Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

**Please choose all that apply:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Member</td>
<td>88.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee of the town or schools</td>
<td>9.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent of a Suffield Public Schools student</td>
<td>47.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni of Suffield Public Schools</td>
<td>19.06%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answered** 577  
**Skipped** 3

Please choose all that apply:

- Community Member: 88.39%
- Employee of the town or schools: 9.36%
- Parent of a Suffield Public Schools student: 47.83%
- Alumni of Suffield Public Schools: 19.06%

Responses
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

**What is your age group**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 18</td>
<td>0.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>0.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>5.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>24.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>28.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>23.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>17.65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answered** 578  
**Skipped** 2
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

**How long have you resided in Suffield?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5 years</td>
<td>9.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 9 years</td>
<td>14.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 14 years</td>
<td>13.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 19 years</td>
<td>12.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 or more years</td>
<td>48.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not live in Suffield currently</td>
<td>1.90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Responses: 580

![Bar chart showing the distribution of responses for how long respondents have resided in Suffield.](chart.png)
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

What are your primary reasons for living in Suffield (check all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town Services and amenities</td>
<td>19.09% 109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety (Police/Fire)</td>
<td>35.03% 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>57.27% 327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal/Family connection to community</td>
<td>42.38% 242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Quality</td>
<td>33.27% 190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall community character</td>
<td>61.47% 351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional location</td>
<td>47.99% 274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Opportunity</td>
<td>8.93% 51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 571
Skipped 9

What are your primary reasons for living in Suffield (check all that apply)
Do you own or rent your home?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Own</td>
<td>93.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>3.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3.12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 577
Skipped 3

Do you own or rent your home?
### Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

**How long do you plan to stay in Suffield?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 1 year</td>
<td>0.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-5 years</td>
<td>6.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-10 years</td>
<td>14.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20 years</td>
<td>15.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 20 years</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>23.83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answered** 575  
**Skipped** 5  

How long do you plan to stay in Suffield?
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

Are you generally familiar with the buildings that support the uses listed below?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>89.82%</td>
<td>8.07%</td>
<td>2.11%</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police (Senior Center, Minibus, Park and Recreation, Youth Services)</td>
<td>92.01%</td>
<td>6.08%</td>
<td>1.91%</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>80.70%</td>
<td>15.26%</td>
<td>4.04%</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>94.73%</td>
<td>3.87%</td>
<td>1.41%</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 579
Skipped 1
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

Rate your overall satisfaction with the quality of town services for each category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Very satisfied/No concerns</th>
<th>Satisfied/Meets basic need</th>
<th>Very dissatisfied/Needs Improvement</th>
<th>Don’t Know</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>52.98%</td>
<td>34.56%</td>
<td>3.16%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>48.87%</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
<td>6.26%</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Senior Center, Minibus, Park</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Recreation, Youth Services)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>27.94%</td>
<td>42.71%</td>
<td>11.60%</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>27.13%</td>
<td>51.42%</td>
<td>11.88%</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>9.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 576
Skipped 4
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

**I believe this facility adequately satisfies the needs of the town**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Strongly Agree/Works Well</th>
<th>Agree/Adequate but needs work</th>
<th>Disagree/Improvements are needed</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Stations</td>
<td>51.13%</td>
<td>24.00%</td>
<td>6.61%</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Station</td>
<td>47.83%</td>
<td>25.30%</td>
<td>8.84%</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
<td>39.96%</td>
<td>21.83%</td>
<td>5.81%</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Ward Spaulding School</td>
<td>28.52%</td>
<td>34.78%</td>
<td>12.52%</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McAlister Intermediate School</td>
<td>25.74%</td>
<td>34.26%</td>
<td>14.78%</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffield Middle School</td>
<td>26.13%</td>
<td>32.58%</td>
<td>13.76%</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffield High School</td>
<td>46.68%</td>
<td>22.55%</td>
<td>4.20%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 577
Skipped 3
Compared to surrounding communities and other towns I am familiar with, Suffield’s municipal buildings (police, fire, senior center and schools) are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better than most I have seen</td>
<td>17.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average, comparable to others</td>
<td>57.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needing improvement</td>
<td>16.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>8.65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 578, Skipped 2
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

How important is the overall (both interior and exterior) physical condition/appearance of the municipal buildings to you (police, fire, senior center and schools)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Important</td>
<td>33.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important</td>
<td>52.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t really affect me</td>
<td>14.76%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 576  
Skipped 4

How important is the overall (both interior and exterior) physical condition/appearance of the municipal buildings to you (police, fire, senior center and schools)?
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

Do you feel there is a need to address the current municipal facilities due to physical condition and/or due to programmatic needs (police, fire, senior center and schools)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immediate concern must act now.</td>
<td>7.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerned, but requires comprehensive approach.</td>
<td>59.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not concerned, do not see a need.</td>
<td>32.81%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 570
Skipped 10

Do you feel there is a need to address the current municipal facilities due to physical condition and/or due to programmatic needs (police, fire, senior center and schools)?
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

Please rate the overall (both interior and exterior) quality and physical condition/appearance of each building included in the master plan?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Adequate</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Stations</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Department</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Ward Spaulding School</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McAlister Intermediate School</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffield Middle School</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffield High School</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 571
Skipped 9
Facility Master Plan Survey – Initial Thoughts & Feedback

Please rank the town buildings requiring the greatest/least improvement to address either the physical condition or program needs? (1=Greatest, 7=Least)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Stations</td>
<td>14.78%</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>16.81%</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>11.59%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>9.86%</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Department</td>
<td>18.65%</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>15.14%</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>12.97%</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>13.51%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
<td>13.77%</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>9.09%</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7.71%</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11.02%</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Ward Spaulding School</td>
<td>18.84%</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>18.26%</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>25.80%</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>22.90%</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McAlister Intermediate School</td>
<td>13.47%</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>26.93%</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>22.35%</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>19.48%</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffield Middle School</td>
<td>19.38%</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>16.29%</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>22.19%</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>14.04%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffield High School</td>
<td>4.95%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>3.65%</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4.69%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13.02%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know (provide comment)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respondents: 475
Skipped: 105

Don't know (provide comment)

- My kids go to private school, so I can’t compare the schools.
- Rigged question
- It’s hard to rank as I have not inspected any of the buildings.
- Not familiar enough to compare
- I have not lived here long enough to know
- This is not working
- I own a condo in Suffield, however I spend a lot of time in Maine and do not use town facilities. Beautiful town and location.
- Buildings need to be maintained
- Don’t know about schools
- Facilities are adequate. It is the programs and policies that need improvement.
- The survey doesn’t allow you to choose a rank for each one. I’m no longer familiar with school conditions and don’t visit other buildings.
- Retired do not enter school buildings
- Honestly don’t see any need for major improvement to these facilities
- I haven’t seen the inside of most of these buildings.
- Schools need to be air conditioned
- I am not familiar enough with the interior of each to provide an honest opinion
- Quality of services need to be addressed, not the physical buildings. #11 Question should have the choice of “unimportant.”
I have only visited the High School. I am not familiar with all of the buildings enough to compare. Have not been in town long enough/seen all of these buildings well enough to assess. My children have been out of school a long time.

