



Town of
PAWLING, NY
"Pride of the Harlem Valley"

Town of Pawling Comprehensive Plan Community Survey

The Town of Pawling is developing a Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan that will guide land use, development, and community investments for the next decade. The Plan will establish an aspirational yet feasible vision for Pawling's future and define policy areas, goals, and short- and long-term strategies for achieving the Town's vision.

This planning project is funded by the New York State (NYS) Department of State Smart Growth Community Planning Grant Program, as well as a Community Planning Grant from the New York State Hudson River Valley Greenway Program. The Town's Comprehensive Plan will incorporate 10 NYS Smart Growth Principles. These Principles are organized to guide land use policies and community development practices so as to enhance Town livability, sustainability, equity, and resilience, while also promoting the enhancement of the Town of Pawling's ecological, scenic, cultural, historic, agricultural, and recreational assets.

Survey Instructions

Please help us create an effective and responsive Comprehensive Plan by taking 10 minutes to complete this short opinion survey. Your responses will help shape the vision for Pawling's future. Your responses will be anonymous and confidential.

Paper-based surveys are available to be picked up and returned to the Town's Planning & Zoning Office in the Veteran's Building at 154 Charles Colman Blvd. Please return by October 28, 2026.

**This survey is also available to complete and submit online.
Scan the QR Code or visit:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/planpawling>



Please contact David Gilmour, AICP, Senior Planner, Laberge Group, at DGilmour@labergegroup.com if you have any questions about this survey.

To learn more about the Town's Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan, visit:

<https://www.planpawling.org/>

1. What is your relationship to the Town of Pawling? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Town Outside Village Resident
- ☐ Village Resident
- ☐ Business Owner/ Operator
- ☐ Work in the Town
- ☐ Seasonal Resident/ Second Homeowner
- ☐ Property Owner
- ☐ Other: _____

2. How long have you lived in the Town of Pawling? Please select one.

- ☐ Less than 2 years
- ☐ 2-5 years
- ☐ 6-10 years
- ☐ 11-15 years
- ☐ 16-20 years
- ☐ More than 20 years
- ☐ I do not live in the Town
- ☐ Other: _____

3. How would you rate the present quality of life in the Town of Pawling? Please select one.

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Fair
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Not sure

- 4. What characteristics of the Town of Pawling are most important to preserve or strengthen in the future?** *Please rank your top five (5) choices with 1 being most important to 5 being least important in the blank column next to your selections.*

Rank 1-5	Characteristics
	Small-town community atmosphere
	Parks, recreation, and trails
	Agriculture
	Safe neighborhoods
	Natural beauty and open space
	Strong schools and family environment
	Community events and local culture
	Affordable living and housing options
	Public services and infrastructure
	Access to regional destinations and jobs
	Quiet pace of life
	Senior-friendly community
	Local businesses and downtown vitality
	Historic character and architecture
	Walkable downtown and neighborhoods
	Other: <i>(please specify)</i>

- 5. What are the top 3 issues or challenges facing the Town of Pawling over the next 10 years?** *Please share your response in a few words below.*

1.	
2.	
3.	

- 6. What types of housing are most needed in the Town of Pawling?** *Please select your top three (3) responses with an “X” in the blank space next to your selection.*

	Single family housing on small lots (less than 3/4 acre)
	Senior housing
	Apartments or rental housing
	Mixed use, with residential units on upper floor(s) or behind non-residential building(s)
	Townhomes or row houses
	Accessory Dwelling Units (meaning units part of or alongside the principal single-family home)
	Two-family dwellings/ duplexes (side by side)
	No additional housing is needed
	Other: (please specify)

- 7. Are there barriers to owning or renting a home in Pawling?**

- ☐ No/
☐ Yes

Please identify what are the barriers to owning or renting a home in Pawling in this space.

