

Mechanisms for distribution:

- Town website
- Rivereast
- Board and Commission agenda items
- First Selectman newsletter
- Facebook community page notices

Proposed timeline:

Open ASAP – potentially week of March 4

Close prior to joint workshops – allow for analysis and distribution

Demographic questions:

- 1) Race and ethnicity:
 - a. American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino, Other, Two or More Races, White
- 2) Age:
 - a. 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, Older than 75
- 3) Gender:
 - a. Female, Male, Other
- 4) Household annual income:
 - a. Under \$15,000, \$15,001-25,000, \$25,001-35,000, \$35,001-50,000, \$50,001-75,000, \$75,001-100,000, \$100,001+, I prefer not to say
- 5) Do you currently have children enrolled in the Colchester public school system? (Yes/No)
 - a. Which schools do you children attend currently? Bacon Academy, William J Johnson Middle School, Jack Jackter Intermediate School, Colchester Elementary School (multi-select)
- 6) Open question – do we know any statistics like this about Colchester? If so, we should adjust questions to let us compare our response pool versus the actual stats for the whole town (median household income, age breakdowns, etc.

Budget priority questions:

- 1) What do you like best about Colchester today? (free form)
- 2) What do you like least about Colchester today? (free form)
- 3) Please rate in order from 1 through 8 each category, in the order you would like budget consideration to be applied. Priority 1 being the one that would get the most consideration down to 8 being the lowest consideration. (question type – each number 1 through 8 can be assigned to each category once – so they are ‘force ranked’)
 - a. Categories:

- i. Fire, EMT, and Police
 - ii. Roads and town building maintenance
 - iii. Planning, zoning, and housing
 - iv. Fields and facilities
 - v. Parks and Recreation
 - vi. Youth services
 - vii. Senior services
 - viii. Other areas (specific below)
 - b. Please describe what areas you would specifically want to be sure are covered in the 'Other' category. (free form)
 - c. Please note any specific services or concerns related to any of the categories prioritized above that you want to emphasize.
 - d. Create a follow up questions specific to each category; each worded "How important are XXXX when determining where to allocate the town's limited resources? (choices: Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not Important)
- 4) What do you think are the biggest problems facing Colchester in the next twelve months?
 - a. Get free-form responses, consolidate into themes. Theme examples: Violence, Homelessness, High Cost of Living, Drugs, Traffic, Jobs, Pollution, Other
- 5) In general, how do you feel about taxes and the funding of town services?
 - a. Choices:
 - i. I am in favor of reducing both taxes and town services
 - ii. I am willing to pay more taxes only if it will increase service levels
 - iii. I am in favor of keeping taxes the same rate even if it means services must be reduced
 - iv. I am willing to pay more taxes if necessary to keep existing service levels
 - v. Other
 - b. Please give any details you would like to accompany your answer.
- 6) Please note any other concerns or commentary related to your budget preferences here. (free form)