

2004

MDI Tomorrow 2003 Community Survey

Charles Morris

Todd Gabe

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**MDI Tommorrow
2003 Community Survey
Survey Report**

REP Staff Paper 527

Prepared for

MDI Tomorrow

Prepared by

**Charles E. Morris
Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy**

**Todd Gabe
Department of Resource Economics and Policy**

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INTRODUCTION

This study was conducted, at the request of MDI Tomorrow, by the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy and the Department of Resource Economics and Policy at the University of Maine. MDI Tomorrow is a citizen's forum to identify what Mount Desert Island area citizens want for the future and to suggest plans and collaborative work to bring about a "preferred future" for the area. Since October 2001, MDI Tomorrow has worked to identify issues that will affect the MDI area as a place to live and work over the next several years. MDI Tomorrow contracted with the Department of Resource Economics and Policy and the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy to conduct a survey of MDI area residents on these issues and the best ways to address them.

This report presents the results of a survey of MDI area residents conducted during December 2003 and January 2004. In addition, the report presents the methods used in conducting the survey and recommendations for future action. The appendices to this report present the survey materials as well as overall responses to each question from all those who completed and returned the questionnaire.

METHODOLOGY

Survey Sample

MDI Tomorrow identified three population groups to be included in the survey: island year-round residents, non-MDI year-round residents, and island seasonal residents. MDI Tomorrow provided a list of towns, shown below in Table 1, to be included as MDI communities and as non-MDI communities. Year-round residents were defined as registered voters. Seasonal residents were defined as property taxpayers with mailing addresses outside the MDI area. Within each population group, random samples were taken from each town list in proportion to the number in the town as a percent of the number from all towns in the group. Interval samples were drawn to generate at least 1,200 island residents, 300 non-MDI residents, and 300 seasonal residents. The original survey sample contained a total of 1,880 individuals.

During the course of the survey, a number of the mailings were returned by the postal service as undeliverable. Those returned with forwarding addresses were then mailed to the forwarding address. A total of 232 were returned with no forwarding address and were determined to be undeliverable. In addition, through phone, mail and email, 13 members of the original survey population reported that they were no longer residents of the MDI area and 10 were reported to be either too ill to complete the questionnaire or were deceased. Since those individuals did not have an opportunity to participate in the survey, they were removed from the original survey sample. The final survey sample contained a total of 1,625 individuals.

Table 1 presents the original survey sample, those removed, and the final survey sample for each town in each group.

Table 1
Survey Sample

	Original Sample	Removed	Final Sample
Island Residents			
Bar Harbor	531	77	454
Mount Desert	273	58	215
Southwest Harbor	222	21	201
Tremont	185	32	153
total	1211	188	1023
Non-MDI Residents			
Trenton	112	15	97
Lamoine	152	17	135
Swans Island	43	4	39
Frenchboro	7	0	7
Cranberry Isles	24	1	23
total	338	37	301
Seasonal Residents			
Bar Harbor	95	14	81
Mount Desert	117	6	111
Southwest Harbor	62	3	59
Tremont	57	7	50
total	331	30	301
TOTAL SAMPLE	1880	255	1625

Survey Implementation

The survey questionnaire was developed in close cooperation with representatives of MDI Tomorrow. Through previous efforts, MDI Tomorrow had identified issues that would affect the future of the MDI area as a place to live and work and had created committees for each of those issues. Over the course of four months, project staff worked with those committees and the MDI Tomorrow Steering Committee to develop a draft questionnaire. The draft questionnaire was pre-tested by a group of MDI area residents representing a variety of demographic characteristics. Results from the pre-test were incorporated into the final questionnaire.

The original survey mailing was conducted on December 8, 2003. The original mailing (see Appendix 1) included the questionnaire, a cover letter explaining the purpose of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. In addition, the original mailing included a postage-paid return postcard to be mailed separately by those who completed and returned the questionnaire. This process was used to allow tracking of those who responded while providing no respondent identifying information on returned questionnaires. On December 31, 2003, a reminder postcard (see Appendix 1) was mailed to the 1,252 members of the survey sample who had not returned their postcards indicating they had completed and returned the questionnaire. On January 12, 2004, a replacement mailing including a cover letter (see Appendix 1), a replacement questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope was sent to the 1,110 members of the survey sample who had not returned the original questionnaire by that date. Completed questionnaires from the original and follow-up mailings were received through February 12, 2004.

Responses from returned, completed questionnaires were entered into a computer data file. The data file was cleaned to reconcile any values out of range. A total of 877 completed questionnaires were received representing 53.97% of the final survey sample. Twenty respondents did not indicate either their town of residence, or if they were a seasonal or year-round resident. Table 2 presents the final survey sample and respondents by group and town.

While the sample of individuals that returned a completed questionnaire appears to reasonably represent the survey population, respondents may or may not be representative of all people living in the designated communities. The survey populations were drawn from the most comprehensive and complete lists of names and addresses available. Year-round residents were drawn as a sample of registered voters, which does not include residents under the age of 18 and those not registered to vote. Likewise, seasonal residents were drawn as a sample of taxpayers with addresses outside the MDI communities, which may not include all individuals living at those addresses.

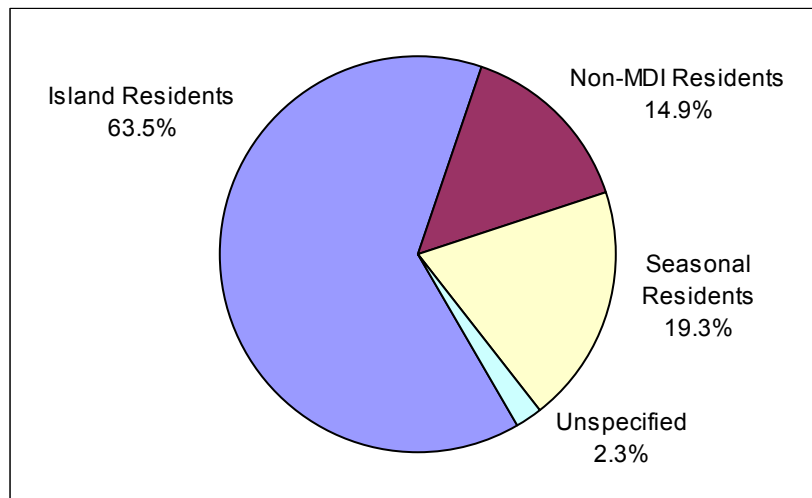
Table 2
Final Sample and Respondents

Island Residents	Final Sample	% of Final Sample	Respondents	% of Respondents
Bar Harbor	454	27.9%	255	29.1%
Mount Desert	215	13.2%	118	13.4%
Southwest Harbor	201	12.3%	102	11.6%
Tremont	153	9.4%	82	9.4%
Island Total	1023	62.9%	557	63.5%
Non-MDI Residents	Final Sample	% of Final Sample	Respondents	% of Respondents
Trenton	97	5.9%	55	6.3%
Lamoine	135	8.3%	51	5.8%
Swans Island	39	2.4%	12	1.4%
Frenchboro	7	0.4%	3	0.3%
Cranberry Isles	23	1.4%	10	1.1%
Non-MDI Total	301	18.5%	131	14.9%
Seasonal Residents	Final Sample	% of Final Sample	Respondents	% of Respondents
Bar Harbor	81	4.9%	36	4.1%
Mount Desert	111	6.8%	61	7.0%
Southwest Harbor	59	3.6%	36	4.1%
Tremont	50	3.0%	30	3.4%
Other			6	0.7%
Seasonal Total	301	18.5%	169	19.3%
Unspecified group/town			20	2.3%
TOTAL	1625	100%	877	100%

RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Members of the survey sample were drawn from three populations: island residents, non-MDI residents, and seasonal residents. Figure 1 displays survey respondents by population type.

Figure 1
Respondents by Population Type



53.0% of those responding were female and 47.0% were male. Just over two-thirds (69.0%) of respondents were married, 22.0% were single, and 9.0 reported some other marital status. 20.9% of those responding reported that they owned a business in the MDI area.

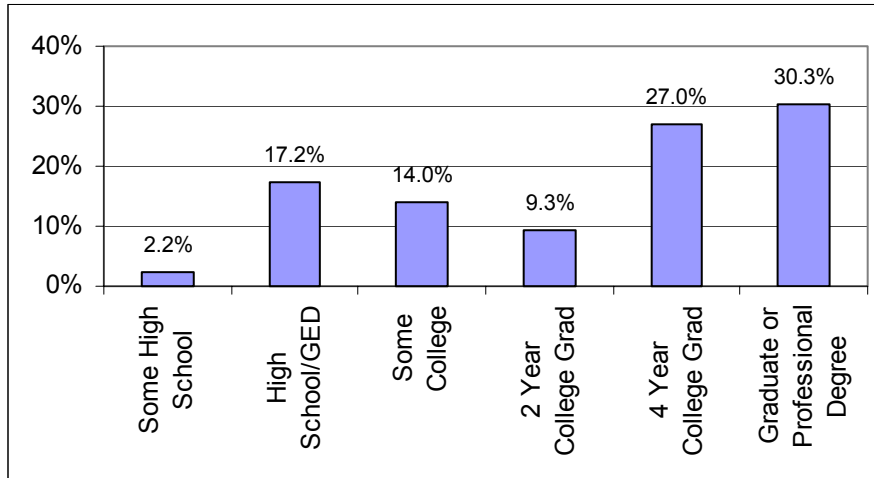
Age

The average age of all respondents was 55.7 years, with island resident respondents averaging 54.2 years, non-MDI respondents 53.3 years, and seasonal respondents averaging 61.7 years. 43.8% of seasonal residents were age 65 and above compared to 28.0% of island resident respondents and 22.9% of non-MDI resident respondents. The average number of years that respondents have lived or been a resident of the MDI area was 28.8 years, with island resident respondents averaging 29.6 years, non-MDI respondents 26.2 years, and seasonal respondents averaging 27.2 years.

Education

Over one-half (57.3%) of respondents reported having a 4-year college degree or graduate or professional degree. Among population groups, 83.3% of seasonal residents have at least a 4-year college degree compared with 52.0% of island residents and 46.6% of non-MDI residents. Figure 2 displays the educational attainment of all respondents.

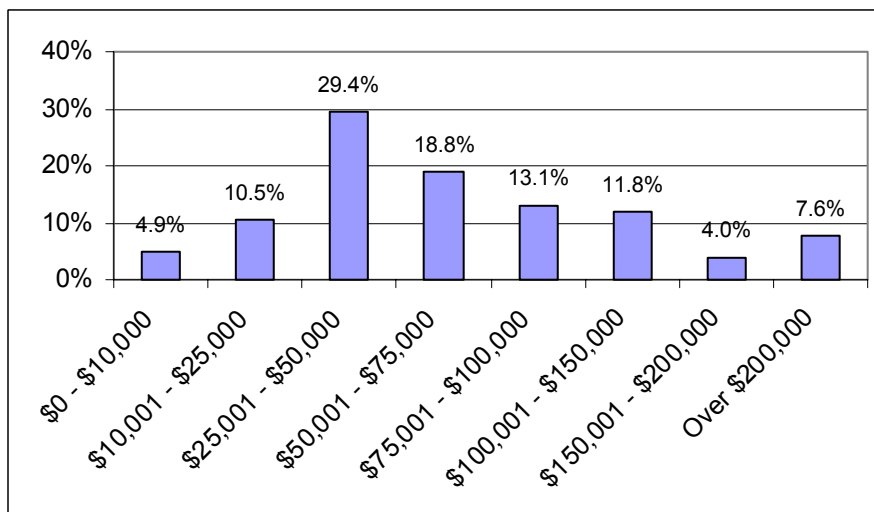
Figure 2
Educational Attainment
 (n=871)



Income

The questionnaire provided a series of income categories and asked respondents to indicate which best represented their yearly household income. Figure 3 displays the proportion of respondents that selected each income category.

Figure 3
Respondent Income
 (n=800)



A considerable difference in reported household income exists between full-time resident and seasonal resident respondents. Just under three-quarters of island residents (72.5%) and non-MDI residents (73.3%) reported yearly household incomes of less than \$75,000 while 72.7% of seasonal residents reported yearly household incomes of \$75,000 or more.

Children

Just over one-quarter of those responding (28.0%) reported having children 18 years or younger living with them. 8.1% of respondents reported having children between the ages of 0 and 5 years; 10.7% reported children between the ages of 6 and 12 years; and 16.0% reported children between the ages of 13 and 18 years.

Housing

Most respondents (84.1%) reported that they own their house, 6.4% reported they rent, 3.5% reported they rent and would like to purchase property on MDI, and 6.0% reported they had some other housing arrangement. A higher proportion of island residents (12.9%) rented than did non-MDI or seasonal residents (7.7% and 2.9% respectively).

A total of 757 respondents reported that they owned land in the MDI area. Of those owning land, 27.1% owned less than one acre, 48.9% owned 1 to 5 acres, 10.7% owned 6 to 10 acres, and 13.3% owned more than 10 acres of land. Non-MDI respondents tended to own more land, with 9.6% owning less than one acre compared to 31.6% of island residents and 26.5% of seasonal residents.

