Norfolk Town Center
Online Community Survey

May 1st, 2019

Open Responses and Comments

Q2: Response Text “No, and offer why not”:

- I wish we could living on fruit street there are no sidewalks to get there safely and the road conditions are pretty bad. Also the trees and brush are not properly clipped so it becomes a safety concern
- No sidewalks on Boardman street
- I personally would be comfortable riding. My young children could never safely get there.
- The road are too dangerous and there are no sidewalks
- Too far
- Too far away
- Too far
- Too far to walk and unsafe to bike
- Horrible roads
- No sidewalks on Everett street
- Too far
- No sidewalks to get to town
- Live to far from town center
- A little too far and would have to use a busy street. Would walk from a nearby parking lot.
- Kind of far
- We live too far away
- Too far away
- Too far and busy roads even with sidewalk
- No sidewalks
- We live 3 miles from Town Centre - otherwise we would
- There are not sufficient sidewalks for walking or wide enough roads for biking.
- No desirable destination
- Sidewalks
- Used to, just too dangerous now.
- Too far
- Town center has nothing relevant to offer
- Lack of sidewalks
- No sidewalks on Medway street
- No sidewalks
- Narrow roads, no sidewalks
- No sidewalks on Marshall around dead man’s curve.
• I live in Franklin
• But no sidewalk connecting Main Street to town center. Live on mill river rd.
• No sidewalks on Union Street and very dangerous.
• I have lived here since 2005 and never have walked or rode a bike to the center of town. There is nothing there that I would need.
• I can do it now
• There are no sidewalks in most of the town
• The roads are far too narrow with no sidewalks or bike lanes.
• Union Street doesn't have a sidewalk. I live on Maple Street.
• Cars drive to fast on roads I would need to take to town
• DIABILITYT, NO SIDEWALKS, TO FAR, SPEED ON RT. 115
• Not my thing.
• Not safe
• Live too far away
• No shoulders on the roads coming from Noon Hill Ave...mainly narrow winding roads
• Union street has no sidewalks or shoulders
• 115 near our house has no sidewalks
• I have two small children but would be willing to when they are older and can walk or bike too!
• Grove Street and union street are narrow and dangerous for pedestrians
• No sidewalks
• I’m a little too far
• Too far
• Too far, no sidewalks that connect my neighborhood to the town center
• As a non-resident, it would be at least an hour and a half
• Narrow roads with potholes. No sidewalks.
• Cleveland St. is to dangerous
• Bike Lanes on Union St. would help
• Roadways narrow, lack safety lighting, lack sidewalks and overall conditions of roads with multiple potholes and overall breakdown
• What town center??? Didn’t know it existed
• No. Nothing worth going to the Town Center for
• We need sidewalks!!!
• No sidewalks on Union
• But the streets would need sidewalks.
• Traffic on #115; no sidewalks
• No sidewalks to walk making it unsafe to walk that far or anywhere around me for that matter
• there are no sidewalks on union (this would be most direct route)
• too far
• Lack of sidewalks on Holbrook and Cleveland Streets.
• If the sidewalks extended all the way on Main St to Park St then I would walk
• There aren’t sidewalks the entire way to town center from my house.
• Bad hips
• too far, roads not safe
• My best route is Main Street ... no sidewalks
• Streets are too dangerous I live on Needham street
• There aren't sidewalks along the route.
• TOO FAR
• Too dangerous on these roads
• No sidewalk
• It's too far from our house in the noon hill neighborhood.
• There are not enough sidewalks and the roads are too narrow and winding for me to feel safe walking and/or riding in the street.
• Too far for my old feet!
• Not enough sidewalks
• No sidewalks on Union
• Horrible road conditions and would be walking on streets with no lighting and no sidewalks.
• lack of sidewalks and/or bike lanes make the roads unsafe
• No sidewalks but we can possibly go through the woods
• Distance and no sidewalk on Union Street.
• There aren't sidewalks on that entire route.
• DEPENDS ON THE TIME OF DAY
• No sidewalks... way too dangerous.
• Too far
• There are NO sidewalks
• I live 3 miles from the center of town, and biking there is not safe or convenient.
• Live off narrow roads w no sidewalk
• Too far....at 5 mph, would take 5 hrs.
• Assuming sidewalks are built
• But we would need some changes on Union street to support this
• The roads are too narrow with blind curves.
• roads are not good enough
• Too far with no sidewalks
• No sidewalks
• No sidewalks to Town center
• Seekonk is a dangerous road to walk or bike and the intersection by the cemetery is one of the most dangerous intersections within 20 miles.
• I'm too far away
• I don't live too close.
• Far
• No sidewalk. I cannot walk down Union Street safely with my family. Otherwise we would often!
• No sidewalks from my end of Boardman
• No sidewalks on the end of Holbrook to 115 and on the curve of 115 near the power lines. Otherwise I would love to walk to town
• The only way to get there is on Union Street. No sidewalks, cars speed, etc. Don’t feel safe doing that.
• No sidewalk
• I would love to but there are no sidewalks on union so it is not safe
• Too far.
• Slightly too far to do so
• 3 miles is too far
• Union Street is a deathtrap
• Unless they finally put sidewalks in on Park Street!
• At 2+ miles each way, and currently no sidewalks on Union St, it is too long a walk. And I’m too old to bike. :

Q4: Response Text “Other (please specify)”:

• I work there
• Work
• Dunkin
• Pharmacy only. There’s nothing there!!
• The playground at Rockwood although I’m not sure if that counts as the town center.
• School
• Walgreens and the Library. Sometime Cillas or Dunkin’
• Drive through going to schools
• Passing through
• Preschool
• Just for a walk
• Dunkin Doughnuts after going to the transfer station, on the way to Rockwood Road playground
• Walgreen’s
• Library, gas, coffee. Would visit much more if there was more retail!
• Saturday’s for Farmers Market
• Preschool
• Food
• Must pass on way home
• NCTV
• Walking with friends
• Food and coffee
• Walgreens, coffee shop
• School @ the Co-op
• Exercise and socialization
• I work in the center of Town
• Traveling through
• PO
• coffee
• Driving children to school/activities
• Library
• Work in town but not downtown
• Work
• Walgreens!
• Walgreens, Cillas, Dunks, Library, local businesses, walking
• Norfolk community Preschool
• Walking
• Coffee shopping
• Dunkin’/just driving through to go somewhere not in town center
• Walk
• Drug store
• exercise - walking
• There are sidewalks to walk
• Norfolk Cooperative Pre-School
• School
• Scout meetings at Federated Church
• Bank only. Have never used other businesses
• Work there
• I walk daily through the center.
• Cilla’s
• work
• Bank
• Walk the dog
• work
• Gas and Walgreens
• Coffee at dunks or Cilla’s
• Children’s school
• Gas station or coffee
• Library
• Rec dept. programs
• I go to the town hall for exercise classes 3x per week.
• Work
• Children’s activities at library and town hall
• Walgreens. Library
• Library and church
• NCP

Q6: Response Text “Yes, and offer where parking is most difficult”:

• Train parking is hard to come by and extremely expensive, and there is no drop off area.
• Commuter rail! + Nick’s parking lot
• The strip mall (Nick’s)
• We have a spot at the old town hall; park there & walk to town center.
• MBTA lot
• Everywhere
• Train station
• Do not add more T parking next to Ivy music. If parking is an issue restrict lots to residents
• Only occasionally in the commuter lot - otherwise no
• I just park illegally
• Hard to park for the train
• When there is an event on town hill
• During town events like Santa parade
• Commuter rail parking
• Train and library depending on time of day especially during popular programs
• Commuter lot. Also, it is probably the reason the old Pharmacy and floral shops have been vacant for 20 years!
• To note, the commuter buses from other towns park literally in the road or just to side of the businesses in the center of town. There should be a designated area within the confines of MBTA parking for these vehicles.
• Library
• Later commuter rail trains
• Library; commuter rail
• During summer concerts
• I used to have a hard time in both lots for the 8 am train but I got into the lottery for free town parking so I no longer have that problem.
• Commuter parking lots

