

**Town of Bristol  
Citizen Survey  
March 2008**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling on behalf of the Town of Bristol. We are doing a citizens opinion survey as part of the town's update of its comprehensive plan. The survey will take about 15-20 minutes. Would you be willing to participate?

**For demographic and statistical purposes, I need to ask you a few questions about yourself. At no time are you personally identified.**

1. Are you a resident of the Town of Bristol?  
1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no
  
2. Are you 18 years of age or older?  
1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no Is there someone 18 years old at home who I might speak with? If NO, Terminate.
  
3. Including yourself, how many residents live in your household? \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. If any, how many are children under the age of 18? \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. [If children] Are your children enrolled in Bristol public schools, private schools or home schooled?  
1 \_\_\_public                      2 \_\_\_private                      3 \_\_\_home
  
6. How many persons in your household are 65 years or older? \_\_\_\_\_
  
7. How long have you lived in Bristol? \_\_\_\_\_
  
8. Do you own or rent your home?  
1 \_\_\_own                      2 \_\_\_rent
  
9. Including yourself, how many wage earners are there in the household? \_\_\_\_\_
  
10. How many members of your household work in the town of Bristol? \_\_\_\_\_
  
11. Does anyone in your household currently use public transportation to get to work?  
1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no                      3 \_\_\_unsure
  
12. How many motor vehicles does your household possess? \_\_\_\_\_
  
13. Which of the following categories includes your age?  
1 \_\_\_18-24      2 \_\_\_25-40      3 \_\_\_41-55      4 \_\_\_55-69      5 \_\_\_70 and above

14. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- 1 \_\_\_ some high school      2 \_\_\_ high school grad      3 \_\_\_ junior college  
4 \_\_\_ some college      5. \_\_\_ college grad      6 \_\_\_ post college work  
7 \_\_\_ no answer

15. What language do you speak at home most of the time? \_\_\_\_\_

**Now I'm going to ask you some questions about living in Bristol.**

16. **Do you know of any Bristol residents who have had to move out of town because they could not afford to stay?**

- 1 \_\_\_ yes      2 \_\_\_ no      3 \_\_\_ don't know

17. **Have you used the East Bay bike path in the past two years?**

- 1 \_\_\_ yes      2 \_\_\_ no      3 \_\_\_ unsure

18. **How often do you use one of Bristol's public parks?** [READ OPTIONS]

- 1 \_\_\_ often      2 \_\_\_ sometimes      3 \_\_\_ rarely      4 \_\_\_ never

19. [IF SOMETIMES OR OFTEN, ASK] **Which park?** \_\_\_\_\_

20. **Overall, how would you rate the quality of life in Bristol? Would you say it is:** [READ]

- 1 \_\_\_ Excellent      2 \_\_\_ Good      3 \_\_\_ Fair      4 \_\_\_ Poor

21. **Overall, over the past five years, would you say the quality of life in Bristol** [READ]

- 1 \_\_\_ is improving      2 \_\_\_ is about the same      3 \_\_\_ is declining      4 \_\_\_ not sure

22. How important to you think preserving historic areas is to the quality of life in Bristol?[READ]

- 1 \_\_\_ very important      2 \_\_\_ important      3 \_\_\_ not important      4 \_\_\_ not sure

23. Do you support the continued funding of the Historic Tax Credit Program?

- 1 \_\_\_ yes      2 \_\_\_ no      3 \_\_\_ Don't know

24. Do you think that Bristol's historic district should be expanded to cover more of the town?

- 1 \_\_\_ yes      2 \_\_\_ no      3 \_\_\_ don't know

25. Do you favor or oppose the use of townwide design guidelines to regulate the appearance of new or renovating buildings in the town?

