

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY FOR EASTPORT, ME

City of Eastport Public Opinion Survey

- in Preparation for September 29, 2003 Public Meeting
to Provide Input to Comprehensive Plan Update

Please come to a public meeting at the **Eastport Elementary School Cafeteria, September 29 5:30 PM,** hosted by the Eastport Comprehensive Plan Update Committee to provide your input to the 2003 update of the 1995 Comprehensive Plan. Refreshments will be provided.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee has already asked for input from the following organizations in the city: Historic Review Board, Eastport for Pride, Airport Advisory Commission, Port Authority, Library, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Harbor Committee, Recreation Board, School Union 104, Eastport School Board, Healthcenter, Senior Citizens Center, Eastport Memorial Nursing Home, WCTC, Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point, Cobscook Bay Resource Center, Board of Assessors.

We have received some good data and direction from many but there are some gaps and we are now drafting policies. This is the city's plan. The Committee needs guidance and direction from those who will be affected by the plan. We especially urge participation from municipal committees such as the Planning Board, Zoning Board, the Port Authority, harbor master, and service providers to Eastport citizens.

Several downtown surveys have provided opinions about downtown revitalization but the Comprehensive Plan is city-wide, and maximum citizen input is needed.

At the September 29th meeting in the Elementary school we will be asking many of the questions that are included in the survey below. We will have maps on the wall for people to visualize their answers and discuss the city's future.

We urge you to come to the meeting but would like your input in written form as well. One hundred of the following surveys will be sent randomly to homes within Eastport.

Please tear the survey out of the paper, or pick up a copy at City Hall and return the mailed or loose sheets to City Hall by September 24th, 2003.

Thank you for your time and valuable contribution to the future of Eastport.

Eastport Public Survey

Should the city promote road-side businesses on Route 190?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should we encourage tourism?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should we encourage the visitation of cruise ships to our downtown?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should we remove the fisherman's statue in downtown?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should the city actively pursue acquisition of municipal anchorages and mooring spaces?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

If yes, where?

Should the city reserve some moorings for use/lease by residents?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should the town obtain more public accesses to the shore?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

If yes, where?

What inhibits boats from using the moorings or harbor?

Should Eastport pursue designation of a Pine Tree Development Zone in Eastport?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Where should a Pine Tree Zone be located in Eastport?

What are our priorities for physical improvements and public investment?

Sidewalks High Priority No Change Low Priority No Opinion

Street lights High Priority No Change Low Priority No Opinion

Police protection High Priority No Change Low Priority No Opinion

Recreation facil. High Priority No Change Low Priority No Opinion

Public water system High Priority No Change Low Priority No Opinion

Other (please comment and assign priority): _____

Should the city financially support the library?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should the city seek funds to replace old deteriorated water piping throughout the city?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should the city municipalize the water system?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Do we still want ferry service to Lubec?"

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Do we still want ferry service to Grand Manan?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should a new bridge to the island be pursued?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should there be a regional high school?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Where should it be?

How soon should it be constructed?

The value of land (assessment) in Eastport since 1995 has doubled in many zoning categories.

How important is affordable housing to retaining employees in town?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

How important are wages to keeping people (residents) in Eastport?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

Should more of the land now zoned for industrial be changed to allow for residential use?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

Should areas currently zoned RR- 1 (1 acre lots) be rezoned to R-2 (4 house lots/ acre)?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

How important is port development?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

How important is it to work with towns and regional groups in the area to obtain better access to Route 9 and the Interstate system?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

In 1995 a long range policy was to work to have rail service restored to Ayers Junction, and to establish a marshaling yard and warehousing. Is this still important for Eastport?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

In 1995 a long term policy was to keep in mind the potential for tidal energy generation as new environment-friendly techniques are developed. Is this still important for Eastport?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

In 1995 Eastport agreed to support development and expansion of all aspects of aquaculture including diversification of species (not limited to fin fish but including seaweeds and shellfish culture. Is this still important for Eastport?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

In 1995 Eastport recognized diverse interests to whom marine resources are of critical importance including traditional fishermen, aquaculturists, shipping interests, recreational boaters, and those who just love the view. The stated policy was to work to resolve or avoid conflicts among these interests. How important is this issue now?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

Development is occurring within the Boyden Lake watershed – Eastport’s water supply. There are minimal restrictions on camps and some lake uses. How important is it for Eastport to be involved in regional decision making in the Boyden Lake watershed?

Very Important Important No Opinion Somewhat Important Not Important

Should Eastport and the Passamaquoddy Water District explore use of aquifers in Pembroke as alternative sources of drinking water?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

In 1995 Eastport policy was to consider assessing impact fees to new developers. The recent Downtown Revitalization Plan recommends a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) downtown. Do you agree with this shift in policy?

Strongly Agree Agree No Opinion Disagree Strongly Disagree

What are the things about the City of Eastport that you like and would preserve?

What are the things about the City of Eastport that you would like to see changed?

Describe how you see the City of Eastport of the future.

Real estate pressures are rapidly coming up the coast – how should Eastport prepare itself?

What other important questions have not been addressed?