Q8: Response Text “Other (please specify)”:

• It's potential. For new businesses and for more open spaces for the community to gather
• Common
• At the moment there aren't many options to go downtown unfortunately besides to drop off drying cleaning, get coffee/gas or go to the library. It's all very transactional
• Walgreens/Library
• None
• Library
• Visually pleasing
• The library and town hill are very nicely maintained.
• Quality of buildings
• Norfolk is poorly located and that has allowed it to be a quiet town until now. It will always be a poorly accessible town that will now be overdeveloped
• Love the colonial feeling and character of the buildings
• Potential for future development/redevelopment
• Needs more business
• Out of all these options most do not exist in Norfolk!!!
• *Potential streetscape, not current!
• Stony brook. Jane and Paul's
• Safe and not too congested
• Town Common and buildings are very attractive
• Let's start with attracting businesses into town. Ice cream shop, restaurants
• Library
• It's a work in progress
• Easy parking
• LIBRARY
• Library, Dunkin Donuts and bank
• The green and the library
• I would prefer less alcohol signage at Norfolk food mart
• Coffee, Walgreen and the town green
• I think the look of the church and town hill adds a lot to the aesthetic appeal of the town’s center.
• It has a lot of potential but is currently lacking in amenities and businesses
• Its’ development potential
• Library and quintessential town square look with gazebo
• I do not think the center has any assets at this time
• Historic Small Town Character
• None
• Nothing
• Library and the town green and the beauty of it

Q9: Response Text “Other (please specify)”:

• Town Hill and library is nice but awkwardly raised from the rest of the business adjacent to Train. No reason to stay for long other than library
• Lack of sidewalks on main roads to get there (North, Union etc.)
• Its own government and short time residents that change everything then move to let the rest pay for it
• Road quality
• A residential tax base. Little room to develop a commercial tax base. The town will become affordable only for those in affordable housing.
• Development restrictions
• The MBTA lot will be full all the time in about 1 year.
• And not being able to walk there
• Leaving it to the small town as it is, build on every square inch on the and over population from people not staying in the town for than 10yrs to help pay for the shit they vote in!
• The Town leaders are not open to building up the town center
• Restaurant variety
• We need more business options not parking lots
• Would love to see restaurants and more local businesses
• The center is too diffuse.
• There are very few desirable businesses- needs restaurants and retail
• Businesses, etc. are clustered in many “small” areas. The many areas ... the parts ... don't come together to make a cohesive whole.
• Empty space/retail locations.
• Restaurants
• Streets need paving
• Empty lots
• In general, the town is growing much too quickly.
• All of the above
• Need more businesses and restaurants
• Restaurants
• Residents resistant to development
• Quality grocery store!!!!!!!
• The buildings are not appealing. The group in with Town Pizza, over by Santander and especially the row of by the dry cleaner and Norfolk Mart (right by the railroad crossing) are in disparate need of a face lift. They look so dated and drab.
• Resisting Over Development and ending up like Franklin or Canton
• All above- except transit access. Traffic is horrible during rush hour between commuters rushing to park and commuters passing through Norfolk
• Library and Walgreens good. Everything around it is weak. Business adjacent to train are shabby.
• I want to check all of the above

Q10: Response Text “What do you think is missing from Norfolk Town Center”:

