

# TOWN OF HALFMOON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Comprehensive Plan  
Update Committee (CPUC)

Meeting #3

June 15, 2023

Town Hall



# AGENDA

- Welcome
- Project Scope & Schedule Update
- Public Participation Update
- Visioning Discussion
- Next Steps



# SCHEDULE OF MILESTONES



\*CPUC Meetings – Every other month

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Public Meeting #2

May 25, 2023, 6:00 - 8:00PM

- Approximately 25 people in attendance
- Speed round discussions lasted 10 minutes per topic for a total of 4 rounds
- Meeting summary available on [www.planhalfmoon.com](http://www.planhalfmoon.com)



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Public Meeting #2

### Topic #1 Transportation & Mobility:

- Need for more sidewalks that connect the Town
- Trails and bike lanes separate from roads that connect to residential developments
- Safety should be prioritized for children and seniors
- Traffic calming techniques
- Public transportation along Routes 9 and 146



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Public Meeting #2

### Topic #2 Economic Growth:

- Vacant buildings be reused/redeveloped instead of building new buildings
- More retail development
- Less growth and development
  - “Let [the town] catch up”
- Preference for something other than strip malls.
- Architecture/site design guidelines
- Green space requirements
- Incentivize farming as economic growth
- Identity of Halfmoon

less economic incentive

↳ direct benefit to community

→ community character

- arch/site design guidelines

(some exist already - but maybe more?)

green space requirements



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Public Meeting #2

### Topic #3 Neighborhoods and Housing:

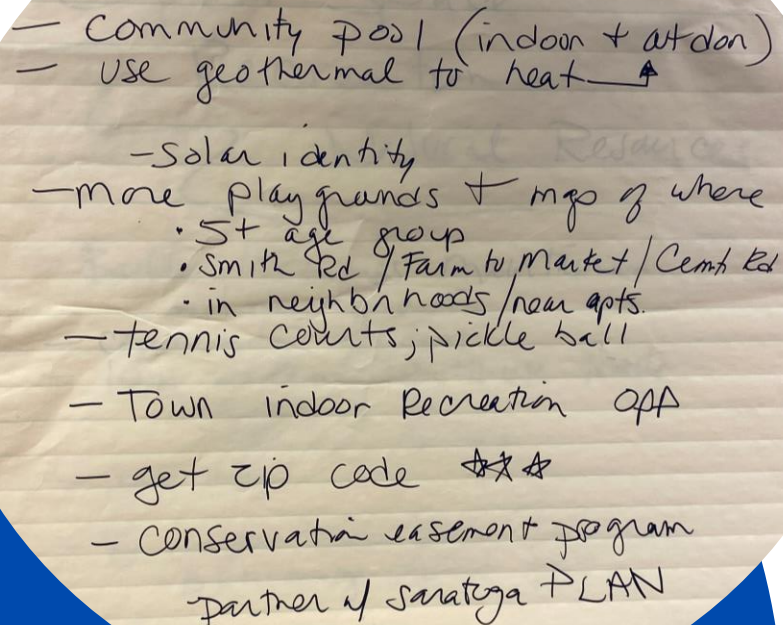
- Challenges related to housing are traffic and accidents
- Balance increased housing needs
- Better access with existing neighborhoods
- Shifting from septic to sewer is costly for residents
- Prioritize the use or reuse of vacant buildings
- Desire for Halfmoon to have its own zip code
- Coordinate development with the county
- Need water connections to existing neighborhoods
- Public internet



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Public Meeting #2

### Topic #4 Recreation & Open Space/ Natural Resources:

- 
- Community pool (indoor + outdoor)
  - Use geothermal to heat → ↑
  - Solar identity
  - more playgrounds + info of where
    - 5+ age group
    - Smith Rd / Farm to Market / Cent Rd
    - in neighbor hoods / near apts.
  - tennis courts; pickle ball
  - Town indoor recreation opp
  - get zip code \*\*\*
  - conservation easement program  
partner of Saratoga PLAN

- Desire for buffer/ tree lines alongside new growth
- Community Gardens
- Long walking and multi-use trails
- Identity of Halfmoon
- Halfmoon is a bi-coastal town to the Hudson and Mohawk River
  - Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor
- Expand public resources
- Halfmoon has a solar energy identity
- Town indoor recreation during off seasons
- Conservation easement programs





# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Community Survey

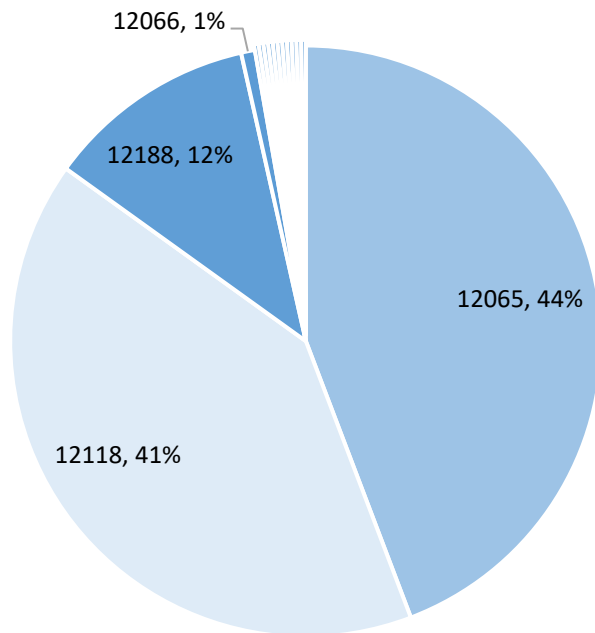
- Online platform, with hard copies available at Town Hall
- 400 responses total
- Advertised in Press Releases, Project Website, Town Website, Public Workshop



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Community Survey

(Q1) Please enter your home zip code:



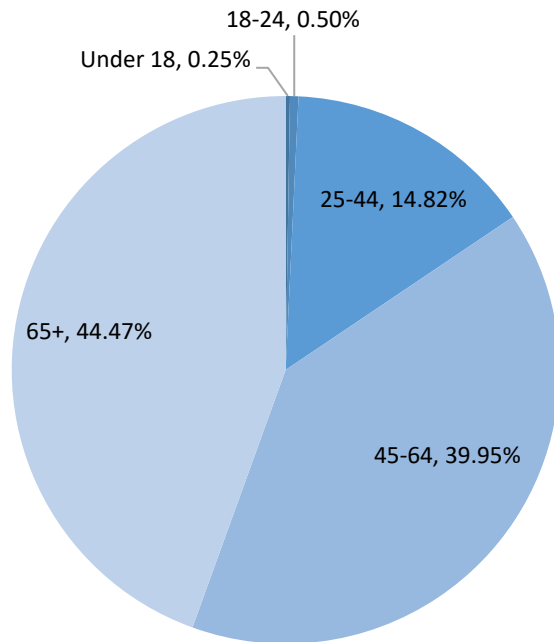
- most frequent zip codes were 12065 and 12118
- 2.75% of respondents lived in zip codes outside of Halfmoon



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Community Survey

(Q2) Please enter your age:



- largest respondent age group - 65+
- 39.95% in the 45-64-year-old age group
- 14.82% in the 25-44-year-old age group
- 0.50% in the 18-24-year-old age group
- 0.025% in the under 18 age group

*According to the ACS 2021 5-year estimate, 29.7% of the 45-64-year-old and 27.5% of the 25-44-year-old age groups make up the largest cohorts in Halfmoon .*

This indicates that the age of respondents who completed the survey is closely representative of Halfmoons population.