Eastport for Pride
Common Ground Survey
A Community's Vision of Downtown

The Interview: Over 100 members of the community were interviewed and asked to describe their vision of a perfect downtown. The Poll: Using this data, more members of the community will have their turn. Please indicate your opinion on the visions of our downtown listed below. Mark Y for agreement, N for disagreement, or leave blank if you have no opinion.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>General Visions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buildings restored to historic look Buildings occupied, stores open A thriving downtown area Busy, happy, prideful people More businesses providing jobs Buildings well maintained Year-round stores A mix of residents and tourists An all inclusive mix of residents More of a tourist town Ferry to Lubec /Islands <p>City Streets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved street surfaces Improved street lighting Underground wiring Period lighting fixtures New sidewalks, low curb | <p>New Stores/ Shops and Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing- shoes, bottoms, tops for all General store- full product/price range Upscale gift and boutiques Grocery and produce Upscale food Bakery Book Upscale Arts and Crafts High-end Antique Office supply, stationary, greeting cards Health/ senior services Barber/ drycleaner/ tailor <p>More of Same Type Stores</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ice cream/ soda/ coffee/ snack/ candy Art Gallery- affordable Art Gallery- Native American Antique |
|--|---|

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Uniform business signs and flags Storefront awnings Creative, illuminated window displays Well painted, repainted store fronts Brighter, period colors on store fronts Street furniture- benches, etc.</p> <p>Public Facilities Small park areas with benches, greenery Info. center/ public toilet facilities</p> <p>Traffic Control Use of one-way streets More parking behind buildings Parallel vs. diagonal parking No parking Shuttle bus from remote parking lot</p> <p>Waterfront Expanded marina with marine services Small park areas with water views Cruise ships and facilities Increased working waterfront</p> <p>Walkways and Trails Expand and beautify water walks Provide historic site information</p> <p>History of Island More historic tours Recreation of early works More marked historic sites</p> | <p>Arts and crafts Professional offices More B&B's</p> <p>Restaurants Other specialty foods Gourmet fare More ambiance Extended hours</p> <p>Entertainment Bowling alley Movie theater/ theater Skating rink Playground/ athletic facilities</p> <p>Government More policing More cooperation/ interest in downtown Zoning to support revitalization More public services- cleaning, snow</p> <p>Community Activities Create teen center-arcade/dancing Scouting/ Big-brother/sister More community clean-up, fix-up, plant More youth/ senior recreation</p> |
|--|---|

Written Comments on Surveys

The full transcript of written comments provided by the 81 respondents to the survey are reproduced here. As noted in Chapter L City Survey Results summaries of the written comments are provided with the charted data and throughout the document as the issues they address are raised.

Comments to specific questions within the Survey and additional comments found on submitted surveys:

**Should the city actively pursue acquisition of municipal anchorages and mooring spaces?
If yes, where?**

Wherever applicable re: tides/currents etc.
Near the present moorings downtown.
In places of safety and access.
Off of Sea Street-to north of breakwater.
Breakwater.
Anywhere possible.

On the water.
Unsure.
Broad Cove, Deep Cove, all coves!
Near breakwater.
Would prefer to see private enterprise.
Boat School? Breakwater? New location?

Wherever there is an abandoned/dilapidated building, there must be deep water access.
 For professionals to decide (i.e.-What does Bar Harbor, Rockport do?)
 Learn from others and their mistakes. Also, there must be a balance for the haves and have not boat owners.
 Broad Cove.
 Adjacent to breakwater, fish pier, ferry landing.
 Near-off breakwater.
 Off Boat School ramp.

On the water!
 Everywhere available.
 Breakwater.
 Broad Cove and Deep Cover along Water Street.
 To the north and south of the breakwater.
 Wherever possible.
 Broad Cove. Deep Cove.
 Nearby to the area of the downtown piers that are there already.

**Should the town obtain more public accesses to the shore?
 If yes, where?**

Close to Shackford Head.
 Near Shackford Head.
 Public viewing of "Old Sow".
 Dog Island area—acquire property and build a park.
 Former "tire burning area" right above/near Dog Island.
 Prince Cove, Deep Cove.
 Overlook for "Old Sow".
 Everywhere.
 North end.
 Availability would probably determine that.
 Dog Island or anywhere feasible.
 Dog Island. Kendall Head areas. Quoddy Village area.
 Dog Island.
 Wherever available.
 Boat School? Breakwater? New location?
 Any remaining.
 Broad Cove. Deep Cove.
 The beach areas-Dog Island, cannery, Wass's factory, Boat School, Shackford Head, beaches.
 Where available.

Wherever suitable property for access is available.
 The big question is how and where.
 Steps should be installed from the Shackford Head parking lot to beach.
 Sea Street. Dog Island. Custom St.
 Where there are usable beaches.
 For professionals to decide.
 There need to be several places where people can relax and enjoy the water view, not to launch a boat!!
 Dog Island—Sand Beach at South End.
 Any where possible.
 Any place that has parking, clean, usable for picnics, etc.
 Ends of streets that come to water.
 Downtown and various bays on the island.
 Dog Island. Clark St. Caper Ave. Sea St. Between Battery and Customs St.
 Where feasible.
 If there is a space or spaces available-then yes.

What inhibits boats from using the moorings or harbor?

Possibly price?
 None known.
 Cost!
 Don't know. Maybe fog and cold discourage yachts user?
 Not a large enough marina.
 Don't know what you have.
 Tides, no fuel, no facilities.
 It is not appealing. Few consumer facilities nearby. A dumpster is right by the dock!
 Availability (space).
 Need more moorings and boat slips, also signage.
 Lack of space and cost of tie-up.
 ?
 Access. Lack of signage. Lack of promotion.
 Tides. Downtown toilets and showers.
 No public facilities and nothing to do here.
 Easy access to parking and dinghy trailering.
 Not enough of them and gear conflicts.
 Too few moorings. Minimal service available.
 Access from land. Cost. Punt location.