• More restaurants, groceries, shops
• Restaurants
• Businesses that are family friendly
• Shopping, grocery stores, gift shops, clothing stores, restaurants, everything that makes a town a town!
• A brewery. An ice cream shop. That downtown small town main street vibe
• More businesses and walkability
• Sit down restaurant/casual town bar
• Something that makes ma interested in the area
• Reasons to go there
• Everything! A restaurant, a little grocery store, sandwich shop.
• Something to go in the bare land in front of Walgreens
• More community events
• Attractive buildings/landscaping/parks. Restaurants and good shops.
• Spirit. The run down old storefronts are an eyesore. Anyone passing through would think that half of the downtown is a ghost town
• Nicer restaurants, gift type shops, ice cream shop
• Ice cream shop, more sit in cafes restaurants
• Small grocery store, restaurants, something for teen kids to do
• Restaurant
• Better traffic flow for those taking the commuter rail.
• More stores and restaurants, a nail salon
• Restaurant
• Restaurants
• Grocery!
• A good family restaurant, mini-food store (like Brothers in Medfield); ice cream
• Stores
• Grocery store
• Restaurants and retail
• Nice businesses and a grocery store
• Restaurant
• Shops, restaurants etc. that people could meet at and enjoy
• Grocery store, restaurant
• A good nighttime place to eat that you could walk to. Also, the overall appearance of the two store strips are atrocious.
• Grocery Store
• Traffic light to stop the idiot drivers (Franklin side) the do not understand how a rotary works
• Restaurant
• Child center, restaurants, healthy food, ice cream, boutiques
• Restaurant, Grocery Store
• More businesses or restaurants
• restaurant/pub, a nice small market with cheeses, fresh produce, etc. like a European market
• Quality food options - a place to meet with friends.
• A cozy restaurant or bar. A bakery. A local stationery or retail gift store. Florist etc.
• More stores. Not just little business. Stores like grocery etc.
• Quaint stores, pharmacy, florist, gift shop have been gone for decades. Book store, bakery, family dining would be nice
• Restaurants
• Variety of smaller retail stores
• It has basics but not boutique/interesting stores
• Gift shop, florist, deli
• Grocery store even if it was small
• Variety of stores and references.
• Local restaurants!! Cilla’s has been such a wonderful addition to the center, we’d love to see more local restaurants and variety of options.
• Grocery store
• A good restaurant. Not even something high end but just as simple as a good Irish Pub kind of like a Napper Tandy’s you see in Millis and Walpole where you can meet someone for a decent meal and a drink
• More businesses. Retail and restaurants
• Restaurants/grocery store
• Quality dining, coffee
• Supermarket
• Restaurant/bar, quality grocery, deli
• Variety of quality businesses - an ice cream store, a cute deli, some restaurants, a unique boutique. Some of the local establishments are not putting effort on the ambiance/look of their businesses and seem outdated.
• Restaurant, town pub, park space
• Grocery store, sit down restaurant, ice cream shop, gift/clothing store
• Stores and businesses
• Small grocery store like brothers in Medfield.
• More businesses - a small grocery store (like Brothers Market in Medfield), a restaurant, an ice cream shop, small shops, etc.
• Usable open space with walking path, child’s playground and multiple benches. Beautifully landscaped with bushes and flower beds.
• Aesthetics. The 2 strip malls are hideous (not including the buildings which house Santander)
• More shops & eating establishments
• A Trader Joes
• Restaurant options, maybe an ice cream shop, a clean convenience store with a good selection of items.
• A nice restaurant that’s open for dinner,
• Groceries, more restaurants
• Quality restaurant & a better way to connect the businesses and green space.
• No great meeting place, sterile businesses
• Grocery Store
• Restaurants and bars
• Good restaurant
• Son more shops. And maybe a restaurant
• Grocery store, gift shops, florist, arts and crafts, a gym, off-road bike paths, toy store, bakery, dollar store, theater, a community pool, town amenities for residents to congregate-utilize the schools halls and have recreation department run themed events
• Restaurant
• Everything, I live in walking distance of the town center and there was s nothing there to draw me to walk into town
• Food store
• More business quality businesses & restaurants
• Quality restaurants
• Flower shop, small boutique
• Better businesses and things to do
• Grocery store
• Commercial development
• A town center like Walpole. A proper walking/community street feel. Bars, restaurants and stylish store fronts.
• A restaurant, groceries, entertainment
• Diversified business and restaurants
• Sidewalk on Union to center from the Pheasant hill side
• Restaurant/Bar
• Sidewalks to walk there
• Police Station
• A restaurant and/or a bar
• More stores, food, services
• I’d like to see more housing & shopping
• Butcher shop, bakery, flower shop, sandwich shop, and unique boutiques
• More stores
• Grocery Store
• Restaurants, supermarket
• Quality retail, grocery, and restaurants - upscale choices for both
• We need restaurants and more restaurants for people to gather. A small grocery store or meat market would be welcomed.
• Family Restaurant
• Restaurants; pedestrian light at crosswalks
• Shops and restaurants. A gift shop, restaurants, small grocery store would be nice.
• Would like to see a better variety of stores and restaurants. Cilla’s is great but need a dinner restaurant and something more than Walgreens
• More businesses
• Sewer and gas
• Charm and identity. It is just a collection of buildings in a hodge podge. Some sort of architectural identity or at least a unifying feature.
• A lot
• Brothers Market
• Business and super market
• The peace and quiet that it used to be before they wanted to build on every square inch of it
• Restaurants & Bar, grocery store, flower shop,
• Restaurant or pub, more of a draw to go there and walk around, quaint feeling
• It would be nice to have a wider variety of restaurants and a grocery-type store.
• Grocery store
• Businesses, restaurants, bars.
• Grocery Store
• Restaurant like a friendly’s type place where You can get a quick bite and or ice cream
• Traffic light, additional businesses
• Restaurants
• More restaurants maybe - it's just not a go to place
• Restaurant/Bar
• Upscale dining
• More shopping and dining options
• the space outside of Walgreens / Cillas should be converted to some kind of town park or something
• Locally owned small business
• A seafood store
• Restaurant
• Nice restaurants
• Restaurants
• A sit down restaurant and bar.
• Any type of shopping, Restaurants, fitness studios, basically anything that all other towns have. The stuff on the right by the commuter rail doesn’t count. That’s messy.
• Restaurant
• Restaurant or food take out
• Restaurant
• Grocery with fresh produce
• More shops and restaurants
• More traffic. More choices for restaurants
• Restaurants
• More commerce
• More quality restaurants with liquor license. Have to go to other side of town or out of town.
• Restaurant, small grocery store, other small businesses
• A full-service restaurant
• Restaurants, shops/boutiques, bars
• Few more restaurants and bars
• Grocery
• Quality groceries
• Safe roadway - get rid of the roundabouts they are too small and no one knows how to drive through them including Town employees
• Better and more restaurants, bakery, ice cream shop, grocer, boutiques, smaller gift shops,
• Restaurants and a better quality grocery mart (with deli)
• Takeout food, convenience stores. Current lack of quality and variety of both. Commuters need places to grab dinner for their families without going to other towns.
• Restaurants
• A grocery store or a family friendly restaurant
• A restaurant
• Restaurants
• More restaurants
• Boutique Grocery store, restaurant
• Florist, a restaurant or two worth going too, hallmark store or something like it.
• Restaurants!
• Grocery store
• Restaurants
• Restaurant, market
• Restaurants, grocery store, small locally owned shops
• Restaurants, a store with fresh produce, a store that carries readymade take home meals.
• Friendly businesses. Stress the word FRIENDLY!
• A deli and a florist and a gift shop
• Retail store
• Restaurant or butcher shop
• More businesses
• Variety of business's.
• Continuity of shopping and service spaces. A small grocery store, dining options. More green/common space in addition to library. Better management of the Commuter Rail parking area and commuter walking space around 115.
• Restaurants, more local shops and some of the buildings need improvements
• Sidewalk from Union Street
• Boutique Restaurants; healthy food market; children's boutique
• More business. The building near the tracks near the rotary needs to be razed. The one with cleaners and vacant tenant
• More business variety
• Businesses
• Cleanup! Why is the old pharmacy building still empty? Eyesore! In addition, the nick pizza area plaza is so old, could use a facelift!
• Additional local business
• A restaurant and pub
• Healthy restaurant
• No charm
• More food and drink options. Arts and family-friendly options.
