

**Years Residing in South Hadley: 0 – 9 Years  
(13 Responses)**

***1. What do you like most about living in South Hadley? (i.e. schools, parks, people, etc.)***

Neighbors are great.

Racism is rampant there isn't much diversity

Suburban Feel

Close to major highways & city (6)

Convenient to shopping, highways

Small town (4)

Character/flavor of the community, friendly (2)

Very little economic development

Rt. 116 does not look like Memorial Drive. store strips or like Rt. in Hadley

Mt. Holyoke College: Its grounds, & offerings for residents & non-residents (4)

Schools (3)

Natural Beauty

Clean

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### 2. *What is your biggest community concern? (i.e. housing, taxes, economic development, etc.)*

Taxes are extremely high (3)

Amount of development (condos, etc.) in res. Areas, especially in areas where homeowners have established themselves for many years (2)

Zoning & development

More development: Residential & Business

Loss of open space

Taxes seem to be rising at alarming rate

Landfill

Utility bills

No economic development

Development (look like Rt. 9, too many condos, concern for neighborhood)

Ledges (detering money from schools, Comm. Rec; sidewalks/bike lanes)

Need for more resources for L/Income (housing, taxes, economic development, etc.)

Growth & Development

Lack of inviting public areas to informally socialize

Urban sprawl

Very little open/untouched space

Fees for everything are up

Plains school needs upgrading (A/C)

Improved schools

Size of grammar schools

Summer programs/camps

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3. *Assuming you had no constraints, what is your greatest wish or vision for South Hadley? (New schools, outdoor pool and other public facilities, historic and natural preservation, etc.)*

An actual mayoral system versus the communist ways this town is accustomed to  
More & visible public spaces, more walking paths (2)  
More activities for families in these areas  
Strong long-range plan restricting new development severely to the same as the existing neighborhood  
Plant more trees  
Road side greenery  
More natural areas for all to enjoy (3)  
Move South Hadley toward becoming a “Green” town environmentally  
Historic & Natural preservation (4)  
Urban features of Falls area  
Art district (?)  
Maintain/improve parks & other assets  
Public views/access to river (Canoes/kayaks)  
Canoes/kayaks lessons as sponsored by town  
Online information about resources including maps, etc.  
New school (2)  
Improve schools (2)  
Updated schools (2)  
Support for schools  
Uniform dress code for schools  
Reconfigure grades of schools  
Build new playground  
Sidewalks/bike lanes  
Outdoor pool  
Parks & Playground  
Dog Park  
Better Libraries (decent areas for children)  
Incentives for recycling  
Public spaces inviting to families  
Farmers market in the Commons  
Increased public transportation  
Green energy self-sufficiency

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#### ***4. What are the most politically sensitive local issues and how do they relate to the Comprehensive Plan?***

No response (3)

There seems to be relationships between former employees/Planning Board Members and developers

Perception that approval of projects has a lot to do with who you know/what you get

Relationship between developer & community

Condo development

Zoning

Building densities

Lot coverage

Poor decision to have a town golf course (poor mgmt. of taxpayer funds) (3)

Duplication by Fire Depts./Water systems (2)

Schools must be updated

Ways to improve the schools, esp. elementary

Protecting historic/aesthetic nature

Big business/taxes over leaving the green spaces

Re-use land/existing buildings

Taxes = Need to restrict or encourage growth

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**5. *What are the most important development and zoning issues facing South Hadley?***

No response (3)

Planning Board continues to approve plans since it has limited powers; but it does not/connect base their decision on how each development impacts the quality of life for those in the area

Allowing growth while preserving character of neighborhoods

Too much build out equates to higher taxes, more traffic congestion, need for more expensive services that will hurt residents

Articulated vision for Rt. 33 – mix of housing/business

Redesigned Buttery Brook Park

Increasing building of houses, condos, commercial

Protecting open space & condominium development

Over development (2)

Improving the Falls for maximum use-enjoyment of Riverfront area (2)

Bring in new business (shops & restaurants)

Improve the Beechgrounds

More updated By-law on newer forms of development

More encouragement for local businesses, home businesses

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### 6. *What questions would you like answered by the Comprehensive Plan?*

No response (3)

Is there going to be transparency – how much?

Is there a budget? (*For the Comprehensive Plan? – I think is what they mean*)

Very specific restrictions on locations for MF dwellings, esp. condos – already have too many

Consensus by residents on key issues, a clearly outlined visions, w/concrete steps to address condos

When/where will grammar schools be upgraded

How entice young families to move into town

How can Ledges be better used

How to control development so town remains financially secure, but isn't ruined

Long-term strategic vision: educational excellence, global warming, staying of population, Ledges, fiscal input

How to preserve property values & Natural pres. while allowing so many new complexes to be built

What plans are there for updating schools?

Are there any plans to stop building on what open spaces we have left?

How can recycling be improved on businesses, homes & schools – Incentives? Grants?

Historic & Natural preservation

Taxes = need to restrict or encourage growth

More updated Bylaws on newer forms of development

Like to learn more about what is going on in my new community