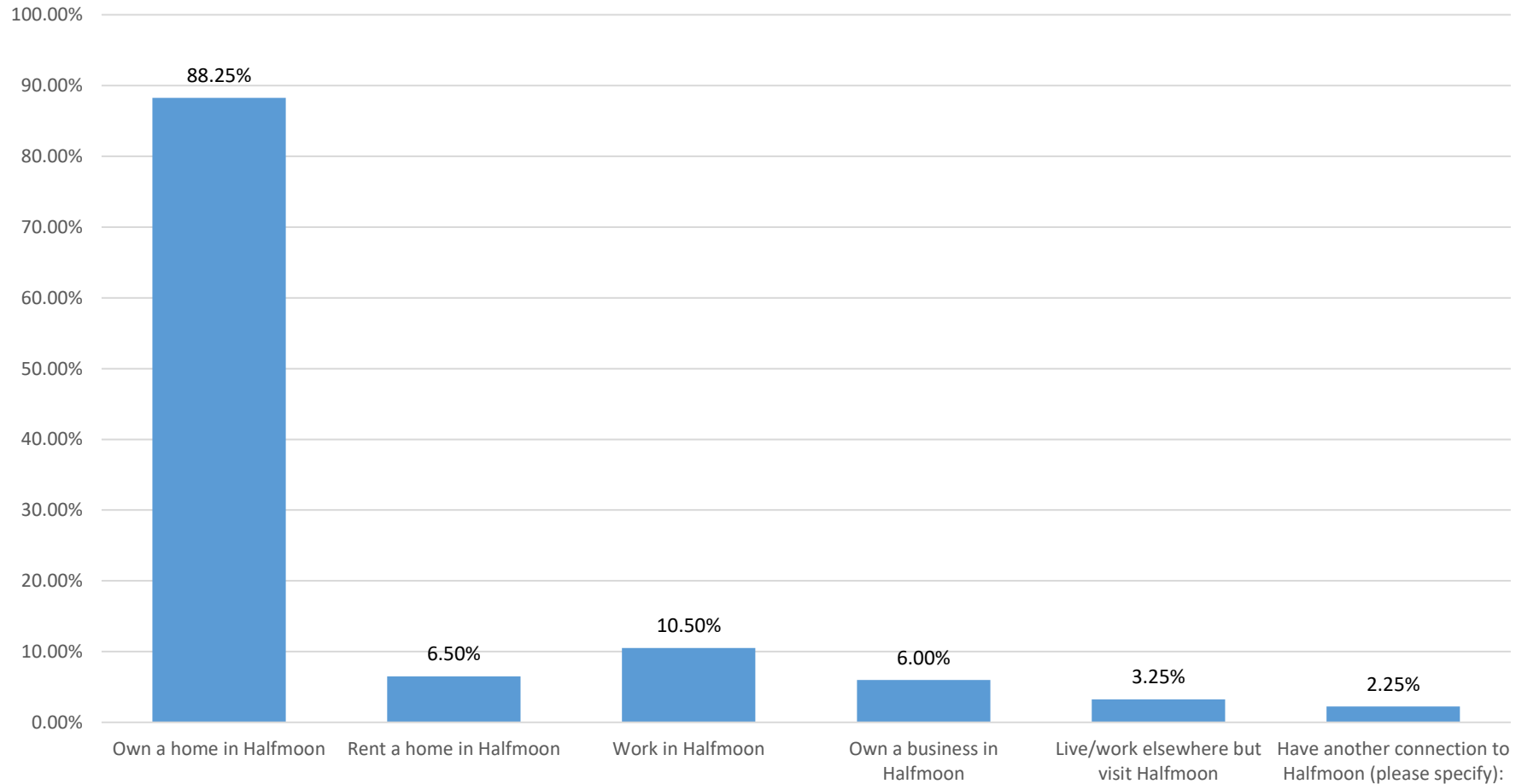
The trend in Halfmoon is towards an aging population, this will impact the needs of each demographic.