• Restaurants and shopping
• Grocery store
• Sidewalk on Union Street.
• Restaurants, small food market (similar to Brothers in Medfield), clothing boutique....I could go on!
• Restaurants, a grocery store
• I'm not sure
• Restaurant, cultural venue.
• Grocery store, dining
• More restaurants and other businesses
• A restaurant or a grocery store
• Restaurants and more retail options
• A grocery store! It is very much needed and there is a huge open space for one to be built.
• Bakery, dining, gift shop, small grocer
• More businesses
• General store or supermarket something like Brothers Mkt in Medfield
• Full Service Restaurant
• Restaurant
• Some boutique stores or a small market
• Shops
• A good pizza place or ice cream shop or sandwich shop. Just some variety
• Restaurants, food market, more stores
• Parking for businesses.
• High quality restaurant (like Avenue), bar (like the Gavel), grocery store (like Brothers)
• A restaurant or two? More shops?
• A nice restaurant
• More retail stores. Mini grocery store like brothers, nice restaurant. Medfield and franklin centers are great
• Meeting place/ gathering space
• A reason to stay longer than a visit to the library or Walgreens
• Business variety
• Grocery store, book store, clothing stores
• Quality shops and more attractive shopping buildings. They look run down.
• Restaurants and retail shops
• More to do
• Cohesion
• The Town center is missing things that would bring it to life. There are no decent places to eat and grab a drink. It is not a 'destination' for non-residents, as there isn’t much to attract others in. There are strange businesses taking up valuable space in the ugly buildings along Main Street, which takes away from the character that could be downtown. Other than the library, there aren’t places for kids to hang out, and getting to town center on bikes or walking is nearly impossible from most of the larger neighborhoods. If sidewalks connected to the center, you’d likely see more people there, as access becomes easier.
• A food store/ market
• Nothing
• Businesses like local stores, restaurants, bars etc.
• The Town Center is lacking quality businesses for residents and visitors.
• Restaurant, bar, grocery store
• More food options - grocery store or restaurant (other than a pizza place!)
• Starbucks/Grocery store
• Small shop business (i.e. bakery, deli, flower shop, restaurants)
• Safety at roundabouts
• A sit down restaurant and a small grocery store
• More natural areas (like gardens and seating areas) for people to congregate.
• Sit down restaurant
• Multiple quality restaurants/bars
• Grocery store and restaurants
• The business centers are too far apart. Pedestrian traffic is nonexistent between shopping areas. As a result visits are single purpose driven. Without pedestrian traffic the upside to retail is very limited.
• Restaurants/bars, retail
• A small grocery store (Brother’s market), restaurants, shops
• Restaurants
• Upscale non-chain restaurant
• Restaurant or neighborhood bar
• Restaurant and Grocery Store
• Restaurant
• Businesses!
• Restaurants
• Vibrancy, variety, and quality businesses.
• Business stores restaurants
• I would love a higher end restaurant or boutique.
• Restaurants/pubs/grocery/prepared foods
• A little grocery store, more arts and entertainment
• An upscale market like volante farms
• Dining options, possibly small grocery,
• QUALITY RESTAURANT / PUB / OR SMALL GROCERY - EVENING HOURS
• Bank of America ATM, restaurant or brewery, non-pizza takeout, big grocery store
• Some shopping plazas need refreshing!
• Restaurants (with a bar), a small fresh market like a Brothers
• More businesses, ease of access from surrounding neighborhoods
• A restaurant! Better stores across from train.
• Variety of shops
• More parking and a food market. No resident should have to venture outside of town to food shop and we have to. With the amount of taxes we pay it is unacceptable
• Grocery store, restaurants. There so many towns around us that have cute centers that have variety of businesses.
• A grocery store, a good restaurant, family food choices like ice cream shops or bakeries. I know that Cilla's is there but it is not a place I'd ever take my kids and it is mediocre at best.
• Housing
• Restaurant/pub
• A grocery store, restaurants, some sort of entertainment
• A grocery store, something small like Brothers
• Restaurants
• A quality local and non-chain restaurant.
• Restaurants
• Restaurants
• Quality food shops (lunch, dinner) and restaurant
• A small store, like a brothers market would be ideal
• A food market.
• There's not much there. I would like a large grocery store.
• Flashing yellow light when approaching round about to encourage drivers to slow down
• Food options, bakery, florist, Bank of America
• Restaurants and a grocery store
• Restaurants, ice cream shop, McDonalds, nursery,
• Business to offset the rising property tax.
• More to do that would attract the youth of the community. Shops, affordable housing, pedestrian-friendly
• No entertainment options beside library
• Shops
• A good restaurant.
• Restaurants, good to go food options, a store like Brothers Marketplace
• Sidewalks from main roads to the center of town, businesses to drive traffic
• Grocery store
• Supermarket
• Better businesses. A small restaurant, a deli.
• Grocery store and dinner restaurants
• Restaurants small business
• A CROSSING GUARD IN THE MORNING AND NIGHT
• More options of restaurants/stores
• Quality restaurant or gourmet food mart/restaurant lunch place
• Grocery options, restaurants, stores other than liquor
• Local style pub/restaurant, art/theatre, small town specific shops - you can go anywhere for a Walgreens and Dunkin Donuts...Norfolk residents go to OTHER towns to patron their small town shops.
• Businesses
• Stores, restaurants, cafes
• Quality useful businesses
• Market
• Grocery store or market, full service restaurant
• Restaurants
• Restaurants
• More historical content
• Access from walkable distance
• More benches for common areas
• Space
• More restaurants
• A grocery store and better businesses that cater to the town's needs...we doubt need another bank
• Super market (Like Brothers Market in Medfield), nicer dining restaurants for sit down dinners, book and/or toy store, bakery
• Restaurant variety
• Restaurants. Large meeting space/ performer area (inside)
• Grocery or other shopping and a full service sit down restaurant or tavern.
• Restaurant
• Mom and pop shops, restaurant
• Restaurant for lunch/dinner
• Grocery store, less alcohol availability
• Restaurants and nicer looking shopping centers
• Need some nice restaurants and shops
• More upscale stores. Wine and cheese shop, or a nice small market (similar to the one in Dover center). A restaurant would be amazing. Other than Cilla’s, there’s no place in the Center to meet up with family and friends for a meal.
• More stores, restaurants
• Interesting shops
• Sit down Restaurant, Lounge/Bar, Grocery Store, Bakery,
• Gift shop(s); unique gifts, local artist retail
• Restaurant
• Restaurants and small shops
• A family dinner restaurant and a grocery store
• More variety of small business
• More retail stores. A small grocery would be nice
• Business and business quality and variety, quality streetscape, arts and culture programs, housing options
• Good family restaurant with bar area
• Quality retail and food options
• Grocery Store, Deli, Restaurant
• More restaurants
• Restaurant
• Convenience places like a food market, additional small businesses such as gift shops or florists, unique dining options
• Better food, better shops
• Updated buildings, more parking
• Restaurant/entertainment
• Parking buy the lot across from Walgreens
• Restaurants, a pub, a more welcome coffee shop.
• Small local shops
• Stores, restaurants, grocery that is not a convenient store
• Grocery store, ice cream shop
• Quality Restaurant for Dinner...an Ice Cream Parlor.
• Gift shop. Flower shop. Bookstore.
• Flow of businesses
• Businesses, restaurants, entertainment
• Restaurants
• Restaurants, bar, grocery shopping, boutiques
• Variety of businesses. Would like to see more restaurants, shops, etc.
• Restaurants, small shops
• Restaurant/bars
• More places to bring young children
• Grocery store, restaurants
• Restaurants & Bars
• Spirit. A reason to visit.
• Grocery Store
• I honestly can’t think of anything missing.
• Supermarket or more stores
• Businesses with variety, such as a place to buy dinners (not pizza), or shops for gifts.
• An upscale family friendly restaurant, an ice cream place, a small market to pick up fresh groceries
• A restaurant and a grocery store
• A grocery store
• A real restaurant/pub
• Restaurant, unique gift shop, florist, sandwich shop, bakery, children’s book store
• retail options
• Grocer, Restaurant
• Businesses, restaurants, etc.
• Supermarket, restaurants, more shopping
• Family restaurant for lunch/dinner & bar
• Businesses
• Restaurants and social places to meet residents
• a town deli and bakery (lunch & breakfast spot) would be great
• Variety! The CENTER isn’t a destination, the shop or service you are going to is the destination - e.g., Library, Walgreens, coffee. As a result there is little foot traffic, there is no reason to wander/walk around.
• Florist

