
Community Vision:

What are the defining features of the community?

- o Quiet
- o Walkable Main Street
- o Rivers and Waterfront
- o "Colored Slate Capital"
- o Little League
- o Bandstand concerts
- o Community and service organizations
- o Small-town character and identity
- o Main Street and Quaker Street
- o Farming and agriculture
- o Strong business and community support
- o Family-friendly
- o Good employment base; industries
- o Museums
- o Hub location
- o Safety – fire and police protection, emergency volunteers
- o Unspoiled
- o Growing – more families and more facilities
- o Community events

What is your vision for the Village 10 years into the future?

- o Expanding up North Street
- o Vergennes
- o More home occupations/professionals
- o Downtown development
- o Main Street and Quaker Street should complement each other
- o Main corridor is a place to stop and looks nice
- o Historic nature
- o Good sidewalks/streetscape enhancements
- o Growing businesses and tourism
- o Defined "niche"
- o Support for Village amenities
- o Capitalize on the momentum of current projects
- o "Play where you stay" – create a destination
- o Tie in agriculture
- o Lodging/Bed and Breakfasts or hotel to accommodate family
- o Maintain character
- o See everything done!
- o Rails-to-Trails project
- o Theme and expansion for Main Street
- o Continued recreation opportunities for kids outside

What issues need to be addressed?

- o Every shop should be filled
- o Traffic congestion and traffic speed on Main Street
- o Parking signage
- o More sidewalks and lighting – like Warren Street (Glens Falls)
- o Walkway along the river
- o Need zoning along Route 22
- o Code enforcement
- o Balance development and land use regulations/Tax breaks for businesses on Main Street
- o Theater – expand affordable options
- o Help with developing business plans
- o Bypasses to Main Street – need to funnel traffic
- o Price Chopper – people leave without seeing the Village
- o Signage and gateways need updating
- o Waterfront access
- o Need agritourism – already have the farms!
- o Keeping businesses here
- o Community vegetable garden
- o Annual defining event, such as a car show or concert series
- o More consistent character on Main Street

Summary:

- The Village of Granville can be defined as a rural, historic, small town with a rich heritage and proud residents. From the Little League games, to the bandstand concerts in Veteran's Park, to fishing in the river, Granville is a family-friendly community with something to offer everyone. Main Street provides the Village with a walkable business district while a stable local economy ensures work and opportunities. In the future, residents of Granville would like to expand upon existing assets, from business district growth to infrastructure and trail system improvements. In ten years, residents would like to see increased tourism and the creation of the Village as a "destination" with a defined niche. There are some issues which residents would like to see addressed. There are a few key street intersections within the Village that need improvements for safety. Existing storefronts need to attract businesses in order to fill the downtown. Residents are open to considering tax incentives and amending land use regulations to encourage more business downtown. Hosting more events such as car shows or concerts, and posting wayfinding signs, were other ways residents offered to get visitors downtown.

Downtown/Main Street Area:

What are the positive features of downtown?

- Mettowee River
- Slate Valley Museum, Pember Museum and Library, Post Office
- Ambiance – trees, street lights, small town, decoration
- Revitalization on Main and River Street
- New bridge
- Park benches
- Opportunities and potential
- Unique
- Buildings/architecture
- Traffic flow
- Stores
- Youth center
- We have a Main Street
- Bed and Breakfast
- Free parking

What needs to be improved?

- Sidewalks
- Cleanliness/curb appeal
- Pride
- Renovate store fronts
- Attract new businesses
- Identify and provide more parking
- Intersection of North Street and Main Street
- Trees are too big
- Power lines need to go
- Sidewalks and curbing – make wider for sidewalks cafes
- Existing parking areas
- Quaker Street and Main Street intersection
- Financial incentives for new businesses or external improvements
- Free parking signs on right side of road

What features need to be added?

- Identify public access
- Kiosk
- More businesses
- Year-round decorations on light poles
- Unique businesses – i.e. brewery
- Signage for Little League
- Map
- Crosswalks/stamped pavement
- Parking signage
- Marketplace
- Off Main Street deliveries
- Demographic studies
- Activities
- Dining on the River

Summary

- Downtown Granville offers a number of amenities, including the Mettowee River, the two Museums, unique stores and architecture, and the Bed and Breakfast. Residents appreciate the benches and free parking, and realize that Main Street has potential for growth. Residents believe that the Village should improve the sidewalks and parking areas around Main Street, and also consider burying utility lines and offering incentives for new businesses to locate downtown. Features that should be added include maps and signs for visitors to find their way around, year-round decorations such as flowers or flags, and adding or improving crosswalks. A marketplace and a location for dining on the River would be a positive addition to downtown Granville as well.

Waterfront Recreation:

What do you like about the current recreation opportunities?

- Good fishing access
- Great natural area
- Clean
- Lots of passive recreation
- Lots of people using it
- Wildness
- Picnic tables
- Trees
- Trail
- Little League
- Cross country skiing
- Kayaking
- Swimming
- Kids access
- Not regulated
- Fly fishing/Catch and release

What facilities or features could be improved, and how?

- Ponds
- Official swimming hole cleanup
- Trout habitat
- Visible signs for tourists/visitors
- Safe parking
- Rebuild dam water table
- Boat launch
- Restrooms along the trail
- River cleanup
- Remove invasive species
- Stop flooding
- Canoeing/kayaking
- More picnic
- Don't use as a dump
- Clean up slate tailings
- Vermont sewage
- What regulations?
- More formal/development
- Annual contests

Are there other types of recreation or waterfront access you would like to see in the Village?