1\_\_favor

2\_\_oppose

3\_\_don't know

**26. I'm going to read you a list of Town services. For each, please rate the following services on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent. If you've have no contact with the service, say no contact.**

|                          |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| A. police protection     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| B. fire protection       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| C. rescue service        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| D. street repair         | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| E. snow removal          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| F. trash collection      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| G. recycling             | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| H. Drinking Water        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| I. Public Schools        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| J. Town Library          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| K. Town Website          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| L. Senior Services       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| M. Youth Services        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| N. Parks                 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| O. Town Beach            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |
| P. Recreation Facilities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NC |

27. Now let's talk about economic development. For each idea that I read, please tell me if you favor, oppose, or are unsure about additional development in Bristol. Do you favor or oppose more:

- a) retail stores                    1 \_\_\_ favor                    2 \_\_\_ oppose                    3 \_\_\_ DK
- b) office development            1 \_\_\_ favor                    2 \_\_\_ oppose                    3 \_\_\_ DK
- c) industrial development        1 \_\_\_ favor                    2 \_\_\_ oppose                    3 \_\_\_ DK
- d) redeveloping older manuf into new manuf/industrial 1 \_\_\_ favor                    2 \_\_\_ oppose                    3 \_\_\_ DK

**Question #28:**

Commercial development includes retail, restaurant, office, and service businesses. Would you favor or oppose more commercial development in the following areas: **[READ SLOWLY.**

**PAUSE AFTER EACH. WAIT FOR RESPONSE OR REPEAT.]**

- a) the east side of Metacom Avenue.....1\_\_Favor 2\_\_Oppose 3\_\_DK/NA
- b) the west side of Metacom Avenue..... 1\_\_Favor 2\_\_Oppose 3\_\_DK/NA
- c) Wood Street..... 1\_\_Favor 2\_\_Oppose 3\_\_DK/NA
- d) Is there any other area in which you would favor commercial development.....1\_\_yes 2\_\_no 3\_\_DK/NA

**[IF YES]**

Where? [WRITE IN] \_\_\_\_\_

**Question #29:**

Approximately, how often do you go to downtown Bristol for the following purposes? Your options are:

|                | DAILY | WEEKLY | MONTHLY | NEVER |
|----------------|-------|--------|---------|-------|
| a) shopping    | 1     | 2      | 3       | 4     |
| b) post office | 1     | 2      | 3       | 4     |
| c) restaurants | 1     | 2      | 3       | 4     |
| d) library     | 1     | 2      | 3       | 4     |
| e) banking     | 1     | 2      | 3       | 4     |
| f)recreation   | 1     | 2      | 3       | 4     |

**Question #30:**

Think for a moment about the downtown commercial area. What improvements, if any, would you like to see made in that area? [This is an open-ended question. If the respondent waits for options, tell him/her that.]

**Question #31:**

Would you feel comfortable living in a zoning district that also has small business located there?

- 1) \_\_\_yes                      2) \_\_\_no                      3) \_\_\_ not sure                      4) \_\_ already does

**Question #32**

Do you think it is important to protect open space?

- 1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no                      3 \_\_\_unsure

[IF YES} Are there any specific areas of town that you think are important to protect? [WRITE IN. BE SPECIFIC]

**Question #33**

Would you support moving the Bristol Golf Course to Minturn Farm (the old landfill)?

- 1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no                      3 \_\_\_don't know

**Question #34**

Do you support increased density (such as smaller lot sizes) and mixed use development in exchange for preserving open space?

- 1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no                      3 \_\_\_don't know

**Question #35**

Should Bristol invest in alternative energy sources such as wind and solar energy?

- 1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no                      3 \_\_\_unsure

**Question #36:**

In your view, does Roger Williams University play a positive role in the Bristol community?

- 1 \_\_\_yes                      2 \_\_\_no                      3 \_\_\_unsure

**Question #37:**

In your opinion, do you think the town's payment-in-lieu-of-taxes agreement with RWU is fair?

[if respondent asks you what that means, say that it is an agreement reached last summer where the university would provide money and other resources to the town as a contribution. The university pays no property taxes because it is a non-profit institution. If the respondent required an explanation, check here \_\_\_\_\_]

1 \_\_\_yes      2 \_\_\_no      3 \_\_\_unsure

**Question 38:**

Would you like to see an emergency response system implemented for Bristol?

1 \_\_\_yes      2 \_\_\_no      3 \_\_\_unsure

Question 39. Which Bristol neighborhood do you live in or close to?