The police and fire buildings do not need improving but the staffing levels do. Our police department in particular is WOEFULLY UNDERSTAFFED. We have not been inside the facilities noted other than the Middle School for Voting. Town Buildings are so important to a Town’s "health" and how they are maintained and managed inside and out are of utmost importance. Honestly, I don’t know the condition of the senior center and two elementary schools, but the high school is fine and the fire and police stations seem cramped.

None of the buildings need improvement. We do not have children that attend public school. Unsure new to town.

Unsure. Not sure about safety complexes, schools need weeding & trash pickup. I really do like the lawn mowers chopping up debris into the grass.

Don’t have enough information.

Not sure.

All buildings are fine.

More community programs needed for Parks & Rec. do not know how to rank the others. It’s been long enough since I have been inside Spaulding, McAlister and SMS that I couldn’t comment.

Only regularly in senior center.

Phelps Rd. needs repair where the recent paving didn’t hold up. I don’t believe ANY building is in greatest need.

Do not have enough background to assess the needs in these buildings.

I am familiar with the police and fire departments and the Senior Center. I am also familiar with the High School. I am unfamiliar with the other school buildings.

The middle school does not have the aesthetic appeal of the rest of the town. I don’t have adequate knowledge to rate.

Honestly, I haven’t been in the schools for a number of years. I am familiar with the police and fire departments and the Senior Center. I am also familiar with the High School. I am unfamiliar with the other school buildings.

I don’t have insight into the interior of buildings and systems other than the schools to judge where the biggest need is. I’m not sure how to rate.

I don’t think any really need improvement.

I don’t know the senior center.

I don’t have insight into the interior of buildings and systems other than the schools to judge where the biggest need is. I’m not sure how to rate. I don’t think any really need improvement.

Rec. Dept deserves and needs a permanent and adequate space.

I don’t have enough information about schools.

If an engineer says it is broken then fix it.

I haven’t been in town long enough to be able to rate.

Why just these buildings in the rankings? Library, Post Office (although Federal), various town hall.

I’m unable to determine who would need the most improvements, however I feel as if the buildings in town are well kept and don’t appear to need any thing at this time. I would rather focus money on improving pedestrian traffic flow and enhancing the center of town appeal.

Good as is! Don’t change the character of the town!!

I think that they are all in good shape. If you want to improve the appearance of the schools, especially the high school put in sprinklers. The grounds look terrible.

Don’t know the senior center.

I don’t know enough about them all to rate and answer this question.

I don’t have insight into the interior of buildings and systems other than the schools to judge where the biggest need is.

I don’t have enough information about schools.

I don’t have insight into the interior of buildings and systems other than the schools to judge where the biggest need is.

I don’t have enough information about schools.

I don’t think any really need improvement.

I don’t have insight into the interior of buildings and systems other than the schools to judge where the biggest need is.

I see no deterioration so I don’t understand the purpose of this.

I haven’t been in any of the buildings in some time.

Only toured SMS, McAlister and FD#1. Safety issues should be addressed as first priority with "nice to haves" placed in rank order and addressed when funding is available.

Have not seen police station or Spaulding.

Non of them need physical improvement except sprinklers at the high school. The grass / weeds looks like crap.
I do not interact with staff in the buildings regularly. Because of this I am not familiar with challenges. I would imagine that there are challenges around the buildings being current with technology.

I don't see a need to refurbish any buildings. How about working on the staff.

This is a bad way to figure out what to do with the money we don't want to give you.

Sports fields are most needed.

I really don't know the internals of several of these making a ranking difficult. The addition of AC to the schools was important in my opinion.

I haven't been inside any of these buildings in well over a year.

I am not sure I have the depth of understanding of each facility.

The biggest need is in sports/recreational facilities like soccer fields, etc... Embarrassing compared to all surrounding towns. Simsbury, Granby, etc.

I haven't been inside the senior center.

I have not been inside any of these buildings so cannot rate them.

I have not been in any of these buildings.

Other towns have much nicer, more modern senior centers.

As someone who is not in these buildings regularly as would an employee. I don't feel my opinion is the best.

I have left things blank if I am not qualified to answer.

I haven't been in all of these facilities.

Don't use or go in schools so I can't rank conditions.

Children graduated years ago. Not familiar now.

Not enough familiarity other than appearances.

I prefer not to rank.

I haven't been inside buildings recently enough to evaluate.

I don't know.

I haven't looked that closely.

This survey is biased to support needless spending.

I no longer have children in the school system. From the outside the schools look good.
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

Provided that improvements are required to address program needs and/or physical condition of the buildings, what would you rather see?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additions and renovations to existing buildings</td>
<td>40.11% 219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New buildings</td>
<td>7.69% 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combination of additions and renovations to existing buildings and new buildings</td>
<td>52.20% 285</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 546
Skipped 34

Provided that improvements are required to address program needs and/or physical condition of the buildings, what would you rather see?
For the schools, would you support a consolidation of the school buildings should the data, demographics, and population projections from the master plan support this as an option?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>45.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>39.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>18.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answered</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipped</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Responses
### Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

**I would prefer to see the town invest in:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New and/or renovations for Community Services (Senior Center, Minibus)</td>
<td>24.77% 137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New and/or renovations to the Police Station</td>
<td>11.21% 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New and/or renovations to the Fire Station Headquarters</td>
<td>7.23% 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New and/or renovations to the Schools</td>
<td>35.99% 199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>20.80% 115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 553

Skipped 27

**I would prefer to see the town invest in:**

**Respondents**

WE NEED A POOL!!!!

