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The Result of the Visual Preference Survey for the Town of Franklin, Massachusetts

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The Results of The Visual Preference Survey Town of Franklin, Massachusetts

June 17, 1995

Research Team: John R. Mullin, Ph.D., AICP Zenia Kotval, Ph.D., AICP Nicholas Cracknell Anne Zarrella

The Center for Economic Development at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst is part of the Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning Department, and is funded by the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the University of Massachusetts.

Introduction

On June 17, 1995 the town of Franklin commissioned a community forum to articulate a vision for the future of their town. During a four hour period the forum elicited input from more than fifty concerned citizens, business leaders and town officials. The Center for Economic Development (CED) acted as the facilitators.

The final report produced by CED is twofold:

- a) A Vision Statement, based on the forum discussions,
- b) Results of the Visual Preference exercise and survey held during the forum.

Results of Visual Preference Survey

One of the exercises used in the community forum held on June 17 was a Visual Preference Survey. This exercise was helpful in generating discussion about design elements residents would find favorable and unfavorable for the Town of Franklin.

During the exercise participants were shown fifty slides depicting commercial, residential and industrial developments typical in cities and towns throughout New England. The images reflected aspects such as building form, density, scale, massing, architectural style, landscaping and types of land use. Participants were asked to rate the images on a scale from +10 to -10.

The responses to the surveys were then tabulated and the results are included in the following pages. The analysis is divided into three sections. It begins with a fact sheet on population and development trends, and is followed by a demographic profile of the forum participants responding to the survey. The third part illustrates the results of the vision poll in which each of the fifty images are depicted and accompanied by graphs. The summary statistics provided with each image are defined as follows:

The **mean and median** are measures of *central tendency*. Since the mean score is often skewed by irregular or random data points, the median score was used to refer to the midpoint in the data array plotted on the graphs.

The maximum and minimum refer to the range of data responses.

The standard deviation indicates the variability of the data within the range.

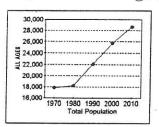
Skewness indicates the degree of symmetry with regard to shape of distribution.

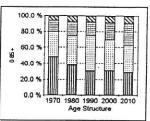
Kurtosis describes the peak of the distribution.

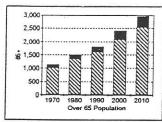
The results of this exercise can be used by the town for future site design planning activities and also for explaining those plans to residents at later meetings.

POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS: THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN, MA

Population Change 1970 - 2010







E		ment Change 19	
	Year	Total Employment	% Change
	1982	3940	-
	1983	3892	-1.2%
	1984	4212	8.2%
	1985	4398	4.4%
	1986	4769	8.4%
	1987	5334	11.8%
	1988	6316	18.4%
	1989	6989	10.7%
	1990	7156	2.4%
ŭ.	1991	7528	5.2%

FRANKLIN	TOWN
FIPS: 25 021 050	
Land Area (sq. km.)	
# of Households: 7,4	
'89 Median HH Incor	

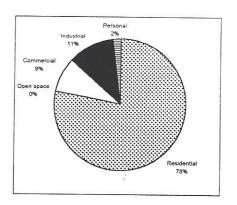
YEAR	AGES 0-19	AGES 20-44	AGES 45-64	AGES 65-84	AGES 85+	ALL AGES
1970	8,577	. 5,611	2,519	1.029	94	17.830
1980	6,899	6,655	3,153	1.354	156	18.217
1990	6,823	9,723	3.739	1.610	200	22.095
2000	8,023	9.877	5.458	2,089	318	25.765
2010	8,338	9,541	7,782	2,537	421	28,619

Source: Mass. Department of Employment & Training

	1971	1985	% Change
Industrial	92	161	75.0%
Commercial	134	142	6.0%
Multi-Family	30	91	203.3%
Dense Residential	39	39	0.0%
Medium Residential	1787	1923	7.6%
Sparse Residential	769	1217	58.3%
Transportation	250	252	0.8%
Open & Public	147	242	64.6%
Urban Waste	13	22	69.2%
Mining	233	153	-34.3%
Cropland	958	935	-2.4%
Pasture	404	329	-18.6%
Perennials	91	91	0.0%
Open	823	748	-9.1%
Water	106	106	0.0%
Fresh Wetalnd	804	804	0.0%
Salt Wetland	0	0	0.0%
Water Recreation	4	4	0.0%
Participation Recreation	42	104	147.6%
Spectator Recreation	77	125	62.3%
Forest	10507	9815	-6.6%
Total	17310	17303	0.0%
Source: MASSGIS			