[IF DON'T KNOW, READ LIST]

- \_\_\_\_\_ Highlands
- \_\_\_\_\_ Kickemuit
- \_\_\_\_\_ Narrows
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hopeworth
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mount Hope
- \_\_\_\_\_ College
- \_\_\_\_\_ Downtown
- \_\_\_\_\_ Poppasquash
- \_\_\_\_\_ High School
- \_\_\_\_\_ Colt State Park
- \_\_\_\_\_ Northern

If still don't know, ask what street s/he lives on \_\_\_\_\_

**Thanks very much for your time and cooperation**

**BUSINESS**  
**Town of Bristol Comprehensive Plan Survey**  
**March 2008**

[WHEN THE OWNER/ MANAGER IS ON THE PHONE] Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I'm with the Town of Bristol, and they have asked us to do a citizens opinion survey. This survey's important because it will be used to update the Town's comprehensive plan. May I start by asking if this is a good time to speak with you? [IF NO, RESCHEDULE OR GIVE PHONE NUMBER TO CALL US AT THEIR CONVENIENCE]

\_\_ yes [CONTINUE]      \_\_no [OBTAIN CALL-BACK DATA OR TERMINATE]

**Questions #1**

In which category is your company? [READ LIST]

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| a__ manufacturer | d__ services                            |
| b__ wholesaler   | e__ boating and related industry        |
| c__ retailer     | f__ distribution/transportation company |
|                  | g__ tourism                             |
|                  | h__ other                               |
- [SPECIFY]:  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**Question #2:**

How long has your company been doing business in Bristol?

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| a__ less than 1 year | d__ 6-10 years    |
| b__ 1-2 years        | e__ 10-20 years   |
| c__ 3-5 years        | f__ over 20 years |

**Question #3**

Roughly, how many employees work at your place of business? [WRITE IN]

1 \_\_\_\_\_

**Question #4**

In the short term, do you plan to: [READ CATEGORIES]

- 1\_\_\_ Increase the number of employees at company  
→(if yes how many) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2\_\_\_ Stay about the same size
- 3) \_\_\_ Reduce employees  
→(If yes by how many) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_ Leave town
- 5) \_\_\_ Unsure

**Question #5:**

Are you a resident of Bristol?

- 1) \_\_\_ Yes → For how long? \_\_\_ year \_\_\_ month
- 2) \_\_\_ No

**Question #6:**

Do you know about what percent of your employees live in Bristol?

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_% (WRITE IN)
- 2) don't know \_\_\_\_\_

**Question #7:**

Are you a member of any business associations?

- 1) \_\_\_ Chamber of commerce
- 2) \_\_\_ Rotary
- 3) \_\_\_ Other [SPECIFY] → \_\_\_\_\_

**Question #8:**

About what percentage of your business is conducted over the internet? (READ)

- 1\_\_ none
- 2\_\_ up to 25%
- 3\_\_ 25-50%
- 4\_\_ 50% and above

**Question #9:**

Which of the following would describe the boating industry for Bristol?

1\_\_ very important    2\_\_ important                      3\_\_ not important

**Thank you now, here are the questions related to Bristol and your business.**

**Question #10:**

Overall, how would you rate Bristol as a place in which to do business? Would you say it is: **(READ LIST)**

1 \_\_ excellent              3 \_\_ average    5 \_\_ unsure **(DON'T READ)**  
2 \_\_ satisfactory        4 \_\_ poor

**Question #11:**

Overall, would you say that the business climate in Bristol: **[READ LIST]**

1\_\_is improving    2\_\_staying about the same    3\_\_or deteriorating

**Question #12:**

I'm going to read you a list of Town services. For each, please tell me how you would rate the service: **please rate them 1 to 5, one being poor and five being excellent. And if you don't have any contact with a service please say no contact. [CIRCLE ONE RESPONSE FOR EACH]**

|                                 |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| a) Police Protection.....       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| b) Fire Protection.....         | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| c) Rescue Services.....         | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| d) Street Repair.....           | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| e) Snow Removal.....            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| f) Trash Collection.....        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| h) Public Works.....            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| f) Drinking Water.....          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| g) Public Schools.....          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| h) Town Library.....            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| i) Town Website.....            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| j) Senior Citizen Services..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| k) Town Parks.....              | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |

|                               |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| l) Beach.....                 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| m) Recreation facilities..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |
| n) services for youth.....    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | nc |

**Question #13:**

Does your company currently employ students or recent graduates from the Bristol-Warren Regional school system?