Gardening/Livestock

Over one-third (34.8%) of those responding reported that they garden or raise livestock to produce food for themselves and their families. Nearly one-half of non-MDI residents (49.2%) garden or raise livestock for themselves or their families compared with 38.7% of island residents and 13.3% of seasonal residents. 12 respondents (1.4%) reported that they garden or raise livestock to produce food for sale to others.

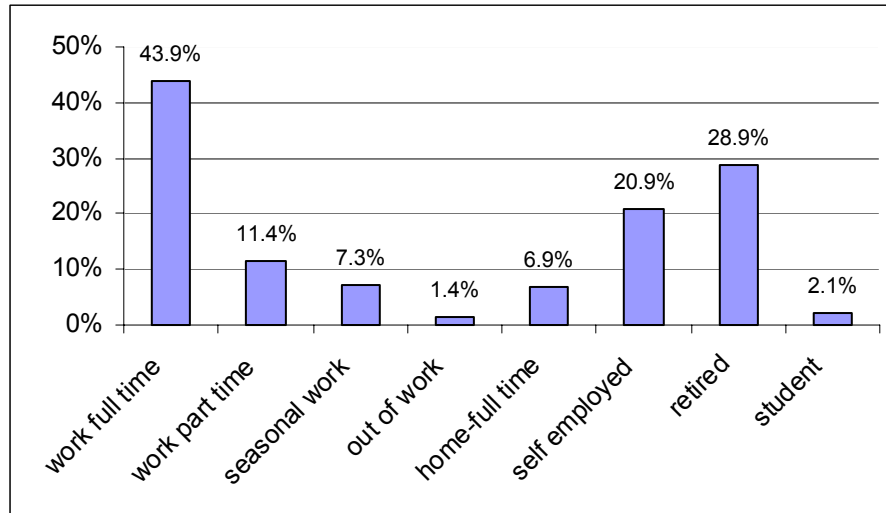
Waterfront Access

113 respondents (13.0%) reported that they need access to the waterfront for their livelihood. Of those, 75.9% reported that their waterfront access was sufficient. A higher proportion of non-MDI residents (32.1%) than island residents (18.7%) needing access to the waterfront reported that they did not have sufficient access to the waterfront. Among the 75 respondents from MDI towns reporting that they need access to the waterfront for their livelihood, a higher proportion from Bar Harbor and Mt. Desert (27.3% and 25.0% respectively) indicated their access was not sufficient than did respondents from Southwest Harbor and Tremont (10.5% and 11.1% respectively).

Work Status

The questionnaire asked respondents to report their work status. 43.9% of those responding reported that they worked full-time and 28.9% reported they were retired. Figure 4 displays the work status of respondents.

Figure 4
Work Status
(n=874)

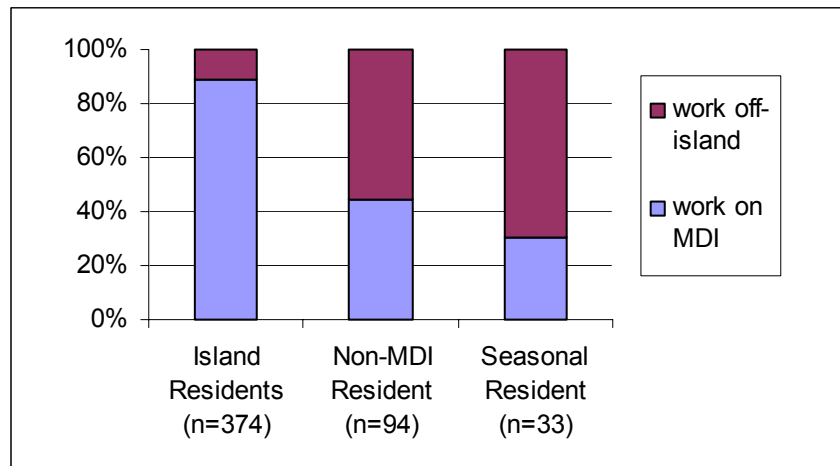


Among the three population types, fewer seasonal residents worked full time (38.7%) than did non-MDI or island residents (49.6% and 45.1% respectively). Similarly, more seasonal residents were retired (39.3%) than were non-MDI or island residents (24.4% and 26.0% respectively). A higher proportion of non-MDI residents reported working seasonal jobs (13.0%) than did island residents (7.6%).

Three quarters of those responding reported that they currently were employed with 57.0% reporting they currently hold one job, and 17.8% holding more than one job. More non-MDI residents reported being employed (81.7%) than did island residents (74.9%) or seasonal residents (75.2%).

A total of 508 respondents reported that they work either on MDI or work off-island. Of those, just over three-quarters (76.4%) work on MDI and just less than one-quarter work off-island. Figure 5 displays the proportion of respondents working on MDI and off-island by population type.

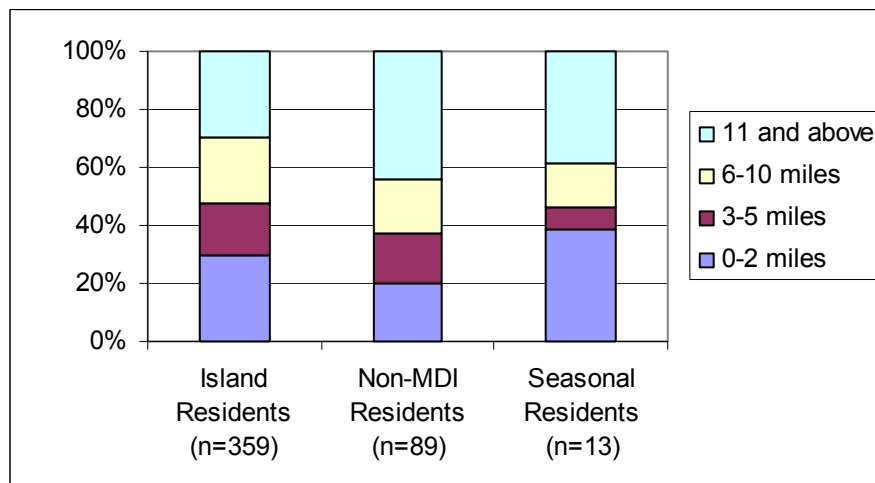
Figure 5
Place of Work
(n=501)



Distance to Work

Of the 466 respondents who work in the MDI area and who reported the number of miles they traveled from home to work (one-way), the average number of miles to work was 10.4 miles (median=7.0 miles). Island residents averaged 9.7 miles to work (median=6.0), non-MDI residents averaged 12.8 miles (median=10.0) and seasonal residents averaged 13.2 miles (median=10.0). Figure 6 displays the proportion of respondents from each population type by categories of miles traveled to work.

Figure 6
Miles Traveled to Work (one-way)



Of the 322 island residents who work on MDI, just over one-half travel 5 miles or less to work (one way). Of the 40 non-MDI residents who work on MDI, one-half travel 14 miles or less and just over one-quarter (27.5%) travel 5 miles or less to work.

Bicycle Use

Respondents were asked if they or anyone in their family uses a bicycle to get to work, school or other locations at least some of the time. Overall, 18.5% of those responding reported that they or someone in their family uses a bicycle. Among population groups, 17.3% of island resident respondents, 12.2% of non-MDI respondents and 27.6% of seasonal respondents reported that they or someone in their family uses a bicycle.

Respondents reporting they did not use a bicycle were asked why they did not and were provided a series of reasons. Table 3 presents the reasons why respondents do not use a bicycle as well as the percent of respondents selecting each reason by population group.

Table 3
Why Not Use a Bicycle

	Island Residents (n=397)	Non-MDI Residents (n=98)	Seasonal Residents (n=108)	All Respondents (n=603)
Walk to work	5.0%	1.0%	5.6%	4.5%
Don't own a bicycle	21.4%	17.3%	25.0%	21.4%
No off-road paths	2.3%	0.0%	4.6%	2.3%
Road shoulders unsafe	19.6%	14.3%	23.1%	19.4%
Don't have the time	12.3%	20.4%	2.8%	11.9%
No Shower at location I'm going to	0.5%	0.0%	0.9%	0.5%
No safe place to lock my bicycle	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Other	38.5%	46.9%	38.0%	39.8%

Among those who listed another reason to not use a bicycle, 83 respondents referenced distance, 42 referenced they were too old or too ill, 32 reported they were retired, and 24 referenced safety or too much traffic.

Island Purchasing

The questionnaire asked respondents how often they purchased seafood caught in the MDI area and how often they purchased vegetables grown in the MDI area. Overall, 32.1% of respondents reported they “very often” purchased seafood caught in the MDI area, 59.3% reported “sometimes,” 4.0% reported “never” and 4.6% reported they didn’t know how often they purchased seafood caught in the MDI area. 21.1% of respondents reported they “very often” purchased vegetables grown in the MDI area, 63.0% reported “sometimes,” 8.3% reported “never” and 7.7% reported they didn’t know how often they purchased

vegetables grown in the MDI area. A higher proportion of seasonal residents reported purchasing locally caught seafood and locally grown vegetables “very often” (46.5% and 34.4% respectively).

Respondents were provided a list of items of daily living that people commonly purchase and were asked if they usually purchase each on MDI or off island. Table 4 presents the total number of respondents responding to each item and the percent of that total reporting they usually purchase the item on MDI by population group.

Table 4
Items of Daily Living Usually Purchased on MDI

	Island Residents (n=total respondents)	Non-MDI Residents (n=total respondents)	Seasonal Residents (n=total respondents)
Groceries	(535) 53.3%	(122) 4.1%	(164) 49.5%
Convenience Foods	(464) 81.9%	(109) 29.4%	(148) 90.5%
Art /craft supplies	(384) 13.8%	(102) 5.9%	(95) 38.9%
Pet Supplies	(380) 36.3%	(104) 5.8%	(84) 45.2%
Health and beauty	(515) 37.7%	(114) 8.8%	(147) 58.5%
Gasoline	(527) 63.4%	(123) 17.9%	(165) 73.3%
Clothing	(522) 6.3%	(125) 4.8%	(143) 38.5%
Automotive	(521) 46.4%	(123) 16.3%	(143) 51.7%
Meals / restaurants	(503) 78.7%	(117) 34.2%	(160) 95.0%

For each item of daily living, respondents were then asked why they did not usually purchase the item on MDI. The questionnaire provided responses of “selection,” “price,” “convenience,” and “don’t need / don’t use.” Respondents were allowed to identify more than one reason. Table 5 presents each item of daily living, the total number of respondents indicating at least one reason, as well as the percent of that total selecting each reason.

Table 5
Why Not Purchase Items on MDI

	Selection	Price	Convenience	Don't need/ Don't use
Groceries (n=450)	56.2%	50.4%	36.0%	1.3%
Convenience Foods (n=353)	14.4%	20.7%	51.0%	26.9%
Art /craft supplies (n=644)	49.2%	21.3%	17.2%	32.0%
Pet Supplies (n=576)	30.4%	31.6%	20.0%	36.8%
Health and beauty (n=525)	46.9%	49.0%	28.0%	7.0%
Gasoline (n=445)	4.7%	65.6%	36.2%	2.9%
Clothing (n=684)	67.8%	45.0%	19.2%	2.2%
Automotive (n=504)	42.9%	25.8%	38.7%	7.3%
Meals / restaurants (n=321)	38.3%	23.1%	49.5%	9.0%

As shown in Table 5, “selection” was the most frequently reported reason for not purchasing groceries, art / craft supplies, clothing and automotive items on MDI. “Price” was the most frequently reported reason for not purchasing health and beauty items and gasoline on MDI. “Convenience” was the most frequently reported reason for not purchasing convenience foods and meals / restaurants. The most frequently reported reason for not purchasing pet supplies was that respondents did not need or use them.

POLICY ISSUES FACING THE MDI REGION

The survey included a series of questions related to nine broad issue areas that are facing residents of the MDI region. As indicated above, these issues were identified as part of the MDI Tomorrow process. Table 6 lists these issues, along with the percentages of survey respondents who felt the particular issue is “most important” to the MDI region.

Table 6
Issues Identified as “Most Important” to MDI Region

Issue	Percentage of respondents who indicated “most important” issue			
	Entire Sample (n = 754)	Island Residents (n = 488)	Seasonal Residents (n = 145)	Non-MDI Residents (n = 118)
Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months	13.0%	10.0%	13.1%	25.4%
Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources	21.5%	17.2%	46.2%	8.5%
Encourage walking and biking	1.5%	1.2%	2.8%	0.8%
Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront	5.8%	4.7%	4.1%	11.9%
Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse	14.5%	16.6%	5.5%	16.9%
Promote healthy growth and social development of children and youth	6.0%	6.4%	3.4%	7.6%
Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	17.9%	22.5%	10.3%	7.6%
Promote agriculture and local foods	0.8%	0.8%	0.0%	1.7%
Promote a year-round economy	19.1%	20.5%	14.5%	19.5%

Survey results, based on the entire sample of respondents, suggest that the two most important issues confronting the MDI region are protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources (21.5%), and promoting a year-round economy (19.1%). Other issues that were considered as most important by over ten percent of respondents include: expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (17.9%), preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse (14.5%), and reducing automobile congestion during the summer months (13.0%). When asked about the importance of each of the issues individually, respondents generally rated the issues listed in Table 6 as important to the MDI region. For each of the nine issues, sixty percent or more of survey respondents rated the issue as either “very high priority” or “high priority.”

