of the 116 year old institution that any more shrinkage be curtailed and that the Waterways Commission ensure the mooring boundaries expand no further. Water Quality in the harbor is also a big issue, of course, but I don't have any particular inputs on that.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Common Space: Our beautiful little village is surprisingly short of common space for the citizenry. Memorial Park and the school are about it for open space. Thanks to the BLT, we do have some woods and trails but very little of that even in the heart of the Village. Where can kids go? In theory</p>

	they could play pick up soccer at the school, but the state of the turf is...well calling it turf is generous. It's probably a pipe dream to think that we might expand community space, but the shortage shines a light on the importance of renovating Memorial Park and maintaining and improving the open space at the school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traffic and Noise: These problems are certainly not unique to Cotuit and solutions aren't clear. I believe that the raised cross walks in the CIP queue combined with fairly recent Stop signs will help. Is there any way to reduce the speed limit? And residents of the Village remind us that it's not only Main St where traffic is dangerous. As you may know, I and the Civic Assn are also concerned about gas power leaf blowers in the Village. They are highly polluting and amazingly noisy. The Town and Councilors are not interested in following other towns in the Commonwealth in curbing their using during the summer months. It would be great if, at minimum, the DPW could set a good example and the Town study the issue.

What is one word to describe your ideal community?	
<i>Individual Comment Box Responses</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quiet
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connected
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calm
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inclusive
<input type="checkbox"/>	Involved
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open space to gather
<input type="checkbox"/>	Character

Share your ideas & stories	
<i>Individual Comment Box Responses</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	We need clean water - wells, town water, and in the ponds and sea