Q11: Response Text “What would make your visits to Norfolk Town Center more enjoyable and more frequent?”:

• More restaurants
• Restaurants
• More restaurants. Bars. Shops. Things to do
• Something besides bad pizza joint, and out dated convenience stores... Look at Medfield, Wellesley, Franklin, something to attract shoppers, people to gather and eat and drink and socialize, PLEASE!!
• Well-lit sidewalks with businesses to frequent (ice cream, restaurant, brewery, small shops) in the evening hours.
• More businesses and walkability
• A place to meet up with friends and have dinner and drinks
• Just basically more options to draw me in
• Stores
• More options of businesses as well as add events and activities
• A green park where the land is
• We should do a concert on the hill like Wrentham
• Stores, shops with fresh/gourmet takeout, restaurants, parks.
• Outside seating closer to the actual center. The central focus of the center is a gas station. That doesn’t draw people. The storefronNTS next to it are ugly and abandoned. Terrible!
• More shopping options
• To walk from my house on Main Street from Walpole line. Add sidewalks Dow this end to connect to center of town
• When something is going on
• Having more stores, a good bakery and coffee shop
• More businesses
• Restaurants
• More places!
• Ability to walk/bike safely to/from home with the kids. Not able to on Union or North (by Union) due to lack of sidewalks. Kids would love to be able to do this as well, as they are old enough, but it’s not safe enough unfortunately.
• More food options
• More shopping options
• Food market
• Restaurant.
• If there were shops or restaurants
• Restaurant
• If it offered more shops. Also, the way the rotary is, you take your life in your hands using it although I don’t want to see a set of lights go in there. Maybe more policing to control the madness there. When the trains come in, it is even more of a nightmare.
• Grocery Store
• Close Dunkin’ Donuts, free up a lot of traffic
• Restaurant
• Variety of stores that are walkable and make you want to stay there
• Better quality Business
• Better maintained sidewalks leading into the center. Also more safety for pedestrians. We need more of a feeling of a twin square—right now it feels like a busy intersection with mostly cars. That huge vacant lot is an eye sore.
• Grocery stores. More stores etc.
• More retail stores to shop in
• Restaurants
• More variety of restaurants and a grocery store
• Better shops
• More shops
• Being able to walk on a sidewalk to get there
• More variety.
• Variety of businesses and things to do!
• Grocery store
• More shops, restaurants, bakeries, liquor stores or a small market/grocery store. Make it walkable from place to place with centralized parking. I like how buildings are detached and have sloped roofs versus what you see in other towns.
• More business
• More businesses
• Variety of shopping dining
• Sidewalks
- Businesses providing services I want.
- More variety of quality businesses and food choices.
- Good places to eat
- More retail business or restaurants
- Stores and businesses
- Small specialty grocer, restaurant
- More businesses
- Restaurant for breakfast, lunch and dinner. It should have a broad menu plus takeout and be reasonably priced. Cilla's is too limited and a bit pricey.
- Better quality and variety of businesses
- Shopping/eating options, community events
- A Trader Joes
- Sidewalks to get there. I live off of Cleveland, not safe for walking/biking
- A book store or boutique
- Food, would love a grocery store, activities, less banks
- Larger Park/Green Space, Slower Traffic thru town, more modern businesses
- Hiking trails and nice coffee shop
- Grocery Store
- Restaurants and bars
- Less traffic
- There is not to attract singles or older residents (pre-retiree). Norfolk is strong only for school aged children and their families. The Grange could potentially work for a dinner theater. The old town hall should be developed as a community center for all ages. A community center could be a gym, a pool, etc.
- No big parking lots, keep it quaint maybe allowing for a restaurant or two or a healthy food mart with fresh produce every day
- Better retail, better coffee, restaurants.
- More local stores
- More businesses/shops, restaurants, grocery store.
- Less strip malls
- Other shops
- More shops or restaurants
- Grocery store
- Development
- Bars, restaurants, cafes and a walkable community streetscape.
- A fun restaurant
- More choice of business retail space mixed use space and restaurants
- More business / restaurants
- Restaurant/Bar
- New business and updated store fronts. Half the Center looks modern, the other half is stuck in the 1980’s
- More businesses
- Restaurants
• More restaurants, coffee, and ice cream shops with place for people to enjoy walking outside
• If it was full of boutiques and specialty shops where I could browse and spend some time with friends.
• More stores, a CVS
• Update to store fronts in shopping plazas
• It is a beautiful area but lacking businesses. Town is lacking a supermarket
• Upscale retail, grocery and restaurants. Continued support for the arts like the concert series at the church and theater productions at the grange
• More options
• Variety of businesses
• More food options
• Having places to shop/eat
• Places to shop and eat
• Restaurants
• An ice cream shop
• Mixed use development including a sit down restaurant
• Better sidewalk to reach the town center.
• Ice cream shop, lunch or dinner
• Small supermarket with quality products.
• Business
• Less people
• A nice restaurant, a nightlife, an ice cream shop, nice pub ...it would be awesome to NOT have to look at the vacant land across from Walgreens
• More variety of businesses, quaint feel
• A greater variety of businesses/restaurants.
• Restaurant and grocery store
• There is no reason to go to the town center unless you need to go to Walgreens, dunk, gas, or commuter rail. Put a good bar and a couple of good restaurants. Cilla's was a good start.
• More shops/restaurants
• A fountain with benches around it.
• Traffic light
• Restaurants
• Restaurant/Bar
• Dining options
• More shopping and dining options; fill in empty store fronts
• Add more benches to the town hill at the library
• Quality restaurant/bar
• I like it just the way it is. Forget a grocery store and more housing. Don’t want another Franklin.
• More curiosity shops, Stores are dumpy
• More food options
• Restaurants or things to do
• More diverse things to do
• More shops.
• Having stuff there
• Evening destination (restaurant)
• Dog Park
• Doing something with the big empty plot of land
• Grocery with fresh produce
• More attractions
• See last question
• Sidewalks that extend to Park Street
• Grocery store
• Better options for food and more businesses.
• Family events, ice cream shop, restaurant, small grocery store, wine store like the great craft beer store on 1a
• More businesses, things to do.
• Restaurants, shops, bars
• More options on things to do
• Sidewalk on Union
• Quality groceries
• When you have to go you have to go.
• Less traffic and more shops
• If there was a restaurant or a grocery store
• More seating/picnic areas.
• Restaurants
• Food options
• Restaurants and retail variety
• More businesses
• More businesses
• No bike lanes
• Getting rid of the ridiculous roundabout I hate going to the center now at all costs something anything would have been better. The intersection by Needham Street is horrendous they need a light down there.
• Somewhere to go walk around, grab a bite to eat, etc.
• More stores
• Restaurants and dining or entertainment opportunities
• A local market would be extremely helpful to have. It doesn’t need to be a large grocery store but something like Brothers market would be wonderful.
• More town events, small unique shops
• A wider variety of businesses.
• Safe walking without fear of getting hit by a car.
• More shopping
• Something new
• Different types of shops.
• A sidewalk that runs the length of Needham Street that would allow me to walk and bike more safely to town would make my visits more enjoyable and frequent. Barring that, allowing for space for some dining options and a small grocery store would be great.
• Restaurants, local produce market, more shops
• If I could walk there on a sidewalk with my children
• Restaurants; healthy food market; cute stores
• More business. For example restaurants and ice cream shop or bar
• More dining options
• Grocery store, unique shops, etc.
• Fresh facelift! The right side where library, town hall, Walgreens, etc. are does NOT match the right side, nick pizza, Norfolk food mart plaza's.
• Sidewalks on Medway Street
• Same as question 10
• Something worth going to see and buy
• More food and drink options. Outdoor seating. Restaurants open more reasonable times and ones that serve alcoholic beverages. And arty options (i.e., a place to do crafts, paint nights, etc.)
• Good Restaurants and stores worth visiting
• Grocery store
• Sidewalk on Union Street.
• Restaurant with liquor license and outdoor seating
• Restaurants
• A grocery store... that's the big thing I leave town for and a gym but I don't think I'd like to see a grocery store in the center... too much
• Points of interest, not having to navigate the rotaries.
• See q 10
• A restaurant or a grocery store
• Restaurants, bars, more cultural events
• A grocery store! It doesn't have to be a huge one. I nice, upscale market with good produce and meats. Something like Brothers.
• Update old buildings and add more of a variety of businesses
• I think the Town Center is very well done! My limitation is mainly working elsewhere 5 days a week.
• See #10
• Activity, business variety, place of gathering
• Restaurant
• Sidewalks inn a union to get to the center would be great.
• More small biz, more food options, town splash pad for the kids
• Shops
• Sidewalks are not always in great shape.
• A restaurant to visit
• Less traffic
• More dining, bar options. More events hosted on town green
• A coffee place opened in the evening, cafe, restaurant, and bookshop
• A nice floral shop /boutique
• Grocery store, play space for kids, unique gift shop, quality meat and fish market
• Less traffic from out of town
• A reason to stay. The raised wall around the library is not conducive to walking and staying. The business and the buildings are embarrassing. Old brick, vacant, not appealing.
• More outdoor activities for all ages
• More small retail stores, restaurants
• More shops
• Restaurants and more general outdoor space for community gathering
• More to do
• Dining with seating outside. Better sidewalks to connect to the center. Better quality shops, for convenience and selection. Benches to sit on (besides at the Hill).
• If it offered more options for local restaurants so I don’t have to go out of town to Medfield or franklin.
• A high quality grocery store, better restaurants, food trucks and vendors.
• More variety
• Food store and/or restaurant
• Ice cream shop/Starbucks. Grocery store
• Sidewalks to/from center of town to neighborhoods
• A family restaurant and store with fresh produce, meat, etc.
• More sidewalks in Norfolk to get to the center and connect our parks and schools.
• Multiple quality restaurants/bars
• Grocery store and restaurants
• A comfortable Central Park area with access to food and coffee. Large enough for events or activities like a skating area in the winter like westerly Rhode Island. But undesignated use so that whoever wants to use it for activities can like the undesignated open space at the state school but on a smaller scale.
• See above
• More things to draw me there (other than Cillas and Walgreens)
• Shops and restaurants
• More dining options
• Having a restaurant or neighborhood bar
• Restaurants
• More variety. Only go for pharmacy and coffee.
• More options and reasons to visit more than just one business
• Businesses that are engaging, interesting, and more unique than another bank opening up in town.
• Shops and restaurants
• Better downtown with a variety of businesses
• It is a beautiful town center, it is close by, and the library has great programs for my family
• Dining options, possibly small grocery
• INTERESTING SHOPS
• See answers to question 10.
• More options for food
• Supermarket, bakery, and store you could pick up a gift.
• Being able to walk to the center on a nice day without being worried about being hit by a car or other safety issues
• Places to eat and shop.
• Safe sidewalks and walkways. Wide walkways
• A community center for all ages and a food market
• More businesses and restaurants. So many town centers have little shops.
• More books in the library, more dining options
• More businesses, restaurants, shopping options
• Restaurant/pub, a smoother Union St
• See Q10
• See above
• Buildings (near the train specifically) look shabby and empty.
• Reinvigoration of the older business properties along with 'browseable' businesses.
• More dining options
• Restaurants
• A fun place to walk around - some shops
• Stores and or boutiques
• A nice restaurant.
• There is congestion at the rotary when the train is in.
• Sidewalk from senior center to downtown
• Options not liquor stores
• Restaurants
• More shopping options
• Better traffic pattern, less potholes and broken crosswalks, updated and diverse businesses
• Need business that make you want to come there - movie theatre, book store or similar
• Cillas going back to being open at night
• Good food!
• Better, more restaurants
• Sidewalks from main roads to center of town. I live off union but could never walk from my house to the center of town with the way cars speed
• Ice cream
• Supermarket and restaurants
• More reasons to visit.
• Grocery store and dinner restaurants
• More options
• More small businesses, quaint architecture.
• Store for food basics, excellent nail salon, ice cream place or candy shop/bookstore for kids
• More services/options/businesses
• More things to do.
• Restaurant or pub
• Upgrade existing storefronts, fill empty stores, provide more variety
• A hotdog or ice cream stand
• Get rid of/move train stop
• Grocery store or market, full service restaurant, kid’s activities
• Dining and outdoor sitting options
• More businesses
• Less traffic
• Access from walkable distance
• Less traffic congestion, especially during commuter hours
• Better sidewalk access outside of immediate town center
• A grocery store or restaurants
• More quality businesses. Currently I go to Medfield center for dining and shopping purposes.
• Restaurant variety
• More cultural opportunities. Good small restaurant for dinner. Better use of the Pisini store front area.
• See question 10
• Variety of shops and places to eat
• Friendly police presence
• Restaurant and more aesthetically pleasing area
• Grocery store
• Better looking facades on all of the buildings. The row next to Daley’s is especially unattractive. It’s an old, tired facade. The empty store fronts just adds to its unappeal.
• Grocery store and restaurants
• More variety of shops
• Anchors to improve social interactions, see Q10 answer
• Retail variety
• Small shops that invite people to spend some time
• A family dining restaurant for dinner
• Sidewalks on Union Street
• All of the above
• If there was a sidewalk on Union
• More food options
• More businesses
• More green space
• Additional businesses
• More reasons to go such as the above mentioned places.
• See answer to question 10.
• I would love places to actually visit, rather than banks and dentists.
• -
• Restaurant
• Good store
• Being able to walk to the center of town.
• Storefronts that we’re not empty!
• More business, stores and restaurants
• Grocery store
• I enjoy my visits to the Center now... don’t change it and overdevelop with dense housing.
• More businesses.
• Make it more cohesive
• See #10. Something to draw people in that typically just pass through the town
• Better stores and restaurants like Medfield has.
• More places to go!
• More options for things to do
• More trees/greenery
• More food and entertainment options
• Upscale restaurant option
• Restaurants & Bars
• Update all the storefronts by bank and gas station. Old 50’s looking drab.
• Already frequent and enjoyable
• Nothing would change on my visits now I will always be doing that
• More stores
• Food stores, gift shops, more variety stores.
• More business such as restaurants, shopping, grocery
• I visit 1-2 times a week, but still would like a market for food shopping.
• Any of the above reasons to go there.
• Family restaurants
• More businesses. Groceries outside of Walgreens
• More of a thriving town center
• More business or better business
• A local dinner restaurant
• More restaurants and better grocery
• Restaurants
• A casual restaurant (e.g., Wrentham’s The Gavel), Unique shops (e.g., Walpole’s Dee’s Nimble Needles)
• Nothing it’s great as is