The issues identified as most important to the MDI region differed among island residents, seasonal residents, and non-MDI residents. According to year-round island residents, the most important issues facing the MDI region are expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (22.5%), promoting a year-round economy (20.5%), protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources (17.2%), and preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse (16.6%).

On the other hand, seasonal island residents overwhelmingly believe (46.2%) that protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources is the most important issue facing the MDI region. Other issues identified as most important by over ten percent of seasonal island residents include: promoting a year-round economy (14.5%), reducing automobile congestion during the summer months (13.1%), and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (10.3%). By contrast, non-MDI residents think that the most important issue facing the MDI region is reducing automobile congestion during the summer months (25.4%). Other issues identified as most important by over ten percent of non-MDI residents include: promoting a year-round economy (19.5%), preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse (16.9%), and promoting marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront (11.9%).

When comparing the issues identified as most important by island residents, seasonal residents and non-MDI residents, it is necessary to keep in mind the differences in demographics among these groups. As indicated above, seasonal residents reported higher yearly household incomes and educational attainment levels than island residents and non-MDI residents. As shown below, these differences may partially explain why seasonal island residents were more likely than the other population types to identify the protection of open space and environmental quality of land resources as the most important issue facing the MDI region.

It is also noteworthy that non-MDI residents were considerably more likely than other population types to view reducing automobile congestion during the summer months as the most important issue. A possible explanation for this finding is that, given their location between Ellsworth and the bridge on to Mount Desert Island, residents in Lamoine and Trenton encounter a large number of day-tourists and other summer visitors that come to the MDI region. Another survey finding of note is that island residents and non-MDI residents were both more likely than seasonal residents to select preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse, as the most important issue facing the area.

Table 7 shows the percentages of respondents, by age category, that identified each of the nine issues as most important to the MDI region. According to respondents under the age of 50, the most important issues facing the area are promoting a year-round economy (21.0%), expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (21.0%), protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources (16.5%), and

preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse (16.2%). Respondents age 50 and older feel that the most important issues are protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources (24.0%), promoting a year-round economy (17.8%), and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (16.7%).

Table 7
Issues Identified as “Most Important” to MDI Region
by Age Category

Issue	Percent of respondents who indicated “most important” issue	
	Under 50 Years Old (n= 272)	Age 50 And Older (n= 467)
Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months	11.0%	14.6%
Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources	16.5%	24.0%
Encourage walking and biking	1.1%	1.7%
Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront	6.3%	5.8%
Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse	16.2%	12.6%
Promote healthy growth and social development of children and youth	5.5%	6.4%
Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	21.0%	16.7%
Promote agriculture and local foods	1.5%	0.4%
Promote a year-round economy	21.0%	17.8%

Table 8 reveals some differences in opinion based on the respondents’ educational attainment. Respondents with less than a 4-year college education believe that the most important issues facing the MDI region are promoting a year-round economy (22.4%), preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse (20.4%), and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (19.5%). On the other hand, respondents with at least a 4-year college degree feel that protecting open space and the environmental quality of land resources (29.5%) is the most important issue facing MDI, followed by promoting a year-round economy (16.9%), and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (16.9%).

Table 8
Issues Identified as “Most Important” to MDI Region
by Educational Attainment

Issue	Percent of respondents who indicated “most important” issue	
	Less Than 4 Years Of College (n= 313)	At Least 4-Year College Degree (n= 437)
Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months	13.7%	11.9%
Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources	10.2%	29.5%
Encourage walking and biking	0.6%	2.1%
Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront	8.0%	4.3%
Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse	20.4%	10.3%
Promote healthy growth and social development of children and youth	4.2%	7.3%
Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	19.5%	16.9%
Promote agriculture and local foods	1.0%	0.7%
Promote a year-round economy	22.4%	16.9%

Table 9 shows the percentages of respondents, by income category, that identified each of the nine issues as most important to the MDI region. The most important issue to respondents with an annual household income of \$50,000 or less is expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (22.2%), followed by promoting a year-round economy (20.6%), and preventing and addressing alcohol use and abuse (14.2%). Respondents with an annual household income of more than \$50,000 feel that the most important issues facing the MDI region are protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources (28.0%), promoting a year-round economy (16.8%), and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (15.3%).

Table 9
Issues Identified as “Most Important” to MDI Region
by Income Category

Issue	Percent of respondents who indicated “most important” issue	
	\$50,000 or Less in Annual Income (n= 310)	More than \$50,000 in Annual Income (n= 386)
Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months	13.9%	12.2%
Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources	13.9%	28.0%
Encourage walking and biking	1.0%	2.1%
Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront	6.8%	5.2%
Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse	14.2%	14.0%
Promote healthy growth and social development of children and youth	6.1%	6.2%
Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	22.2%	15.3%
Promote agriculture and local foods	1.3%	0.3%
Promote a year-round economy	20.6%	16.8%

As shown in Table 10, 19.8% of respondents who share a household with children aged 18 or younger believe that preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse is the most important issue confronting the MDI region. Other issues identified as most important by respondents who live with children include: promoting a year-round economy (18.4%), protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources (16.6%), and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (16.1%). Interestingly, only 8.3% of these respondents feel that the most important issue facing the MDI region is promoting healthy growth and social development of children and youth. Respondents who do not live with children aged 18 or younger believe that the most important issues facing the MDI region are protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources (23.3%), promoting a year-round economy (19.7%), and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (18.7%).

Table 10
Issues Identified as “Most Important” to MDI Region
by Household Status

Issue	Percent of respondents who indicated “most important” issue	
	Live With Children (n= 217)	Do Not Live with Children (n= 524)
Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months	10.1%	13.7%
Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources	16.6%	23.3%
Encourage walking and biking	1.8%	1.3%
Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront	7.4%	5.3%
Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse	19.8%	12.2%
Promote healthy growth and social development of children and youth	8.3%	5.2%
Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	16.1%	18.7%
Promote agriculture and local foods	1.4%	0.6%
Promote a year-round economy	18.4%	19.7%

STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES FACING THE MDI REGION

For each of the nine broad issue areas presented above, the survey asked respondents to consider a variety of strategies that could be used to address the issue. In this section, Tables 11 to 32 display the percentages of respondents that support and oppose the individual strategies as well as the percentage of respondents, by population type, that indicated one option is the “best” way to address the issue. Figures 7 to 15 show the percentages of all respondents who indicated that one option is the “best” way to address the issue.

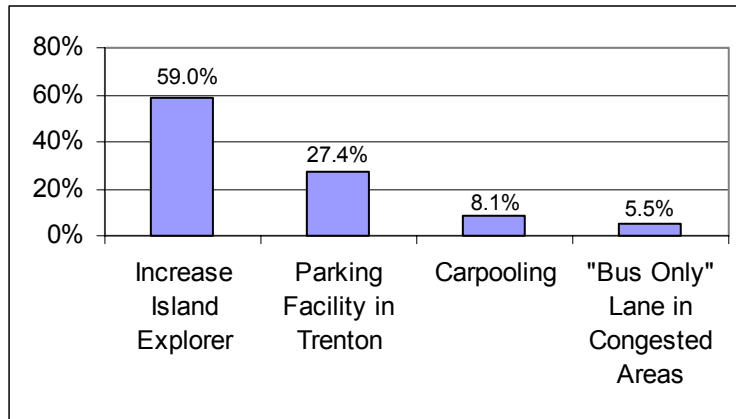
Reducing Automobile Congestion During the Summer Months

Table 11
Strategies to Reduce Automobile Congestion
During the Summer Months

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Increase Island Explorer service	68.3%	20.4%	8.4%	0.9%	0.6%	1.4%
Parking facility in Trenton	41.4%	30.7%	17.6%	3.8%	3.5%	2.9%
Incentives for carpooling	26.1%	35.8%	30.8%	3.4%	0.8%	3.2%
Bus only lane in congested areas	14.3%	17.2%	31.8%	13.5%	17.4%	5.9%

When asked about ways to reduce auto congestion during the summer months, over two-thirds of those responding indicated that they strongly support increasing the amount of Island Explorer service on MDI during the summer. Nearly one-third of those responding were either strongly or somewhat against the strategy of adding a “bus only” lane across the Trenton Bridge and in other congested areas.

Figure 7
Best Strategy to Reduce Automobile Congestion
During the Summer Months (n= 744)



A majority of respondents (59.0%) feel that the best way to address the issue is to increase the amount of Island Explorer service on MDI during the summer. Another 27.4% of respondents believe that the best way to confront summertime automobile congestion is by establishing a parking facility in Trenton with bus service to Village Centers. Table 12 shows that, generally speaking, the three population types are in agreement about the best way to reduce automobile congestion during the summer months.

Table 12
Best Strategy to Reduce Automobile Congestion
During the Summer Months

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the "best" way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 493)	Seasonal Residents (n= 140)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 108)
Increase the amount of Island Explorer service during the summer	59.0%	65.7%	49.1%
Establish a parking facility in Trenton with bus service to Village Centers	27.8%	22.1%	33.3%
Provide incentives to encourage carpooling	8.1%	5.7%	11.1%
Add a "bus only" lane across the Trenton Bridge and in other congested areas to allow buses to bypass stopped traffic	5.1%	6.4%	6.5%

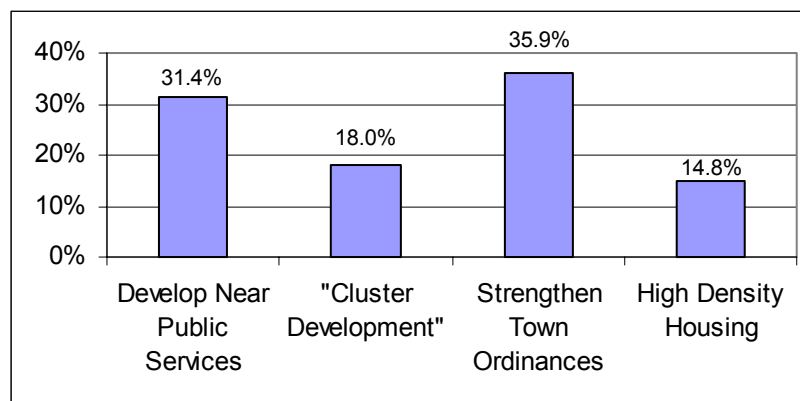
Promoting Open Space and Environmental Quality of Land

Table 13
Strategies to Protect Open Space and
Environmental Quality of Land Resources

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Develop near existing public services	37.6%	35.7%	17.4%	2.8%	3.2%	3.2%
Encourage cluster development	26.6%	29.8%	18.2%	9.9%	10.6%	5.0%
Strengthen town ordinances	49.9%	22.9%	16.5%	3.6%	4.6%	2.5%
Zoning for high density housing	17.3%	23.1%	18.7%	15.4%	20.8%	4.7%

As shown in Table 13, nearly three-quarters of respondents support the growth management strategies of encouraging residential development in areas where sewer and water services already exist and strengthening town ordinances to protect wetlands, watersheds and wildlife habitat. Just over one-third of respondents are against modifying zoning regulations to allow for smaller lot sizes and higher density single family housing.

Figure 8
Best Strategy to Protect Open Space and Environmental Quality of Land Resources
(n = 711)



When asked about the best way to protect open space and environmental quality of land resources, the two most frequently identified solutions were to strengthen town ordinances to protect wetlands, watersheds, and wildlife habitat (35.9%), and to encourage residential development in areas where sewer and water services already exist (31.4%). On the other hand, respondents were generally less in favor of the two strategies that involved increasing

the density of residential development. Table 14 shows that the three population types are in basic agreement about the best solution to protect open space and environmental quality of land resources.