Land Use Revenue by Land Use Type

1989	1994 %	6 Change
857	1146.7	33.8%
2.9	2.36	-18.6%
93.5	125.7	34.4%
104.9	168.6	60.7%
16.9	28.1	66.3%
1075.2	1471	36.8%
	857 2.9 93.5 104.9 16.9	857 1146.7 2.9 2.36 93.5 125.7 104.9 168.6 16.9 28.1



Municipal Finance: Revenues & Expenditures 1985-1993

Revenues	1985	1989	1993 %	Change
Property Taxes	8,853,950	12,891,203	17,292,581	95.3%
Excise Taxes	720,875	1,446,923	1,504,382	108.7%
User Fees	729,495	317,988	1,178,074	61.5%
State Aid	1,268,282	2,108,548	1,291,307	1.8%
State Aid -School	4,348,071	5,248,801	4,594,408	5.7%
Federal Aid	49,658	0	4,343	-91.3%
Federal Aid -School	332,643	365,287	464,102	39.5%
Total	16,302,974	22,378,750	26,329,197	61.5%

Expenditures	1985	1989	1993 %	Change
General Government	628,678	1,711,297	1,159,799	84.
Public Safety	1,566,706	2,736,587	2,862,554	82
Education	9,690,320	18,641,073	16,613,060	71.
Public Works	1,308,952	2,127,793	2,349,204	79
Health & Welfare	157,222	212,334	192,906	22.
Culture & Recreation	259,693	446,086	560,749	115.
Other	1,663,344	2,407,073	2,076,459	24.
Total	15,274,915	28,282,243	25,814,731	69.

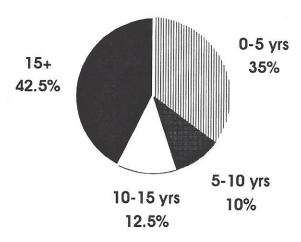
Building Permits by Fiscal Year

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Single Family Units	52	45	77	138	134	135	500	112	151	214	176	198	281	313	371
Multi-Family Units	22	4	0	2	300	84	68	8	4	0	0	53	0	0	4
Commercial / Industrial	2	9	2	8	6	5	11	22	17	6	2	3	3	3	5
Total Development*	76	58	79	148	440	224	579	142	172	220	178	254	284	316	380
Residential Development	97.4%	84.5%	97.5%	94.6%	98.6%	97.8%	98.1%	84.5%	90.1%	97.3%	98.9%	98.8%	98.9%	99.1%	98.7%

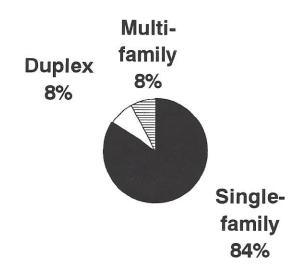
*excludes churches, schools, recreation bldgs, and other non-residential buildings

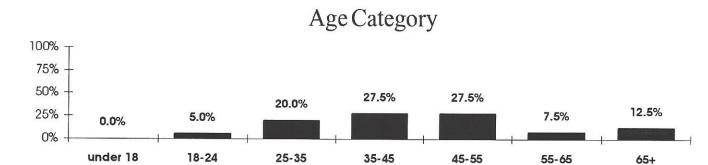
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE THETOWNOFFRANKLIN, MA

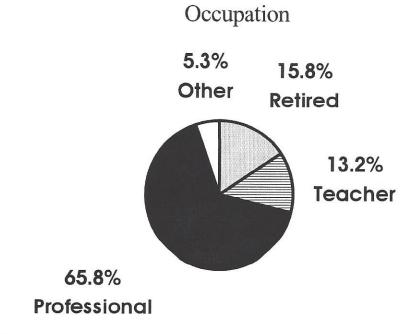
How long have you lived in Franklin?



