

## RESIDENT SURVEY ATTACHMENT E

### Question #18

#### Additional Amenities

A bakery	Again, a "late" night cafe open until 10PM at least on weekends	Cafes with tables outside
A bar	Any convenient services	Card store
A better park, common area, or outdoor cafe where people can congregate and people-watch.	Apts above stores.	Charming housing of various types
A bookstore	Art galleries	Children's play area
A bookstore	Art Gallery	Cinema
A bookstore	Attractive place to sit outside	Cinema
A facility for films, entertainers, neighborhood meetings	Attractive space, trees	Clean, walkable sidewalks in the Centre and street getting to the Centre
A good bakery,	Bakery	Clothing stores
A good bookstore or even better, a library branch	Balanced mix of shops and services	Community events
A good hardware store	Beautifully paved walkways	Computer store
A great fruit and vegetable market	Better green space	Cultural amenities,
A grocery store	Better maintained sidewalks and public areas	Cultural/music/arts center
A grocery store	Better outdoor/community space	Destination for business and pleasure, a place to stroll and window shop.
A grocery store	Better parking and more town events on a green	Easier parking
A grocery store.	Better parking, less traffic congestion	Easier way of getting there besides driving - like an intra-city shuttle bus
A market or produce stand	Better pedestrian crossings	Entertainment
A movie theatre	Better playground	Entertainment
A small art cinema	Better traffic flow	Events
A town green instead of the central parking lot. You could have the summer concerts there	Book store	Events (talks,etc.) like those that currently take place at the Newton Free Library
A very small playground	Bookstore	Everything they have in Coolidge Corner and JFK crossing in Brookline (except the chain stores like the GAP, Barnes & Noble, and Dunkin Donuts).
A wider variety of shops, more neighborhood real-life orientation.	Bookstore	Family friendly activities
Additional parking	Bookstore	Farmer's market
Additional parking in the center lot	Bookstore	Fewer cars
Affordable clothing stores	Bookstore!	Film theatre
Affordable housing	Bookstore.	Free parking
	Bury the parking lot.	

Free parking for residents	Less expensive T ride to go just that mile from the Highlands.	More useful shopping for day to day necessities
Free WIFI	Less traffic	Movie house
Gathering parks and places	Less traffic	Movie theater
Gay coffee shop	Less Traffic	Movie Theater
Good and fun window-shopping	Less traffic	Movie theater
Good Restaurants	Less traffic	Movie theater
Good Restaurants	Less traffic	Movie theater
Good restaurants	Less traffic, more parking space	Movie theater
Greater variety of restaurants and bars	Less traffic.	Movie theater
Greater variety of stores and restaurants, esp. open evenings/nights	IGood bike paths/lanes	Movie theater
Green space	Live entertainment hall	Movie theater
Green space instead of visible parking	More "normal" shopping.	Movie theater
Green space, street performers, ?push carts, live music	More affordable shopping	Movie theater
Grocery store	More attractive green space	Movie theater
Grocery store	More benches and much better trash receptacles	Movie theatre
Grocery store	More benches so people can congregate	Movie theatre or live music.
Grocery store	More family oriented places to eat	Movie theatre.
Grocery store	More free concerts(with real bands)	Movies, plays, senior events, public gathering events
Grocery store	More full restaurants.	Music store
Grocery store with take out prepared food	More green space	Needs something to make it special, an attraction or central gathering place
Grocery/food shop	More moderate priced stores.	Neighborhood friendly stores
Grocery/food store	More nice little restaurants	Nice restaurants/shops
Gym	More parking	Nicer coffee shop with better (and more) seating
Hardware store	More parking	Nicer playground facilities for children - not necessarily more playground space
Hardware store	More parking	Non-chain coffeehouse
Have one night a week when all stores are open	More parking.	Open space, events,
Having one night a week when stores open late	More pleasant strolling streets	Outdoor cafes
High end mini grocery	More police officers	Outdoor plaza with street performers
High-end take out.	More reasonable housing	Outdoor seating for coffee shops
Indoor cultural event	More recreational space	Outdoor sitting gazebo
Larger common/green space	More restaurants	Park with playground, benches
Later closing at Starbucks.	More restaurants	Parking garage
Later hours for food/drink establishments	More restaurants	Parking that isn't visible
Less banks	More stores,	