Table 14
Best Strategy to Protect Open Space and
Environmental Quality of Land Resources

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 466)	Seasonal Residents (n= 138)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 104)
Encourage residential development in areas where sewer and water services already exist	29.8%	31.2%	37.5%
Encourage new housing subdivisions to allow high-density housing on part of the land area and leave the rest undeveloped (i.e., “cluster development”)	19.5%	16.7%	12.5%
Strengthen town ordinances to protect wetlands, watersheds, and wildlife habitat	34.5%	42.0%	34.6%
Modify zoning regulations to allow for smaller lot sizes and higher density single family housing	16.1%	10.1%	15.4%

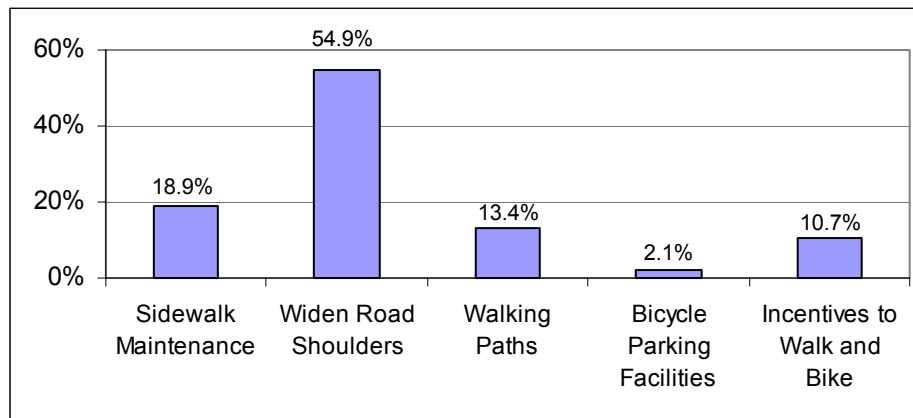
Encouraging Walking and Biking

Table 15
Strategies to Encourage Walking and Biking

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Increase sidewalk maintenance	39.8%	33.6%	16.7%	3.0%	4.9%	2.0%
Widen road shoulders	55.8%	28.0%	9.7%	2.5%	2.0%	2.0%
Walking paths in new developments	44.1%	29.7%	16.7%	2.8%	4.0%	2.6%
Zone for bicycle parking facilities	6.7%	15.1%	34.7%	20.6%	18.6%	4.3%
Incentives to walk and bike	20.5%	25.8%	34.4%	8.4%	5.9%	5.0%

When asked ways to encourage walking and biking, survey respondents indicated considerable support for increasing the maintenance and widening of sidewalks and road shoulders as well as requiring new developments to include walking paths, bike paths or sidewalks. Over one-third of respondents were against modifying zoning regulations to allow for fewer automobile parking spaces and more bicycle parking facilities.

Figure 9
Best Strategy to Encourage Walking and Biking
(n = 729)



A majority of survey respondents (54.9%) believe that the best way to address the issue of encouraging walking and biking is to widen road shoulders and add sidewalks by seeking external grant sources. On the other hand, only 2.1% percent of those responding feel the best way to address the issue is to modify zoning regulations to allow for fewer automobile parking spaces in exchange for bicycle parking facilities at businesses. Table 16 shows that the three population types generally agree on the best solution to encourage walking and biking.

Table 16
Best Strategy to Encourage Walking and Biking

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 481)	Seasonal Residents (n= 134)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 110)
Increase maintenance of existing sidewalks and road shoulders by allocating additional town funds	18.3%	20.1%	19.1%
Widen road shoulders and add sidewalks by seeking external grant sources	57.0%	48.5%	54.5%
Require new developments to include walking paths, bike paths or sidewalks	11.4%	20.9%	12.7%
Modify zoning regulations to allow for fewer automobile parking spaces in exchange for bicycle parking facilities at businesses	1.7%	3.0%	2.7%
Encourage walking and biking to work by providing incentives to workers, administered by local employers	11.6%	7.5%	10.9%

Table 17 does not reveal any substantial differences in opinion related to respondents' bicycle use. In the table, the term "bicycle user" refers to a respondent who indicated that (s)he or a family member uses "a bicycle to get to work, school, or other locations at least some of the time."

Table 17
Best Strategy to Encourage Walking and Biking
by Bicycle Use Category

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the "best" way to address issue	
	Bicycle User (n= 141)	Non-User (n= 583)
Increase maintenance of existing sidewalks and road shoulders by allocating additional town funds	17.0%	19.4%
Widen road shoulders and add sidewalks by seeking external grant sources	53.2%	55.2%
Require new developments to include walking paths, bike paths or sidewalks	10.6%	14.1%
Modify zoning regulations to allow for fewer automobile parking spaces in exchange for bicycle parking facilities at businesses	2.8%	1.9%
Encourage walking and biking to work by providing incentives to workers, administered by local employers	16.3%	9.4%

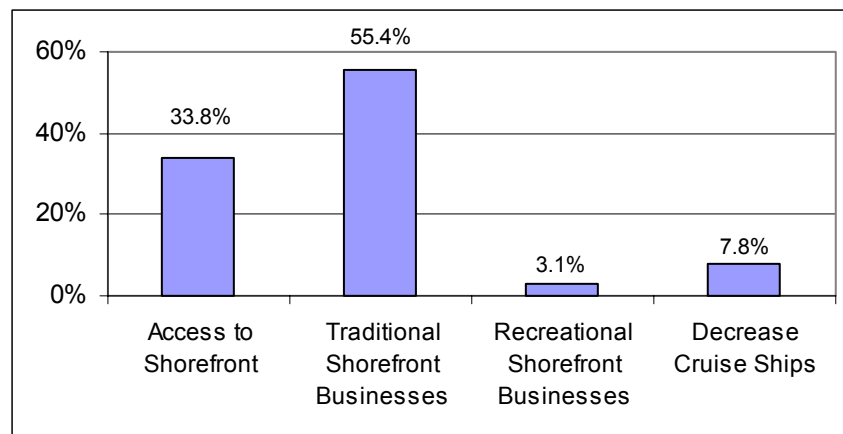
Promoting Marine Industries and Fisheries as Part of a Working Waterfront

Table 18
Strategies to Promote Marine Industries and Fisheries
as Part of a Working Waterfront

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Require access to shorefront	47.1%	23.3%	13.9%	6.0%	5.8%	3.9%
Traditional shorefront businesses	47.1%	31.5%	12.0%	2.8%	2.6%	4.0%
Recreational shorefront businesses	16.9%	29.9%	27.2%	12.0%	9.5%	4.4%
Decrease cruise ships	15.0%	11.8%	35.7%	13.2%	18.9%	5.5%

Among the strategies to promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront, modifications to zoning and tax policies to support traditional shorefront businesses and requirements to provide or retain public access to shorefront when property is sold or developed were strongly supported by respondents.

Figure 10
Best Strategy to Promote Marine Industries and Fisheries
as Part of a Working Waterfront (n = 720)



In response to the question about the best way to promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront, a majority of respondents (55.4%) selected the strategy of supporting traditional shorefront businesses such as fishing, lobstering, and boat building by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies. On the other hand, only 3.1 percent of respondents felt that the best way to maintain a working waterfront is by supporting recreational shorefront businesses such as boat tour and kayak operators by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies. About one-third of respondents (33.8%) think the best course of action is to require developers, landowners, and towns to provide or retain access to the shorefront when property is sold or developed.

Table 19 shows that the three population types generally agree on the best solution to promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront.

Table 19
Best Strategy to Promote Marine Industries and Fisheries
as Part of a Working Waterfront

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 475)	Seasonal Residents (n= 128)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 113)
Require developers, landowners, and towns to provide or retain access to the shorefront when property is sold or developed	33.3%	38.3%	31.0%
Support traditional shorefront businesses such as fishing, lobstering, and boat building by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies	54.5%	56.3%	57.5%
Support recreational shorefront businesses such as boat tour and kayak operators by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies	2.7%	1.6%	6.2%
Decrease the number of cruise ships in the harbor	9.5%	3.9%	5.3%

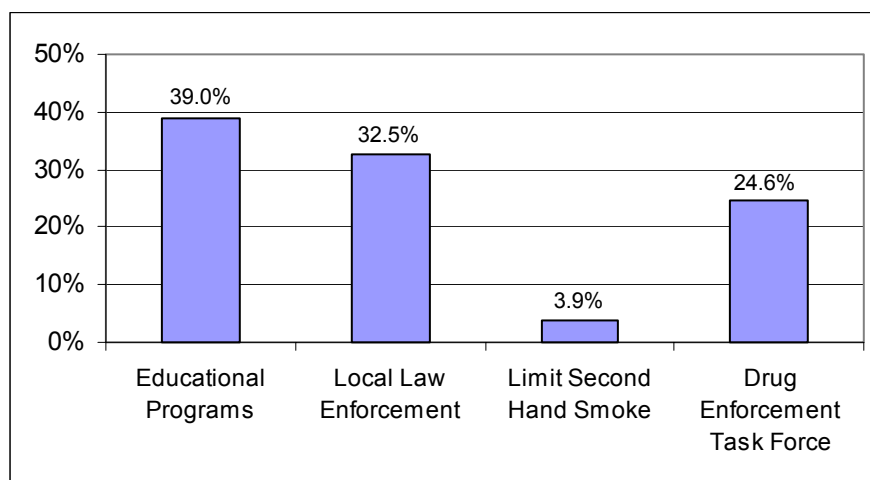
Addressing Drug and Alcohol Use and Abuse

Table 20
Strategies to Prevent and Address Drug
and Alcohol Use and Abuse

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Provide for educational programs	58.2%	27.3%	11.3%	1.6%	0.6%	0.9%
Increase local law enforcement	55.8%	25.9%	11.3%	4.2%	2.1%	0.7%
Limit second hand smoke	38.7%	25.4%	23.9%	6.2%	5.1%	0.7%
Drug enforcement task force	40.5%	25.9%	17.5%	6.3%	6.9%	3.0%

As shown in Table 20, there was considerable support for all the strategies related to preventing and addressing drug and alcohol uses and abuse. Among the strategies presented, strongest support was for providing families with educational programs to prevent alcohol and drug abuse.

Figure 11
Best Strategy to Prevent and Address Drug
and Alcohol Use and Abuse (n = 739)



Respondents generally indicated that the best way to prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse is to provide families with educational programs (39.0%) and to increase local law enforcement to prevent and discourage underage drinking and illegal drug use (32.5%). On the other hand, only 3.7% of respondents felt that it is best to encourage towns to create and enforce ordinances to protect youth from second-hand smoke in public places. Nevertheless, a majority of respondents indicated that they either “strongly support” (38.7 percent) or “somewhat support” (25.4 percent) this strategy to protect MDI youth from second-hand smoke.

Table 21
Best Strategy to Prevent and Address Drug
and Alcohol Use and Abuse

Strategy	Percentage of respondents that indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 480)	Seasonal Residents (n= 137)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 119)
Provide families with educational programs to prevent alcohol and drug abuse	36.7%	44.5%	42.0%
Increase local law enforcement to prevent/discourage underage drinking and illegal drug use	33.1%	31.4%	31.1%
Encourage towns to create and enforce ordinances to protect youth from second hand smoke in public places	4.2%	4.4%	1.7%
Support allocation of town funds to a county-wide drug enforcement task force	26.0%	19.7%	25.2%

Table 22 does not reveal any noteworthy differences in opinion related to respondents' household status. The category "live with children" used in the table refers to respondents who share a household with person(s) age 18 years or younger.

Table 22
Best Strategy to Prevent and Address Drug and Alcohol Use and Abuse
by Household Status

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the "best" way to address issue	
	Live With Children (n= 210)	Do Not Live with Children (n= 516)
Provide families with educational programs to prevent alcohol and drug abuse	35.2%	40.1%
Increase local law enforcement to prevent/discourage underage drinking and illegal drug use	32.4%	32.6%
Encourage towns to create and enforce ordinances to protect youth from second hand smoke in public places	5.2%	3.3%
Support allocation of town funds to a county-wide drug enforcement task force	27.1%	24.0%

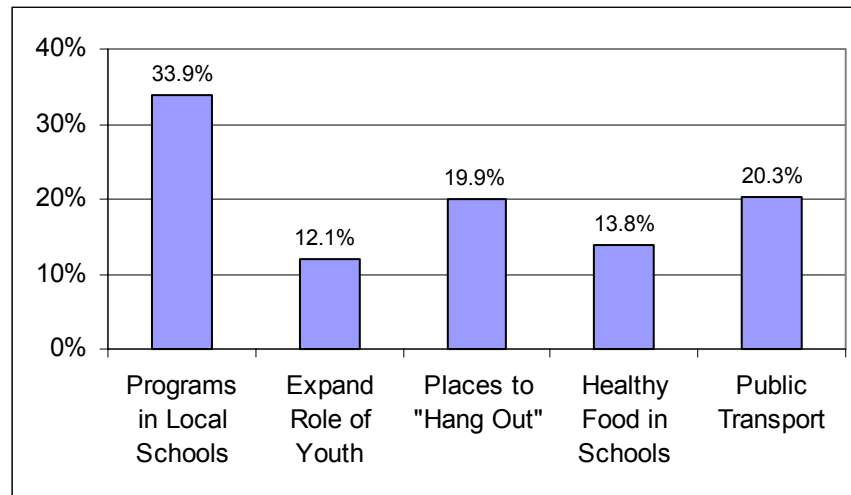
Promoting Healthy Growth and Social Development of Youth

Table 23
Strategies to Promote Healthy Growth
and Social Development of MDI Area Youth

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Provide programs in local schools	54.2%	31.4%	10.5%	1.2%	1.2%	1.5%
Expand role of youth in community	37.4%	36.6%	20.9%	1.8%	1.3%	2.0%
Develop safe places to "hang out"	47.8%	30.9%	15.4%	2.4%	1.4%	2.1%
Increase healthy foods in schools	62.4%	24.9%	8.4%	1.9%	.9%	1.4%
Expand public transportation	55.4%	30.9%	9.4%	.9%	1.7%	1.7%

Survey respondents demonstrated considerable support for all strategies to promote healthy growth and social development of MDI area youth. Likewise, fewer than four percent of those responding were against any of those strategies.

Figure 12
Best Strategy to Promote Healthy Growth and Social Development
of MDI Area Youth (n = 738)



When asked to identify the best way to promote healthy growth and social development of MDI area youth, 33.9% of respondents favor a strategy of providing before- and after-school enrichment programs in local schools. Likewise, 20.3% of those responding think the best solution is to expand public transportation in the MDI region to provide access to after-school youth programs. Another 19.9% indicated that the best course of action is to develop safe places for youth to “hang out” in a central location on MDI.

