

## Southold 2020

### Public Input and Responses on the Draft Vision Statement

(from public meetings February 1, 4 6, 2010, and via e-mail)

<u>from the 2/1/10 Meeting</u>	<u>How your input was used (and if not, why)</u>
1 Southold benefits including culture and the arts, recreation	We added the word recreation to the vision statement. Culture and arts are important and will be addressed in the community character chapter (and likely the Economic Chapter as well)
2 open spaces including wooded areas	We agree that woodlands are important and while not specifically mentioned in the Vision, they are included in "natural resources" and will be addressed in the Natural Resources Chapter.
3 What is "future growth" definition?	We removed the term "future growth"
4 How do you "balance" rural & small town life with future growth. Maybe change the phrase "small town life".	We changed this in the revised Vision to make it more clear. The actual "how" is answered in the plan itself, while the Vision remains more general.
5 How do you keep future "Heritage" and "Southold" projects from changing the appearance of the North Fork?	The revised Vision states that we "cherish" the "small town quality of life" and that in the future we need to take "existing community character into account. The challenge of fitting high density residential developments into the existing character of the town will likely be addressed in several chapters, including "Land Use", "Community Character", and "Housing."
6 Do we want gated communities?	The Vision speaks to this when it directs us to take "existing community character" in the future. We will address this type of issue more thoroughly in the Community Character chapter.
7 Development & density issues	Will be addressed in the Community Character and Land Use Chapters.
8 Preservation of historical buildings and natural land and waterways	We note the historic value of Southold in the Vision, and will address this more thoroughly in the Community Character Chapter, and perhaps the Economic and Land Use Chapters. Natural land & waterways are part of our natural resources and the Vision calls for thos to be protected.

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<p>9 Bury power lines</p>	<p>All new subdivisions are required to bury the utilities. While existing utility lines were found to be very expensive to bury, we will likely continue to recommend this get done - probably in the Community Character chapter.</p>
<p>10 future growth must be designed to be sustainable</p>	<p>While the word "sustainable" isn't in the actual vision statement, the basic premise is there. We call for protecting natural resources &amp; community character while planning for a viable future for the Town. The Plan will contain much more detail about sustainability.</p>
<p>11 certain kinds of growth are more desirable - green growth</p>	<p>Future growth will be addressed more thoroughly in the Economic and Land Use Chapters.</p>
<p>12 limit growth to be environmentally sensitive</p>	<p>The Vision statement basically says this.</p>
<p>13 more details to address specific areas like economy</p>	<p>We added a reference to the economy in the revised Vision Statement.</p>
<p>14 location of density - hamlet centers higher, outside keep it low</p>	<p>The Vision statement covers some of the basic tenets of "smart growth" by speaking to "efficient transportation" and "protecting natural resources". Details about how this is accomplished (one way being to locate density in the hamlet centers) and how growth occurs in the future will be addressed in the plan's Land Use &amp; Economic Chapters, among others.</p>
<p>15 Example of good development planning (emulate this place) Sonoma Valley, green, clean, limited growth</p>	<p>We will certainly be looking at case studies such as Sonoma Valley as we develop the plan.</p>
<p>16 Scale and aesthetics</p>	<p>We felt that the words "community character" generally covered the issues of scale and aesthetics.</p>
<p>17 use "A Better Place" (more information on-line) to help make Southold a greener, cleaner, better place to live &amp; work</p>	<p>We will look into this.</p>