Parkland, open space  
Performance space  
Playground, activities for children  
Playgrounds, indoor gyms or play spaces,  
other resources for children and families  
Plentiful parks  
Public art, a fountain  
Public restroom  
Public space  
Reasonably priced food stores  
Reasonably-priced clothing stores  
Relocate Citizens bank to a storefront and  
lease that bldg to a gym -- it's one of the only  
ones with parking.  
Rerouting of traffic making it less congested  
Restaurants  
Restaurants (good ones)  
Restaurants and movie theater  
Safe walking places  
Seasonal festivals or markets  
Sidewalk Cafes  
Small family theater  
Small market/grocery store  
Small movie theater  
Small retail shops  
Small, useful shops  
Supermarket  
Supermarket  
Theater  
Theater  
Theater  
Theater, food store,  
There are too many very expensive, specific,  
upscale boutiques.  
Trees  
Underground parking coupled with pedestrian  
walkways  
Underground utilities

Unique baby products store  
Unique shops  
Walkable plaza/promenade  
Walking spaces that is not sidewalk  
Wider sidewalks  
Would love a place that sold fresh foods  
Would put parking garage outside the centre  
and put a beautiful green space where the  
current parking lot is.  
Youth/teen center

## RESIDENT SURVEY ATTACHMENT F

### Question #19

#### Additional Comments

- Again, don't futz to much with it, it's fine!
- Except for too many banks and too much traffic, it's got a lot to recommend it. I would be against any moves to push a lot more traffic into the center.
- No more banks.
- Newton Centre is organized and set just right.  
Get rid of parking lot.
- Traffic enforcement needs to be stepped up.  
Add real turn lanes for cars.
- Make walk lights occur more often.
- Rather than spending time/money on Newton Centre, other Newton villages are more in need of upgrades.
- West Newton Square is especially in need of an upgrade.
- The gradual erosion of the individuality of the centre because of exorbitant rents has made NC a business only destination for us.  
Too many salons, banks and upscale clothing shops.
- We used to live in Thompsonville and walked regularly to Newton Centre. Our loyalty to Newton Centre businesses brings us back there, now that we live away.
- Need traffic calming, pedestrian and bicycle friendly design.
- More open space and residential units.
- It has most of the elements of a viable village center, but would be better served by fewer "high concept" stores and more that serve everyday purpose.
- Fill in the center triangle w/retail w/residential over and parking underground.  
Wider sidewalks wouldn't hurt and neither would more light at night.
- The municipal parking lot is a big eye sore that ruins the fabric of the Centre. There should be future ability to build condo's to liven up the Centre.  
It's hard to cross Centre Street.
- Current land use is underutilized and not coordinated. Need to allow for more density mixing residential with retail/entertainment uses.
- Densify, but do it wisely with walk-up scale mixed use buildings.
- Try to stay with small lots.
- Newton Centre needs to be spruced up.
- It does not accurately reflect the true character of Newton.
- Get rid of that ugly parking lot in the middle!
- Add an arrow on Beacon Street to turn left on Centre - the leading green is confusing - sometimes
- Any thoughts on what to put in the doomed restaurant location just before Langley crosses the T?