Although the results do not point to any major differences in opinion among the three population types, seasonal residents are less likely than year-round island residents to favor the strategies of developing places on MDI for youth to “hang out” and expanding public transportation to provide access to after-school youth programs.

Table 24
Best Strategy to Promote Healthy Growth and
Social Development of MDI Area Youth

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 481)	Seasonal Residents (n= 137)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 116)
Provide before- and after-school enrichment programs in local schools	30.4%	46.7%	33.6%
Expand the role of youth in municipal committees and community improvement	11.6%	10.2%	16.4%
Develop safe places for youth to “hang out” in a central location on MDI	21.4%	13.1%	21.6%
Increase healthy food choices in schools to reduce childhood obesity	13.9%	16.1%	11.2%
Expand public transportation in the MDI region to provide access to after-school youth programs	22.7%	13.9%	17.2%

The survey results also reveal slight differences in opinions related to respondents’ household status. Although those who live with children and those who do not are in general agreement about the importance of before- and after-school enrichment programs, the second most popular strategy of respondents with children is to develop safe places for youth to “hang out.” On the other hand, respondents without children believe that expanding public transportation for after-school youth programs is the second best way to promote healthy growth and social development of MDI area youth.

Table 25
Strategies to Promote Healthy Growth and Social Development
of MDI Area Youth, by Household Status

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue	
	Live With Children (n= 206)	Do Not Live with Children (n= 520)
Provide before- and after-school enrichment programs in local schools	33.5%	33.7%
Expand the role of youth in municipal committees and community improvement	11.2%	12.3%
Develop safe places for youth to “hang out” in a central location on MDI	24.3%	18.7%
Increase healthy food choices in schools to reduce childhood obesity	12.6%	14.0%
Expand public transportation in the MDI region to provide access to after-school youth programs	18.4%	21.3%

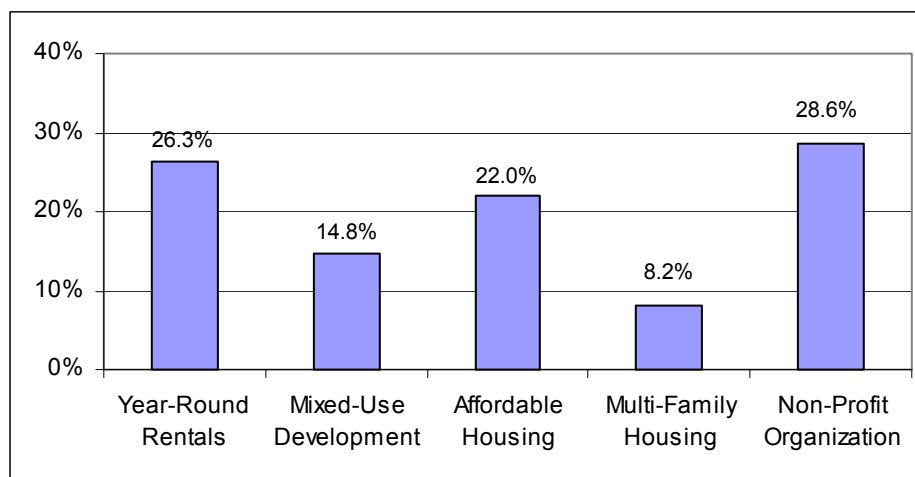
Expanding the Stock of Housing Affordable to the Year-Round Workforce

Table 26
Strategies to Expand the Stock of Housing that is
Affordable to the Year-Round Workforce

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Incentives for year-round rentals	43.7%	31.2%	14.3%	5.0%	2.8%	3.0%
Zone for mixed-use development	31.2%	31.6%	23.8%	5.8%	2.7%	5.0%
Affordable housing in developments	49.9%	28.6%	12.8%	3.5%	3.0%	2.2%
Zone for more multi-family housing	25.0%	29.4%	21.1%	10.7%	10.1%	3.6%
Non-profit organization	40.0%	28.8%	17.8%	5.2%	4.2%	4.0%

More than half of those responding indicated support for all the strategies related to expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce. Strongest support was demonstrated for incentives for new housing developments to include affordable housing and for incentives to make it cost-effective for year-round rentals.

Figure 13
Best Strategy to Expand the Stock of Housing that is
Affordable to the Year-Round Workforce (n = 744)



Respondents were generally split when asked about the best way to expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce. The strategy of providing, through a non-profit organization, housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce was favored by 28.6% of respondents. Likewise, 26.3% of those responding feel that the best option is to provide incentives to make it cost effective for landowners to rent apartments and houses year-round rather than seasonally. Another 22.0% think that the best course of action is to adopt incentives for new housing development plans to include housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce. The only strategy that received support from less than ten percent of respondents is to modify zoning regulations to allow more construction of multiple-family housing and apartments.

Table 27
Best Strategy to Expand the Stock of Housing that is
Affordable to the Year-Round Workforce

Strategy	Percentage of respondents that indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 494)	Seasonal Residents (n= 130)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 116)
Provide incentives to make it cost effective for landowners to rent apartment and houses year-round rather than seasonally	27.1%	23.8%	26.7%
Modify zoning regulations to allow mixed-use development that combines retail, commercial and residential uses in village centers	12.8%	23.1%	14.7%
Adopt incentives for new housing development plans to include housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	22.5%	23.1%	17.2%
Modify zoning regulations to allow more construction of multiple-family housing and apartments	7.3%	10.0%	10.3%
Provide housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce, through a non-profit housing organization	30.4%	20.0%	31.0%

As shown in Table 28, 38.5% of respondents who do not currently own a house favor the strategy of providing, through a non-profit organization, housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce. On the other hand, homeowners were more than twice as likely as non-homeowners to select the strategy of modifying zoning regulations to allow mixed-use development in village centers.

Table 28
Best Strategy to Expand the Stock of Housing that is
Affordable to the Year-Round Workforce
by Home Ownership Status

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue	
	Non-Homeowners (n= 122)	Homeowners (n= 617)
Provide incentives to make it cost effective for landowners to rent apartments and houses year-round rather than seasonally	28.7%	26.1%
Modify zoning regulations to allow mixed-use development that combines retail, commercial and residential uses in village centers	7.4%	16.4%
Adopt incentives for new housing development plans to include housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	19.7%	22.2%
Modify zoning regulations to allow more construction of multiple-family housing and apartments	5.7%	8.8%
Provide housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce, through a non-profit housing organization	38.5%	26.6%

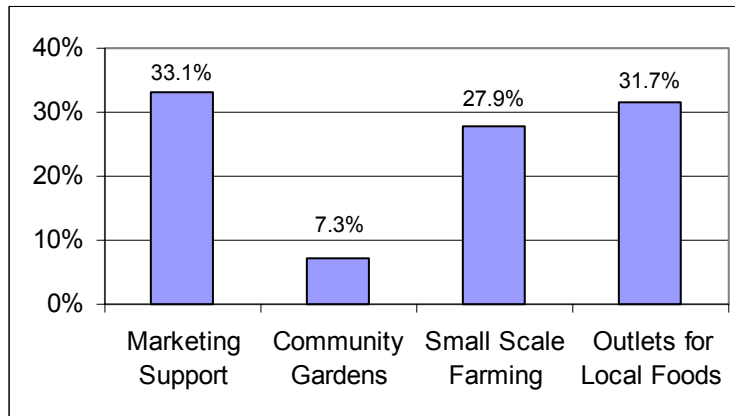
Promoting Agriculture and Local Foods

Table 29
Strategies to Promote Agriculture and Local Foods

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Provide marketing support	42.4%	32.5%	18.8%	2.7%	1.9%	1.8%
Develop community gardens	28.0%	31.3%	30.9%	4.9%	2.6%	2.4%
Zone for small scale farming	36.9%	34.2%	19.6%	3.1%	3.1%	3.3%
Expand outlets for local foods	46.1%	31.2%	17.8%	0.8%	1.1%	3.0%

Over half of those responding indicated support for all the listed strategies to promote agriculture and local foods with the strongest support demonstrated for expanding year-round outlets for locally grown, caught or processed foods. Fewer than ten percent of respondents indicated they were against any of the strategies presented.

Figure 14
Best Strategy to Promote Agriculture and Local Foods
(n = 731)



When asked to indicate the best way to promote agriculture and local foods, respondents were almost equally split among three options. About one-third of respondents favored the strategies of providing marketing support to encourage people to buy local foods (33.2%) and expanding year-round outlets for locally grown or processed foods (31.7%). Closely behind, 27.9% of respondents felt that the best way to promote agriculture and local foods is to reduce barriers to small scale farming by modifying zoning regulations and providing tax relief.

It is interesting to note that year-round island residents, seasonal island residents and non-MDI residents differed in their opinions on the best way to promote agriculture and local foods. The largest percentage of year-round island residents favored expanding year-round outlets for locally grown or processed foods. By contrast, the largest percentage of seasonal island residents felt the best way to promote agriculture and local foods is to reduce barriers to small scale farming, while the largest percentage of non-MDI residents indicated the best course of action is to provide marketing support to encourage people to buy local foods.

Table 30
Best Strategy to Promote Agriculture and Local Foods

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 475)	Seasonal Residents (n=139)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 113)
Provide marketing support to encourage people to buy locally grown, caught or processed foods	32.0%	28.8%	41.6%
Develop and maintain community vegetable gardens for the use of local residents	6.7%	10.1%	5.3%
Reduce barriers to small scale farming by modifying zoning regulations and providing tax relief	26.1%	38.1%	23.9%
Expand year-round outlets for locally grown or processed foods	35.2%	23.0%	29.2%

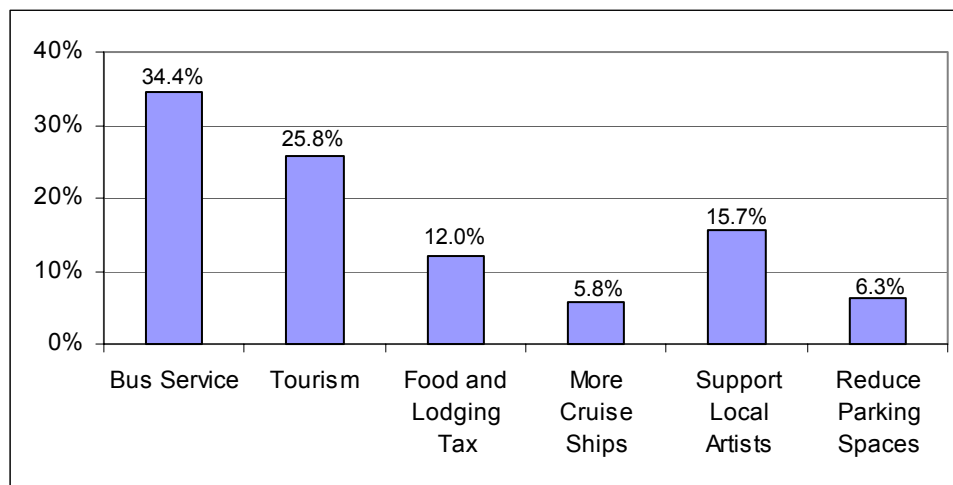
Promoting a Year-Round Economy

Table 31
Strategies to Promote a Year-Round Economy

Strategy	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Commuter bus service year round	43.2%	32.9%	15.9%	3.2%	2.0%	2.8%
Encourage off-season tourism	20.8%	36.3%	23.6%	8.6%	8.0%	2.7%
Institute local food and lodging tax	13.5%	20.4%	22.3%	15.8%	23.1%	4.8%
Attract more cruise ships	14.0%	25.7%	28.6%	11.5%	15.6%	4.7%
Support local artists	27.0%	33.4%	27.7%	5.4%	3.2%	3.2%
Reduce required parking spaces	10.8%	17.8%	30.7%	16.0%	16.0%	8.7%

Among the strategies to promote a year-round economy, strongest support was demonstrated for providing commuter bus service year-round. Over one-third of those responding indicated they were against instituting a local tax on food and lodging to help towns pay for tourism-related costs.

Figure 15
Best Strategy to Promote a Year-Round Economy (n = 718)



In response to the best way to promote a year-round economy, 34.4 percent of respondents favor providing commuter bus service year round. Another 25.8 percent feel the best strategy is providing marketing and promotional support to encourage off-season tourism, and 15.7 percent favor policies and programs supporting local artists, musicians, crafters and storytellers. The largest percentage of seasonal residents think the best option is providing support to encourage off-season tourism, while the largest percentages of year-round island residents and non-MDI residents prefer providing commuter bus service year round.