Town doesn’t currently to invest
I have not lived here long enough to know not familiar enough with all the buildings I would rather see our schools and farm land and open space preserved Review and enhance based on what facility needs attention the most. Keep them maintained and renovate as needed so they don’t fall into disrepair Policy improvements Nothing at this time Renovate playgrounds. Exposed rusted metal everywhere housing for 50 and up None if not needed Our library does not meet community needs Proactive maintenance and strategically reviewed plans of improvement Playground on the east side if town Quality of services need investments, not physical buildings. Maintaining present buildings I am not sure which buildings require the greatest amount of work new and/or renovations to the police and fire stations academic excellency, not frills or cosmetic approaches roads and public works A pool Preservation of open space; landscape design to strengthen biodiversity and improve ecological resilience; green technologies for existing municipal structures Increase the number of police officers and fire fighters reduce the mil rate None A comprehensive plan to reduce town employees by shifting services to independent service providers. food and entertainment Roads, Water Facility, Street Lights, Parks Town garage Maintaining all the buildings Prioritize need

This question and the one below seem to be ill-phrased: we could PREFER more than one of the options you provide. Are you asking what our first choice is? You should make that more clear in phrasing the sentence.
none above, save money and lower taxes
Hire more staff and increase town hall hours to accommodate for inspectors to help expedite building requirements.
No need for moderation of building save $ rather than spend
A true and realistic master plan.
Public works needs to be addressed.
What's with the "New" in each of the above items?
It's unfair to make a choice, they all need something
The youth sports fields are lacking. It is embarrassing when we have home games for soccer (girls U11) and the out of town teams comment on the poor quality of fields
renovations to both police and fire stations
NOTHING AT THIS POINT! NO NEED!
Create a Community Center
We need better sports fields for our young athletes. Our fields are a joke. Little League is ignored and travel soccer is embarrassing when other towns come to Suffield to play.
Review adequate space for our police department
Town-wide: broadband, natural gas, water & sewer
New Marijuana Distribution Center. There are none this far north.
Education Why are we so far behind? We should high an early college high school. Your goal should be for everyone to have an associates degree and high school diploma!
Untended residential properties
I don't think we should completely renovate any building . Renovate what is essential in each building
Why do you put senior service's a f youth services together as the same category. Suffield senior center is great but youth services a d community center for young people is NON EXISTENT
Focus more on pedestrian traffic and enchanting the center of town appeal
Fixing the roads
Economic development . Resturaunt , coffee. Shops , stores. To improve the community feeling and provide more economic base for the town
Pool
Fire and SMS
High school needs under ground sprinkler system. For such a beautiful school building and fields the grass and landscaping look terrible!
Parks and Recreation: swimming pool or swimming pad with park playground
Would be great to see more tax providing efforts like a town center, I have children in the school system but that will end in the next 4 years.
No need for such investment.
Dog Park
attract more businesses
Athletic Fields
Maintenance for current properties
A multi sport complex
Public space such as park/splash pad. For a community of this size with this median income, I’d like to see facilities similar to other comparable towns (Simsbury, West Hartford, etc). Moms shouldn’t have to leave town to have a nice safe place for kids to play.

renewable energy
shops/restaurants/SM/swimming pool in HS

Community sports facilities.
Staffing for schools as this town seems to be a jump site for teachers, principals and faculty to gain experience and move on. Very frustrating and we are thinking about private going forward. Also, I am hearing that there are staff in our town hall that feel the same way and they are sending their kids to the academy which should not be permitted.

nc
I would like water and sewer installed on Babbs Rd to reduce the cancer risk to residents

Question doesn't allow options to "upgrade" to meet safety and code requirements which should be first priority.
None are needed.
Community center meeting centers
I would like see a community facility to encourage a place for youth.
Improve the staff.
Give the residents a tax break at this difficult time
Nothing. Lower taxes invest in nothing.

Suffield should have a little league sports complex that is acknowledged and maintained by the town. Our surrounding towns all do.
dont know enough about conditions of all town buildings

I’m watching my kids play sports at other towns, we have the worst youth sports facilities of any surrounding town.
splash pad and playground for families to use.
I don't know if they need it. I have kids so my preference goes to the schools out I can't speak to the condition of the police station and if it is needed. I've been to the senior center and I know that is in good condition.

Safer playing fields for the kids
I believe we need a rec center for kids we do need something other than having them walk up to Dunkin after school. I would like to see some thing like salmon Brook park in Granby here in Suffield by the schools.

The community center at Bridge Street School location
Sports complex - i.e. Salmon Brook Park, Granby; Simsbury Farms Recreational Complex; Avon--Fisher Meadows.

no preference

I feel like the senior center is out of this world great & youth center/services are almost non existent

Only someone who has been in all buildings as a professional should respond here.

renovations are wherever is needed most, my biggest input is to make things more sustainable and I have no problem with physical updates if needed but feel the real improvements are not physical in nature but making our schools better academically/emotionally/socially and our town more vibrant with more community engagement

Nothing. Save the tax payers money. Don’t just spend the money because if you don’t use it you lose it.

Disabled access needs to be greatly improved

more amenities for the town, such as a pool, rec center....

A true community center, as in Mansfield, CT

None, just maintain what we have

A consolidated sports field/building complex

The library

no issues except maybe make it easier for those who struggle with vision to get a library card on mountain road when parents are dropping off is dangerous, and a major life altering accident in the works. There should be an alternate plan to leave the 2 schools in order to ensure the safety of our residents. The police crews are great for the buses; however, not helpful to the parents that are leaving the exit by McCallister.

Parks and Recreation

renovations only as needed

None

Public safety #1, schools #2

Parks and open space

Consolidate the schools due to the reduction in students

Need a better town center, and removal of the abandon looking buildings near 3 Figs.

Suffield Landfill Building and Site

I do not know of any issues to make that decision

Public safety complex (police/fire combined)

Affordable housing for elderly.

Lowering costs

Maintain current facilities; no upgrades
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

As a part of the master plan, I would prefer to see:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More buildings, either new and/or additions and renovations</td>
<td>9.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain the existing buildings we have</td>
<td>39.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newer buildings and reuse/repurpose of older buildings</td>
<td>19.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidation of some existing buildings combined with new construction</td>
<td>24.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>7.09%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered: 564
Skipped: 16

As a part of the master plan, I would prefer to see:

![Bar chart showing preferences]

Respondents

I have not lived here long enough to know

Other (please specify)

don't know
An intelligent comprehensive plan that meets future needs in a cost effective (thrifty) manner.

Not adequate facilities for retirees no exercise recreational facilities for senior

Seriously, be smart and invest in renovations or new
facilities/additions when it is intelligent. Show some actual payback
calculations.