- Too many banks.  
The model for Newton Centre should be the "Lifestyle Properties" that are being built for retail, residential and commercial use.
- The Centre has so much potential with so much retail land, yet the current collection of stores is very odd and not very conducive towards
- Newton Centre lacks identity.
- Please pay attention to overall visual appeal/feeling.
- Centre St traffic is a nightmare.
- As Newton's "civic" commercial center Newton Center is much less than it should be compared to centers like Wellesley and Lexington  
It's one of the best commercial centers in Newton, but it doesn't have as many options as Coolidge Corner in Brookline.
- Strengthen bike paths to the Center.
- Encourage walking.
- Municipal parking lot should be converted to greenspace, and parking should be available at a safe, patrolled parking garage elsewhere (nearby).
- Traffic at Centre & Beacon is horrible; suggest you ban parking on Beacon St.
- Remove the ugly parking lot in center.  
The Centre must keep the village concept on which it was designed to serve residents of that village.
- Need more long term parking for commuters in Newton Centre.
- Love the playground; use it often in the summer.  
Also love the summer concerts, wish there were more of them.  
Stores should stay open later --like till 8pm or 10pm.
- Police directing traffic during evening commute would alleviate congestion at major intersections.
- Intersection at Langley & Union is dangerous.
- Center parking lot is an eyesore and could be reused for gathering space to revitalize center.
- Several useful businesses but newest options much too expensive.
- It should be more visually appealing ... greener and cleaner.  
The "triangle" is really ugly. The one-story buildings around it are shabby looking.
- I would like to see a more vital, active-looking Centre.  
Bike lanes
- Bike racks.  
The density/use of the buildings needs to be more effective.
- Separate parking areas for long and short term users is needed and requires enforcement.
- I really like NC but I feel that some other towns in Newton have stronger communities like the Highlands and Newtonville.
- Newton Centre could be a real jewel of Newton, but it will require investing in creating new parking (garage? underground?).
- Yes. If I were building Newton Centre from Scratch I would make it more like Coolidge Corner/JFK Crossing in Brookline, except with a green common.
- So glad the taskforce is working on this!  
I avoid Centre St whenever possible because of the traffic. I know some heavy traffic is to be expected, as this is a city and I like living in a city.

- Traffic is Bad!
- Office space would be good for business, just make sure there is parking and traffic control.
- Fewer cars; get rid of the parking lot and put it on the backside of the center
- Bike lanes would be nice.  
Places to lock bikes.  
Please keep Newton centre safe without so many cars (encourage people to use the "t") and a small, quaint village to visit  
Stores are too exclusive and expensive because the high rents.  
Too many hair salons & banks.
- Too many banks and chain stores.
- I would support a ban on any more chain stores.  
The centre has lost its character and has very few useful businesses.
- It is ugly! Bury the cars and replace with green space.
- 2 hour parking should not apply to residents or their company.
- More greenspace and relaxed, attractive (CLEAN) pedestrian zones would be very welcome.
- Trash and traffic make the area unpleasant.  
Too pricey!
- Still the best town in Massachusetts!
- Beacon St Traffic entering NC from the west is very bad!!!
- Eliminate on street parking on both sides!!
- Create right hand turn lane!
- Newton Centre is lacking places or a place for young people to gather, meet talk, play music and just hang out.
- Teens need a coffee house or some other gathering place.  
There is no grocery store in Newton Centre.  
Clean it up! particularly Langley Road, and stop the encroachment of smothering housing for the affluent!
- YES! TRAFFIC! I have lived on Beacon Street between Walnut and Centre for 24 yrs.
- Do not "fix" that which is not broken
- It was better ten years ago, but it's still great to have it within walking distance.
- The commercial spaces in Newton Center are too small to have anything but boutiques, small restaurants, banks and small businesses.  
There are so many upscale shops.
- I can't afford clothes and don't even like what is offered!
- Newton Centre is a missed opportunity.
- I would go there more if the stores were more stroller friendly. -- No steps to enter!
- Pull the weeds!  
Keep the trash picked up.  
It's a fairly nice area now, but one that should be nicer.  
It really feels like it hasn't reached its potential.  
There is no place to just hang out outside.