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18	Transportation connections - "Green" mass transit, schools, tourism benefit plus good for environment	The Vision does speak to "efficient transportation" and we expect to cover "green options" in the Transportation chapter as well as the Natural Resources chapter, where I expect we'll address energy efficiency and sustainability.
19	Follow the stakeholder recommendations	We are incorporating the long term goals and recommendations identified by the stakeholders into the plan.
20	(1)"productive waters" - should it be less vague?	We admit the Vision statement is not very detailed, however we opted for a concise statement rather than a lengthy one, and will put the detailed goals into each chapter.
21	(2) recreation - major asset now - (boating, fishing, etc.) should this be included in list of desirable place	We added "recreation" into the statement as something to be supported and addressed in the plan.
22	(3) growth - is this a given - is it inevitable - essential? - define growth, if possible - qualitative/quantitative	We took out the word "growth" and focussed instead on "planning" for the future. The plan itself will go into detail and define and quantify growth.
23	(4) revitalization - is this 'adding' or 'making better' or both?	This word is no longer in the Vision Statement.
24	5. should there be more 'destinations' than Greenport - a thoroughfare or destination plan.	This idea can be explored in the Economic Chapter, and the Community Character chapter, and perhaps Land Use.
25	6. "designed" - use "plan" instead	This phrase was removed entirely, but we did work in the word "planning."
26	<b><u>from the 2/4/10 Public Meeting</u></b>	
27	businesses from 21st century	The revised vision describes supporting a "vibrant local economy" and certainly we can get into details on the economic future of the Town will be in the Economic Chapter.
28	zoning to create business incubation	See above. Also the Land Use chapter will focus on zoning recommendations.
29	communication structure that can support these business types	This could be included in the Infrastructure chapter, as well as Economic and Land Use chapters.
30	Wireless	See above.

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31 municipality ought to control infrastructure	The Infrastructure Chapter can take this comment into consideration.
32 multi-directional/ design for wind power	Alternative energy is important and we plan to address it in the Natural Resources chapter.
33 diverse historic hamlets	We worked "history" and "diverse" into the revised Vision Statement.
34 distinct architectural feel	We felt that "community character" covered this in general terms, and we would get more detailed in that chapter in the plan.
35 wildlife management to balance ecology & reduce water pollution from waste runoff	The Natural Resources chapter will cover this. We couldn't find a way to work it into the Vision Statement.
36 can't have a small town without a viable economy	We worked in the phrase "maintaining a vibrant local economy" to the revised Vision Statement.
37 Southwold "ready to roll"	We weren't sure what this comment meant, but here it is - all comments written to us were included.
38 need to support age diversity to remain viable - diversity of housing	We added "promoting a diverse housing stock" to the revised the Vision Statement.
39 parking resources	This will likely be covered in the Economic, Land Use and Infrastructure chapters of the plan. We couldn't find a way to include it in the Vision Statement - we thought it was too specific.
40 regional transportation	We added "creating efficient transportation" to the revised Vision Statement.
41 plan will be useless if no implementation	We agree. Each chapter will have specific recommendations for implementation.
42 growth of local economy critical to everything	We added "maintaining a vibrant local economy" to the revised Vision Statement, as well as "while planning for a productive and viable future."
43 add "with growing a local economy instead of "with a growing local economy"	We liked this phrase, but then re-wrote the entire Vision Statement, leaving out the word "growing" and replacing it with "maintaining a vibrant local economy" and "planning for a productive and viable future."

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44	Windmill/wind power at dump - energy source for Town	This is too specific for the Vision Statement. Alternative energy such as wind power will be addressed in the Natural Resources chapter.
45	Better public transportation	We added "creating efficient transportation" to the revised Vision Statement.
46	methane recapture solar	This is too specific for the Vision Statement. Alternative energy such as solar will be addressed in the Natural Resources chapter.
47	recreational resources - economically productive, important to preserve	We added "supporting...expanding natural resources" to the revised Vision Statement
48	road, runoff/stormwater & septic capacity	We thought this too specific for the Visions Statement, although an important matter for the plan to cover - it will likely be in the Natural Resources chapter.
49	workforce housing/senior housing - no burden on school system	We understand the point being made by this comment. It is too specific for the Vision Statement, but will be considered in the Housing and Land Use chapters (and perhaps others).
50	historic properties/districts preservation	We made sure the word "history" was in the Vision Statement, and expect to cover this in detail in the Community Character, Economic, and Land Use chapters.
51	improved economic base	The Vision does emphasize that our local economy is important. We will be examining the town's economic base in the Economic Chapter of the plan
52	no burden on school system	We assume this means that the respondent is saying that growth should not increase the burden on the school system. The plan will be identifying the types of growth that will most benefit the people in the town. It seemed too specific to be in the Vision Statement.
53	Town support local business	The revised Vision Statement is strong the local economy and the Economic Chapter will address the specific ways in which the Town can help local businesses.