Community use space
see #17

I'm really not sure what the needs are for any particular building.
whatever makes the most sense financially

We need walking/biking path connecting Agawam to Windsor Locks
and on Mountain road not just Main Street!

Swimming Pool in the Suffield High School

No preference, address needs vs costs

Improve the existing buildings we have, with renovations and additions if necessary

Building do not need improvement

Review of the findings, not just pet projects

Depends on the specifics

All decisions should be based on least costly way to achieve objective

Education
Community center for young people and adults.

Economic development

Maintain/improve existing buildings, use landscaping to make outside better-trees, trails, play

Add pool

No need for such investment.

A multi sport complex

More community activity areas

Less renovations, more community involvement and better support for school staff.

What I want should not be a deciding factor for the town - what is
cost effective, provides the necessary resources & improved
amenities should be the deciding factor
Maintain buildings if it is possible, but if it makes more financial sense to build new buildings, then that would be okay. 

Suffield needs park for children. Possibly splash pad. 

SHS has subpar landscaping. Use VoAg to get grass to grow. A real eyesore when you drive by. Looks like the town doesn't care. Also that brick entryway should come down. 

Nothing. The selectman waste our money and try to undermine us by trying to spend money they don't have. Make Mel Chafetz should resign in disgrace.

We should have a look very similar to CVS for all of our buildings, but we need to bring in businesses to offset taxes and drive revenue 

not sure

Nothing. Don't spend money. 

Consolidation of the Schools and renovations to other buildings we have seen that as much as we all like the historic look of existing buildings, they contain Asbestos and PCBs that make it a bad investment. Need new construction if any abatement is required on existing. Knock it down and start fresh with a historic looking design. 

Some of the older schools could be replaced but only with the agreement that the old one would be removed. Combining the Spaulding and McAllister would be good but I wouldn't want the middle and high schools combined. 

All of the above as needed and can afford 

Case by case decision as to approach 

Consolidation with no new construction
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

For the School Buildings, please indicate how you feel about the following topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not a priority</th>
<th>Low priority</th>
<th>High Priority</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consolidation of buildings for the purpose of shared services (operati</td>
<td>24.73%</td>
<td>32.03%</td>
<td>27.94%</td>
<td>15.30%</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive approach to sustainability</td>
<td>7.03%</td>
<td>24.50%</td>
<td>56.58%</td>
<td>11.89%</td>
<td>555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy efficiency</td>
<td>3.58%</td>
<td>17.92%</td>
<td>73.84%</td>
<td>4.66%</td>
<td>558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building aesthetics</td>
<td>15.68%</td>
<td>45.41%</td>
<td>34.59%</td>
<td>4.32%</td>
<td>555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved/renovated facilities</td>
<td>7.53%</td>
<td>26.88%</td>
<td>57.17%</td>
<td>8.42%</td>
<td>558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern educational environments</td>
<td>5.89%</td>
<td>17.32%</td>
<td>71.96%</td>
<td>4.82%</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety/Security</td>
<td>3.23%</td>
<td>13.08%</td>
<td>73.84%</td>
<td>4.48%</td>
<td>558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information technology infrastructure</td>
<td>3.39%</td>
<td>14.80%</td>
<td>76.83%</td>
<td>4.99%</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space to support wellness (social/emotional)</td>
<td>13.90%</td>
<td>32.26%</td>
<td>47.24%</td>
<td>6.60%</td>
<td>561</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional community use space</td>
<td>19.67%</td>
<td>36.43%</td>
<td>35.70%</td>
<td>8.20%</td>
<td>549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respondents 564

Skipped 16

WE NEED A POOL!!!
The schools seem fine.
Save our farms stop building

Suffield attracts new residents and maintains current residents for two main reasons: safety and school (education standards and quality overall). I think emphasis should be placed here first.
an example would be use of a pool and community access to the ag facilitys
air condition all schools
Walking/biking path on both sides of Rt159.

The town should invest in the proposed McLean Outdoor Education
Preserve for the high school, which would be a tremendous
resource for the students, faculty, and community alike.
the town spends too much money on schools!!!!
Air conditioning in all classrooms
Playground
Swimming Pool in High School
My high priorities would no doubt require renovated facilities.
There needs to be a place for children to hang out at the school that doesn't involve them walking up town to hang out at businesses.
Is this the place to talk about the need for a community center?
Since we are a town without a "downtown", the library and the town
green are not substitutes for a space that could bring more of the
community together.

High priority - Increased educational opportunities/programs
Repurpose Bridge Street Field to be useful to town
We have plenty of community use spaces!
Use common sense approach with cost effectiveness

Athletic Fields

Everything should be to code.
We should multitask the spaces we have
Although expensive a pool in one of the schools would be great for the schools and community
The only schools I would like to see consolidated would be
Spaulding and McAlister if the data, population, etc warranted. I
think it's important to keep middle and high school in separate
buildings.
nc
Again, if the buildings are fine then focus on something that directly impacts the quality of life for Suffield's forgotten residents on Congamond Lake
Non need for more building s or space. Let people worry about their wellness at home.
Some have advocated for YEARS to add a community pool, with
programs for every age demographic available to the entire
community. (I know this will NEVER happen in Suffield - What a
shame!)

Community Center at Bridge Street
a pool would be great!
Build a community center so every town activity does not have to be at a school.
I am very wary of razing SMS and building a smaller building based on projected town population. This is exactly what was done when West Suffield School was closed, and the population then grew rather than shrank. Then, the town was stuck with building additions onto Spaulding to meet the increased student need. Projections are NOT always accurate. The current building should be updated and modified to meet student need - not torn down or made smaller.

Buildings need to be maintained, but overall aesthetics is not important.
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

For the Town Buildings, please indicate how you feel about the following topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Not a priority</th>
<th>Low priority</th>
<th>High Priority</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consolidation of buildings for the purpose of shared services (operati</td>
<td>12.88%</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive approach to sustainability</td>
<td>8.73%</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy efficiency</td>
<td>4.47%</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building aesthetics</td>
<td>14.41%</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved/renovated facilities</td>
<td>11.93%</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>249</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety/Security</td>
<td>4.84%</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information technology infrastructure</td>
<td>4.46%</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space to support wellness</td>
<td>19.71%</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional community use space</td>
<td>19.49%</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answered 564
Skipped 16