Table 32
Best Strategy to Promote a Year-Round Economy

Strategy	Percent of respondents who indicated option is the “best” way to address issue		
	Island Residents (n= 464)	Seasonal Residents (n= 139)	Non-MDI Residents (n= 111)
Provide commuter bus service year-round	37.1%	24.5%	36.9%
Provide marketing and promotional support to encourage off-season tourism	22.4%	39.6%	20.7%
Institute a local tax on food & lodging to help towns recover costs associated with managing tourism	14.9%	5.8%	8.1%
Attract more cruise ships during the spring and fall seasons	3.9%	9.4%	9.0%
Institute policies and programs that support local artists, musicians, crafters, storytellers, etc.	14.2%	16.5%	21.6%
Modify zoning regulations to reduce the number of parking spaces that town businesses must provide	7.5%	4.3%	3.6%

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Analysis of the survey data reveals several key findings pertaining to MDI residents and their opinions about issues facing the region. These findings are summarized below along with recommendations, based on the survey results, for future action.

MDI Population Types

Substantial differences in demographics exist among subpopulations of year-round island residents, seasonal island residents and non-MDI residents. Seasonal island residents are generally older, have higher levels of formal education, and report higher incomes than year-round island residents and non-MDI residents. For example, seasonal residents are more than twice as likely than other population types to have earned a (post-college) graduate or professional degree. Furthermore, seasonal residents are almost 10 times more likely than island residents, and almost 30 times more likely than non-MDI residents, to have a yearly household income greater than \$200,000.

Table 33
Comparison of Key Demographic Characteristics among
Island, Seasonal and Year-Round Residents

Characteristic	Island Residents	Seasonal Residents	Non-MDI Residents
Average age of respondents	54.2 years	61.7 years	53.3 years
Average residency in MDI area	29.6 years	27.2 years	26.2 years
Percent of respondents with a graduate or professional degree	25.8%	54.1%	20.2%
Percent of respondents with yearly household income greater than \$200,000	3.0%	27.3%	0.9%
Percent of respondents who work full-time	45.1%	38.7%	49.6%
Percentage of respondents that own a business in the MDI area	25.8%	5.8%	22.3%
Percent of respondents who live with person(s) age 18 or younger	28.0%	24.4%	33.8%

Although respondents generally feel that the nine broad issues included in the survey are a priority for local policymakers, when forced to make a choice, they believe that the most important issues facing the MDI region are: (1) protecting open space and environmental quality of land resources, (2) promoting a year-round economy, (3) expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce, (4) preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse, and (5) reducing automobile congestion during the summer

months. On the other hand, very small percentages of those surveyed think that promoting agriculture and local foods, or encouraging walking and biking is the most important issue facing the area.

Concerns about Land Use in the MDI Area

The issues of protecting open space and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce are both concerns related to land use in the MDI area. These concerns may be attributed, at least in part, to population growth that has led to an increase in the demand for residential housing. According to U.S. Census figures, the towns of Bar Harbor, Mount Desert, Southwest Harbor and Tremont experienced 1990 to 2000 population growth rates of 8.5%, 11.1%, 0.7% and 15.5%, respectively. With the exception of Southwest Harbor, population growth rates in these towns were well above the state's 3.8% population growth rate over the same period. Such increases in the year-round population, combined with increases in the demand for housing from seasonal residents, contribute to growth pressures in residential development.

The preferred strategies to protect open space are to (1) strengthen town ordinances to protect wetlands, watersheds and wildlife habitat, and (2) encourage residential development in areas where sewer and water services already exist. The preferred strategies to increase the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce are to (1) provide housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce, through a non-profit housing organization, (2) provide incentives to make it cost effective for landowners to rent apartments and houses year-round rather than seasonally, and (3) adopt incentives for new housing development plans to include housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce.

MDI policymakers and residents will likely face some difficulties as they work to meet the dual land-use objectives of protecting open space and increasing the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce. An increase in the amount of protected open space generally decreases the amount of land that is available for residential use. Increases in the demand for residential housing will lead to an increase in housing prices unless the supply of housing expands through an increase in the amount of land developed (i.e., less open space) or an increase in housing densities. When asked about the best way to address the open space and housing issues, relatively small percentages of those surveyed selected strategies related to high-density single-family housing, or multi-family housing and apartments. Given the growth pressures affecting the MDI area, it is unlikely that the area will be able to achieve the objectives of protecting open space and providing housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce without some increases in housing densities.

Concerns about the MDI Seasonal Economy

The issues related to promoting a year-round economy and reducing automobile congestion during the summer months are closely linked to the seasonal nature of the MDI area. According to U.S. Census figures, 46.5% of the housing units in the town of Mount Desert are seasonal units. Bar Harbor, Southwest Harbor and Tremont have seasonal housing rates of 18.7%, 25.3% and 34.4% respectively. Local retail sales data also reveal a highly seasonal MDI economy. Using 2002 taxable sales data from Maine Revenue Services, we estimate that 55.0% of the annual sales in Bar Harbor's retail sector and 61.6% of the annual sales in Bar Harbor's restaurants and bars occurred during the months of June, July and August.

The most preferred strategies to deal with the seasonal nature of the MDI area involve increases in public transportation. The majority of those surveyed feel the best way to reduce automobile congestion during the summer months is to increase the amount of Island Explorer service on MDI. This idea goes hand-in-hand with the second most preferred strategy of establishing a non-MDI parking facility in Trenton with bus service to Village Centers.

The survey respondents believe that the best ways to promote a year-round economy are by providing commuter bus service year round, and by providing marketing and promotional support to encourage off-season tourism. These strategies are also interrelated in that additional off-season tourism may be necessary to provide sufficient demand for year-round public transportation, and that year-round bus service will provide transportation to area residents that serve the tourist population.

Differences in Concerns Among Segments of the MDI Population

When interpreting the results from the MDI Tomorrow survey, it is important to keep in mind the differences in concerns among various segments of the MDI area population. The protection of open space and environmental quality of land resources is the top concern of respondents aged 50 and older, those with at least a 4-year college education, those with an annual household income of more than \$50,000, and those that do not live with children aged 18 or younger. On the other hand, the issues of promoting a year-round economy and expanding the stock of housing affordable to the year-round workforce are the top two concerns of respondents under the age of 50 years old and those with a household income of \$50,000 or less.

Finally, the issues of preventing and addressing drug and alcohol use and abuse, and promoting a year-round economy are the two most important issues according to respondents with less than 4 years of college and those that live with children aged 18 or younger. These differences in priorities across segments of the population suggest that no single course of action is most favored by all MDI residents. The fact that all population types are not alike should be taken into account when acting upon the recommendations presented below.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the survey results and analysis presented in this report, we offer the following recommendations for future action by MDI Tomorrow, local residents and policymakers.

1. Strengthen town ordinances to protect wetlands, watersheds and wildlife habitat.
2. Encourage residential development in areas where sewer and water services already exist.

When implementing recommendations 1 and 2, it is important to keep in mind that a decrease in the amount of developable land combined with increases in the number of year-round and seasonal residents may raise the price of housing. Thus, MDI residents and policymakers are advised to consider the tradeoffs between protecting open space and expanding the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce. In addition, the region may need to think about strategies that involve increased housing densities in order to achieve these dual land-use objectives.

3. Provide commuter bus service year-round.
4. Provide marketing and promotional support to encourage off-season tourism.

As discussed above, the demand for year-round bus service will likely be closely linked to the area's success at increasing tourism during the non-summer months. Given the current uncertainty about off-season tourism, we recommend that the region further investigate the feasibility of a year-round commuter bus service.

5. Provide housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce through a non-profit organization.

When implementing recommendation 5, it is important to realize that offering housing at "below-market" rates will likely result in a situation where the number of potential buyers exceeds the number of available housing units. Thus, we recommend that the non-profit organization develop a detailed set of eligibility requirements to participate in the program.

6. Provide incentives to make it cost effective for landowners to rent apartments and houses year-round rather than seasonally.
7. Provide families with educational programs to prevent drug and alcohol abuse.

8. Increase local law enforcement to prevent/discourage underage drinking and illegal drug use.
9. Increase the amount of Island Explorer service during the summer.
10. Establish a parking facility in Trenton with bus service to Village Centers.

When implementing recommendations 9 and 10, we advise that the region provide adequate information about the routes and use of the bus system. Furthermore, in order to increase its use, the region should consider various incentives to take the bus or disincentives to bring cars on to MDI.

11. Provide before- and after-school enrichment programs in local schools.
12. Expand public transportation in the MDI region to provide access to after-school youth programs.
13. Support traditional shorefront businesses such as fishing, lobstering, and boat building by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies.
14. Require developers, landowners and towns to provide or retain access to the shorefront when property is sold or developed.
15. Widen road shoulders and add sidewalks by seeking external grant sources.
16. Increase maintenance of existing sidewalks and road shoulders by allocating additional town funds.
17. Provide marketing support to encourage people to buy locally grown, caught or processed foods.
18. Expand year-round outlets for locally grown or processed foods

Appendix 1

SURVEY MATERIALS



December 8, 2003

Dear MDI Area Resident:

Over the past couple of years, MDI Tomorrow, a citizen group, has worked to identify issues that will affect the future of the MDI area as a place to live and work. MDI Tomorrow has contracted with the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy and the Department of Resource Economics and Policy to conduct a survey of MDI area residents on these issues and the best ways to address them.

You are one of a small number of residents being asked to give your opinions on these issues. Your name was drawn as part of a sample of registered voters and taxpayers in MDI area towns. In order for the results of this survey to truly represent the thinking of all area residents, it is important that each questionnaire be completed and returned.

Completing this questionnaire should take about 20 minutes of your time. Your participation is voluntary and you do not have to answer any questions you don't want to. Except for your time and inconvenience, there are no risks in participating. Returning the questionnaire means you agree to participate. Your responses will remain confidential.

After you have completed the questionnaire, please return it in the postage-paid envelope provided. After you have mailed the completed questionnaire, please mail separately the enclosed postage-paid postcard. That way, we will know you have completed the questionnaire but we will not know which questionnaire came from you.

The results of this survey will be made available to MDI Tomorrow. They are interested in charting what citizens want for the future and to suggest plans to bring about a "preferred future" for the region. To do that, they need your help.

Please complete and return the questionnaire by December 17. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact me at (207) 581-4135, charlie.morris@umit.maine.edu. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact Gayle Anderson, Assistant to the University of Maine's Protection of Human Subjects Review Board, 581-1498, gayle.anderson@umit.maine.edu.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Morris
Project Director

MAINE'S LAND GRANT AND SEA GRANT UNIVERSITY
A Member of the University of Maine System

Follow-up Postcard

A few weeks ago, A questionnaire seeking your opinions on a number of issues in the MDI Region was mailed to you. Your name was drawn in a sample of MDI Region registered voters or taxpayers.

Our records indicate that you have not returned the survey to us. Please do so today. Because it has been sent to only a small, but representative, sample of MDI Region voters or taxpayers, it is extremely important that your opinions are included in the study.

If by some chance you did not receive the questionnaire, or it got misplaced, please call me at 581-4135 and I will send you another one today.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Morris
Project Director



January 12, 2004

Dear MDI Area Resident:

About a month ago, I wrote to you seeking your opinions on a number of issues related to the Mount Desert Island area. As of today, our records indicate that we have not yet received your completed questionnaire.

MDI Tomorrow, a local citizen group, is working to identify issues that will affect the future of the MDI area as a place to live and work. Our study is to seek the opinions of area residents on these issues and the best ways to address them.

I am writing to you again because of the importance that each questionnaire has to this study and to the future of the MDI area. Your name was drawn as a part of a random sample of MDI area year-round and seasonal residents. In order for the results of our study to truly represent the opinions of all MDI residents, it is essential that each questionnaire be completed and returned.

In the event that your original questionnaire has been misplaced, I am enclosing a replacement questionnaire for you to complete and return in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

Completing this questionnaire should take about 20 minutes of your time. Your participation is voluntary and you do not have to answer any questions you don't want to. Except for your time and inconvenience, there are no risks in participating. Returning the questionnaire means you agree to participate. Your responses will remain confidential.

Please complete and return the questionnaire as soon as possible. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact me at (207) 581-4135, charlie.morris@umit.maine.edu. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact Gayle Anderson, Assistant to the University of Maine's Protection of Human Subjects Review Board, 581-1498, gayle.anderson@umit.maine.edu.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Morris
Project Director

MAINE'S LAND GRANT AND SEA GRANT UNIVERSITY
A Member of the University of Maine System

MDI Tomorrow Resident Survey

This survey is being conducted by the Department of Resource Economics and Policy and the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy at The University of Maine. It is being conducted for MDI Tomorrow - a resident's forum on the future of the MDI area and its communities.

The survey is designed to find out how residents feel about a number of issues that will affect the future of the MDI area. The information from this survey will be used to help identify what residents want for the future and to suggest plans and solutions to bring about a "preferred future" for the area.

Completing the questionnaire should take about 20 minutes of your time. Your participation in this survey is voluntary and you do not have to answer any questions you don't want to. Do not put your name or other identifying marks on the questionnaire.

After you have completed the questionnaire, please mail it to us in the postage-paid envelope provided. Then, **please mail separately the enclosed postage-paid postcard.** That way, we will know you have completed the questionnaire, but we will not know which questionnaire came from you.

Because this survey has been sent to only a small, but representative, sample of area voters and taxpayers, it is important that your opinions are included in this study.

Thank you for your help.

First, we'd like to ask you some questions about where you live and your activities in the MDI area.