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

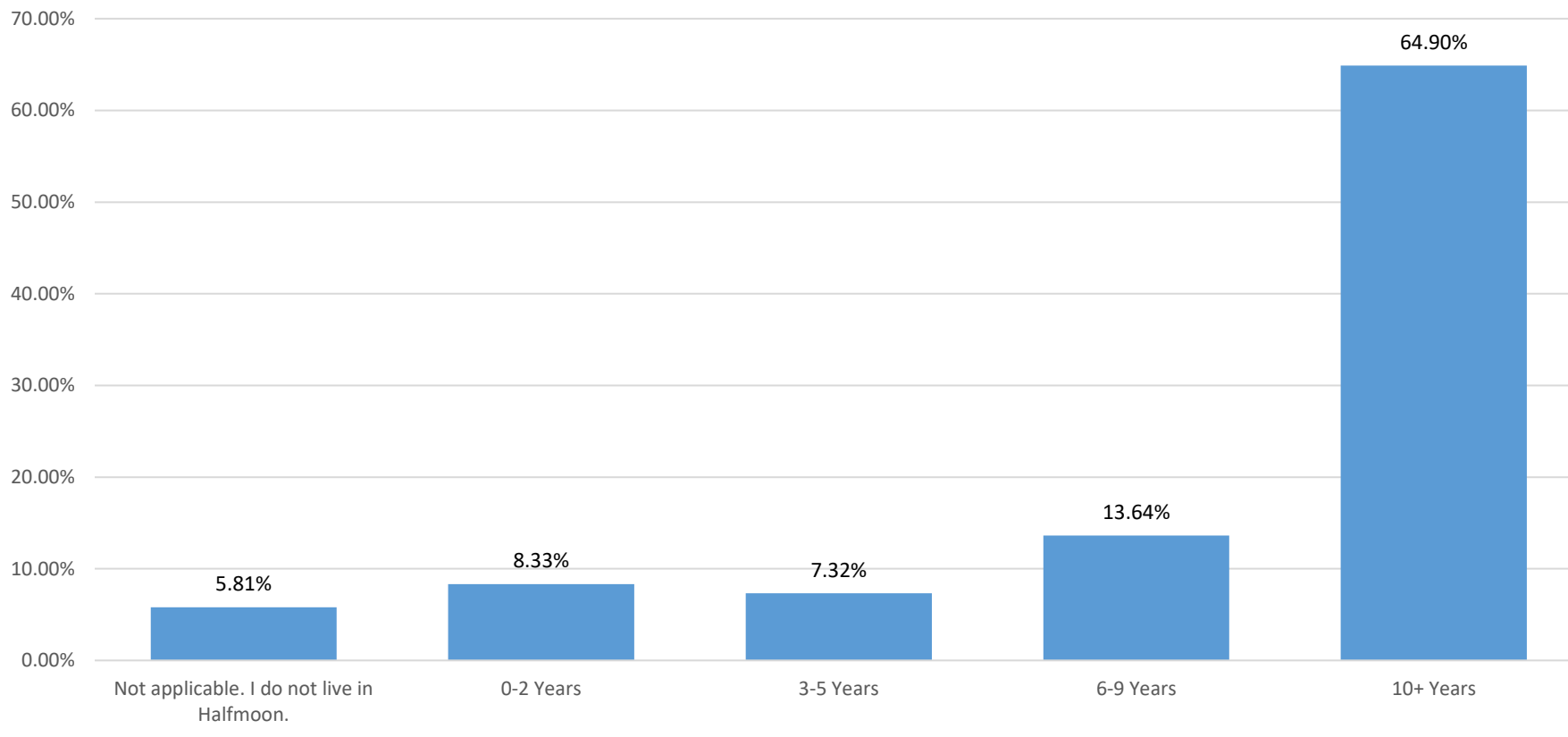
## Community Survey

(Q5) Please check all that apply to you:



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

(Q6) If you live in the Town, how long have you lived in Halfmoon?



## Community Survey

- 64.90% have lived in Town for ten (10) years or more



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE



## Community Survey

**Question 9 (Q9)** Halfmoon is home to many special places that make the community unique. What is one place in Halfmoon that you think is an especially important asset to the Town?

- Town Park
- Walking trails (ex. Zim Smith Trail)
- Riverfront
- Senior Center



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Community Survey

**Question 10 (Q10)** 10. In a sentence – or just a few descriptive words – how would you describe your ideal vision for future Halfmoon (five to ten years from now)?