For the Town Buildings, please indicate how you feel about the following topics

Respondents

A POOL PLEASE
Walking/Biking Path on Route 159
Provide maintenance only
Community Center
Need a new library building.
Again common sense, cost saving approach
I have not had to go to a town building for anything. Everything is online.
Consolidation of office space for town so that don’t have to rent space
Your at work you do not need a wellness or support space. Focus on doing your job.
We DO need community space for community activities and programs. Not just a senior center, not just a Parks and Rec. Dept.
Space for an ENTIRE community to use.
A community center bringing all ages together and a pool
But St Joseph's property and make a community center

If you add a POOL a community center or new senior center makes sense. All the $ spent on that taj mahal of a high school you should have put in a pool so our kids didn't have to swim at WL HS!!!!
Not enough knowledge
More affordable elderly housing that is a little bigger than current. I.e., Maple, Laurel Court
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

I would like to see more informational surveys distributed as the town develops options as a means to communicate feedback.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>93.59% 526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>6.41% 36</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Answered 562
Skipped 18

Responses

I would like to see more informational surveys distributed as the town develops options as a means to communicate feedback.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts &amp; Feedback</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I would be interested in the following (check all that apply)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online public forums and workshops</td>
<td>49.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In person public forums and workshops</td>
<td>36.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional building tours</td>
<td>24.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On demand /Online information, so I can review at my leisure</td>
<td>70.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smaller informal sessions</td>
<td>13.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>2.85%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answered**: 527  
**Skipped**: 53

---

**I would be interested in the following (check all that apply)**

![Bar chart showing responses for different options]

- Online public forums and workshops: 49.72% (262 responses)
- In person public forums and workshops: 36.81% (194 responses)
- Additional building tours: 24.48% (129 responses)
- On demand /Online information, so I can review at my leisure: 70.78% (373 responses)
- Smaller informal sessions: 13.09% (69 responses)
- Other (please specify): 2.85% (15 responses)

---

**Respondents**

**Other (please specify)**

**Newsletter**
housing for 50 and up that can afford it
don't just survey, but use the recommendations!
more community events
I am moving because idiots are running the town.
We did not have time on Saturday to view all the buildings
surveys
Virtual option for informational forums

Stop wasting money on these ridiculous endeavors. The town should focus on economic development desirable for businesses and people who want to work and contribute to the economy.
The opinion of residents, new and old. Not just the continued opinion of the families here for generations, or would benefit from upgrades.

Emails sent out with updates!
nothing
Virtual walk-throughs available to view online
I'm sure most do not know the actual conditions or issues with the town's properties. WE need to be informed form an unbiased source.
With significant if not hyperinflation around the corner the town fathers should focus on keeping the cost of living in Suffield as low as possible
Facility Master Plan Survey ~ Initial Thoughts & Feedback

What other aspects would you like the Master Plan effort to consider?

Answered 183
Skipped 397

Responses

Other Facilities/Capital Projects/Investments
Upgrading all the facilities in town. Buildings, schools, recreational facilities, parks

Pool
A POOL
A Town Pool and skating rink
A public swimming pool with swimming lessons. A section in Sunrise Park for a dog park.

A town recreational facility for walking/running, biking, exercising, and swimming. Residents can join the pool and gym to offset ongoing costs however students can use the pool as part of a swimming program.

Creating a community center with a swimming pool

Town/school pool

More community development: A town swimming pool, splash pad, park and playground. There is plenty of land for it!

Town pool. Additional gym space.

Take a look at all the resources other towns have that we don't: public sports complexes, amphitheaters, town pool/school pool, school auditoriums with decent lighting/sound which are large enough that parents don't have to take shifts to attend concerts, safe sidewalks and bike lanes that connect places that people actually walk and bike, public parks with nice facilities which are safe for kids to access by bike/walking. Better use of our share of the Connecticut River/canal indoor recreational facility with indoor pool and walking track.

Recreation Center with a pool for the community. Diversity of restaurants in town.

Community Swimming pool

Community soccer fields and community pool.

A pool for the school and town use.

POOL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The high school is nice but I remember, as only the second class to go through it completely, that it was already said that the building was too small. We also don't have a pool for the swim team or in town at all.

Roads/Traffic

Roads

Parking and traffic are issues whenever there are events happening in the center. Some focus should be on the development of Suffield Depot to include better parking, more restaurants and retail and improved social settings for live music, shows, movies, and sponsored events. The greens are great for some things but converting the Bridge Steet School area into parking and a multi-modal event center (maybe somehow including the adjacent soccer fields) would relieve some of the congestion in the center.

Street & highway Maintence

Overall Town aesthetics esp at the Green area

Schools and Town Surrounds streets and lights

Looking at Mountain Road in general. Its a very congested main road - are there other alternatives either to add roads or move facilities to less used roads? Lots of space in town, but everything is located in one major hotspot...

Roads and traffic flow (Routes 75 and 159)
Affordable Housing
build apartment that are heat and hot water included or central air and under 900.00 dollars so people like me who can afford to live in Suffield since I live here for 45 years I would love to live the rest of my life in Suffield but your making hard for me to live here no housing for 50 and up who can afford it
Better affordable housing for the elderly. People should not be forced to leave Suffield due to inadequate housing options.

Social Services/Community/Recreation/Sports Center
Better library facilities build a new state of the art facility. Improve the Community/recreation resources for teens and retirees. Offer free courses for people ie exercise programs/ lectures and improve communications to Suffield residents not just post signs on town. Better communication regarding the demolition of bridge street School felt the wording of the referendum was worded to ensure the vote would fail.
A town recreational facility for walking/running, biking, exercising, and swimming. Residents can join the pool and gym to offset ongoing costs however students can use the pool as part of a swimming program.
Community resources are severely lacking in this town, and that should be the primary focus.
As I senior myself, I would like the town to evaluate the continuing need of a seniors-only center. The lives of seniors have changed dramatically since the senior center plan was first developed and put into place. Seniors today retire much later than previous generations and I question how much a building will be needed in the future for senior-only use.
Maybe a community center for our kids. To include ping pong pool tables, indoor basketball courts and such. Just a space for the communities kids to hang out, bond and stay out of trouble. As a child/teen I grew up with these and found them to be nothing but fond memories.
Creating a community center with a swimming pool

Additional recreational/outdoor opportunities to include revenue generating hunting programs
Community center for young people and adults is vital and absent form this town. Our kids literally hang out at the Dunkin' Donuts parking lot and call that the town center. It is PATHETIC especially with all the space on Fyler place. Build a Vibrant town center.- instead of selling public land to a private developer to build apartment. This does nothing for the town center. PLEASE. My kids will never come back to Suffield to live really because there is NO PLACE to gather!
Staying updated with times and activities and places for both young and old to gather in our community!
Better parks and recreation program. I come from Glastonbury where they have so many programs compared to Suffield. Also a park for kids would be nice instead of going to a school. More community development: A town swimming pool, splash pad, park and playground. There is plenty of land for it!
Some kind of community center that is inclusive to all, not just the seniors.