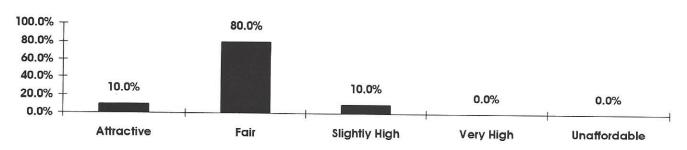
Your housing unit is:



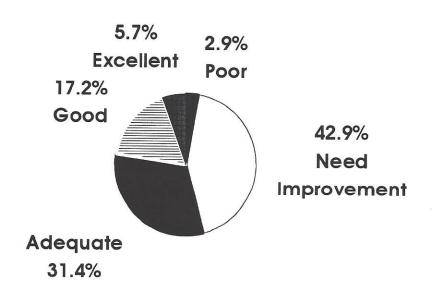


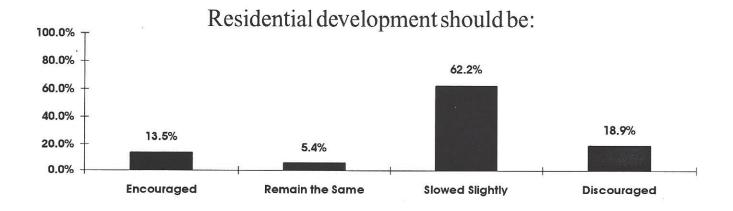


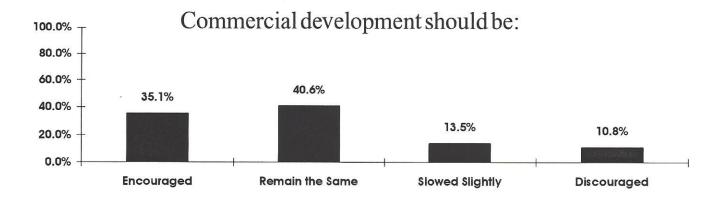
Local property taxes are:

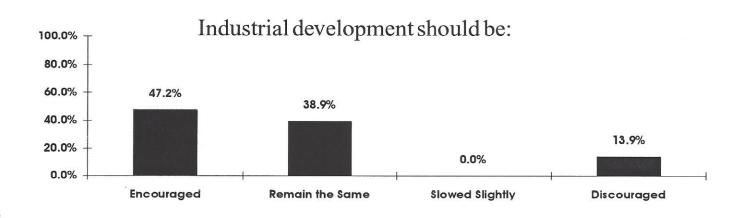


Local services are:

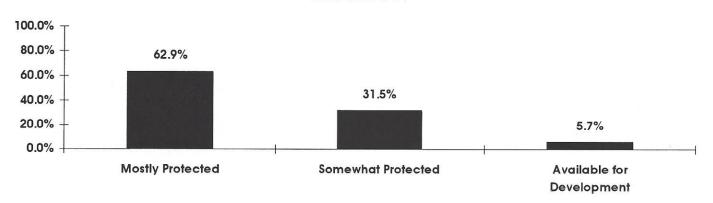




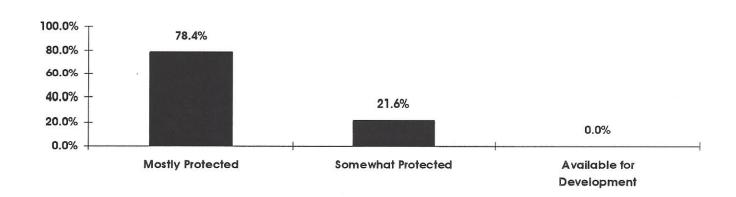




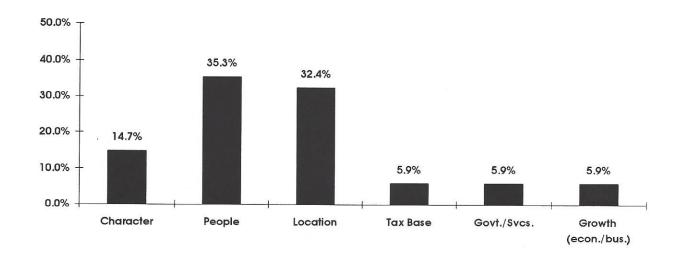
Franklin's Farmland should be:



Franklin's Open Space should be:



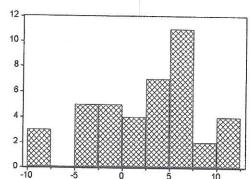
Franklin's biggest asset is:



VISION POLL RESULTS THETOWNOF FRANKLIN, MA



Figure 1



Series: A1	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	41
Mean	2.048780
Median	4.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	5.558557
Skewness	-0.529979
Kurtosis	2.372490
Jarque-Bera	2.592021
Probability	0.273621