Not enough space. Possibly vandalism.
 ?? no space ??
 No public facilities. Nothing to do.
 A lack of electrical and water supply hook ups.
 Too cheap to pay the fee!
 They have no way of knowing that they exist or that they are welcome.
 Don't know
 Weather. Currents. Fog.
 Possible fees?
 Nothing.
 Safe, convenient moorings and services.
 Over crowding.
 Prices too high.
 I don't know.
 High tide. Winds.
 You can't get one.
 No idea.

Where should a Pine Tree Zone be located in Eastport?

Pine Tree Development ?
 What is it?

Quoddy Village.
 What is Pine Tree Zone?

| | |
|--|--|
| Don't know. | N/A |
| ?? What is it?? | (What is it?) |
| On Rt. 190. | Don't know about this issue, so don't feel I can comment. |
| Wherever it is practical. | ? How much space is needed and where is the land? |
| ? | I don't know what this means. |
| What is it? | What are you talking about? |
| All downtown (business area/block up from Water. St.). | Wherever there is room. |
| Rt. 190. | Agree-although I need more information on what this entails. |
| What is this? | What is a Pine Tree Development Zone? |

Should there be a regional high school? Where should it be? How soon should it be constructed?

| | |
|---|---|
| Which ever present structure is the safest/largest, etc.--ASAP | Use Shead High School. |
| Eastport. | Never. |
| Need more information. | ? |
| Pembroke.—very soon. | Pembroke/Dennysville-ASAP |
| Perry.Now | Rt. 1 Perry area-3-5 years. |
| Perry-ASAP | Perry- Rt. 1 or expand Shead-2005-2006. |
| Perry - 2005 | Eastport! –use Shead. |
| The current high school is like many elementary schools in other areas of the nation. Providing less opportunities at such a small size.- ASAP | N/A-never. |
| Central to all towns.-ASAP | Calais-immediately. |
| Meddybemps.-soon. | Immediately. |
| Use the one we have. | Charlotte area, Round Pond-whenver is practical. |
| In the most economical location.-ASAP or <u>add</u> to an existing <u>centrally</u> located school. | Perry-within 5 years. |
| In partnership, near by WCCC. Give the kids at least a local vision of future careers. Turn Shead into a major recreational facility and art and community rooms.-5-7years. | Eastport-ASAP using Shead building. |
| Do not know what is available. A Committee should be appointed. | ?-as soon as possible |
| N/A | Eastport. |
| Eastport-soon. | Shortest distance to all schools in area. Possibly Perry-within 5-10 years. |
| Location and timing based on regional planning. | Charlotte.-ASAP |
| Centrally located. | Centralized Meddybemps. -immediately. |
| Eastport-bring families in-help lower taxes. Old Shead had to go, tear this one down!-now. | Centrally located.-as soon as possible. |
| Along US 1 in Perry.-3-5 years. | ?-soon. |
| | Calais/Machias>NOW! |
| | Central location? |
| | Calais? -NOW! |
| | Based on distance and numbers of students. |

What are our priorities for physical improvements and public investment? Other (please comment and assign priority):

| | |
|--|--|
| All are important but need to prioritize. Youth need a sense of future where they fit in. Water and youth most important. Too many street lights obliterate the stars. | Directional signage along US 1 and Rts 190 |
| Efforts to promote curb appeal throughout the city .ie <u>clean it up!!!</u> | Marina and public restrooms high priority. |
| Fix pipes before streets and sidewalks. | Plan and execute paving all city streets (high) . Get in on volume purchase with others. |
| Must have shops by pulling in an “anchor” store that’s useful year round. | SIDEWALKS-Use granite curbing only-cement and asphalt get chopped up by snow plows and trucks. Replace along waterfront. |
| Up keep is always important. Add road to the airport. | STREETLIGHTS-Replace along waterfront and walkway. POLICE PROTECTION-New training in enforcing city and state laws. |
| Drinkable tap water! (high priority) | PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM-Need larger for community use. |
| Curb cuts on corners. | Drinkable water high priority. |
| More civic spaces downtown. | Downtown and waterfront revitalization. |
| Get the weeds out of the gutters. | Need public restrooms. |
| Swim pool for all like Calais Motor Inn. Physical, arthritic pain, E.H. care patients. | Facility for youth. |

Final five open-ended questions:

What are the things about the City of Eastport that you would like to preserve?