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54	attract businesses that generate local economy	See above
55	Infrastructure to support population is not reflected in the Vision Statement as proposed. E.g. public water, sewer, transportation, public services (fire, police) schools	We did add in the phrase "creating efficient transportation" to the revised Vision Statement. The other points will be covered in the Infrastructure, Disaster/Emergency Response chapter, and probably Natural Resources as well.
56	Sustainability needs to be reflected in the statement, Balance Economy, environment/ Growth	While the word "sustainable" isn't in the actual vision statement, the basic premise is there. We call for protecting natural resources & community character while planning for a viable future for the Town. The Plan will contain much more detail about sustainability.
57	Rural referenced too many times.	The word has been entirely removed from the Vision Statement.
58	Hope to identify specific areas throughout Town to place specific uses such as commercial, residential, marine development, developed parks	This will be covered mostly in the Land Use chapter of the Plan. We thought it too specific to put into the Vision Statement.
59	(1) Intensification of buildout on small lots - water authority /public water accelerates	This was too specific for the Vision Statement, however will be taken into account in the Land Use chapter.
60	(2) Habitat protection is a concern	We added "protecting natural resources" to cover habitat as well as other types of natural resources.
61	(3) Location. Vision does not state where Southold is	This is true, but there will be an introduction to the Plan that will state where we are. The Vision isn't meant to stand alone.
62	(4) Ecotourism - not addressed	We didn't find a way to work the idea of 'ecotourism' into the Vision statement, but we do reference "visitors" that hints at least at tourism. We expect the Economic Chapter to address this.

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63	(5) Environment is #1 concern "our environment is our economy"	The Vision brings up "natural resources" twice, as well as community character, which both get at "environment." The plan will address this in greater detail in the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection chapter.
64	(6) Concern: 1990's vision seems to have been lost - structure/political	We did not know which 1990's vision is being referred to here.
65	(7) Not just preserve the past, prepare for the future.	We revised the Vision to address the future.
66	(8) No sewers. Have not addressed wastewater	We thought this was too specific to be in the Vision Statement, however it will be addressed in the infrastructure, Land Use, and Environment chapters.
67	(9) what is "open space" - uses/restrictions	We agree that 'open space' needs to be defined, and we will attempt to do so in the plan in the chapter entitled Land Preservation and Open Space.
68	(10) Very general that touches upon basic concepts - do not see the need for specifics	We agree.
69	(11) not strong enough for environment add Natural Resources.	We added more emphasis to natural resources in the revised Vision.
70	"Pristine" - use this word in the vision	We tried, but were not able to work it in.
71	Opening line should move to second sentence	We might not have accomplished this, but we did re-write the rest of it.
72	Aquatic water quality is important, but we shouldn't imply that the waters are as clean as they need to be - they aren't clean now in all places	We agree, and re-wrote the line in the Vision that implied that our waters were as clean as they needed to be. The specific issue of needing to improve water quality will be addressed in the Natural Resources chapter (as well as other chapters where necessary).
73	develop cooperation of 5 east end towns to share responsibility for Peconic Estuary health	While we agree with the concept, we didn't feel it belonged in the Vision Statement. Instead, this idea will be addressed in the Natural Resources chapter.