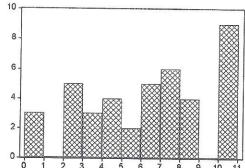


Figure 2

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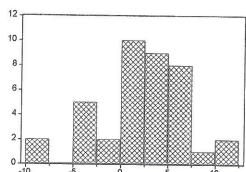
Figure 3



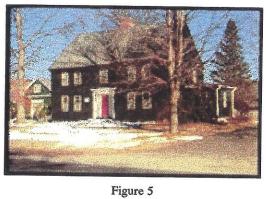
	Series: A3		ı
	Sample 1 46		
	Observations	41	
	Mean	5.829268	
	Median	6.000000	
1	Maximum	10.00000	
	Minimum	0.000000	
	Std. Dev.	3.153589	
	Skewness	-0.211271	
	Kurtosis	1.921124	
	Jarque-Bera	2.293463	
	Probability	0.317673	



Figure 4



Series: A4	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	39
Mean	1.871795
Median	3.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.473192
Skewness	-0.647551
Kurtosis	3.361595
Jarque-Bera	2.938068
Probability	0.230148



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Series: A5	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	40
Mean	6.450000
Median	7.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-2.000000
Std. Dev.	3.129266
Skewness	-0.700555
Kurtosis	2.853539
Jarque-Bera	3.307600
Probability	0.191322



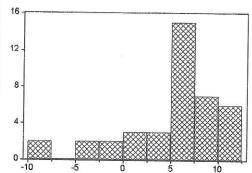
Figure 6

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Series: A6	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	40
Mean	6.525000
Median	7.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	1.000000
Std. Dev.	2.810124
Skewness	-0.321046
Kurtosis	1.838035
Jarque-Bera	2.937408
Probability	0.230224



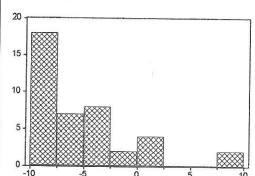
Figure 7



Series: A7	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	40
Mean	4.875000
Median	6.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.988127
Skewness	-1.335239
Kurtosis	4.139632
Jarque-Bera	14.05036
Probability	0.000889



Figure 8



Series: A8	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	41
Mean	-5.634146
Median	-7.000000
Maximum	9.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.897735
Skewness	1.268635
Kurtosis	4.151136
Jarque-Bera	13.26154
Probability	0.001319

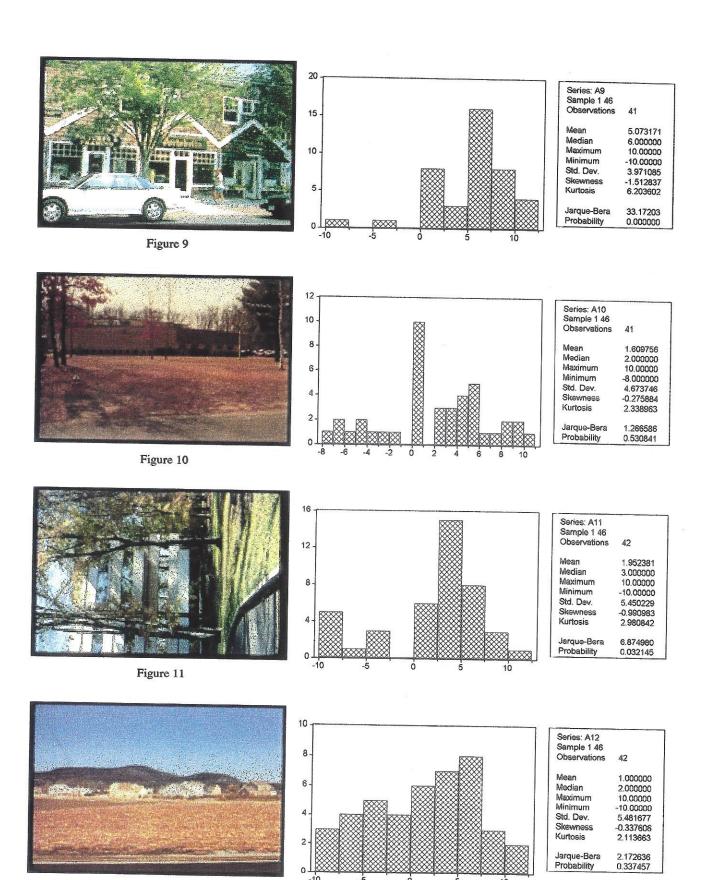


Figure 12





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Series: A13	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	41
Mean	1.536585
Median	2.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-8.000000
Std. Dev.	5.089683
Skewness	-0.333786
Kurtosis	2.289237
Jarque-Bera	1.624346
Probability	0.443892