- Busy summer seasons and mellow fall, winter and spring seasons.
- Its total beauty. Its feel of community and family. You don't have to be related to someone to feel like family.
- Minimal tax for any retail. Water ST. revitalized.
- The old Quoddy building (Grossman's). This building and land has a lot of potential. It could be used as an old folk home, low income efficiency or a community rec hall or museum to history of Quoddy Dam project and the Stand Tower as a lookout over Cobscook Bay and Passamaquoddy Bay.
- The downtown.
- That which makes Eastport a place that people wish to come.
- Historical landmark and preservation of old architecture. View of harbor. NO fast food chains-chains of any kind.
- The natural beauty
- Small town atmosphere. Single homes or no more than duplex. Beauty-serenity.
- Quiet nature. Reserved atmosphere.
- Waterfront. Historic buildings. Small city flavor.
- Blend of working waterfront and visitor attractions. Amenities. Quiet. Dark.. Fresh air. Views. History.
- As much as we can preserve of this old town.
- Fisherman's statue.
- Air quality. Low crime. Friendly. Helpful. A real community. Old buildings. Quiet streets. Access to nature. Sense of history. Sense of integrity and humanity.
- Fishing. The arts. Sense of community. The old buildings. AIR QUALITY!
- Small town atmosphere. Easy and laid back way of life. Quiet, peaceful and friendly.
- Some of the charm although much is missing.
- Beauty. Small town feeling.
- Architecture and way of life.
- Nothing.
- Working waterfront, artist community, affordable housing.
- Small hometown community. Not over developed. Active business district.
- The feeling of home, slow living, lack of traffic, the beauty of a fishing community.
- Small population, low traffic, access to the water.
- The beauty of our bay and water.
- Preserve the friendly, small town atmosphere. Some of the old buildings but NOT all of them!
- Working port. Small community. Coast guard to keep us safe. Fishing and boat community.
- The architectural integrity. Its art and culture. Its mixture of people, working people, retired people from here and away, artists, entrepreneur. Its history.
- Access to shore, piers, paths. Police on foot. Views. Access-access-access.
- Historical and architectural heritage.
- Natural beauty. Original buildings downtown (good job)
- Keep city pretty much as is but update bay(sic) ordinances (sic).
- Fisherman statue.
- Downtown. The waterfront. City building (great job). Looking for more work opportunities such as small businesses such as are in the mill.
- Eastport is my home. I love it. The homes ad businesses are being fixed up and preserved. If we could just get more stores open. Things for the young people.
- Slow pace of living.
- Breakwater. Store fronts. Harbor.
- To continue to walk the streets without fear of this or that or whom. The downtown quality to come together for each other and a community.
- The easy uninhibited way of life and dealing with neighbors-personally, not through lawyers, if there is a problem.
- God knows there's enough boards to figure that out. Not important to me.
- Historical merit of the downtown. Open spaces. Shore access.
- Low traffic. No high-rises. No strip malls. No fast food.
- Historical character. Access to the water. Its culture.
- Its architecture and the lifestyle it represents. The overall goodwill of its citizens.
- Natural beauty. Historic buildings. Keep things "the way Maine should be". Don't allow ugly minimalls or fast food restaurants. Keep tasteful architecture design.
- Its beauty. Peacefulness. Not overpopulated.
- Historic buildings.
- Historic and charming character of the downtown.
- The architecture and down town.
- Scenic views. Small town ambience. Small shops on Water Street.
- My life is here. Leave buildings repaired and homes not torn down. Have destroyed too much.
- Whether or not you like the fisherman statue is not an issue. It has become a tourist attraction. It needs to be fixed to become a permanent attraction.
- Downtown architecture. Water based culture. Safe and friendly.
- Small town charm. View.
- Quality of life. Beautiful harbor. Old homes and buildings. No stop lights.
- Its old timers. They are the heart of Eastport. Listen to them. Sort if out, develop the best strategy, initiate ad communicate a plan. Then finish it (measure targets ad objectives). Don't get side tracked with BS
- Clean air, scenery, friendly people, cultural amenities, ships, fishing boats, attitude of helpfulness and care for neighbors.
- People. Neighborhoods. History. Adequate public open space.
- Its small town way of life. Historical buildings and homes should be preserved along with their history.
- Library grounds and bandstand. Breakwater.

What are the things about the City of Eastport that you would like to see changed?

- Glad to see changes in the past year or so in the downtown. Fill up business spaces.
- Its police department needs to be a police department. There is too much vandalism and if Eastport grows, crime will be rampant.
- Make vacant lot owner's maintain lots of homes (mow vacant lots)
- A new city manager, one who isn't just for himself and his good old boys. The new pier at Estes Head Inner Basin could house hundreds of vessels since the Inner Basin never ties ships there.
- More jobs.
- Young people taking over Water St and other areas.
- Would like to see vacant brick buildings on Water St in downtown commercial area used.
- New business development. More employment with better pay and benefits for the local people.
- Fill up storefronts on Water St. maintain sidewalks on Water St. and all presently paved streets.
- Increase in employment. Good jobs. More effort to attract "good" businesses.
- Less vandalism. More flowers, landscape. Attractive city to visit and live.
- Inability to work easily together. Release of negative attitudes. Support for one another.
- I would like to see a change in the public attitude against the workers of town hall and workers altogether.
- More open mind democratic city government.
- City government more open, less cliques. No diesel engines downtown.
- Occupation of downtown stores and opportunities. Movie theater maybe.
- Curb appeal. Trash removed from public view i.e. junk cars. This looks like a depressed area.
- Abandoned properties.
- Work together. Information shopping(sic). Fair pay and production for a fair day's work. Labor costs add up, when people are too laid back—"time is money".
- Nothing.
- Condemn unsafe buildings, tear them down. Remove junk cars.
- Stricter code enforcement on dilapidated property. Less focus on port authority and harbor committee.
- Employment opportunities (improved).
- Local bus service. I feel that the downtown should cater more to the local people. City owned or acquired property should be used for local organizations.
- I like it the way it is.
- Work here for the people trying to stay and raise a family.
- Property values, wages and revenues to increase, more and better jobs. A major clean-up campaign. People taking more pride in their homes and property.
- More things to do.
- Lack of focused co-operation between groups.
- More industries/ jobs.
- More jobs. Better pay. Small movie theater. Bowling alley (teens need this).
- Change Salmon Festival name to Eastport (Island City) Festival. Needs viable year round business—Reny's i.e.
- ATV's on people's property—none within city limits. Change ordinances against junk cars, trash. Employment kept within city codes.
- Public investment in infrastructure and downtown/ waterfront.
- More school age young people having more to do in town. Get them involved in some of the things that are happening around town. Our waterfront is our most popular resource, make it look that way!
- More employment (like a teleservice center). Shoe store. Clothing stores. Household supplies store.
- Bids should be solicited for any and all work (electrical, carpentry, plumbing, etc.)
- Remove city manager. Vote for a mayor and vote for police chief.
- Remove city manager. Replace with a mayor who is voted in.
- More businesses. Increased ship activity at old pier. Increased shipping.
- For us to come closer together to work together for the betterment of the community overall—in that, an improved and better Eastport will come.
- (Nothing) people come here for the beauty and relaxed way of life. Keep it that way,
- Changes are going on and more will in the future.
- A structured approach to public facility maintenance. More recreation coordination between providers.
- More police presence to preserve downtown.
- Better economic conditions for the people.
- Like it fine as it is.
- Downtown revitalized. Learn environmental ways to deal with red ants or have Red Ant Festival.
- Local businesses should be provided more city assistance. Fewer and lower taxes, special financial encouragement.
- No opinion.
- Upgrading of buildings and infrastructure.
- New city government.
- Using St. Stephen, St. Andrews and Bar Harbor models, rejuvenate the shops and port.
- None
- More employment for local people without adopting policies that panders to tourism.
- Lack of pro-business and tourism attitude.
- More effective leadership. Recycle program.
- New city management.
- Get out of real estate business. Be pro-active, not reactive. Lead, follow or get out of the way!
- More decent jobs for residents, even if they must commute to them. Development of the port to bring trade and other cargos besides wood pulp.
- Stronger enforcement of existing laws (ordinances) with fines if repeated violations (use common sense. If change in laws is needed). Enforce existing.
- People should take pride in their community and do a little work in their yards—CLEAN UP the junk
- A better school system.
- Downtown needs a face-lift. A change in attitude amongst some local residents towards newcomers and new ideas.
- Remove snow from narrow streets.