- 1) \_\_\_yes    2) \_\_\_ no    3) \_\_\_ don't know

**Question #14:**

Would you be in favor or opposed to the use of design guidelines, to regulate the appearance of new or renovated business buildings in Bristol?

- 1) \_\_\_yes    2) \_\_\_ no    3) \_\_\_ not sure

**Question #15:**

Now let's talk about economic development. For each idea that I read, please tell me if you favor, oppose, or are unsure about additional development in Bristol. Do you favor or oppose more: [READ LIST. READ CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY. CIRCLE ONE ANSWER FOR EACH]

a) Retail Stores..... 1\_\_\_favor    2\_\_\_ oppose    3\_\_don't know

b) Office Development/ Industrial development including manufacturing, research and light assembly ..... 1\_\_\_favor    2\_\_\_ oppose  
3\_\_don't know

c) Re-developing older manufacturing Into new manufacturing or industrial..... 1\_\_\_favor2\_\_\_ oppose    3\_\_don't know

d) Re-develop old manufacturing plants into new residential apartments or complexes.... 1\_\_\_favor2\_\_\_ oppose    3\_\_don't know

**Question #16:**

Commercial development includes retail, restaurant, office, and service businesses. More specifically, would you favor or oppose more commercial development in the following areas:

a) the east side of Metacom Avenue..... 1\_\_\_favor    2\_\_\_ oppose    3\_\_don't know

b) the west side of Metacom Avenue.... 1\_\_\_favor    2\_\_\_ oppose    3\_\_don't know

c) Wood Street..... 1\_\_\_favor    2\_\_\_ oppose  
3\_\_don't know

d) Is there any other area in which you are  
in favor of commercial development..... 1\_\_favor 2\_\_ oppose  
3\_\_don't know  
→Where (write in) \_\_\_\_\_

**Question #17:**

And now thinking about improving the downtown commercial area, are there  
ways in which you think it could be improved? Please name them.

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**Question #18**

When it comes to redeveloping older, unused industrial facilities to encourage business to locate in the Town of Bristol, who do you think should have the primary responsibility? Should it be the State, the Town, private developers, or a combination of government and the private sector?

- 1\_\_state                      3\_\_private sector  
2\_\_ town                      4\_\_ combination

**Question #19**

Now thinking of the downtown waterfront, would favor or oppose the following types of the development there? If you're not sure or have no opinion, state that.

- a) marina    \_\_1 in favor                      \_\_\_\_2 opposed                      \_\_\_3 no opinion/not sure  
b)residential \_\_1 in favor                      \_\_\_\_2 opposed                      \_\_\_\_3 no opinion/not sure  
c) retail    \_\_1 in favor                      \_\_\_\_2opposed                      \_\_\_3 no opinion/not sure

**Question#20:**

How important would you say the tourism is to the success of business? **(READ)**

- 1\_\_very important                      2\_\_ important                      3\_\_ not important

**Question #21:**

How important do you think the downtown historic district is to the success of your business?

- 1\_\_very important                      2\_\_ important                      3\_\_ not important

**Question #22**

Do you favor or oppose the historic properties tax credit program?

1\_\_\_ favor            2\_\_\_oppose            3\_\_\_unsure/no opinion

**Question #23:**

Have you ever applied to be an enterprise zone company?

1\_\_\_ yes            2\_\_\_ no            3\_\_\_ unsure

**Question #24:**

At some point would you like to have someone call you, if you have an issue you would like to discuss with a Town official?

1\_\_\_if yes (I have please have your name\_\_\_\_\_ and your number\_\_\_\_\_)

**Question #26:**

What street is your business located on?

1\_\_\_\_\_ (WRITE IN)

**Thank you very much for your time and cooperation**