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Figure 14

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Series: A14	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-1.613636
Median	-2.000000
Maximum	8.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.818646
Skewness	-0.156474
Kurtosis	2.033789
Jarque-Bera	1.891083
Probability	0.388469



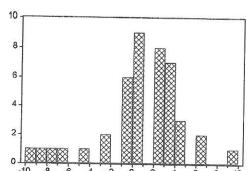
Figure 15

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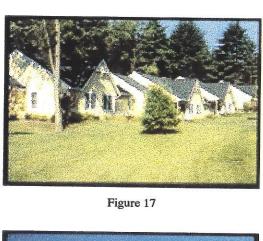
Series: A15	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-1.772727
Median	-2.000000
Maximum	7.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.371491
Skewness	0.025393
Kurtosis	2.385399
Jarque-Bera	0.697242
Probability	0.705661



Figure 16



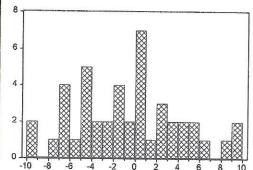
Series: A16	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	43
Mean	0.441860
Median	0.000000
Maximum	9.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	3.874841
Skewness	-0.819576
Kurtosis	3.935951
Jarque-Bera	6.383389
Probability	0.041102



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Series: A17	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	43
Mean	1.767442
Median	2.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-9.000000
Std. Dev.	4.864043
Skewness	-0.216044
Kurtosis	2.227126
Jarque-Bera	1.404727
Probability	0.495413

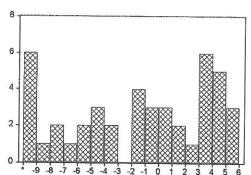




Series: A18	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-1.090909
Median	-1.000000
Maximum	9.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.850405
Skewness	0.218049
Kurtosis	2.383632
Jarque-Bera	1.045167
Probability	0.592987

Figure 18





Series: A19	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-1.840909
Median	-1.000000
Maximum	5.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	5.107874
Skewness	-0.301655
Kurtosis	1.701807
Jarque-Bera	3.757031
Probability	0.152817

Figure 19



-4

Series: A20	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	4.022727
Median	4.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-5.000000
Std. Dev.	4.315945
Skewness	-0.211634
Kurtosis	2.075925
Jarque-Bera	1.893961
Probability	0.387911