Take a look at all the resources other towns have that we don’t: public sports complexes, amphitheaters, town pool/school pool, school auditoriums with decent lighting/sound which are large enough that parents don’t have to take shifts to attend concerts, safe sidewalks and bike lanes that connect places that people actually walk and bike, public parks with nice facilities which are safe for kids to access by bike/walking. Better use of our share of the Connecticut River/canal Improved athletic fields. Sports complex.
Creation of a sports complex with multiple fields
Street School property with the amphitheater on the East end of the lot so people could sit on the hill for viewing.

Better parks and rec, we should aspire to exceed what salmon brook park offers, we have the means. Sunrise is pitiful in comparison and aesthetically displeasing.
Greenspace.

Programming for families and adults without children. (Summer concert series is a great example that appeals to both!)

Disappointed in the Senior Center, in terms of programs, physical environment and personnel. Indoor recreational facility with indoor pool and walking track. Lessons and a YMCA or Boys and Girls Club to promote community wellness programs that are more inclusive, expansion of more programs at the library for kids, especially summer. Improved quality of life for town overall.

Towns are judged today by the school system and facilities. While our schools are adequate they could be better. However, I think a central athletic facility like salmon Brook park in Granby would be the best improvement possible.

Purchase St Joseph's and turn it into a community center. Recreation Center with a pool for the community. Diversity of restaurants in town.

Community space and youth services and after school programs.

Consolidated sports facility. Building a town space for youth that is not attached to the Senior Center. It could be paired with a new Parks and Rec space, and could house a community center as well. The space where Bridge Street School stood would be an ideal space for such a structure, and could still co-exist with an outdoor park.

We need to make Suffield a place that people want to come and not leave. You will loose the older people leaving Suffield CT so they need to make it attractive to get the younger people with family to move in.

More of an adult community center and outdoor space. Not interested in additional sports fields but think Suffield lacks outdoor communal space to meet up that offers shade and a pleasant environment.

The senior center is not up the same standard as our neighbor towns such as Agawam.

**Sports Fields**

The town of Suffield needs one main area for sport fields. We need better fields; turf fields; we need better area to host sports. We have a lot of land and we need to make good use of it.

Town fields for youth sports are generally abysmal and borderline dangerous. Fleming, Babbs, Cervione and some of fields in Bruce Park are not in adequate shape.

Sports fields are lacking (high school is excellent)

Athletic Fields.

Address town garage and town dump facilities besides police, fire and schools. Also include town playing fields and rail trail maintenance.

Improved athletic fields. Sports complex.

Creation of a sports complex with multiple fields.

The sports fields/complexes need MAJOR attention. When traveling to other towns for sports, it embarrassing to see what Suffield has (can you say Fleming field covered in weeds abutting a trucking company with a port-a potty!) Weedy, lumpy, and poorly maintained fields (for all sports), lack of bathrooms or concessions, no seating/bleachers - it really needs to be addressed and acknowledged as a high priority.

Note in my earlier comments but we don't have enough space for kids sports

Community soccer fields and community pool.

Youth sports facilities -- soccer fields, baseball fields

**Sidewalks/Bike Paths**

Bike/walk bath on Rt159, and Montain Road

* Mobility plan to promote alternative transport to school (safe foot / bike paths, traffic arrangements at school entry/exit)

* Creation of a school "campus" where all schools would be gathered in the area between Spaulding and High School

* Swimming pool for all schools combined

More sidewalks/bike widths
Sidewalks on Mountain Rd: Kids cannot bike or walk safely around town! This is a major drawback to having a family in Suffield.

Address town garage and town dump facilities besides police, fire and schools. Also include town playing fields and rail trail maintenance.


Sidewalk connections and conditions.

More areas for walking, emphasis on wellness.

Bike lanes on Main Street to start. Improvement of major crosswalks, they are still sub par.

**Dog Park**

A public swimming pool with swimming lessons. A section in Sunrise Park for a dog park.

**Business/Economic Development**

A small business meeting space where owners can share ideas and services. Parking and traffic are issues whenever there are events happening in the center. Some focus should be on the development of Suffield Depot to include better parking, more restaurants and retail and improved social settings for live music, shows, movies, and sponsored events. The greens are great for some things but converting the Bridge Steet School area into parking and a multi-modal event center (maybe somehow including the adjacent soccer fields) would relieve some of the congestion in the center.

Economic development to create a better town for individuals who work hard to afford to be here.

I do not want to see low income housing as part of the master plan.

Getting businesses into the center of town to make the environment more lively and the town a more desirable place to live. Bring back a commuter rail to Suffield Depot. Continue to be plant more trees and focus on sustainable landscaping. Stop spraying pesticides on town properties.

Focus on economic development to attract business and professionals. The public facilities are in great shape.

Business zoning regulations to increase business in Suffield

Master plan for retail/commercial properties in Suffield Depot / along Mountain Road. Something has to be done with the old CVS property and the property behind the new CVS. Both are an incredible eye-sore in an otherwise beautiful town.

Recreation Center with a pool for the community. Diversity of restaurants in town.

**Public Safety/Fire/Police**

Increase Police and Fire staffing. Having 16 police officers for a town of this size is unsafe and ridiculously understaffed.

Fire houses are in dire need of improvements.

Consolidate the main firehouse with the one on Ratley Road.

Four firehouses seems like one too many in town.

Schools should be the number one priority as they are one of the main draws of Suffield. Please consider adding additional police officers. This is a large town with not enough officers on staff and patrolling.

I think the fire headquarters building should be reconstructed especially since it is occupied 24 hours, 7 days a week.

The consolidation of the towns Emergency Services.

**Schools**

Please have air conditioning in all classrooms. Also an increase in fostering social and psychological wellness in the schools.
* Mobility plan to promote alternative transport to school (safe foot / bike paths, traffic arrangements at school entry/exit)
* Creation of a school "campus" where all schools would be gathered in the area between Spaulding and High School
* Swimming pool for all schools combined

Bring back some of the shop type classes to the high school (auto, metal, other trades). These are important life skills as well as careers.
Do not combine schools, please!!!