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74 reference industrial/business/commercial base as important to have, but controlled	We tried to emphasize that the economic base is important, yet needs to be controlled by identifying that Southold will support "a vibrant local economy" while also 'protecting natural resources'.
75 Balance of commercial and rural	We believe the Vision Statement gets this idea across.
76 Approve the Vision Statement	We revised the Vision to address the many good comments received.
77 Need for mass transportation	We revised the Vision to address this by adding "creating efficient transportation." Mass transportation is efficient and will be discussed specifically in the Transportation chapter, among others.
78 Desirable and affordable places to live and environmentally sound!	We added "promoting a diverse housing stock" to the revised the Vision Statement.
79 Focus on Village	The Village isn't technically in the Town's Comprehensive Plan, but is certainly affected by how the plan is implemented, just as the Town is affected by the Village in so many ways. The Village will be taken into account in the plan, especially in the Economic Chapter, but also in Land Use, Natural Resources and others.
80 includes beaches	We added "recreational opportunities" to the Vision, and "natural resources", both of which can encompass beaches as important assets to the Town. Beaches will be discussed specifically in the Parks & Recreation chapter in the plan.
81 Tourism	We revised the Vision to include the word "visitors." Tourism will be addressed specifically in the Economic and Agriculture chapters in the plan.
82 Transportation	We revised the Vision to address this by adding "creating efficient transportation."

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83	Consider the environmental impacts	We put an emphasis on natural resources in the revised Vision. One entire chapter will be dealing with the environment, and environmental sustainability will be considered in each chapter.
84	Future growth must be "restricted" to balance...	We revised the Vision statement to address this idea that we want to make sure Southold keeps its community character and all that we value about it, while also having a viable economy.
85	...and visit, and the quality of all local waters (both above and below ground) is protected. Additionally, to favor this, legislation should be enacted to upgrade the zoning code for agriculture, open space, etc to number one and downgrade the zoning code for residential to number two.	We revised the Vision to more generally cover all natural resources, including groundwater, surface water, and others. The specifics about legislation to enact code to accomplish new zoning goals will be in the recommendations and implementation sections of each chapter in the plan. We will certainly be taking into account how much our citizens value open space and agriculture, and looking to ensure our Town Code supports those values.
86	<b><u>from the 2/6/10 Public Meeting</u></b>	
87	balance "natural resources" in addition to quality of small town life	We revised the Vision Statement to include natural resources (twice).
88	economy - does it need to be "growing" - describe it as "healthy" "sustainable"	We revised the Vision Statement to remove the word "growing" and instead using "vibrant local economy" as well as the word "viable" to describe the Town overall.
89	consider ourselves stewards of the land	This is a good phrase, however we didn't find a way to add it to the Vision Statement. This concept will certainly be included in the plan.
90	diverse economy, not rely on just one or few industries	We revised the Vision Statement regarding the economy to include the words "vibrant local economy" as well as the word "viable" to describe the Town overall. This concept will be covered in more detail in the Economic Chapter.
91	re-use existing buildings before building new	This was too specific for the Vision Statement, however will be taken into account in the Land Use, Economic, and Community Character chapters.

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92 growth' used twice emphasizes it, and makes it seem like that is the Town's goal	We revised to Vision Statement to remove the word altogether.
93 Different types of growth, some good, some not so - identify the good kind	We revised the Vision Statement by removing the word growth and instead stating that in the future we want a vibrant economy, but we also have to protect our community character and natural resources
94 Productive and "clean" waters (add "clean")	We revised the Vision Statement and used the broader term "natural resources" to encompass not only water, but air, soil, flora and fauna. The Natural Resources chapter will address the specifics & importance of clean waters.
95 Aquaculture - water quality	See above.
96 Groundwater protection needs to be added	See above.
97 add the word "treasure" to the last sentence	This is a great word, but didn't make the final cut in the revisions.
98 Enforcement is necessary to make it all happen	This concept was too specific to be effectively worked into the Vision Statement. I expect it to be addressed in the implementation section of the appropriate chapters.
99 goal to protect and sustain natural resources and water quality	We revised the Vision Statement to state that natural resources will be protected (which covers water quality as part of our natural resources).
100 current statement doesn't give a strong assertive message that we will protect all the good things in the Town that are mention in the draft vision	We revised the Vision Statement to be more assertive about what we will protect now and in the future.
101 "virtual community" internet is important, both for communication and for business	This seemed too specific for the Vision Statement, and will likely be addressed in the Infrastructure and/or the Economic Chapters.
102 Add communication component to Infrastructure Chapter	We will.