Describe how you see the City of Eastport of the future.

- Healthy mix of small business with city buildings and property looking well kept.
- I would love to see Eastport similar to St. Andrews, N.B. NOT Bar Harbor.
- Small Bar Harbor.
- If the city does not start helping and listening to its people and their ideas, I see no future here. We need cruise ships and something for those people to do when they get here. We need the stores downtown opened up.
- More of a city where the port interest and fisherman can co-exist. Also, cruise ships and tourists.
- Bustling shops on Water St., a variety of shops, restaurants and galleries. More activity on water. Schooner, kayaks (sic) etc. more festivals.
- Eventually, a retirement community unless progress is made in attracting new industry.
- A healthy Water St. district. A high school which prepares each student to their potential.
- Dynamic, but retain the unique qualities present in the community.
- Artistic waterfront community with positive growth.
- A clean, quiet entrepreneurial (sic) and alots(sic) based community with strong, dineuse (sic) fishing, engaged youth, healthy residents.
- Hopefully things will stay some what the same but a little change here and there would be nice.
- Retirement home.
- Hopefully much as now but with increased prosperity. A viable downtown and the heritage of fine old buildings preserved. A real place still affordable to a wide range of people.
- Hopefully as much like the present as possible. Extend public pathways all along the shore (as in parts of Europe). Hopefully fish will remain a mainstay of the economy.
- Finished roads and sidewalks. Maybe a bus service to and from Perry corner.
- A small town with charm and more self sufficiency where all enjoy a better standard of living.
- Either revitalized through cooperative hard work or a ghost town.
- Better.
- More visitors for eco-tourism and the arts but not another Bar Harbor
- No change in population with more mob opportunities. Less vandalism modern buildings
- More business friendly.
- When the local people lose interest because of all the high faluting (sic) changes. I see devastation of our quaint community.
- More land value on the shore. More summer homes for commuters.
- Families moving away to find work. Houses falling apart.
- Steady moderate growth of tourism with a mix of seasonal and full time residents.
- Thriving port town. Good safe clean waterways. Warm and safe community with opportunity to grow.
- Thriving waterfront and downtown. Water related industries, i.e. aquaculture and commercial shipping, thriving. An arts and cultural mecca.
- More ships in port (for export/import) viable downtown business that local people use regularly. Water taxis, tall ships, a fish and chip stand at the pier, a bakery.
- We see the community developing in the arts, theater. Quality entertainment. Tourism. Retirement with a continued focus and support on the children.
- A community which offers jobs and opportunities to all ages.
- Opportunities to keep people here. Not another Bar Harbor but our small town with beauty and self-sufficient.
- A great tourist town (big money). Ships. Has an activity building with indoor swimming pool for use year round for town's people and tourists.
- Resort community.
- As a retirement community with a good tourist business. Also try to keep our traditional businesses i.e. fishing, aquaculture, scalloping, clamming. More small businesses with jobs.
- Busy, but not too much change as far as people helping one another and caring.
- I see people from outside running our city. Perhaps it's a good idea to have a fresh view of problems that arise.
- In all reality, I do not see a whole of industry to keep graduates in the area. However, I hope to be proved wrong.
- Possibly more businesses and employment. Keep young people from leaving town.
- At the turn of the century, Eastport had 5,000 or more population. We lost them as the old factories went down so did the population.
- A city with more self-sufficiency, created by planned strategies toward an enlarged market for goods and services.
- A destination for the discerning tourist who want a quiet vacation with natural beauty.
- More tourist centered, summer residents. Some small light industry.
- Crystal balls are notoriously cloudy.
- More jobs due to tourism, environmental, nature, art themes.
- Population growth and increasing tourism eventually driving natives and long time residents away by higher costs of living.
- Bar Harbor 2, unless we are careful.
- Our future is obviously in tourism and as a retirement and leisure community.
- Primarily a tourist and retirement area.
- Along same lines as Bar Harbor and St. Andrews.
- Tourism.
- More boats. More shops.
- More tourism and more local business year round. A good blend.
- Unique tourist town.
- With leadership, measured progress, less input-more results. Defined credentials of those involved with taxpayer dollars.
- This will depend a lot on what happens in the rest of the United States.
- Good growth-not too fast. More young families. Renewal of retail businesses. Moving of home businesses to downtown.
- A place where families can live and enjoy being an Eastporter.