Take a look at all the resources other towns have that we don't: public sports complexes, amphitheaters, town pool/school pool, school auditoriums with decent lighting/sound which are large enough that parents don’t have to take shifts to attend concerts, safe sidewalks and bike lanes that connect places that people actually walk and bike, public parks with nice facilities which are safe for kids to access by bike/walking. Better use of our share of the Connecticut River/canal
Air conditioning in the schools. Spaulding school is in serious need of upgrades.
Air conditioning for all school buildings, update play area for school/community use

I believe that the town's school buildings are in need of improvement / replacement / renovate as new.

We need to focus on safe schools. Making sure all buildings have appropriate sized classrooms to comfortably accommodated students and teachers safely, providing ALL classrooms with state of the art air filtration AND air conditioning. That means razzing an 83 year old building (McAlister Intermediate) and providing students and teachers with a modern, SAFE school building. This particularly important if the Suffield school BOE feels that making up snow days in June is a priority, rather that using an online distance learning system already in place. Plainly these are people who have never been in an unairconditioned room when the weather is 80 degrees.

Towns are judged today by the school system and facilities. While our schools are adequate they could be better. However, I think a central athletic facility like salmon Brook park in granby would be the best improvement possible.

Update and more to offer with town parks (sunrise). Update school playgrounds. A town splash pad and playground.

I am glad you are getting feedback from the community, other than the people that attend meetings. I think the priority should be the schools then the town buildings. I think AC and increased security measures should definitely be high priority. Thank you

Mostly the renovation of Spaulding, especially the outside of the building, landscaping etc. Looks the same as when I attended 25+ years ago

Schools should be the number one priority as they are one of the main draws of Suffield. Please consider adding additional police officers. This is a large town with not enough officers on staff and patrolling.

The high school is nice but I remember, as only the second class to go through it completely, that it was already said that the building was too small. We also don’t have a pool for the swim team or in town at all.

Public Works/Highway/Landfill

Need to address new facility for public works.
Address town garage and town dump facilities besides police, fire and schools. Also include town playing fields and rail trail maintenance

Town garage moved out of center of town
Highway garage and landfill/transfer station should be included so we can assess the condition and prioritize major maintenance & upgrades

Suffield Landfill is a very important asset to the residents of this town. needs to be updated and improved.

Town Center
Street & highway Maintence
Street lighting

Overall Town aesthetics esp at the Green area
Town development as a whole. Thank you!

Kent Memorial Library and Highland Park area... work into Bridge Street project to make a nice center of town. Keep town lamp posts, etc.

Renovation plans of the Bridge street school are into something usable

Hire a professional landscape architect to create a beautiful park on the land once used by the Bridge Street School. (Brick pathways, park benches, tables, gardens and trees with an area for children's recreation...no dog use...too many disrespectful owners of pets who do not pick up after their dogs, unless very obvious trash receptacles are provided!

I see other towns doing great things for their youth like expanded playscapes and even splash pads. The only playground in town to use during school hours is at sunrise park and this is small - renovated and nice but small. Would like to see more money put towards structures for our youth, after school places to go "up town" that is safe and entertaining. Our play fields are also disgraceful compared to other towns, weeds, divots, poor lines..we need to invest in making this a priority as we are a large sports town, lets show it off. Of course the high school has great facilities but grades K-8 have pretty embarrassing field accommodations, im talking a little fertilizer and extra effort, not turf. I appreciate the things the town does for its community, the 350th celebration and the fire works last year were amazing. Lets see more of that....like the firemans carnival, always a blast and great fireworks, but nothing in years. We need to travel to other towns to get a little small town fair.

Better parks and recreation program. I come from Glastonbury where they have so many programs compared to Suffield. Also a park for kids would be nice instead of going to a school.

Thanks!

More community development: A town swimming pool, splash pad, park and playground. There is plenty of land for it!

Update and more to offer with town parks (sunrise). Update school playgrounds. A town splash pad and playground.

Better and updated playgrounds, more in line with surrounding towns.

Infrastructure

As stated above I think the town needs to invest in town-wide: broadband, natural gas, water and sewer - this would support ALL town people not just those with school-age children

Sustainability

Sustainability, Climate Resilience, Walkability and Bike-ability between town spaces/schools.

Support for current and acquirement of new conservation areas, parks, green spaces. Solar, wind energy infrastructure-support home and small business owners to install solar.

Sustainability, energy efficiency

Babbs

Renovate Babbs Roller Rink

Financial Impact/Taxes

Tax3#

Effect on annual tax payments.

Financial models and financial paybacks. Most town and state projects skip any real focus on financial sustainability or reason an instead focus and feelgood and flashy choices. You can do both but do it responsibly.
Stop the concern with aesthetics which is wasteful spending while the library is still not fully open! over indulged in tax payers money on the town hall
Cost effectiveness of optimizing the facilities involved. Please, let's not have another "library" fiasco!
Funding
Tax dollar distribution
Our taxes.
Fiscal responsibility
Choose options that will save residents tax dollars so they can be applied to neglected areas of concern as noted above.
Prioritize safety and work down the list of "nice to have" until we run out of funding.
Best way to keep costs down. Are these projects really necessary?
Effect of tax raising fees on the community to offset all these programs
Tax dollars and use of buildings we already have.
Cost vs value studies. What is the lifespan of the facility, public use of the facility, funds to support the care of the facility.
See notes above. We continue to modify, renovate the same buildings. We built a new high school not long ago. It's fine.
Cost to taxpayers.
Cost to taxpayers
Stop giving so much money to police and fire departments for such a small town. They have more than enough equipment to provide adequate services. The amount money spent of superfluous devices is astounding and should have been/be used otherwise within the community.
Lowering taxes.
Understanding the cost to the taxpayer. How long it will take.
To make smart decisions financially On future expenditures.
Practicality, function, economics
Reduce tax burden on elderly.
Cost to the taxpayers

Farmland Preservation/Rural Character
Save our farms save our open space stop building
Bring in small business for coffee shops or breakfast places we are lacking
Maintaining zoning policies to maintain the aesthetic environment that Suffield is known for. Its still a nice place to live with low crime rates. I would hate to see that change.

