



# Southold 2020

## The New Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Southold

Below is a compilation of the public input we gathered regarding the draft Parks and Recreation Chapter. You'll need to use the draft to follow along with the comments. They are numbered to match the goals and objectives in the draft chapter.

### Parks & Recreation Chapter Public Input Meetings

### How your input was used (and if not, why)

<b>Goal 1 – Diverse Programming</b>		
	<b>Comments from 10/27/11 meeting</b>	
1	Objective 1. Use Internet & make extra effort to get the word out. Make the survey an annual event that can be promoted, for example have it every January and generate excitement about it will participate. The surveys should be simple and online	Thank you for the ideas. We have added these.
2	Objective 2. Do this only as necessary	Yes, we agree.
3	Objective 3. Register and Pay online	We will add “pay online”
4	Objectives 4-6. We agree	
5	Objective 11. Hire staff that would bring skill or expertise to the venture	Yes, we agree
6	Objective 14. Branding for the Recreation department. Make it more well-known and recognizable to more people in town by creating a "brand" for the rec department.	Yes, we will revise the chapter to reflect this
7		
	<b>Comments from the 10/29/11 meeting</b>	
1	Add to Possible Partnerships: Libraries, historical societies, wineries, property owners associations, not-for-profit, seasonal and senior living communities.	Yes, we will revise the chapter to add this.
2	Cultural, educational programs – there are many in town already – maybe we don't need more of this type of programming. E.g.	The chapter recommends annual surveys to identify the level of interest in proposed programs.



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	Cutchogue library programs-some are poorly attended.	
	<b>Written comments</b>	
1	<p>Add events for “tweens” and older teens:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● concerts in the park</li> <li>● gaming competitions using large screens and programs like Xbox</li> <li>● sports night where teens can congregate to watch a football game or other important sports event</li> <li>● "Jam Night” – where local bands are invited to showcase their music</li> </ul> <p>all of the above could incorporate posters, information packets, and resources for teens that would support them remaining alcohol and drug-free as well as other important issues. Partners include Southold youth Bureau, South Suffolk County Department of Health, Suffolk County Prevention Resource Ctr., New York State office of alcoholism and substance abuse services, school districts, Eastern Long Island Hospital, Cornell Cooperative extension, Eastern Long Island treatment centers, and business and media and law enforcement that are members of communities that care</p>	<p>Yes, we agree. Objective one in the draft plan covers the issue of what types of events are needed including finding out what the youth in town need for recreation.</p> <p>We will revise Goal 4 to include the other suggestions about providing information at events regarding preventing the use of alcohol and drugs.</p> <p>We will be sure to include all the Partners suggested here.</p>
2	More trips to NYC or other places of interest	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1 Objective 5.
3	More cultural events	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1 Objective 5.
4	Book reviews	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1



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		Objective 5.
5	Fitness programs for moms & kids together (yoga or other fitness class)	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1 Objective 5.
6	Expand the # of fitness classes at Peconic Rec Ctr, especially the ones that fill up very quickly	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1 Objective 5.
7	Add a fitness class at Peconic Rec ctr that is specifically for people in surgery-recovery	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1 Objective 5.
8	How is it decided which programs to keep at Peconic Rec Center? How is popularity of programs tracked? What process is used to vet new program offerings?	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1 Objective 5.
9	Town Rec Ctr sponsor Scout troops by recruiting Troop Committees that would in turn select Scout leaders and guide the programs for Scouts.	The draft plan calls for an annual survey for feedback from the public to identify interest in existing and new programs Goal 1.1 Objective 5.

### Goal 2 – Facilities & Grounds

	<b>Comments from 10/29/11 meeting</b>	
1	Indoor facilities lacking (gyms)	The draft plan includes a recommendation for the Town to explore the feasibility of an indoor recreation facility.
2	Volunteers could be used – private business volunteering services – other private resources.	Good idea. This could be helpful in the future implementation of this plan.
3	Boy & Girl Scout troops to help with projects	Yes, we will add this to the draft chapter.
4	Pool: 1. Would be used by schools. 2. Could be also used for physical therapy. 3. Swimming lessons.	These are all good comments.