- 8. Indicate your support for growing the Town’s tax base by selecting types of economic development to allow or pursue in conjunction with site designs that fit with/ complement community character:** *Please place an “X” in the blank space next to all categories you support.*

	Agriculture and farm stores
	Light manufacturing
	Hotels and inns
	Wineries
	Warehousing / distribution centers
	Events and conference facilities
	Data centers
	Senior care
	Medical offices
	Local / small businesses
	Other: (please specify)

- 9. Looking back 15 years, some severe rain events caused flooding and other severe weather resulted in downed trees and power outages. As we consider climate change and resiliency, should the Town:**

Please provide your level of support for each following action within the Town of Pawling.
 Rankings: (1) Not Needed (2) Not a Priority (3) Support (4) Fully Support

Action	Support Level: 4 (Fully Support) – 1 (Not Needed)
Participate in updates of the County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as a way to prepare for and aid this community's capacity to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to potential hazardous events?	
Require enhanced onsite stormwater management?	
Incentivize high-performance buildings/ energy efficient buildings?	
Have code requirements that provide enhanced protection and reduce the potential for harmful effects to buildings from heavy rains and/or flooding, such as by requiring higher first floor elevations, or greater setbacks from streams?	
Aid in local food systems planning, through support for agriculture and agricultural economic development, or by pursuing an Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan?	
Improve drainage systems in and besides roadways?	
Establish or update regulations that manage the siting of non-residential solar energy, wind energy, and battery storage system type land uses?	
Promote construction that enables better capacity to withstand wildfires through the use of fire-resistant materials and design strategies that protect homes from fires and burning embers?	
Help guide growth and conservation with an Open Space & Recreation Plan?	
Promote regional electrical transmission investments that will bolster infrastructure, assist service reliability, and protect the community from power outages?	
Promote a micro-grid that can provide and distribute power within a defined area despite a regional outage?	
Other: <i>(please specify)</i>	

10. Please rank on a scale of (1) Not a priority, to (5) Top priority, whether the following should be a priority for the Town of Pawling during the next five (5) to ten (10) years:

Please provide your level of priority for each following options within the Town of Pawling.

Rankings: (1) Not Priority (2) Low Priority (3) Medium Priority (4) High Priority (5) Top Priority

Priority Options	Importance 5 (Top priority) – 1 (Not a priority)
Supporting local businesses and downtown vitality	
Housing affordability and housing options	
Economic and employment opportunities	
Property taxes and cost of services	
Sustaining farming/ agriculture	
Maintaining roads, public facilities, and water/ sewer infrastructure	
Establishing new trail connections/ sidewalks when justified	
Access to grocery shopping, restaurants, and amenities	
Parks and recreation maintenance	
Lodging/ eco-tourism	
Public safety and emergency services	
Conserving open space and landscape character	
Preparing for flooding and climate related impacts	
Guiding growth into and around the south side NYS Route 22	
Transportation and regional connectivity	
Retaining and attracting families and young residents	
Supporting aging residents and accessibility needs	
Preserving historic charm and architectural character	
Preserving small-town character	
Enhancing broadband & cellular access	
Other: <i>(please specify)</i>	

11. How would you describe your current housing situation? *Please select one.*

- ☐ Own
- ☐ Rent
- ☐ Live with Family
- ☐ Other: _____

12. How many people live in your household? _____

13. What is your age? *Please select one.*

- ☐ 19 and younger
- ☐ 20-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80 and older

14. What is your approximate household income? *Please select one.*

- ☐ Less than \$25,000
- ☐ \$25,000 - \$49,999
- ☐ \$50,000 - \$74,999
- ☐ \$75,000 - \$99,999
- ☐ \$100,000 – \$124,999
- ☐ \$125,000 - \$149,999
- ☐ \$150,000 - \$174,999
- ☐ \$175,000 - \$199,999
- ☐ \$200,000 or more

15. Please share any additional comments or ideas you have relating to the Town of Pawling Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan in the space below. Attach additional pages if necessary.

Thank you for completing this survey!

If you are not completing the survey electronically/online, please return your completed survey to JoAnne Daley at the Planning & Zoning Office within the Town Veteran's Building at 154 Charles Colman Blvd during normal Town office hours.

You may also email a scanned copy to David Gilmour at DGilmour@labergegroup.com. Responses are accepted until Wednesday, October 28, 2026.