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<b>103</b>	Encourage and support growth of existing businesses	We revised the Vision Statement to state that we will support "maintaining a vibrant local economy."
<b>104</b>	Focus on the uniqueness of Southold - we are different. Farmland doesn't exist in other Long Island towns	While we didn't exactly state this in the Vision Statement, the plan has an entire chapter on Agriculture and this topic will be addressed at length.
<b>105</b>	Agriculture should be emphasized	See above
<b>106</b>	Growth in a way that enables residents to stay here	We tried to address this in the Vision Statement by stating that we need to promote "a diverse housing stock", meaning all price ranges, and also that our future will be "viable."
<b>107</b>	preserve what is good (assertive statement regarding maintaining quality of life)	We revised the Vision Statement to be more assertive about what we will protect now and in the future.
<b>108</b>	Can't prevent growth but focus on agriculture in future growth	This concept was too specific to be effectively worked into the Vision Statement. I expect it to be addressed in the Economic, Land Use and Agriculture chapters.
<b>109</b>	...desirable place to live, work, "treasure" and visit.	This is a great word, but didn't make the final cut in the revisions.
<b>110</b>	Define Growth -what do we mean by growth - Growth does need to happen, but define it and state how we will grow - concentrate on good kinds of growth	The revised Vision doesn't use the word growth. Future growth will be addressed more thoroughly in the Economic and Land Use Chapters.
<b>111</b>	Growth should not have a negative impact on people - not painful (taxes) growth - growth should help locals stay viable	We revised the vision to include the word 'viable' in reference to the future. The Economic chapter will review the tax base of the Town and take this into account in future planning.
<b>112</b>	Emphasize Agriculture more	The revised vision actually seems to emphasize agriculture less obviously, however we felt that "a vibrant local economy" together with "existing community character" covered agriculture, among other things. With an entire chapter devoted to agriculture in the Plan, we will be emphasizing its importance to Southold.

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<p><b>113</b> ...desirable "and affordable and environmentally sustainable" place to live, work and visit.</p>	<p>We tried to address "affordable" by adding in the phrase "promoting a diverse housing stock", and environmentally sustainable by adding the phrase "protecting natural resources" which we mean in the broadest sense (good quality air, energy, soil, water, natural habitats, fauna).</p>
<p><b>114</b> <u>Via e-mail and mail</u></p>	
<p><b>115</b> First sentences are clear and well-done, but the last sentence does not give enough of a Vision or inspiration for the future. Provide more of an overview and guide for the plan.</p>	<p>We think the revised Vision is better at this now.</p>
<p><b>116</b> Three full re-writes of the Vision - see separate page to view them.</p>	<p>We read and considered the full re-writes of the Vision Statement and tried to capture the main themes - we preferred to be concise and leave the detailed goals and objectives for each chapter in the plan. See below for the full text of the three re-writes received.</p>

Input by e-mail - 2/5/10

### **Draft Vision Statement**

The town of Southold benefits from a unique combination of diverse hamlets, working farmland, open space and productive waters. Southold's extraordinary beauty and natural resources, including its regional aquatic water quality, are of significant importance. Our citizens value Southold's rural qualities and small towns. Southold seeks to develop cooperation with the six (6) East end towns, (including Brookhaven), in recognizing and sharing responsibility to protect, preserve and improve the regional conditions of the Peconic Bay as well as its local waters such as creeks and inlets. Financial future growth must be designated to balance the quality of rural, small-town life with the local industrial base to ensure Southold remains a desirable place to live, work and visit.