Q12: Response Text “Other (please specify)”:  
• None! it’s too congested now
• None
• No more housing our schools are bursting and there’s no train parking
• Ice cream parlor, boutiques restaurant. Keep the local character and avoid the big chains.
• Grocery store
• Grocery options
• What the town doesn’t need is another parking lot
• Top 3 mix. No housing
• Place for night outs for paint nights or game nights. Family entertainment area...Roller rink? Arcade? Bowling alley? Mini golf course?
• Parking
• Nothing leave it the way it is
• Not looking for larger retail businesses or chain type restaurants.
• None because it will only somehow raise my taxes
• No more housing
• No housing just restaurants and business
• More outdoor space to congregate, cafe/pub/small restaurant
• Markets and food establishments (love Buzz and Anne’s, bring to town center, and add a few nice restaurants with bars)
• Lounge Bar
• Grocery!!!!
• Grocery with fresh produce!
• Grocery store better stores
• Grocery store
• Grocery store
• Grocery store
• Grocery Store
• Grocery
• Fresh Seafood or quality grocery
• Develop the town center with 40b. It’s what makes most sense. Unless Norfolk is becoming Norwood.
• Develop the Moonscape
• Link the whole area with walkways
• Ice cream or bakery
• Community center
• Coffee shop
• Child activities
• Browseable retail - Deli, Bookstores etc.
• Brothers market
• Brewery
• Brewery
• Bar
• Appropriate businesses and housing opportunities based on the landscape and the current natural assets that the town has to offer.
• Another common/park with lawns, benches, and trees.
• A park