Real estate pressures are rapidly coming up the coast—how should Eastport prepare itself?

- State has to keep tax valuation in pace with inflation and increase tax when property changes hands.
- I'm not sure but DO NOT allow anything to happen that would force the people who have lived here forever, out .
- Make sure we have sufficient water, power and sewage for potential development.
- Start making money off of Federal Marine. The city should be making money off the storage of paper pulp and docking fees from the ships that enter port.
- Restrictions to keep downtown with its flavor of artistic blend and water interests.
- Increasing real estate values are everywhere. Due to the economic situation in Eastport, values on property will not become what they are elsewhere. No problem for this community.
- Housing, building, electrical codes fees inspectors.
- Mainstay property taxes so more local families can keep their homes. Be careful on overall restrictions.
- Zoning.
- With a plan to protect existing residents, limit development, keep access to shore, protect fishing.
- Local development. Small scale development. Keep it financially viable for fishermen. Small business and home owners of modest means.
- Make sure that out buildings are not priced out of sight of the ordinary people. Discourage high power development, condos, etc. and water front land grabs.
- Keep our houses and yards looking pretty and welcome year-round "from away".
- It is Not rapidly coming, perhaps slowly! I would go after it while Lubec is asleep!
- Comprehensive zoning planning. Keep some open space. Hold inflation and taxes.
- It will change it.
- Zoning against high density house and big box development.
- Encourage new residents home construction to increase the tax base.
- It should have a re-evaluation of our property so that her locals don't end up losing.
- Zone property re vacation estate.
- Stop it from coming in the area. People struggle now to pay taxes.
- First it is not occurring rapidly but Eastport needs to stay ahead of Lubec if it is to remain viable. Take full advantage of the market conditions.
- Tighten zoning rules and regulations. Protect our public shorelines.
- Careful zoning and good enforcement of same.
- Critical review of all zoning laws, including clean-up policies for landlords, renters, owners. Update property maps. Get the drug dealers OUT. Locals see them and know who they are.
- Quality traffic control without losing the quaintness of the city, especially in the residential districts.
- Have the city maintain enough industrial zoned property for future industrial development.
- Preserve what we have-expand outward. Entice more business/jobs.
- Work together for your city. The name of the game—tax money. But stay within limits.
- Try not to make it impossible to live here for the working people. More planning before the wave hits the beach.
- Beware!!
- Grandfather clause or exemption property taxes existing full time residents. Restrict shorefront development.
- Not to seclude the sales only to prospects of a "Bar Harbor" look alike community. Economic development is good, but remember—we are what are and have because of our hard work coming together as a community.
- Possible re-evaluation now before prices go any higher.
- Looks to me like they have their own ideas. It seems every other house has "For Sale" sign on it.
- By planning for the presence of these pressures.
- Develop and enforce strict zoning ordinances to prevent (a) dense developments (b) height limits to prevent high rises—3 stories max. (c) limit ability to raze an existing dwelling and build a huge structure on the land. Ensure that zoning Board of Appeals understands the vision and will enforce the ordinances. ? good question
- Get some zoning laws in place to protect the nature of the city. NO DEVELOPMENT WITH GRANDIOSE SCHEMES.
- Keep and maintain old buildings. Don't allow ostentatious homes.
- Restrict housing developments. Discourage building of expensive mansions.
- Restrain reassessing older properties until they are resold.
- Welcome development within a framework of good but reasonable controls.
- A stronger Historical Society to preserve the buildings. The island should be declared a historical place with emphasis to restoration and not demolition.
- Prepare a detailed long-term plan to respond to economic pressures exerted by development.
- Discourage subdivisions and sprawl.
- Institute same effort as California i.e. taxes don't go up more than cost of living index unless SOLD.
- Promote local development to protect the historic town.
- Stronger historical committee. Preserve old homes and buildings.
- Growth can be managed and enjoyed and it is not death dealing. Take charge—might prove to be a significant improvement.
- Change property tax structure. People remaining in their homes pay taxes according to current rules. Property sold at a high price should be assessed at that price. There is a big difference between one's home and property for sale. Proposition 13 has worked in California.
- Keep adequate space between houses. Privacy important and sound (loud noises) when houses too close creates bad neighbors. Invite family physicians, dentists and other professionals to come to Eastport.
- The city should not be pressured into doing anything before it has been thoroughly investigated.

What other important questions have not been addressed?