- Inner tubing
- Kayaking
- Snowmobiles
- Fishing rentals
- Footbridge to Little League to D+H
- Linkage to Vermont Mountains
- Community garden
- Bridge viewing for kids (peephole blocks)
- River walkway
- Conservation
- Maps of Granville historical/industrial properties and sites
- Family information
- Day trips information
- Promotion of riverside trail system town-wide
- Spring fishing derby
- Catch-and-release section

Summary:

- The rivers are two of the most important features in the Village. Residents agree that the rivers offer good recreational opportunities for fishing, kayaking, and swimming, as well as passive recreation. The rivers are known as premium fly-fishing waterways, and Granville residents like the level of access they have to the river. To improve overall satisfaction, the Village should clean the swimming hole and provide safe parking locations near the rivers. An effort to remove invasive species should be conducted, as well as an effort to curtail waste dumping near the waterways. Residents also suggested the improvement of existing boat launch facilities and the placing of wayfinding signs. Other recreation opportunities lie in the form of river tubing, fishing rentals, and a river walkway. There are also opportunities for increased tourism around the rivers through events such as a spring fishing derby and providing information about day trips and family recreation choices.

Pember/ Slate Valley Museum:

What features would you like to see in this location?

- Par exercise course with 10-15 walkway stations
- Stabilizing and improving banks of the river
- Trout habitat improvement
- Park – benches and picnic tables
- Boat put-ins and take-outs
- Brochures for property owners
- Funding to assist property owners with improvements
- Access to river by Slate Valley Museum and along river
- Walkway/roadway down to river walk
- Coffee shop with tables outside
- Walking path north towards Main Street and Rails-to-Trails
- Riverwalk on Slate Valley Museum side
- Signage – Scenic area signs on the Rails-to-Trails, decorative sign on Water Street
- River ecology/connecting museums to the waterfront
- Launch from Church Street Park
- Portage from Church Street
- Parking by river
- Flea market area
- Joint activities
- Fishing contest
- Kayak races
- Mini golf

What issues which should be addressed in this area?

- Trash, debris, car frame
- Livening up downtown resources
- Parking
- Clean river bottom
- Stabilizing river banks
- Cooperation from neighbors
- Rehab of rear of buildings
- Habitat improvement for fish
- Empty wall on East side of Slate Valley Museum
- Dynamite falls
- Cut holes in bridge for kids
- Remove invasive species replanting with native plant species
- Abandoned houses by Dr. Murphy's barn
- Trees and pump house

How could the waterfront be used in this area?

- Formal access – recreation and fishing
- Formal swimming area
- Develop coal site for picnic/parking
- Shaw's plan
- Picnic/park on Pember side
- Passive recreation
- Buildings facing the river
- Educational signage on river
- Demonstration area
- Kayak access in a few areas
- Slate art sculpture/art displays
- Snow shoes trails
- Clear brush from edge of the river
- Fishing access for kids
- Brochures on trails

Summary:

- The Slate Valley Museum and the Pember Museum are two mutually beneficial resources in the Village of Granville. The area between them, consisting of a bridge over the Mettowiee River and a few vacant lots, could be improved with the addition of features such as a par exercise course, a park with benches and trails, or even a mini-golf course. This location would provide an opportunity for the museums to educate the public about river ecology through brochures, programs, maps, and signs. Issues in this area include existing trash and debris accumulation, lack of parking, and the increased threat of invasive species. Stabilizing the river banks would be an improvement to the area, as would be providing assistance for property owners to improve the visual qualities of their properties that line the River. Other ways that the waterfront could be used in this area would include providing formal access for recreation and fishing, including access for kayaks and children.

Quaker Street:

What are the positive features in this area?

- Veterans Park/bandstand
- Wide road - Main artery
- School located on the street
- Mixed-use
- Good restaurants
- Mountain View Commons
- Has become an extension of the downtown
- Well-maintained
- Quaker Meeting House
- Accessibility
- Safe
- Well-lit
- Continuation of improvements
- Bigger homes
- Incoming benches

What needs to be improved?

- Price Chopper parking lot
- Traffic flow into lot (intersection)
- People walking through it
- Intersection at Veterans Park (Main Street) – is dangerous
- Ames Plaza empty
- How to deal with owner
- Take down sign
- Sidewalks (missing and in poor repair)
- Streetlights needed
- No benches at the south end
- Lack of a bike lane
- Signage
- Parts look like a commercial zone
- No defined curbs/sidewalks
- Puddle accumulation
- Regional integration
- Streetscape (overall appearance)
- Park could be improved
- Make corridor a “continuous flow”
- Entrance gateways
- More efforts to make walking loop visible
- “Where do I go for dinner?”
- Firehouse eyesore – add landscaping with trees
- In front of old Grand Union
- Car wash
- Completion of walking loop

What features could be added?

- Street trees (existing sugar maples are getting old)
- Planting program
- Crosswalk by the park
- Maintain existing crosswalks
- Public restrooms
- Sidewalks
- Lighting on the whole street
- Bike lanes/paths
- More parking/defined parking
- Benches – by the school
- One side of street for parking
- Public transit/taxi service
- Aldi Supermarket
- Allow/invite public to tend to park
- Business tax incentives for improvements
- Public seed money/seed fund
- Walking paths
- Restaurants
- Signage

Summary:

- Quaker Street is becoming an extension of Main Street and downtown, so its appearance and usefulness are important to the Village of Granville. Veteran's Park is an important resource and feature, as are the school and the Quaker Meeting House. Quaker Street is seen as relatively safe and well-maintained. Because of its status as a major thoroughfare, large-scale improvements such as constructing sidewalks and bike paths, altering dangerous intersections, and addressing vacant properties should be made. Adding features to Quaker Street, like street trees, crosswalks, and even public restrooms would greatly improve the street. The residents of Granville would also like to see the addition of a grocery store to increase competition and more options for public transit.