

## Overview

The consulting team held a workshop on May 4, 2022 at Mamaroneck High School, during which the Original Civic Research & Action (OCRA) students provided input for the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The consulting team, together with a Comprehensive Plan Committee member, facilitated the workshop. Students placed themselves into small groups of 15, and a facilitator led each small group. Using maps of the Town, facilitators asked students to identify areas in the Town that they identified as "strong" and areas they identified as "challenged." Students then identified strengths and weaknesses within the Town, linking them directly to specific locations. They marked the strong areas with green dots and challenged areas with red dots. Students then brainstormed about what makes a place strong and what makes a place challenged. Students identified strong places as those areas in the Town that people enjoy and find necessary and are attractive places to visit. They identified challenged places as those areas that people do not enjoy, are undesirable, or people believe need to be fixed. The small groups then discussed strategies for overcoming the Town's challenges and discussed big ideas for the Town. A recorder documented all responses using a large paper flip-chart, markers, and easels. After the small group discussions concluded, each group presented their findings. A summary of the students' feedback is presented below.



High school students identified ways to make Mamaroneck better and overcome the Town's challenges. The students recommended filling vacant storefronts and creating more vibrant commercial areas that feature entertainment venues like a movie theater and bowling alley, as well as a variety of restaurants that attract young adults and other customers. Students would like the Town to support and encourage new businesses, including through incentives and beautification efforts. They also would like more job opportunities for young adults and others.



For housing, students suggested building more multifamily housing near the train station. Additionally, students would like a more diverse variety of affordable housing, especially duplexes and multifamily housing, and they want the Town to identify funding opportunities and provide incentives to build affordable housing. They also suggested educating residents about the importance of providing affordable housing.

To enhance the Town's transportation, the students suggested making Mamaroneck more pedestrian friendly by building more sidewalks and improving existing sidewalks. They suggested promoting other modes of transportation by adding bicycle lanes and paths throughout the Town, as well as making city scooters available. Students would like the Town to make roads safer for pedestrians, including by adding more crosswalks, and want to improve traffic patterns and intersections to enhance safety, such as through changes to

traffic lights and installation of roundabouts. They suggest staggering school start times to reduce traffic, repairing damaged roads, and using physical parking meters instead of a parking application for metered parking.

For services, students would like the Town to provide more clean public bathrooms and create more public open spaces and recreational areas. They also want the Town to improve and make existing parks, trails and waterfront more accessible. Students want to eliminate pollution and trash in parks, trails and along the waterfront and want to reduce the Town's park and recreation fees. They also want the Town to offer more community programs and events, especially for young adults, and they suggest building a public library, providing better cell service, and coordinating municipal services among the Town and other two municipalities.

Finally, to improve environmental conditions, the students recommend building green homes and installing solar energy systems.