- Places for children and teens to “hang out”.
- None known.
- Police department for many years, we have hired so many officers to this city and it has hurt us in many ways. 1) We send them off to police academy so we then get done there they get jobs elsewhere on tax payer expense. We need just a few good men for this job. People who will show a little respect for people and maybe they will get more respect back from people. 2) We need more community watch assisting the police. 3) For years I have heard people out of the area say they will not come to Eastport because it’s like going through a gauntlet. The police there treat people like “shit”. They act like the Gestapo of Nazi Germany. I believe this has hurt our economy a lot. 4) I think we could scale back the size of our force since down the road at Pleasant Point, there are many police officers that could assist Eastport since they seem to be here anyway. We should use them. Quoddy Village behind Grossman building could be a good place for a water tank and drill a few wells to feed the system. There seems to be a fairly large aquifer in the village. This could feed houses, buildings and hydrants and ease some of the burden on our high hydrant bill to the city. I’m glad to see that there are people trying to take interest in this city before we go down the TUBES. THANK YOU!!!
- A center for young people. Build a skate board section. A computer center or café for young people’s interest.
- If Eastport is going to promote tourism and cruise ships, we should ask ourselves several questions: 1) Why would people want to come here? 2) What do we have to offer? 3) What services can we provide? I do not see cruise ships stopping in Eastport. We have no shopping, very few gift shops, very few places to eat. What would make you think cruise ships would want to stop here?
- Care of elders. Ease of car transportation. Telecommunications services. Public facilities for visitors. Airport.
- Lower taxes if you live here year round.
- Attracting development money but keeping local control and focusing on local use for local people. b) Keeping this a “real” place-a working town. c) Putting pressure on owners of vacant or deteriorating properties to get their properties back in use. d) Avoiding strip malls and tacky, tacky uncontrolled development and sprawl. e) Careful planning for future downtown parking. Keeping pedestrian scale of the business area. f) Careful development of industrial areas-industrial parks- that are comfortably accommodated in the city fabric. g) A comprehensive plan for land development for Moose Island-keeping current town area compact. Avoiding suburban sprawl. Carefully integrating the city with open land-nature and ecological. Preserve land with attractive and functional business/industrial/port areas.
- Hope to see businesses using Water St. buildings. Not build a lot of mall sprawl. Parking areas behind front streets and an eventual shuttle bus to downtown. Avoid tacky gentrification and cuteness. More nuts and bolts practical businesses down town. Not every store a gift shop. We need drug store, small department store, basic clothing store, shoe store, book and news store. In effect, the downtown area itself could have the best qualities of a mall with all the charm of the old buildings and pedestrian convenience.
- Can something be done to improve the trailer house park where visitors drive into Pleasant Point? (on the right) There’s a burned
- The general appearance of the city is very important to preserve the city, promote tourism and improve the real estate market.
- Snow plowing-remove build up on narrow streets. A ferry directly to and from Campobello. Eastport needs to first be a working city, the tourists will continue to flow in as long as the views remain as they are. Tourism is must one part of Eastport’s future. Tourism can never sustain it on its own. Local people must benefit first from the town.
- You have done a great job addressing the issues. Thanks! We are excited to see Eastport grow in a way that most of its residents will be happy.
- Real estate tax increases which may prohibit residents with minimal wage earnings to stay in the area.
- City should hire young people during summer to help around the city. Put large sign on Rt. 1 to sell your city (whale watching, ole sow, camp ground, diners, tourist attractions, etc.). Imagine the people that just drive by and miss our Eastport the “sun rise city”. People up here are great. Let’s work together.
- Historical importance of shipbuilding in Eastport. Signage at points that were shipbuilding spots.
- I would like to see Shackford Head Park improved. Access to the beach. I remember Cony Park. We have been overcharged on our hydrant rental, undrinkable water and sewer operations. We should have more representation on the Water Board.
- Over development and catering to the rich will destroy the quality of life for most resident of Eastport.
- Handicapped accessible entertainment center.
- Let’s not forget those that live here as people who have been raised here and not succumb to the entire ways to those who have moved here from away, but this is not to say we do not welcome them but that the reason for moving here and what we have as potential within our reach and what is reality given the economy.
- Properties are being bought for summer homes. I see the trend continuing and prices growing.
- Is economic development being given the correct priority? Is the correct effort being applied? Does the community want to enlarge the market size by programs to attract tourists and recreational boaters, more artists, more residents?
- Cruise ship discharge. Limit to Canadian or US registry to protect our waters.
- As many residents are retirees on fixed incomes, costs must be closely controlled.
- Jobs-jobs-jobs.
- Port waterfront. Public dock with fuel. Restrooms. Shore power and hookups.
- Roadway and port infrastructure-are they sufficient for traffic and pleasure crafts.
- Yes-out of state people coming and taking over land they don’t own, just do with it what they want, not for city use or over boundaries, and first thing they do from away is put up fences, spoil look of the street, of/as in the past streets look better mowed, flowers, is more beautiful, than overgrowth of trees, old bushes into trees, and the like. Should be an ordinances against swimming pools, and next neighbors get the water, was out foundations, post damage, etc. for noise, get rid of skateboarding kids, even on Sundays, you cannot be quiet, have a special place just for them, so anyone can live quiet.
- Port Authority should run Inner Basin-not city. Harbor Management Committee should be picked by City Council and

- out one that could be moved out to improve first impressions of the area into Eastport.
- This survey misses the great importance of curb appeal to potential investors and visitors.
- Overhaul the charter. Make sure public meetings are advertised in advance. Take some pride in the town clean up: roadsides-liter, grass growing in sidewalks and parking areas; downtown liter, snow/ice removal, attitude, water run off problems, sand in street problems.
- Disaster planning.
- More local participation in local government.
- Open stores on Water St. so people don't spend their money in Calais, Machias, Bangor.
- serve under Port Authority.
- Uniform tax appraisal system
- Immediately set an ordinance that eliminates ATV/dirt bikes from being on public/private land. No activity in city or Eastport unless on ATV owners' land.
- Parking downtown, neighborhood commons (open space) cluster housing. 100 foot frontage for all lots. One driveway from each house to street. Mini acreage lots. Perhaps a long area with less acreage for lots.