Figure 20

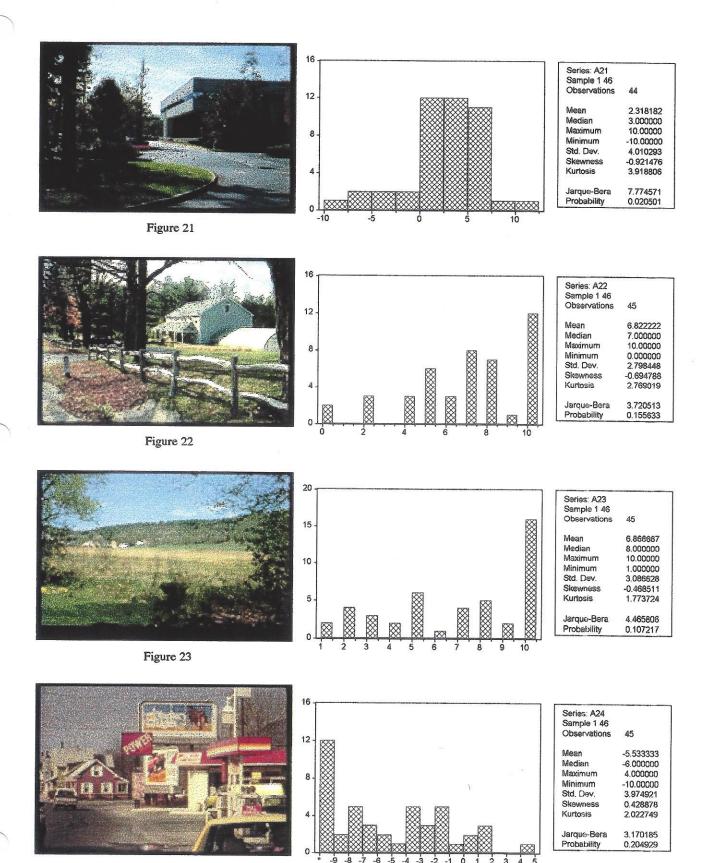


Figure 24

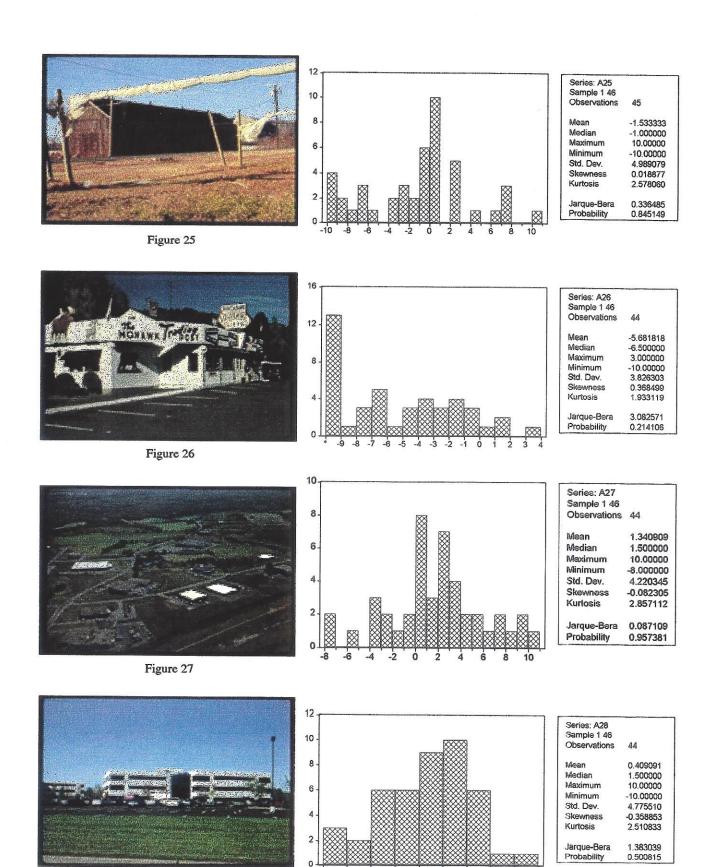


Figure 28



Figure 29

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Series: A29	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	2.568182
Median	2.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-7.000000
Std. Dev.	3.949670
Skewness	-0.474999
Kurtosis	3.266834
Jarque-Bera	1.785110
Probability	0.409608



Figure 30

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Series: A30	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-0.090909
Median	0.000000
Maximum	8.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.528043
Skewness	-0.095569
Kurtosis	2.013657
Jarque-Bera	1.850580
Probability	0.396416



Figure 31

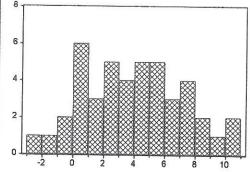
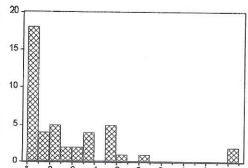




Figure 32



Series: A32	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-6.886364
Median	-8.500000
Maximum	8.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.325242
Skewness	1.947109
Kurtosis	6.911203
Jarque-Bera	55.84781
Probability	0.000000

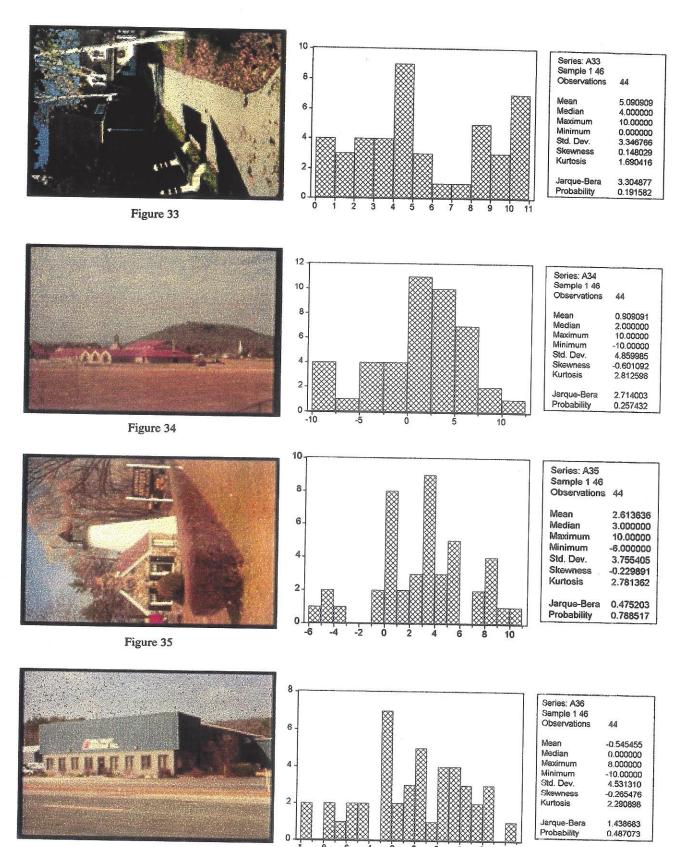
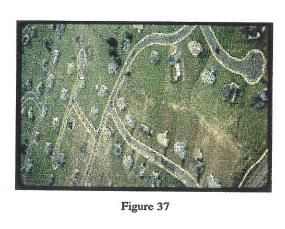
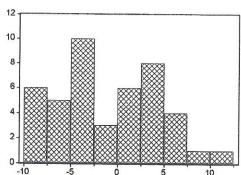