- Must not have very tall buildings.
- Like the trees and open space.
- The big parking lot in the center creates a lot of traffic woes and is a rather ugly detraction from the look of the Centre.
- Great "New England Village" environment--should better use center lot for people, not cars!  
It's not a very pedestrian friendly area -- not a relaxing place to stroll with the kids. Even Newton Highlands is easier to spend time in.
- Why do we have a parking lot in the town green?
- How can traffic be mitigated when it seems so much of it converges in the center due to the Pike, Rte 128 and those cars exiting from Boston via Beacon ST.
- I like the car parking lot, and oppose building on it.
- We often go into Boston for restaurants and theater -- would certainly go to Newton Centre if good options existed there.
- This area is already too crowded. The idea of putting in more condos is disgusting.
- I enjoy being one of the volunteers who plant and maintain the Newton Centre garden and hope that whatever revitalization plans are being proposed do  
It is a village atmosphere don't ruin it!
- I kind of like it the way it is, and would not like to see it become such a hub that it attracts too many 'out of towners'.
- Repave Glen Ave!  
Traffic is a problem
- Support more local businesses.
- Traffic flow is poor in Newton Center and on Centre street all the way out to the mass pike.
- Please no more upscale stores/restaurants; keep it a neighborhood area
- I don't find Newton Centre to be attractive. I think the open space could look nicer. Maybe less telephone poles and wires.  
Needs to be made pedestrian friendly.
- I love Newton Centre and moved here from Brookline and Cambridge before that, primarily because of the gentle urban feel to the area.
- Drivers DO NOT stop for pedestrians, drivers go through red lights all the time
- I wish it wasn't so ugly. I wish it wasn't a nightmare at rush hour. There should be several traffic guards to help with the crazy drivers.
- I think housing units above the single story store fronts would bring added life to the area as well as provide additional housing.  
I think changing the central parking area to housing would make the area too crowded.
- Walkability.
- Side st. parking makes difficulties for tax paying homeowners who live in the immediate area, not fair that we cannot park in front of our own houses.  
Give citations to drivers who clog intersections at the lights.
- The Comm.Ave. traffic light is too long.  
The center needs a makeover.
- May be tough to do but it would be great to move the municipal parking lot to behind the shops and make the parking lot a green park area for events.

- I love living and shopping in Newton Centre.  
I'm strongly opposed to the plans for the so-called "renaissance." Erecting 4 story buildings would totally destroy the atmosphere of Newton Centre,
- It would be great to have a grassy area/beautiful square with benches for people to congregate, hang out.
- Make it prettier! Next to West Newton, it's one of the ugliest areas around.  
It would be nicer if it were more unified/connected without busy roads separating the different shopping areas  
Too much traffic, some stores not affordable. Flowers in the center are great!
- Stop nighttime noise from loud citizens/Students  
I go there more now than I used to.
- Newton Centre has no distinct personality right now. It needs to be more pedestrian friendly/cozy. There are many stores that I never knew existed.
- I think that you should leave it as a village type shopping area and not "fuss" it up with multi-story structures or bring in chain stores.
- We have lived in Newton Ctr for 36 years and have seen it go from a useful and lively place to a village where only the elite want to shop.
- I think Newton center is wasted on a large parking lot in the middle. I think that there should be construction adding many more stores.
- Turn the central parking lot into a park and have restaurants expand to outdoors. Plus improve the choice, plus add a book store plus add small music  
Every time another bank opens up, it's a wasted space.
- I strongly support the plan to move the parking out of the middle area and replace it with retail, green space (but there must be new parking).
- It's good, and it can be great. Hope the task force succeeds, and hope residents are given chance to react to their plans and progress.  
We need more parking spaces.  
Too many banks
- Adding condos doesn't seem too great; it doesn't make me want to live there.  
I think as long as rents are so outrageous, the ctr. will only continue to attract high-end banks and boutiques.  
Do not bring more cars into Newton Centre without adequate parking
- It is nice to have a town center to feel a sense of belonging and ownership.  
Newton Center is a great "New England" village--walkable, safe, attractive...would be well served if central parking lot were put to better use!
- So many kids are hanging out in Newton Centre -- need somewhere for them to go.  
Consider structured parking behind Walgreen's.
- I live 1/2 mile from the center of Newton Centre and work from my home
- Restrain the developers -- prices for housing are out of control and the place is homogeneous for only one wealthy segment of the population  
Have lived here 40 years with pleasure.

- I enjoy the accessibility of my Newton Center location which is equally distant from the centers of the Highlands and Centre shopping areas.
- We enjoy it, and like the idea that people are out.
- I think a grandiose plan which has little likelihood of ever being carried out is a huge waste of time.