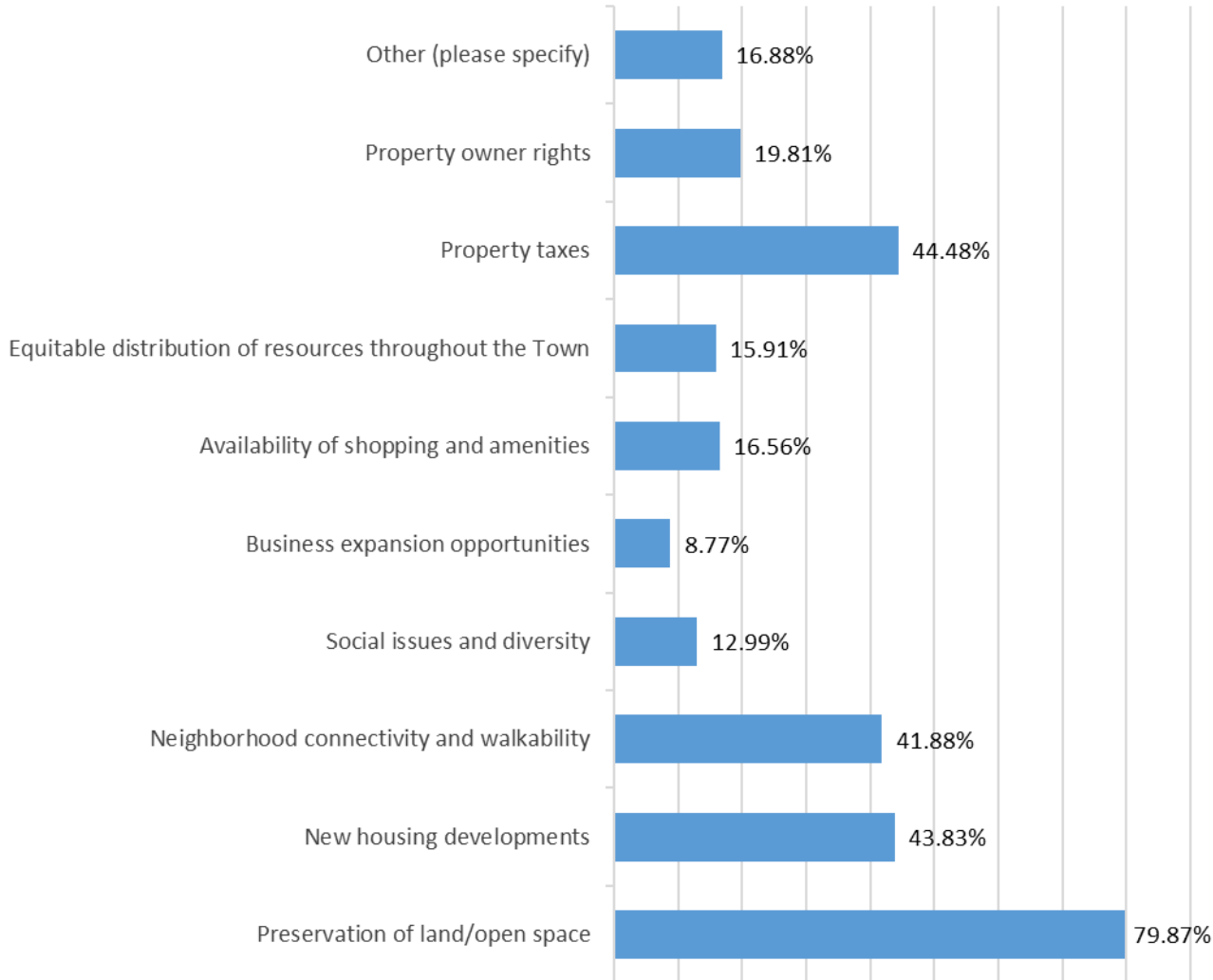
Common themes from the responses included:

- No - slow growth
- Maintain and/or increase green/ open spaces
- Greater walkability
  - *Note: that the prospect of future development is split between slow and no growth*



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

(Q11) What are challenges/concerns facing the Town of Halfmoon, now or in the near future (Select 3)?



## Community Survey

- “preservation of land/open space” (79.87%)
- “property taxes” (44.48%)
- “new housing developments” (43.83%)
- “neighborhood connectivity/walkability” (41.88%)
- the most common response in the “Other” category was traffic

**Responses align with the most frequent themes from Question 10**





# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

(Q14) What type of housing would you prefer to see constructed in Halfmoon in the next 20 years?



## Community Survey

- Most would prefer “low-density residential development of single-family housing”
- Close second, 33.33% would prefer a “mix of housing types and price points...individuals and families...variety of income levels”
- The most common responses in the “Other” category: none and affordable senior housing
- Demonstrates that there may be a need for affordable options for those who are looking to downsize or in the market for a starter home



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Community Survey

Question 16 (Q16) asked respondents to share any other ideas they have for the Town of Halfmoon.