Additional comments from Eastport survey:

Should the city promote road-side businesses on Route 190?

- Strongly disagree—view coming into Eastport is invaluable-only one chance-first opportunity to impress visitors and residents.
- Strongly disagree- put business in town. Keep pristine and pull people into town (unless year round hardware and lumber store.

Should we encourage tourism?

- Strongly agree—create a mini Freeport, get in an anchor store like Reny's, LL Bean. They need places to spend their money. Locals will come too.

Should we encourage the visitation of cruise ships to our downtown?

- Strongly agree—only when we are ready—until ready, perhaps small ships (under 25 passengers)
- Strongly agree—need more stores-Target, Walmart, K-Mart, Mardens.
- Strongly agree—this brings in MONEY\$\$\$

Should we remove the fisherman's statue in downtown?

- Strongly disagree—it promotes a sense of the fishing industry.
- Strongly disagree—movie left it to city.
- Strongly disagree—keep any claim to fortune and what and does draw lookers.

Should the city financially support the library?

- Support is necessary but not from taxes-yard sales, donations, etc.
- Disagree—they have own money.

Should the city seek funds to replace old deteriorated water piping throughout the city?

- Strongly agree—this is pretty obvious. PWD should get grant.

Should the city municipalize the water system?

- Agree—but need much more information about available water, its costs, its limitations.
- Agree—make it so it is drinkable.
- Strongly agree—purchase own.
- Strongly agree—if the water supply is perpetual, develop a filter system or create a small water business to help with taxes. Ship water right out the port on these outgoing freighters to Far East etc. No trucking needed.

Do we still want ferry service to Lubec?

- Strongly agree—Yes! So much traffic could be obtained from Campobello, ie. MONEY!!
- Strongly agree—shared cost.

Should a new bridge to the island be pursued?

- Strongly agree—help shipping, etc.
- Strongly agree—yes-put toll bridge back!
- Agree—only to Lubec.
- Strongly agree—to take trucking off 190 and bring rail in. Growing trucking will not be good for Pleasant Point or Eastport if growth is on 190.
- Can't afford other changes-where is funding?
- Strongly agree—to Quoddy Village?

How important is affordable housing to retaining employees in town?

- Somewhat important—should be left to private sector.
- Not important—now.
- Very important—if there are jobs to have.

Should more of the land now zoned for industrial be changed to allow for residential use?

- Disagree—with port development, these may be needed in the future.
- Strongly disagree—depends on growth. Use current. Don't bring industrial downtown or in residential areas.
- Strongly agree—many abandoned buildings.

Should areas currently zoned RR-1 (1 acre lots) be rezoned to R-2 (4 house lots/acre)?

- Disagree—remove many of the existing “shacks” and space will be available as it is now!
- Strongly disagree—too much too soon. Try 2 lots/acre.

In 1995 a long term policy was to keep in mind the potential for tidal energy generation as new environment-friendly techniques are developed. Is this still important to Eastport?

- Very important- also solar and wind.
- Somewhat important-wind power!
- Important-also wind power. Lord knows we have wind aplenty!

In 1995 Eastport agreed to support development and expansion of all aspects of aquaculture including diversification of species (not limited to finfish but including seaweeds and shellfish culture. Is this still important to Eastport?

- Important-small scale.
- Important-only if it contributes a significant number of good jobs (not minimum wage) jobs.
- Very important-yes and world.

In 1995 Eastport recognized diverse interests to whom marine resources are of critical importance including traditional fishermen, aquaculturists, shipping interests, recreational boaters, and those who just love the view. The stated policy was to work to resolve or avoid conflicts among these interests. How important is this issue now?

- Very important-Eastport must keep all doors open and never depend on one economic area or they'll repeat the past.
- Very important-worse than ever.

Should Eastport and the Passamaquoddy Water District explore use of aquifers in Pembroke as alternative sources of drinking water?

- Agree-thought Pembroke vetoed this.
- Strongly agree-but continue program for Eastport independence (operating own)
- Strongly agree-do not cause problems, again!

In 1995 Eastport policy was to consider assessing impact fees to new developers. The recent Downtown Revitalization Plan recommends a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) downtown. Do you agree with this shift in policy?

- Strongly agree-reasonable %.
- Strongly agree-business cannot be penalized in any form when bringing a town back to life.
- Agree-however, if they do not stay a specified amount of time, they must cover any tax revenue lost to incentive.

Additional comments:

- Establish a “sister city” on the coast of England and re-institute the very wonderful and rich history of Eastport's past. I can envision cruise ships from England-an exchange of tourism as a small part of reshaping Eastport economics.
- Do not keep people from living on Water St. but don't allow it to be low income housing area, instead allow shop owners/renters to live above their shops.
- Susan Graves-Eastport walking tours for mystery fans. (*et al*)
- Why are Eastport kids and some adults littering so much? Can't the school promote “no littering” a bit more regularly?