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	<p>4. Need a concrete strategy to develop pool/recreation complex.</p> <p>5. Peconic is a good central location.</p> <p>6. A pool could extend the lifeguard season so high school students would have a year-round job and could get trained earlier in water safety.</p> <p>7. A pool facility will increase property values by making Southold an even more desirable place to live.</p> <p>8. Need a detailed projection of revenue.</p> <p>9. Could partner with Eastern Long Island Hospital (physical therapy).</p>	
5	Transportation bus passes – hamlet center to hamlet center	This specific suggestion will be addressed in the Transportation Chapter in the Human Services chapter
6	Table # 3 also stated that the pool and recreation center was very important and that efforts should be focused on this first.	
7	Educate public on issues related to parks such as trash and policies like "carry in, carry out"	We will add this to the draft chapter.
8	Connect parks with greenways or other ways to get their like a bike trail to connect, say a skate park with some other recreation location.	Yes, this is addressed in goal 2.2
9	Create some paying jobs for high school students related to working in recreation.	The suggestion is contained in the draft plan on page 6 number 11
10	Ice skating: create a safe ice rink to provide an alternate to the local pond that don't always freeze. The way to do this is make a berm around the sports field, close it in winter and flood it to make ice. Open in the warm weather to let the water out. Put some lights on it.	We will revise the chapter to add this idea.
	<b>Written comments</b>	
1	Yes to the indoor swimming pool (multiple	This idea is included in the draft plan



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	enthusiastic agreements were submitted for this concept)	
2	More bike trails	This idea is included in the draft plan
3	More walking and jogging trails	This idea is included in the draft plan
4	Bowling lanes	This idea is included in the draft plan
5	Performing arts	This idea is included in the draft plan
6	Indoor sports complex	This idea is included in the draft plan
7	Mountain biking trails	This idea is included in the draft plan
8	More hiking trails	This idea is included in the draft plan
9	Incorporate farmland/vineyards into Town's recreation plan by working with farmers to create walking trails around some fields. A great way for kids to connect with farming.	This would need considerable cooperation from individual landowners. We did not add this to the plan as it seemed outside the purview of the Town to accomplish.
10	Important to continue to enhance and provide public access to preserved public land through hiking, jogging and bicycle trails.	This idea is included in the draft plan
11	Start a community garden sponsored by the Town.	This was added to the draft plan.
12	Install a Paddle tennis court. Paddle Tennis is a good winter sport, is low-cost to maintain and low cost to play. Easy to learn, good exercise for kids and adults.	This was added to the draft plan.
13	Provide for handicapped accessible "paved" walkways in all parks, including beaches, so that they are wheelchair accessible. Add boardwalks to beaches.	This idea is included in the draft plan. Goal 3. Objective 3.
14	Create an Exercise Trail with exercise stations	This was added to the draft plan.
15	Cost of a pool and/or indoor sport complex is high – involve a private company in this so taxes are kept down.	This idea is included in the draft plan
16	Create a Boy and Girl Scout Camp with facilities including two bunkhouses, bathrooms.	We did not add this to the plan. It seems outside the purview of the Town.
17	Require active maintenance of parks (remove vines that kill trees, maintain scenic vistas)	This idea is included in the draft plan, Goal 2.2
18	Limit the # of parks to that which the Town can afford to maintain	While this isn't specifically in the draft plan, this concept would follow from Goal 2



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19	Install and service trash receptacles wherever they will reduce littering in parks and on beaches.	This idea is included in the draft plan, Goal 2.1
20	Provide portable toilets at parks and beaches during the summer season.	This was added to the draft plan.