**Town's infrastructure must adapt with the growth, without losing Halfmoon's historic charm**

increase of traffic in Halfmoon

concerns again over the changing character of Halfmoon (ex. Less rural, "becoming Clifton Park")

increase of recreational opportunities

More parks and/or increased community activities at the park

need for public transport

better/more frequent Town communication methods  
(Text list, posting updates in the Facebook again etc.)



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

## Ongoing Activities:

- Project Website <https://www.planhalfmoon.com/>
- Project Cards
- Comment Forms
- Public Meeting #3 – Fall 2023
  - Presentation of the vision, goals, strategies and preliminary recommendations to the public



# VISIONING

Understanding  
Where You Are

Where Do You  
Want To Be?

How Do You  
Get There?

THE EXISTING STATE



THE DESIRED STATE



IMPLEMENTATION



# VISIONING

## Community Vision – What's a vision?

- A vision statement establishes the direction of the community over **the next five to ten years**
- It forms the **basis for the Comprehensive Plan**
- All subsequent **recommendations aim to achieve** the established vision
- Use **present tense** (as if you are ten years in the future)



# VISIONING

## Community Vision – What's a vision?

Subjects typically addressed:

- Common **values** of a community
- **Qualities, resources and assets** that make a community unique or describe its identity
- Attributes of the community that people want to **preserve or change**
- **Preferred future** for each subject area of the community



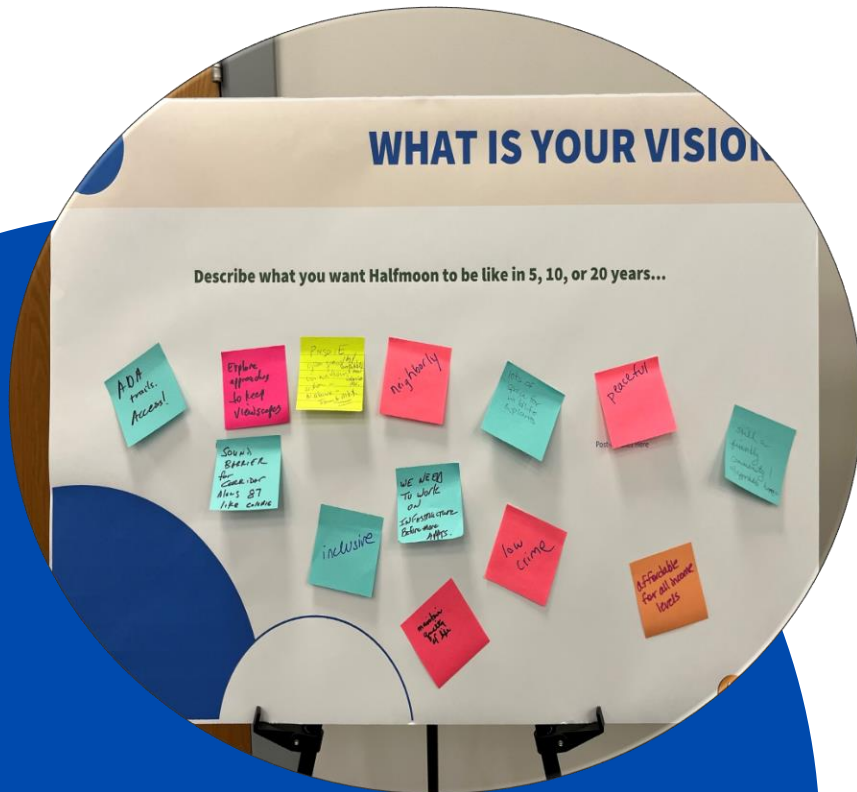
# Visioning

## Vision Statement from Existing Comprehensive Plan (2003)

The Town of Halfmoon envisions itself as a **“lifelong” community**, providing a quality of life that promotes **small town values** and social, recreational and economic opportunities, enabling residents to **make Halfmoon their home for this and future generations**; a growing community that values and celebrates its natural, historic, cultural, and agricultural resources and is **progressive in its efforts** to manage growth, to conserve community resources and achieve fiscal balance.



# NEXT STEPS



- Draft Vision & Goals
- Draft Community Profile
- Public Meeting #3 – Fall 2023
- Next Committee Meeting
  - Thursday, August 17, 2023