Continuation of zoning monitoring; creating more outdoor recreational facilities that are maintained Suffield has a great colonial vibe. We should do more to preserve that.
Please consider that our open space and living agricultural tradition are two of our town's greatest assets. In light of the threats of climate change, we need a long-term, strategic plan to limit suburban sprawl, expand our vital green spaces, and incentivize young farmers to root themselves in Suffield. This is not only an aesthetic concern, but is essential for the health and safety of our planet and of future generations.
Keep as much open space as possible
More green space.
Whatever renovations are done, I'd like the look to have a small town feel to it.
PLEASE maintain the character of the town.
All building projects must take into account the current look and feel of Suffield. We must also be very careful not to combine too many departments. If we do we run the risk of not staffing at appropriate levels and increase the workload of those left.
GREEN, GREEN, GREEN. We need to mitigate our effect on the environment as much as possible for the next generations
Greenspace.
Programming for families and adults without children. (Summer concert series is a great example that appeals to both!)
I'd love to know how the town expects to continue approving new neighborhood after new neighborhood of giant houses which is destroying the farmland feel and adding weight to the public school systems. For example the high school having been outgrown just years after it was built.

**Facility Maintenance**

I would like to see our buildings maintained so we don’t end up with another bridge street school. We have enough buildings, but they need to change with the needs of the town as they develop so they don’t become obsolete. In my expertise it is more cost effective to maintain something than build something new.

Continuation of zoning monitoring; creating more outdoor recreational facilities that are maintained I have no problem building new but the town also needs to put money into maintaining those new buildings. Maintaining properly gives longer life to buildings.
The town severely needs to look at the WASTE by town employees, specifically the maintenance department as far as union “rules” go that create so much waste. What a money pit. The unions are ruining this town AND this country!!

Would like to see a published risk assessment on technology, infrastructure for 1st responder facilities. Would like to see what the current practice is for facility maintenance on existing buildings outlining responsibility, chain of command in addition to the approval process.

increased maintenance so that buildings last longer

The town needs to make maintenance a priority, not every building needs to be fully renovated all the time.

**General Feedback**

I have little faith the Board of Selectmen will listen to the will of the people. Some questions did not make sense.
The term Master Plan is truly a misnomer -it simply isn't anything more than a facilities plan, a Concentrate on providing access to community facilities to OUR community first rather than surrounding communities. For example, the use of the school basketball courts should be limited to residents usage. The community needs to know who is using these facilities. They are continually littered and disgraceful.

I find it hard to trust these survey results (both results and implementation of any findings) after what happened with the Bridge Street School fiasco. Questions 11, 15, and 17 are biased and should be removed. Thank you for your time.

More unambiguous survey questions
This survey is a joke. The buildings look fine. You should “tell us” what might need work instead of polling for ways to waste money.

Also, the town closed everything for a fake pandemic, so everyone involved in that decision must go.

transparency
Engage and use the public's recommendations.
I'm a big fan of the writings of noted architect and urban theorist Christopher Alexander. He was an advocate for user participation in urban planning and designing buildings. This survey is a good start, but it's only a beginning. Patternlanguage.com has more information on Alexander's work and links to other material.

Get rid of the town selectmen who are racists and biased against anybody who aren't 70 year old farmers. Also, allowing roosters on properties should be banned.
Encourage businesses to neaten, improve their images.

Un sure at this time
A messaging plan to let residents know there's an online survey. We just happened to stumble on it.
I would like the committee to be mindful of Suffield's history in regards to closing schools. When West Suffield School was closed, we were told the population would decline. It did not, and an addition to Spaulding School was soon necessary. I don't trust the predictions of what will be happening in ten years. We have ample room in the middle school now; I think it would be folly to invest millions in a smaller building, only to discover that we need more space in the future! I'd also like to note that it seemed strange to me to spend time and money analyzing the decline in in-person student attendance in our schools during the pandemic. Did the surveyors assume that the pandemic is permanent? If not, why spend any time and money focusing on this unique event? I would like the town to consider lower taxes for condo communities that pay for their own roads etc., like Vernon, CT.

Education Ap courses for the gifted students doesn't work. They are going to college. What about the average student and below who will not get the chance to go to college?

Decline in upkeep of residential properties

Would like to see a published risk assessment on technology, infrastructure for 1st responder facilities. Would like to see what the current practice is for facility maintenance on existing buildings outlining responsibility, chain of command in addition to the approval process. Library renovations debacle has me worried about the competency of the town to handle renovations where known health risks are present. All building projects must take into account the current look and feel of Suffield. We must also be very careful not to combine too many departments. If we do we run the risk of not staffing at appropriate levels and increase the workload of those left. Before we start rebuilding buildings and facilities we should make sure the staff and faculty are covered and happy, then work on what is needed in schools for example, the AC is horrible as my children tell me but nothing has never been done. Food provided for the kids in McAllister and SMS is edible but should not be served to our children. Milk is moldy, food is chewy or cold or not good and the options are minimal.

No loss of jobs!!!!!

Questions were to specific for someone with only casual knowledge of the spaces but thanks for doing a survey.

Prioritize safety and work down the list of "nice to have" until we run out of funding.

Consolidated schools… use extra buildings for public safety complex… combine fire and PD for building coverage needs.

That internet dissemination of information does not equally reach all concerned citizens. And that an active vocal minority can (and often does) drive town decisions. In person public forums present equitable opportunities for public participation.

Not sure

NC

Questions were to specific for someone with only casual knowledge of the spaces but thanks for doing a survey.

Prioritize safety and work down the list of "nice to have" until we run out of funding.

Consolidated schools… use extra buildings for public safety complex… combine fire and PD for building coverage needs.

That internet dissemination of information does not equally reach all concerned citizens. And that an active vocal minority can (and often does) drive town decisions. In person public forums present equitable opportunities for public participation.

Not sure

N/A

I'm concerned about the consolidation of schools. I like how Suffield has the schools by age of the child. I like that there are no big kids at Spaulding. They can address little kids problems and keep little things like Santa as safe. I like McAllister age too because middle school is tough and they don't have to manage that drama yet. I can't speak to the other schools but I really LOVE that the schools are age appropriate. Please do NOT change that unless there is an emergency need. I really like the addition of AC to the schools. It is one less distraction to learning.

The law of unintended consequences; for example, consolidating the schools for operational efficiencies.

Blight

Personal property maintenance

Keep preserved land maintained

Pave roads

Promote business

Consider taxing exempt properties at some level

Determine the actual overall community needs rather than "wants" that serve small special groups.
The most important thing is projecting (1) the future student population and the future town population (excluding the Prison) how number (and future number) of residents impact the size and space needed. Plan for future number and space, not just today.
Avoid what happened with the library and bridge street school
Not sure
1. They should NOT be teaching critical race theory in any of our schools.
2. We should forego any federal monies if they force us to build "affordable housing". . .They want to abolish suburbs eventually.
3. Our town government should NOT be bullied by BLM or any other similar organization as is happening in other towns and cities.

Poorly worded question. What do you mean?
Abandoned