### GOAL 3 – Accessibility & Costs

<b>Comments from 10/27/11 meeting</b>		
1	Town and Schools have to work together	This suggestion is good and is in the draft chapter.
2	Can we find federal or state funding for recreation?	We added the suggestion to the chapter.
3	Is there private funding for recreation, including from the business community (advertising at the fields)	We will revise the plan to consider this possibility.
<b>Comments from 10/29/11 meeting</b>		
1	People tend to stick in their own Hamlets, in their own school and fire districts.	Understandable, but some resources have to be centralized to keep cost down.
2	Organize a trip to the Ferguson Museum so that people can see Fishers Island	The suggestion has been referred to the Recreation Director.
3	Collaborate between Park districts and Town to enhance accessibility with the beach pass that will be good at Park District beaches and town beaches.	This is in the draft chapter.
4	Get the local kids/high school students involved for community projects – volunteers and their requirements to do community service projects.	This is already being done through the Southold Town Youth Bureau.
5	Provide information about locations and access to public right of ways to the water. Consider collaborating with University to map with GIS location.	This is in the draft chapter under goal 2.1 number 13.
6	Winter sports: collaborate with local golf courses and farms to create places to cross-	This was added to the draft plan.



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	country ski when snow conditions allow. Educate the public so that no properties damaged through the use (minimum snow levels)	
7	Use e-mail notification, but also keep newspaper notification because not everyone has e-mail	Yes, we will revise the chapter to add this.
8	Find ways to make people aware of all the resources in town – a central place to get all this information – online. A central database for all activities – not just Town-sponsored activities.	Yes, we will revise the chapter to add this.
9	People should be able to register their interests in different types of activities, then receive automotive notification when activities of that type come up (we discussed the new Town website and its ability to do this)	Yes, we agree.
10	The people at table #1 also focused on communication and getting the word out about programs.	Yes, we agree.

### GOAL 4 – Promoting Health & Wellness

	Comments from 10/29/11 meeting	
1	Get the business community involved – investors, volunteers	This is included in the draft chapter.
2	Objective 4. Importance on collaboration with local communities. Transportation to get to the Parks so kids can get there.	Transportation will be addressed in a separate chapter in the plan.
3	Ensure that public facilities such as restrooms are available during peak use times	This is a good point and duly noted.
4	Educate public on available natural resources including opportunity for volunteers. (Boy Scouts, ROTC, Girl Scout). Provide more information about what recreational	This is in the draft chapter.



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	opportunities are available to people. Get more people involved. More information on the Internet, trail maps etc.	
5	Campgrounds: create a Town Campground and use it to generate income for other public facilities. Example: Greenport Village's Campground	The town has no land appropriate for this right now, but this could be an idea for the future.
6	The Town has to focus on the management and stewardship of their properties.	We agree, the Town has recently hired a part-time land steward to work on this.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

<b>Comments from 10/27/11 meeting</b>		
1	Opening paragraphs – seem to refer more to visitors then residents' needs	We re-read the opening paragraphs and feel they are balanced with reference to residents and tourists
2	A Skate Park is needed	This is in the draft chapter.
3	Town should look to the example of Saline, MI where a small declining town worked with a philanthropist to establish a Recreation Center that was the catalyst for the Town's economic rebirth and improved quality of life.	This was added to the draft plan, Goal 1, Obj.#6.
<b>Written comments submitted</b>		
1	Not much mention of beaches in general, and beaches that the Town owned. There are playgrounds at the beaches, and there are other places with access to the water that should be mentioned. There should be more in the chapter about beaches that the town owns. Should parking problems at beaches be brought up in this chapter?	We will revise the chapter to increase the discussion about beaches and access to water.  We will not be adding in this chapter about parking issues at beaches
2	Hunting is a recreation activity that the town facilitates and this should be mentioned in the chapter	We will add this to the chapter.





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3	Fishing is also a recreation activity, as is boating and there is not much mention in the chapter about it.	We will add this to the chapter.
4	More is not necessarily better. Taxes could go up if major recreation facilities like a pool are added. Private entities should be the way the Town goes with this.	The draft plan recognizes this and calls for a feasibility study to be done before any Town investment or plan to proceed. The plan also calls for working with private investment to get this done, if it is feasible.
5	The survey results don't seem to have been done in a way that actually support the recommendation for new facilities like a pool. What is the margin of error for the survey?	The surveys were not conducted scientifically, and thus we could not identify a margin of error. The draft plan calls for a feasibility study to be done before any Town investment or plan to proceed. This feasibility study may also include an official poll of the public to determine if there is a majority of the population that supports it.
6	Research Omaha NE example	This was added to the draft plan. Goal 1, Obj. 6