1. Are you a year-round resident or a seasonal resident of the MDI area? *(check one)*

- ☐ year-round resident ☐ seasonal resident

2. In what town do you live in the MDI area? *(check one)*

- ☐ Bar Harbor ☐ Frenchboro ☐ Mount Desert ☐ Swans Island ☐ Trenton
☐ Cranberry Isles ☐ Lamoine ☐ Southwest Harbor ☐ Tremont ☐ Other _____

3. How many years have you lived or been a seasonal resident in the MDI area?

(write number in space below)

_____ years

4. Do you own your house, do you rent, or do you have some other housing arrangement in the MDI area? *(check one)*

- ☐ own my house ☐ rent, but would like to purchase property/house on MDI
☐ rent ☐ other housing arrangement _____

5. How many children live with you in each of the following age groups?

- ☐ no children 6-12 years: _____ children
0-5 years: _____ children 13-18 years: _____ children

6. About how much land do you own in the MDI area? *(check one)*

- ☐ none ☐ 1-5 acres ☐ more than 10 acres
☐ less than one acre ☐ 6-10 acres

7. Overall, how active would you say you are in community affairs in the MDI area? *(check one)*

- ☐ not active ☐ somewhat active ☐ very active

8. Do you need access to the waterfront for your livelihood? *(check one)*

- ☐ yes ☐ no

9. If yes, is your access sufficient? *(check one)*

- ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ don't require waterfront access for livelihood

10. Do you garden or raise livestock to produce food for yourself and your family? *(check one)*

- ☐ yes ☐ no

11. Do you garden or raise livestock to produce food for sale to others? *(check one)*

- ☐ yes ☐ no

12. How often do you purchase seafood caught in the MDI area? *(check one)*

- ☐ very often ☐ sometimes ☐ never ☐ don't know

13. How often do you purchase vegetables grown in the MDI area? *(check one)*

- ☐ very often ☐ sometimes ☐ never ☐ don't know

14. Below is a list of items of daily living that people commonly purchase. For each item, please indicate if you usually purchase it on MDI and, if not, why.

	usually purchase on MDI	usually purchase off-island	Why not purchase on MDI			
			selection	price	convenience	don't need/ don't use
Groceries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Convenience/Snack foods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Art/craft supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pet supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health and beauty items	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gasoline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Automotive maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals in restaurants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. Do you or does anyone in your family use a bicycle to get to work, school, or other locations at least some of the time? *(check one)*

- ☐ yes ☐ no

16. If not, why? *(check one)*

- ☐ Walk to work ☐ Don't have the time
☐ Do not own a bicycle ☐ No shower at work/school/location I'm going to
☐ No off-road paths ☐ No safe place to lock up my bicycle when I get to my location
☐ Road shoulders unsafe ☐ Other *(specify)* _____

Over the last couple of years, MDI Tomorrow has conducted a variety of activities with area citizens. These activities were to identify important issues that will affect the future of the MDI area. Those issues are listed below.

Please indicate the extent to which you think each issue is a priority (check one box for each issue). In question 18, please write the letter of the issue you think is most important to the MDI area.

17. Please rate the following issues in terms of their importance to the future of the MDI area. (please rate each issue) Option	very high priority	high priority	neutral	low priority	very low priority	don't know
A. Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Encourage walking and biking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Promote healthy growth and social development of children and youth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G. Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
H. Promote agriculture and local foods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I. Promote a year-round economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. Which of the issues above (A - I) do you think is most important to the MDI region? (write letter) _____

MDI Tomorrow also has worked with citizens to identify possible options to address the issues listed above. Below and on the next three pages, we present each issue and a list of options that could be used to address the issue.

Please indicate the extent to which you support each option (check one box for each option). Also, please write the letter of the option you think will best address the issue.

19. Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months (please rate each option) Option	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
A. Increase the amount of Island Explorer service on MDI during the summer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Establish a parking facility in Trenton with bus service to village centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Provide incentives to encourage carpooling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Add a "bus only" lane across the Trenton Bridge and in other congested areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

20. Which of the options above (A - D) do you think will best address the issue? (write letter) _____

21. Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources (please rate each option)	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Encourage residential development in areas where sewer and water services already exist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Encourage new housing subdivisions to have high-density housing on part of the land area and leave the rest undeveloped	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Strengthen town ordinances to protect wetlands, watersheds, and wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Modify zoning regulations to allow for smaller lot sizes and higher density single family housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Which of the options above (A - D) do you think will best address the issue? (write letter) _____						

23. Encourage walking and biking (please rate each option)	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Increase maintenance of existing sidewalks and road shoulders with the use of town funds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Widen road shoulders and add sidewalks with resources from external grant sources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Require new developments to include walking paths, bike paths or sidewalks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Modify zoning regulations to allow for fewer automobile parking spaces and more bicycle parking facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Encourage walking and bicycling to work by providing incentives to workers, administered by local employers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. Which of the options above (A - E) do you think will best address the issue? (write letter) _____						

25. Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront (please rate each option)	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Require developers, landowners, and towns to provide or retain public access to the shorefront when property is sold or developed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Support traditional shorefront businesses such as fishing, lobstering, and boat building by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Support recreational shorefront businesses such as boat tour and kayak operators by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Decrease the number of cruise ships in the harbor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26. Which of the options above (A - D) do you feel will best address the issue? (write letter) _____						

27. Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse (please rate each option)	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Provide families with educational programs to prevent alcohol and drug abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Increase local law enforcement to prevent/discourage underage drinking and illegal drug use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Encourage towns to create and enforce ordinances to protect youth from second hand smoke in public places	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Support allocation of town funds to a county-wide drug enforcement task force	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. Which of the options above (A - D) do you feel will best address the issue? (write letter) _____						

29. Promote healthy growth and social development of MDI area youth (please rate each option)	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Provide before- and after-school enrichment programs in local schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Expand the role of youth in municipal committees and community improvement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Develop safe places for youth to "hang out" in a central location on MDI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Increase healthy food choices in schools to reduce childhood obesity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Expand public transportation in the MDI region to provide access to after-school youth programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30. Which of the options above (A - E) do you think will best address the issue? (write letter) _____						

31. Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (please rate each option)	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Provide incentives to make it cost effective for landlords to rent apartments and houses year-round rather than seasonally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Modify zoning regulations to allow development that combines retail, commercial and residential uses in village center buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Adopt incentives for new housing developments to include housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Modify zoning regulations to allow more construction of multiple-family housing and apartments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Provide housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce, through a non-profit housing organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32. Which of the options above (A - E) do you feel will best address the issue? (write letter) _____						

33. Promote agriculture and local foods <i>(please rate each option)</i>	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Provide marketing support to encourage people to buy locally grown, caught or processed foods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Develop and maintain community vegetable gardens for the use of local residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Reduce barriers to small scale farming by modifying zoning regulations and providing tax relief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Expand year-round outlets for locally grown, caught or processed foods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
34. Which of the options above (A - D) do you feel will best address the issue? <i>(write letter)</i> _____						

35. Promote a year-round economy <i>(Please rate each option)</i>	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Provide commuter bus service year-round	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Provide marketing and promotional support to encourage off-season tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Institute a local tax on food and lodging to help towns pay for tourism-related costs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Attract more cruise ships during the spring and fall seasons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Institute policies and programs that support local artists, musicians, crafters, storytellers, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Modify zoning regulations to reduce the number of parking spaces that in-town businesses are required to provide	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
36. Which of the options above (A - F) do you feel will best address the issue? <i>(write letter)</i> _____						

Finally, we would like to ask a few questions about yourself.

37. Which of the following best describes your work status? *(check all that apply)*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> work full-time | <input type="checkbox"/> take care of home or family full-time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> work part-time | <input type="checkbox"/> self-employed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> work seasonal jobs | <input type="checkbox"/> retired |
| <input type="checkbox"/> out of work | <input type="checkbox"/> student |

38. How many jobs do you currently hold? *(write number)* _____

39. If you work, do you work on MDI or do you work off-island? *(check one)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> work on MDI | <input type="checkbox"/> seasonal resident, don't work in the area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> work off-island | <input type="checkbox"/> don't work |

40. If you work, about how many miles do you travel from your home to your work (one way)?

_____ miles ☐ don't work ☐ seasonal resident, don't work in the area

41. Which of the following best describes your level of education so far? *(check one)*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> some high school | <input type="checkbox"/> 2-year college/vocational graduate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> high school/GED | <input type="checkbox"/> 4-year college graduate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> some college | <input type="checkbox"/> post-college graduate or professional degree |

42. What is your sex: *(check one)*

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> male | <input type="checkbox"/> female |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|

43. Are you: *(check one)*

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> married | <input type="checkbox"/> single | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|

44. In what year were you born: 19 ____

45. Do you own a business

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes | <input type="checkbox"/> no |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|

46. Which of the following best represents your yearly household income? *(check one)*

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000 - \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 - \$99,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000 - \$199,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 - \$24,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 - \$74,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 - \$149,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200,000 and above |

Thank you for completing the questionnaire. Please mail the completed questionnaire in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope. Also, please mail separately the enclosed postage-paid postcard indicating you have completed and returned the questionnaire.

Appendix 2

OVERALL SURVEY RESPONSES

MDI Tomorrow Resident Survey

Overall Survey Responses

This survey is being conducted by the Department of Resource Economics and Policy and the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy at The University of Maine. It is being conducted for MDI Tomorrow - a resident's forum on the future of the MDI area and its communities.

The survey is designed to find out how residents feel about a number of issues that will affect the future of the MDI area. The information from this survey will be used to help identify what residents want for the future and to suggest plans and solutions to bring about a "preferred future" for the area.

Completing the questionnaire should take about 20 minutes of your time. Your participation in this survey is voluntary and you do not have to answer any questions you don't want to. Do not put your name or other identifying marks on the questionnaire.

After you have completed the questionnaire, please mail it to us in the postage-paid envelope provided. Then, **please mail separately the enclosed postage-paid postcard.** That way, we will know you have completed the questionnaire, but we will not know which questionnaire came from you.

Because this survey has been sent to only a small, but representative, sample of area voters and taxpayers, it is important that your opinions are included in this study.

Thank you for your help.

First, we'd like to ask you some questions about where you live and your activities in the MDI area.

1. Are you a year-round resident or a seasonal resident of the MDI area? (n=864)

80.0% year-round resident 20.0% seasonal resident

2. In what town do you live in the MDI area? (n=870)

33.8% Bar Harbor	0.6% Frenchboro	20.7% Mount	1.6% Swans Island	6.3% Trenton
1.4% Cranberry Isles	6.1% Lamoine	16.2% Southwest	13.1% Tremont	0.2% Other

3. How many years have you lived or been a seasonal resident in the MDI area? (n=847)

Mean=28.8% Median=24.0%

9.8% 0-4 yrs 11.2% 5-9 yrs 18.7% 10-19 yrs 26.3% 20-34 yrs 34.0% 35 yrs & over

4. Do you own your house, do you rent, or do you have some other housing arrangement in the MDI area? (n=869)

84.1% own my house	3.5% rent, but would like to purchase property/house on MDI
6.4% rent	6.0% other housing arrangement _____

5. How many children live with you in each of the following age groups? (n=862)

72.0% no children	10.7% 6-12 years
8.1% 0-5 years	16.0% 13-18 years

6. About how much land do you own in the MDI area? (n=860)

12.0% none	43.0% 1-5 acres	11.7% more than 10 acres
23.8% less than one acre	9.4% 6-10 acres	

7. Overall, how active would you say you are in community affairs in the MDI area? (n=864)
39.4% not active 52.0% somewhat active 8.7% very active
8. Do you need access to the waterfront for your livelihood? (n=869)
13.0% yes 87.0% no
9. If yes, is your access sufficient? (n=113)
75.9% yes 20.5% no 3.6% don't require waterfront access for livelihood
10. Do you garden or raise livestock to produce food for yourself and your family? (n=870)
34.8% yes 65.2% no
11. Do you garden or raise livestock to produce food for sale to others? (n=870)
1.4% yes 98.6% no
12. How often do you purchase seafood caught in the MDI area? (n=970)
32.1% very often 59.3% sometimes 4.0% never 4.6% don't know
13. How often do you purchase vegetables grown in the MDI area? (n=872)
21.1% very often 63.0% sometimes 8.3% never 7.7% don't know
14. Below is a list of items of daily living that people commonly purchase. For each item, please indicate if you usually purchase it on MDI and, if not, why.

	usually purchase on MDI	usually purchase off-island	Why not purchase on MDI				
				selection	price	Convenience	don't need/don't use
Groceries (n=835)	49.2%	50.8%	n=450	56.5%	50.2%	35.6%	0.7%
Convenience/Snack foods (n=734)	75.1%	24.9%	n=353	14.4%	20.7%	51.0%	26.9%
Art/craft supplies (n=591)	16.4%	83.6%	n=644	49.2%	21.3%	17.2%	32.0%
Pet supplies (n=577)	31.5%	68.5%	n=576	30.4%	31.6%	20.0%	36.8%
Health and beauty items (n=790)	37.0%	63.0%	n=525	49.6%	49.0%	28.0%	7.0%
Gasoline (n=829)	58.3%	41.7%	n=445	4.7%	65.6%	36.2%	2.9%
Clothing (n=804)	11.7%	88.3%	n=684	67.8%	45.0%	19.2%	2.2%
Automotive maintenance (n=801)	42.4%	57.6%	n=504	42.9%	25.8%	38.7%	7.3%
Meals in restaurants (n=794)	75.1%	24.9%	n=321	38.3%	23.1%	49.5%	9.0%

15. Do you or does anyone in your family use a bicycle to get to work, school, or other locations at least some of the time? (n=870)
18.5% yes 81.5% no
16. If not, why? (n=615)
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 4.6% Walk to work | 11.9% Don't have the time |
| 21.3% Do not own a bicycle | 0.5% No shower at work/school/location I'm |
| 2.3% No off-road paths | 0.2% No safe place to lock up my bicycle when I get to my |
| 19.2% Road shoulders unsafe | 40.2% Other |

Over the last couple of years, MDI Tomorrow has conducted a variety of activities with area citizens. These activities were to identify important issues that will affect the future of the MDI area. Those issues are listed below.