Q15: Response Text “Other (please specify)”: 
• New England quant town. Like Chatham Cape Cod
• Wide, walkable, well-lit sidewalks
• Parking lot screened with little walls is a terrible idea, nobody likes parking lots with too many curbs
• Good street and building signage
• We should make any future development to blend with the town hall and library. The set of strip stores need to be modified to be in line with the Town Hall and Library.
• Leaving the rustic way you found it
• Vintage looking streetlights, benches, and barrels.
• Require businesses to have up to date and well maintained signage and pride in the look of their businesses
• Historical accuracy, too modern design would just not fit the town
• The look of our town is lovely and keeping a similar aesthetic would add to the charm
• Note important
• No opinion
• The town should try to remain what it started as, an agricultural town. Slow and quaint. Since that really won't be what happens, try to prevent it from being overcrowded. Try not to make it anymore inconvenient than it is with traffic jams starting in Norfolk instead of starting closer to the city. Don't allow the state to plan the town, allow high taxpaying residents to plan their own town.
• Lights
• Traditional New England look and feel
• Anything Colonial New England.
• Historic colors
• Leave it the way you see it
• Replace hideous strip buildings
• No flat roofs and the strip that contains food mart needs a major face lift
• Encourage seating
• Don't care
• Traditional New England style to give the town center a really cohesive look
• Places to sit outside
• The current trend in development is for a higher density living situation near commuter rail. There is a demographic shift among young professionals toward a shared economy and "car free" living currently urban areas have that draw. If we can imagine a center that would create the possibility of that sort of lifestyle it would be good.
• Don't care
• Outside seating area.
• Mixed use. Retail with significant housing above.
• NOT the terrible 70s/80s strips where the Dry cleaners are! Awful
• Traditional storefronts rather than strip mall
• Not run-down
• Follow design elements of library, town hall and new building next to town hall
• Too many restrictions restricts development.
• Make it as green as possible with quality indoor and outdoor seating/ gathering.
• I love the look of the town hall and library. That area of downtown looks like it could be in Vermont. It’s charming! Keep adding cupolas on the tops of buildings. It would keep the architectural consistent. Maybe look at downtowns like Manchester, VT and Woodstock, VT. They’re charming towns that you might get ideas from seeing.
• Do away with or update run-down/empty buildings
• Doesn’t matter.
• More restaurants
• Restaurants

Q16: Response Text “Other (please specify)”:  
• Brick and stone are classy and energy efficient  
• Trees and natural planting  
• Stone or brick would be a nice mix. We have many wooden buildings.  
• Glass  
• Note important  
• No opinion  
• Trees, grass, natural habit  
• Old style look  
• Not too much brick  
• Energy Efficiency products  
• No preference, just not brand new looking. Something with character.  
• I don’t know  
• New England town center - Medfield is nice  
• Don’t care  
• It is important to consider the application (for example, cobblestone crosswalks don’t hold up through New England winters) It’s important that the materials chosen will have a good lifespan, and hold up to conditions they are exposed to.  
• Doesn’t matter  
• No preference  
• I don’t feel qualified to answer  
• Eco Friendly  
• Too many restrictions restricts development.  
• Energy efficient, sustainable materials  
• Doesn’t matter

Q17: Response Text “Please let us know any other thoughts or comments you have about Norfolk Town Center?”:  
• Do something quintessential New England. Make the town functional, but beautifully quaint. It could be a gem instead if a dud. We have lived here 34 years, come on!!!  
• I really hope Norfolk Town Center can be foster a small-town/village walkable, vibrant vibe. A place to do business during the day but then meet up with friends and have a beer or ice cream or listen to music in the evening.  
• Can’t wait to hear the results and see downtown Norfolk expand! It’s a wonderful town that has a lot to offer
• Need sidewalks on Seekonk, Needham St and Boardman!
• Knock down the old storefronts. I have no idea what is going on in the buildings by Sovereign Bank
• Something should be done to update the current buildings. I.e. Borques and the block next to Daley’s
• I love to support local business but must leave town for food, clothing, and other regular purchases
• The center has come alive a bit with the addition of Walgreens and Cillas but we need more shops and places to eat. It doesn’t have to be overdeveloped but definitely needs more than it currently has. Take a look at Medfield center or Natick center or Dedham center. Just some cute shops (ice cream) anything that caters to kids as clearly this town is heavily
• Leave the center alone repair all roads so the tax paying public can enjoy their vehicle without damage caused by poor planning of the government as well as all tax payers town owned vehicles, not sure the government here thinks they need all this extra b/s, when the tax payers should decide where (our) the money is spent
• A local market like brothers market in Medfield could be nice.
• Too much liquor in "food" mart, too many empty stores, train parking lot too expensive and in bad repair
• The town would benefit from also having more exercise focused businesses and trails
• All streets within 1 mile of the town center and town parks should have sidewalks to make walking accessible and safe.
• Please keep the small town feel! I think Concord, Wellesley center, Newburyport, Rockport have done great jobs in maintaining the small town feel.
• I think the Norfolk town center is charming and has the most aesthetically pleasing infrastructure...but there is very little to bring me into town! I wish there was more to offer a young mom (stores, groceries, restaurant, ice cream for the kids). It is stunning to drive by but that’s it!
• I love Norfolk and I’m not that fussy!
• No housing, no fast food establishments, traffic builders.
• I hope the planners and boards will be more pro-business than they have been in the past. The building dept. has made it very difficult for business growth.
• Town Center seems to be split in different quadrants separated by very busy streets where traffic doesn’t always yield to crosswalks. I would love to see the town center modeled after Wrentham where everything feels centered around one safe green space.
• We need businesses.
• Norfolk should have been planning for this. The state is in control of our town’s plans more than we are.
• The center is not walkable and the businesses are too spread out. There should be more effort in attracting businesses to the empty buildings. Perhaps a tax incentive.
• We love the town green and the quintessential 'New England feel' of our town center. We particularly love when it is decorated (flags, holiday lights, etc.)
• More parking for library, events on hill such as concerts, parades
• The cobblestone crosswalks are a complete waste of taxpayer money. The freeze and frost cycle along with the use of road salt makes this style impractical for use in a frequently traveled roadway. The new police station should never have been moved the
furthest outreaches of town. Demolish and replace the building that Norfolk Food Mart and cleaners is in. That building is an eyesore.