Figure 36





Series: A37	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-1.227273
Median	-2.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	5.211185
Skewness	0.183509
Kurtosis	2.003674
Jarque-Bera	2.066839
Probability	0.355788



Figure 38

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Series: A38	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-0.386364
Median	0.000000
Maximum	7.000000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.012863
Skewness	-0.584413
Kurtosis	2.909365
Jarque-Bera	2.519680
Probability	0.283699



Figure 39

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Series: A39	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	1.863636
Median	2.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.391275
Skewness	-0.768621
Kurtosis	3.862251
Jarque-Bera	5.695419
Probability	0.057977

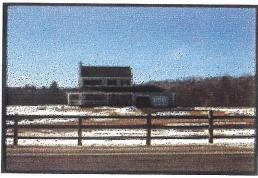
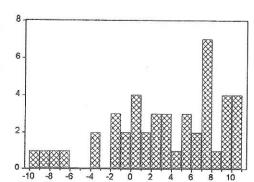


Figure 40



Series: A40	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	45
Mean	2.911111
Median	3.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	5.422270
Skewness	-0.618576
Kurtosis	2.558152
Jarque-Bera	3.235830
Prohability	0.100212

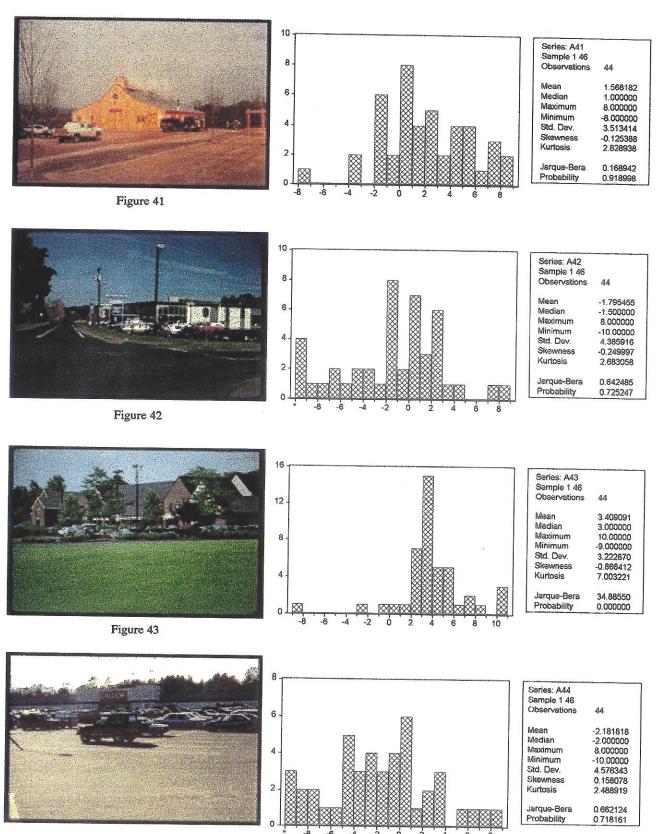


Figure 44

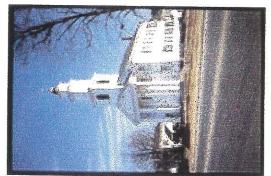
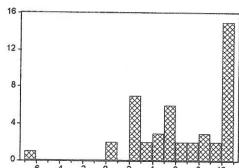