Please indicate the extent to which you think each issue is a priority (check one box for each issue). In question 18, please write the letter of the issue you think is most important to the MDI area.

17. Please rate the following issues in terms of their importance to the future of the MDI area. (please rate each issue) Option	very high priority	high priority	neutral	low priority	very low priority	don't know
A. Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months (n=863)	40.8%	40.9%	12.1%	3.2%	2.0%	1.0%
B. Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources (n=861)	50.1%	30.1%	11.7%	4.2%	2.7%	1.3%
C. Encourage walking and biking (n=858)	26.9%	36.7%	27.0%	4.2%	4.1%	1.0%
D. Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront (n=854)	40.4%	35.6%	19.1%	2.5%	1.4%	1.1%
E. Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse (n=859)	56.2%	27.6%	9.9%	3.3%	1.4%	1.6%
F. Promote healthy growth and social development of children and youth (n=854)	48.4%	35.9%	11.9%	1.9%	0.9%	0.9%
G. Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (n=860)	47.1%	34.1%	12.7%	2.8%	2.1%	1.3%
H. Promote agriculture and local foods (n=860)	201.1%	41.5%	28.5%	6.2%	2.3%	1.4%
I. Promote a year-round economy (n=866)	43.6%	37.6%	13.9%	2.4%	1.0%	1.4%
18. Which of the issues above (A - I) do you think is most important to the MDI region? (n=754) A=13.0% B=21.5% C=1.5% D= 5.8% E=14.5% F= 6.0% G=17.9% H=0.8% I=19.1%						

MDI Tomorrow also has worked with citizens to identify possible options to address the issues listed above. Below and on the next three pages, we present each issue and a list of options that could be used to address the issue.

Please indicate the extent to which you support each option (check one box for each option). Also, please write the letter of the option you think will best address the issue.

19. Reduce automobile congestion during the summer months (Option)	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
A. Increase the amount of Island Explorer service on MDI during the summer (n=861)	68.3%	20.4%	8.4%	0.9%	0.6%	1.4%
B. Establish a parking facility in Trenton with bus service to village centers (n=859)	41.4%	30.7%	17.6%	3.8%	3.5%	2.9%
C. Provide incentives to encourage carpooling (n=852)	26.1%	35.8%	30.8%	3.4%	0.8%	3.2%
D. Add a "bus only" lane across the Trenton Bridge and in other congested areas (n=853)	14.3%	17.2%	31.8%	13.5%	17.4%	5.9%
20. Which of the options above (A - D) do you think will best address the issue? (n=744) A=59.0% B=27.4% C=8.1% D=5.5%						

21. Protect open space and environmental quality of land resources (please rate each option)						
	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Encourage residential development in areas where sewer and water services already exist (n=845)	37.6%	35.7%	17.4%	2.8%	3.2%	3.2%
B. Encourage new housing subdivisions to have high-density housing on part of the land area and leave the rest undeveloped (n=842)	26.6%	29.8%	18.2%	9.9%	10.6%	5.0%
C. Strengthen town ordinances to protect wetlands, watersheds, and wildlife habitat (n=852)	49.9%	22.9%	16.5%	3.6%	4.6%	2.5%
D. Modify zoning regulations to allow for smaller lot sizes and higher density single family housing (n=845)	17.3%	23.1%	18.7%	15.4%	20.8%	4.7%

22. Which of the options above (A - D) do you think will best address the issue? (n=711)

A=31.4% B=18.0% C=35.9% D=14.8%

23. Encourage walking and biking (please rate each option)						
	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Increase maintenance of existing sidewalks and road shoulders with the use of town funds (n=842)	39.8%	33.6%	16.7%	3.0%	4.9%	2.0%
B. Widen road shoulders and add sidewalks with resources from external grant sources (n=843)	55.8%	28.0%	9.7%	2.5%	2.0%	2.0%
C. Require new developments to include walking paths, bike paths or sidewalks (n=844)	44.1%	29.7%	16.7%	2.8%	4.0%	2.6%
D. Modify zoning regulations to allow for fewer automobile parking spaces and more bicycle parking facilities (n=839)	6.7%	15.1%	34.7%	20.6%	18.6%	4.3%
E. Encourage walking and bicycling to work by providing incentives to workers, administered by local employers (n=836)	20.5%	25.8%	34.4%	8.4%	5.9%	5.0%

24. Which of the options above (A - E) do you think will best address the issue? (n=729)

A=18.9 B=54.9 C=13.4 D=2.1 E=10.7

25. Promote marine industries and fisheries as part of a working waterfront (please rate each option)						
	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Require developers, landowners, and towns to provide or retain public access to the shorefront when property is sold or developed (n=843)	47.1%	23.3%	13.9%	6.0%	5.8%	3.9%
B. Support traditional shorefront businesses such as fishing, lobstering, and boat building by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies (n=848)	47.1%	31.5%	12.0%	2.8%	2.6%	4.0%
C. Support recreational shorefront businesses such as boat tour and kayak operators by modifying zoning regulations and property tax policies (n=839)	16.9%	29.9%	27.2%	12.0%	9.5%	4.4%
D. Decrease the number of cruise ships in the harbor (n=841)	15.0%	11.8%	35.7%	13.2%	18.9%	5.5%

26. Which of the options above (A - D) do you feel will best address the issue? (n=720)

A=33.8% B=55.4% C=3.1% D=7.8%

27. Prevent and address drug and alcohol use and abuse (please rate each option)		strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option							
A. Provide families with educational programs to prevent alcohol and drug abuse (n=849)		58.2%	27.3%	11.3%	1.6%	0.6%	0.9%
B. Increase local law enforcement to prevent/discourage underage drinking and illegal drug use (n=852)		55.8%	25.9%	11.3%	4.2%	2.1%	0.7%
C. Encourage towns to create and enforce ordinances to protect youth from second hand smoke in public places (n=844)		38.7%	25.4%	23.9%	6.2%	5.1%	0.7%
D. Support allocation of town funds to a county-wide drug enforcement task force (n=846)		40.5%	25.9%	17.5%	6.3%	6.9%	3.0%
28. Which of the options above (A - D) do you feel will best address the issue? (n=739) A=39.0% B=32.5% C=3.9% D=24.6%							

29. Promote healthy growth and social development of MDI area youth (please rate each option)		strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option							
A. Provide before- and after-school enrichment programs in local schools (n=847)		54.2%	31.4%	10.5%	1.2%	1.2%	1.5%
B. Expand the role of youth in municipal committees and community improvement (n=846)		37.4%	36.6%	20.9%	1.8%	1.3%	2.0%
C. Develop safe places for youth to "hang out" in a central location on MDI (n=848)		47.8%	30.9%	15.4%	2.4%	1.4%	2.1%
D. Increase healthy food choices in schools to reduce childhood obesity (n=854)		62.4%	24.9%	8.4%	1.9%	.9%	1.4%
E. Expand public transportation in the MDI region to provide access to after-school youth programs (n=848)		55.4%	30.9%	9.4%	.9%	1.7%	1.7%
30. Which of the options above (A - E) do you think will best address the issue? (n=738) A=33.9% B=12.1% C=19.9% D=13.8% E=20.3%							

31. Expand the stock of housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (please rate each option)		strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option							
A. Provide incentives to make it cost effective for landlords to rent apartments and houses year-round rather than seasonally (n=846)		43.7%	31.2%	14.3%	5.0%	2.8%	3.0%
B. Modify zoning regulations to allow development that combines retail, commercial and residential uses in village center buildings (n=846)		31.2%	31.6%	23.8%	5.8%	2.7%	5.0%
C. Adopt incentives for new housing developments to include housing that is affordable to the year-round workforce (n=846)		49.9%	28.6%	12.8%	3.5%	3.0%	2.2%
D. Modify zoning regulations to allow more construction of multiple- family housing and apartments (n=839)		25.0%	29.4%	21.1%	10.7%	10.1%	3.6%
E. Provide housing for purchase or rent that is affordable to the year-round workforce, through a non-profit housing organization		40.0%	28.8%	17.8%	5.2%	4.2%	4.0%
32. Which of the options above (A - E) do you feel will best address the issue? (n=744) A=26.3% B=14.8% C=22.0% D=8.2% E=28.6%							

33. Promote agriculture and local foods (please rate each option)						
	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Provide marketing support to encourage people to buy locally grown, caught or processed foods (n=853)	42.4%	32.5%	18.8%	2.7%	1.9%	1.8%
B. Develop and maintain community vegetable gardens for the use of local residents (n=851)	28.0%	31.3%	30.9%	4.9%	2.6%	2.4%
C. Reduce barriers to small scale farming by modifying zoning regulations and providing tax relief (n=852)	36.9%	34.2%	19.6%	3.1%	3.1%	3.3%
D. Expand year-round outlets for locally grown, caught or processed foods (n=853)	46.1%	31.2%	17.8%	0.8%	1.1%	3.0%
34. Which of the options above (A - D) do you feel will best address the issue? (n=731) A=33.1% B=7.3% C=27.9% D=31.7%						

35. Promote a year-round economy (Please rate each option)						
	strongly support	somewhat support	neutral	somewhat against	strongly against	don't know
Option						
A. Provide commuter bus service year-round (n=848)	43.2%	32.9%	15.9%	3.2%	2.0%	2.8%
B. Provide marketing and promotional support to encourage off-season tourism (n=851)	20.8%	36.3%	23.6%	8.6%	8.0%	2.7%
C. Institute a local tax on food and lodging to help towns pay for tourism-related costs (n=847)	13.5%	20.4%	22.3%	15.8%	23.1%	4.8%
D. Attract more cruise ships during the spring and fall seasons (n=853)	14.0%	25.7%	28.6%	11.5%	15.6%	4.7%
E. Institute policies and programs that support local artists, musicians, crafters, storytellers, etc. (n=847)	27.0%	33.4%	27.7%	5.4%	3.2%	3.2%
F. Modify zoning regulations to reduce the number of parking spaces that in-town businesses are required to provide (n=843)	10.8%	17.8%	30.7%	16.0%	16.0%	8.7%
36. Which of the options above (A - F) do you feel will best address the issue? (n=718) A=34.4% B=25.8% C=12.0% D=5.8% E=15.7% F=6.3%						

Finally, we would like to ask a few questions about yourself.

37. Which of the following best describes your work status? (n=874)

43.9% work full-time 6.9% take care of home or family full-time
 11.4% work part-time 20.9% self-employed
 7.3% work seasonal jobs 28.9% retired
 1.4% out of work 2.1% student

38. How many jobs do you currently hold? (n=782)

25.2% zero jobs 57.0% one job 17.8% more than one job

39. If you work, do you work on MDI or do you work off-island? (n=759)

51.1% work on MDI 10.8% seasonal resident, don't work in the area
 15.8% work off-island 22.3% don't work

40. If you work, about how many miles do you travel from your home to your work (one way)? (n=511)

Mean=12.41% Median=7.0%

27.6% 0-2 miles 17.3% 3-5 miles 21.4% 6-10 miles 33.7% 11 & above

41. Which of the following best describes your level of education so far? (n=871)

2.2% some high school 9.3% 2-year college/vocational graduate
 17.2% high school/GED 27.0% 4-year college graduate
 14.0% some college 30.3% post-college graduate or professional degree

42. What is your sex: (n=873)

47.0% male 53.0% female

43. Are you: (n=871)

69.0% married 22.0% single 9.0% other

44. In what year were you born: (n=861) Mean=55.69 Median=55.0

9.8% 19-34 yrs. 25.3% 35-49 yrs. 33.9% 50-64 yrs. 31.0% 65 yrs & above

45. Do you own a business in the MDI area? (n=871)

20.9% yes

46. Which of the following best represents your yearly household income? (n=800)

4.9% Less than \$10,000	29.4% \$25,000 - \$49,999	13.1% \$75,000 - \$99,999	4.0% \$150,000 - \$199,999
10.5% \$10,000 - \$24,999	18.8% \$50,000 - \$74,999	11.8% \$100,000 - \$149,999	7.6% \$200,000 and above

Thank you for completing the questionnaire. Please mail the completed questionnaire in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope. Also, please mail separately the enclosed postage-paid postcard indicating you have completed and returned the questionnaire.