**Lanza, Heather**

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**From:** Group for Cutchogue [cutchogroup@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2010 10:41 AM  
**To:** TOS2020  
**Subject:** Draft Revision of Draft Vision

### Benja's Draft Vision Statement for Southold 2020

Sandwiched between the Long Island Sound and the Peconic Estuary, the fertile land in the Town of Southold is surrounded by even more fertile saltwater.

The temperate maritime microclimate includes a long spring, short summer, long fall, short winter and more sunshine than any other place in New York State.

The cultural heritage of Southold is as a rural fishing and farming community. Suburban developments have already replaced some of the farms and infiltrated into the hamlet centers.

Land preservation has strong popular support, but housing and commercial developments continue to threaten to overwhelm the historic rural character.

The purpose of this comprehensive plan is to guide Southold Town to develop a sustainable local economy.

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Cutchogue Group  
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Input

# A Vision for Southold's Comprehensive Plan

Submitted by the  
North Fork Environmental Council  
Land Use Committee

Southold's citizens deserve a master plan to guide our future growth and protect the unique rural environment we enjoy today. What follows represents the central ideas which the NFEC feels should be addressed in the Southold Master Plan. We are fully aware that these are not new; these concepts have guided life in Southold for many years and should be reflected and codified in the Master Plan.

*Density:* A serious Master Plan must start by projecting a "worst case" scenario of how many housing units will eventually be constructed assuming that all subdividable land is developed according to its current zoning and that every single-and-separate lot is built out as well. Then the Plan must enunciate the community's consensus of what is an acceptable maximum. Finally, the Plan must specify how the community's stated density goal will be achieved.

*Farming:* We benefit directly and indirectly from the agricultural activity in our midst. We consider the entrepreneurs who produce foods for our tables an irreplaceable resource to be supported by Town policy. By keeping farms in farming we maintain open vistas and preserve our rural heritage. At the same time we enjoy food that is not tainted by the factory farming system prevalent elsewhere.

*Tourism & Second Homes:* Tourists are attracted here by our unobstructed views, local wine and produce, the abundance of unspoiled beaches, water for boating and fishing plus the relaxed country atmosphere. These tourists provide financial support to our local businesses, our farmers and the wineries. We are challenged to maintain our rural ambience while accommodating visitors and seasonal homeowners.

*Climate:* Southold Town is especially threatened by climate change, both by rising sea levels and changing weather patterns. These changes can have a disastrous effect on fresh water sources, food supplies and all coastal properties. For these important reasons, support of non-polluting, renewable energy sources must become a local policy priority.

*Runoff:* Southold must control human activity along our waters while also eliminating the use of harmful substances. Our waters (like farmland, an important food source) have been degraded by the surface runoff of fertilizers, pesticides and other pollutants. We must educate our citizens to make changes that will sustain our environment. Informed action can stop the continuing loss of species diversity. This will also protect the safety and productivity of our coastal waters as well as the fragile and limited underground potable water resource we rely on.

*Development:* We need to implement the visions set forth by the Hamlet Stakeholders. Stakeholders have outlined appropriate locations for further development within their hamlet centers. Using hamlet cores as centers of density on a human scale is a way to reduce dependence on cars, reduce sprawl and encourage a strong sense of community. This centralized community concept supports development of parks, hiking trails, launching ramps and recreational sites as well as public transportation networks to take pressure off the road system. Support of historic preservation and the architectural review of buildings should also continue as a way to preserve the authenticity of "old Southold."

It is true that in the past decade Southold Town has taken major steps to preserve farmland and open space as well as enacting legislation to constrain residential development. However, the Town's Community Preservation Fund is depleted and the current depressed level of real estate transactions continues to impede its restoration. The threat of over-development remains with us.

We know that as the economy recovers development pressure will return. Our urgent task is to organize our vision into a Master Plan, then make it into law and code.

**SAVE WHAT'S LEFT!**