- Better food sources, stores, yoga studio
- We need natural gas to attract restaurants.
- Norfolk Town Center has come a long way in the 30 years since I moved here but I hate seeing vacant store fronts. It’s important to attract more business to town. That was the plan 30 years ago and in that amount of time Walgreens, Cillas and Dunkin Donuts are the only new business to come to the center and stay!
- The town makes it very difficult for businesses to operate in their town
- Responsible development should be encouraged thru creative zoning, infrastructure and tax incentives
- More shops and update the old brick buildings
- The town is a total disgrace, roads are horrible at best, debris along road ways (tar from potholes, wood from fallen trees during storms, damaged from town hired plow contractors etc.) town workers not preforming daily work with results etc.
- Nice Restaurants / bars / good takeout / less banks / ice cream shops. More places like 3 or gavel, less horse n carriage or eaglebrook.
- Something needs to be done with the vacant land across from Walgreens.
- The cobblestones get wrecked and redone after every winter- waste of money to keep fixing. Look at doing stamped pavement instead if the look is that important!
- I love the town center, growing up in Norfolk, it was always a great place to go. Would love for some sort of interactive thing to be added in front of Walgreens in the land that is not occupied - although not town owned, maybe we could look into purchasing it
- Restaurants, small market
- Please make it easier for a restaurant to open in the town center. I have dreamed for 10 years of walking to dinner or to meet friends for a drink. Outside dining would be amazing.
- Grocery with fresh produce!!
- Need more businesses to help out on taxes.
- We need more retail shops and maybe a restaurant but on this side of town irritates me all the stuff to in our town is on for kicks side. I still prefer to go out of town to do things. Norfolk used to be fun. How about spending some money on the town pond...
- Disappointed in all the empty stores
- Thank you for asking for input from the residents of the town.
- Existing buildings need a facelift, restaurants, shops and produce market would be wonderful
- I’m excited to see future changes - more restaurants and retail
- Overall it is a great town center and people from outside the area comment how nice it looks
- Less housing, more business
- Would be nice if the left side of town with rundown buildings, matched the newer/updated side, town hall, library, Walgreens! Thanks for all your efforts!
- Please define Town Center?
- Better traffic plans needed because of the backups during rush hour at the round a bouts
- Don’t do the parking lot on chip and property
• Please do anything with that big open space across from Walgreens.
• More use of all that dead space in town
• Begging for a grocery store and a couple of good sit-down restaurants. Keep the small town New England feel. It’s a close knit community and we all have vested interest and pay A LOT of TAXES!
• Boring
• To make the town center more accessible by walking, please extend sidewalk further down Main Street (towards Franklin)
• We need the town to look better with a little upscale decor!
• Please don’t overbuild the town center! I love the current architecture and look of the center and hope it continues to have the quiet, small town feel it has now :)
• Old, tired, dull, vacant, embarrassing. Beat up sidewalks and roads, dirty, dusty. Vacant lots and store fronts. Awkward traffic patterns. Needs a complete redo and innovative thinking.
• It has a lot of potential to be more of a destination but the businesses that are there now, besides Cilla’s, are lacking any real life or community ties.
• Please consider eliminating cobblestone crosswalks
• For the commuter parking I don’t have trouble because I live close enough to walk. My family enjoys walking to town center to take advantage of the library, the farmers market, Cilla’s and Walgreens. We would love to have more local places to walk to and enjoy!
• The old buildings that reside along Main Street are a real eye-sore, and take from the character of the Town. It would be nice to see all of the buildings in the center have uniformity, similar to towns like Islington/Westwood and some of the newer portions of Millis. The Norfolkmart building is unsightly, and could use an update, converting the building to Mixed-Use. It would be great to see a walk through path, cutting like a covered alleyway, connecting to a crosswalk for the commuters. The Bourque’s and O’Loughlin building remain as businesses, but update the buildings to match the look of the new credit union building, and keeping the uniformity. A larger mixed-use building would be nice in the vacant land across from Walgreens, and bring in unique shops/businesses/food, which would draw more people into the center. It’s obvious that the center needs some work, and hopefully over time, it becomes a more desirable place to visit.
• Too much congestion already; more people and businesses means more trash and litter, and more that will go without being picked up. Fix potholes. Taxes too high. Too many people and schools are too crowded, decreasing quality of education.
• The Norfolk Town Center presents an incredible opportunity to increase local business by offering what customers want while keeping traditions in place. Failure to allow or create these opportunities leads to residents taking their business to other towns.
• Love Norfolk! The only thing that would make it better is having that property that is currently “For Lease” near the train actually being put to good use!
• A grocery store (Trader Joes or whole foods) would add value to our town....NOT a stop n shop or BIG Y...style.
• I love the rotaries, please don’t ever change to stoplights
• Options for low income housing should be incorporated to reduce the amount of construction elsewhere that is taking away from our “towny” feeling.
• It is disappointing that the new building in the center is a credit union. So many people do online banking now, why use precious town center space for that? Also, the brick buildings currently in the center (like where Nick’s Pizza and the dry cleaner are) are so dated and depressing looking! They should be torn down and modernized. Finally it would be so nice not to have to go to another town to grocery shop, and to have a restaurant or 2 near the center to grab a drink and a bite to eat. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback!

• While there is technically a spa in the town center, it doesn’t appear to be open the majority of the time. It’s a shame that a retail space is being wasted on a service provider that isn’t committed to its local customers.

• Traffic issues will need to be addressed, but I believe the dense development we are undergoing should be concentrated near public transportation, not scattered around town on rural roads, necessitating multiple cars for each household.

• Extend sidewalks further outside of town, and keep clear with snow removal, including coming back out after plowing to ensure entry to sidewalk is not blocked.

• We may need to consider a small parking garage behind DD and the strip mall with cleaners. This would assist Norfolk residents taking commuter rail and allow parking so someone would rent that empty space next to Daley’s.

• Norfolk could be really special with some more improvements. Please do not put in a big grocery store, but smaller helpful but quaint stores.

• With the proximity of the train, the need for parking, restaurants, and retail significant housing should be added to attract business investment and expanded parking. Walpole is building several large housing structures near the train station and in Norfolk this could take care of our affordable housing quota thereby saving other neighborhoods while bringing enough new people to downtown to justify growth of retail restaurants and a grocery store.

• The area around the town hall looks fine. Would be nice to have something in the big open area. All the buildings on the train side of the center feel empty and not maintained. Need some restaurants and investment from the building owners. Currently looks like 1970 in some places.

• In terms of a town layout, Norfolk is a wonderful shape. We just need to fill all each corner with pride and interest. Let the lovely library, town hall and green be the model for the town. An elegant, traditional town with a modern pulse.

• Road repairs need to be prioritized.

• Businesses that cater to young families, millennials and commuters should be encouraged. Brothers Marketplace, Starbucks, McDonalds, pub, Garden Center, consignment shop, etc. would cater to all.

• It feels like more can be added to the town center. We don’t need pizza or coffee.

• I answered no to the commuter rail question, but want to clarify that I use the commuter rail 3 times a week but I drive to a Sharon because the schedule is more convenient, less stops, etc.

• It looks like moonscape. Terrible

• Why do we have all the space in town that’s not rented out just empty space?

• The biggest need is some sort of grocery option, could be a meat market and a separate place with fruits/vegies, or all in one.

• The first thing the town should do is get SIDEWALKS - more people would walk/ride bikes and lessen traffic during peak hours which is only going to get worse with all the new
construction. All builders who do low income housing in their projects should be required to
do 20% of their housing dedicated to low income so we can finally meet our quota.

• Don't micro-manage.
• Love town center. Need more food options!
• Thanks to all who are working to gather ideas and turn them into realities! It a great town
now, with an opportunity to grow and retain its character.
• More Garden Club plantings, perennials
• It's hard not to notice the development of other town centers along the commuter rail. We
need to step it up.
• Thanks for allowing residents to give feedback on the town Center. Norfolk is a wonderful
town. We've lived here 11 years. We loved from Dedham. The center has improved a lot
since we first arrived in 2008. But it still doesn't reflect how great a town we are. My
number one wish is to update (or give a facelift) to the rows of shops along Main Street
and Rockwood. It's kind of sad when the gas station (Daley's) and Dunkin Donuts have
nicer architecture than shops. I am Very excited to follow the progress of this development
and to attend town meetings. Thank you so much for your hard work!
• Eminent domain the Stop and Shop land and start over. Or Rezone that unused area and
Jack up the Tax on it.
• Special little town. Grateful for this community!
• Maintain small town feel. Make it an authentic representation of the town's history and
values. Avoid duplicating generic town center that lacks local personality
• Still love our little sleepy town the way it is. A few additions would be nice and it's
exciting to think about the future but would never want to lose its rural charm and end up
with traffic issues like Franklin and Medfield.
• I've been waiting for meaningful development for 20 years. Hopefully something happens
before I sell my house!
• Would love more to do there!
• Do NOT overdevelop Norfolk Center. Keep the Small Town Charm.
• We need more businesses, restaurants, shops to keep commerce in Norfolk instead of
having people pass through our town and residence of Norfolk halving to travel to
surrounding towns to shop/seek entertainment/restaurants
• I would really like to see more retail options, particularly a grocery store...the closest
grocery store is at least 12 minutes away
• Please add Restaurants & Bars
• Needs modernization to drive investment
• Because we have developed slowly, planning has been more thoughtful. Continue to
proceed slowly please. Quality over size and quantity. Plenty of other places to shop.
• Really would love a sidewalk put in on Union St.
• There is no "flow" to the town center today. A gas station, 2 tiny strip malls, where it is
difficult to walk from one to another, Town Hall and the Library across from those places.
There is nothing to encourage a "stroll" and the roundabouts, with driver's lack of
understanding how to use them, make pedestrian traffic dangerous!