

TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON

COMMUNITY INTERVIEWS / STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

WHAT ARE THEY?

Community/Stakeholder interviews are an effective method of obtaining a large volume of public opinion during a short period of time. They are group interview sessions during which Southampton residents, employers, and employees can help identify significant issues, voice concerns, and make recommendations for Southampton.

These interviews will be open to the public and individuals that the master plan committee has identified as stakeholders.

PURPOSE

- To uncover underlying issues or concerns in the community by specific groups and populations.
- Determine overall willingness to participate in and support the master planning effort and the implementation of future projects.
- Build people's interest in participating in the master planning process and other Ludlow events.

WHAT QUESTIONS WILL BE ASKED?

The following questions will be covered at each interview session:

- What are your general and specific concerns about the future of Southampton?
- What issues does Southampton presently face? What issues do you think it will be faced with?
- What questions do you have?
- What recommendations do you have to better help us plan for Southampton's future?

For interview sessions that are scheduled around a particular theme or topic like "business owners" or "housing," additional focused questions will also be asked.

HOW DO THE INTERVIEWS WORK?

- 50 minute sessions
- 4 to 6 people per session
- Day & evening sessions
- Interview responses are completely confidential

WHERE AND WHEN WILL THESE INTERVIEWS TAKE PLACE?

Interviews will be conducted at the Edwards Public Library. The 50-minute sessions will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10 and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 11.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE PARTICIPANT COMMENTS AFTER THE INTERVIEWS ARE OVER?

The project team will first compile all of the comments stated during the interviews. Then, the project team will draft a summary of key issues and predominant themes. This summary will be presented to the public and master planning committee. The interview findings are a valuable source of data that will help to shape the direction of the master planning process.

HOW DO I SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW?

Please contact Danielle Kahn at PVPC at 413-781-6045 or djkahn@pvpc.org to schedule your 50 minute interview.

WHO SHOULD BE REPRESENTED?

- Residents
- Business owners
- Representatives from major businesses
- Town employees
- Various ethnic groups
- High school and college age students
- Social-service organizations
- Public schools, including principals & guidance counselors
- Local developers, architects, landscape architects, etc.
- Members from the agricultural community
- Community organizations
- Many others!