



**Town of West Tisbury**  
PLANNING BOARD  
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January 11, 2012

#### MASTER PLAN OPINION SURVEY

The West Tisbury Planning Board needs your thoughts and opinions about our town and its future in order to help us update a Master Plan to guide our growth and development, as required by state laws.

It is time to renew the West Tisbury Master Plan of 1987, the Community Development Plan of 2004 and the Island Plan of 2009. Each used extensive questionnaires to look at attitudes and concerns of West Tisbury citizens. There has been tremendous consistency over the years. You want to preserve the rural character and open space of the town, and you do not mind regulations that help us do that.

We have demographic census data, land use maps from the Martha's Vineyard Commission, homeownership statistics from the Assessors and economic information from the census (on file at the Planning Board office in the Town Hall). Consequently we have decided to focus on what we consider current "open" questions in our effort to help guide the town.

Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to the Planning Board by March 1, 2013, or drop it off at the Town Hall or West Tisbury Library. If you would like additional copies for other members of your household, you may photocopy this, download from the Town's website or pick one up at the Town Hall.

Thank you very much for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Virginia C. Jones, Chair

Susan Silva, Vice-Chair

Leah Smith

Beatrice Phear

Matthew Merry

Henry Geller, Associate

<http://www.westtisbury-ma.gov/>

A) Economic Development

1. What kind of businesses would you like to see in the Mixed Business District (Cronig's)?

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2. What kind of businesses would you like to see in the Light Industrial District (Dump and Airport)?

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3. Many people operate small businesses from their homes under the home occupation regulations of the zoning by-law, by right and by special permit. How do you think these businesses are operating in general? Are there problems that should be addressed?

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4. Have you any ideas as to how the Town can foster well-paying year-round jobs?

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B) Solar Arrays

Currently the Town is treating ground-mounted solar arrays as accessory structures in residential zones. (Roof-top arrays are considered part of the structure.) It takes about 1,600 square feet of solar panels to power one house.

5. Do you favor limiting ground-mounted solar development to the needs of the property?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

6. Do you favor allowing larger ground-mounted arrays so that people can make and sell excess electricity?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

7. Comments:

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C) Transportation

8. Should the Town look into creating more bike paths?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

9. Should the Town look into creating more walking paths?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, where would you like them located?

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D) Residential Zoning

10. Currently the West Tisbury Zoning By-law encourages clustering of houses in new developments. It allows up to a doubling of density for developments that provides affordable housing, public access, farmland protection and open space protection. This density bonus has not been used as we hoped.

Should the town increase the allowable density bonus in order to encourage more compact development patterns?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

11. Should the Town create a by-law that would limit the size of new homes being built in order to preserve the character of West Tisbury?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

12. What building or development trends have you noticed in West Tisbury that you would like to see better regulated and in what way?

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E) Are there any other planning issues you feel the Town should address?

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F. Town Services

How do you feel about the following public services?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
13. Affordable Housing	_____	_____	_____	_____
14. Beaches	_____	_____	_____	_____
16. Bike Paths	_____	_____	_____	_____
17. Bus Service	_____	_____	_____	_____
18. Cemeteries	_____	_____	_____	_____
19. Crosswalks	_____	_____	_____	_____
20. Elderly Services	_____	_____	_____	_____
21. Emergency	_____	_____	_____	_____
22. Fire Department	_____	_____	_____	_____
23. Historic Preservation	_____	_____	_____	_____
24. Library	_____	_____	_____	_____
25. Open Space	_____	_____	_____	_____
26. Parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
27. Parks	_____	_____	_____	_____
28. Police Department	_____	_____	_____	_____
29. Recreation Options	_____	_____	_____	_____
30. Road Maintenance	_____	_____	_____	_____
31. School	_____	_____	_____	_____
32. Walking Paths	_____	_____	_____	_____
32. Town Dump	_____	_____	_____	_____

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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