Figure 45



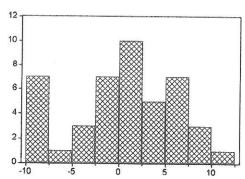
Series: A45	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	45
Mean	6.066667
Median	6.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-7.000000
Std. Dev.	3.875330
Skewness	-0.879865
Kurtosis	3.808562
Jarque-Bera	7.032037
Probability	0.029718



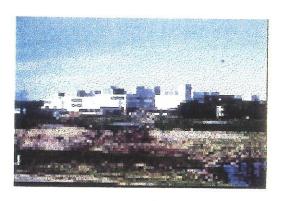
8-	RXXX	5)	155550	
6-				
4-				
2-				

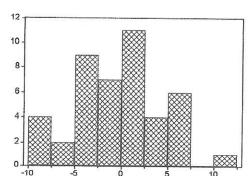
Series: A46	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	0.886364
Median	2.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.975362
Skewness	-0.328943
Kurtosis	2.516612
Jarque-Bera	1.221877
Probability	0.542841





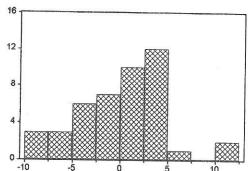
Series: A47	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	0.136364
Median	0.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	5.675696
Skewness	-0.320124
Kurtosis	2.192038
Jarque-Bera	1.948323
Probability	0.377509





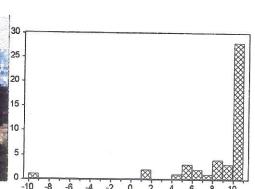
Series: A48	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-0.772727
Median	-0.500000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.644895
Skewness	-0.077754
Kurtosis	2.628876
Jarque-Bera	0.296846
Probability	0.862066





Series: A49	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	44
Mean	-0.181818
Median	0.000000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	4.596625
Skewness	-0.238053
Kurtosis	3.025257
Jarque-Bera	0.416742
Probability	0.811906





Series: A50	
Sample 1 46	
Observations	45
Mean	8.200000
Median	10.00000
Maximum	10.00000
Minimum	-10.00000
Std. Dev.	3.653143
Skewness	-3.172625
Kurtosis	14.81086
Jarque-Bera	337.0472
Probability	0.000000

Appendix

Franklin Slide Poll and Demographic Survey

Please circle your answers below:

How long have you lived in Franklin: 0-5 yr. / 5-10 yr. / 10-15 yr. / over 15 yr.

Your housing unit is: single-family detached / duplex / multifamily

Age category: under 18 / 18-24 / 25-35 / 35-45 / 45-55 / 55-65 / over 65

Occupation: Retired / Homemaker / Teacher / Professional / Farmer / Other

Local property taxes are: attractive / fair / slightly high / very high / unaffordable poor / need improvement / adequate / good / excellent

Residential development should be: encouraged / remain the same / slowed slightly / discouraged encouraged / remain the same / slowed slightly / discouraged for encouraged / remain the same / slowed slightly / discouraged encouraged / remain the same / slowed slightly / discouraged encouraged / remain the same / slowed slightly / discouraged

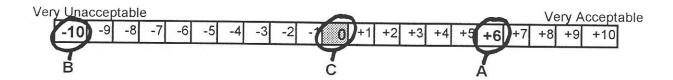
Franklin's Farmland should be: mostly protected / somewhat protected / available for development Franklin's Open Space should be: mostly protected / somewhat protected / available for development

Franklin's biggest asset is:

Franklin Slide Poll:

Please rate the slides you will be shown from -10 to +10 according to how you feel about the images. You are asked to give a <u>positive</u> rating to those images you would like to see in Franklin and a <u>negative</u> rating to those you do not want to see in Franklin. A slide that you do not feel strongly about is rated as zero. The degree to which a slide is positive or negative is shown in the example below.

Example: slide showing a <u>mobile home park</u>. You may see this a good form of affordable housing, therefore a positive value (A), while another may view it as unattractive housing and absolutely unacceptable in town, therefore gives it a very negative value (B), or another may not really care if it exists or not (C).



The purpose of this exercise is to get your <u>honest opinions</u> regarding the character of Franklin and to understand your feelings on such issues as housing, land use, and new development.

Now lets have some fun and enjoy the slide show. We will stop periodically to answer any questions and make sure that everyone is on track. If you have any questions please feel free to ask.

Slide Preference Response Sheet

Please circle your answers below

Slide

