

PUBLIC INPUT:
Vision, Strengths, Challenges +
Opportunities for Catskill DRI Area
(Workshop 1 + Survey 1)

Summary of All Vision Input

VISION

“Catskill will continue to grow into a more dynamic place to live, work and visit, while retaining its small-town character and remaining open and affordable to people of all income levels and backgrounds.”



Does this capture what you'd like to see downtown? What is missing/important?

- How caring, supportive and inclusive Catskill is
- Village of Catskill's heritage/historic character
- Creating opportunity and access for all, especially disenfranchised people and people of color
- Emphasis on overall affordability
- Housing affordability for all income levels
- Access to outdoor recreation and activities for all ages
- Environmental sustainability
- Main Street revitalization
- Village as a tourism destination
- Catskill Creek as an asset
- Walkable streets and transit options
- Economic growth
- Expanding opportunities for youth

Summary of All STRENGTHS Input

STRENGTHS

What makes downtown Catskill stand out from other places? What attracts visitors and residents to the DRI Area?

- Catskill Creek
- Compact, walkable Main Street
- Arts and cultural attractions
- Historic character
- Scenic beauty (river, mountains, views)
- Creative, friendly, authentic community
- Strong community building and inclusivity
- Recreation options (creek and river)
- Unique Main Street small businesses

Where do you spend time in the Catskill DRI Area?

- Main Street shops, bars, and restaurants and West Main Street
- Catskill Creek/waterfront
- Events such as Farmers Market, concerts, arts events, First Fridays
- Library
- Outdoors: pocket parks, Park for Paws, walking and biking
- West Bridge Street businesses and Thomas Cole (outside DRI area)

What specific issues need to be addressed in the downtown area?

- Housing affordability, conditions and diversity
- Pedestrian safety: bridges, sidewalks, crossings and connections
- Public transit options
- Public creek access for pedestrians and boaters
- Lack of local jobs
- Lack of youth activities (community center)
- Overall affordability and social supports
- Need more retail and local businesses
- Need for cooperation among organizations
- Environmental quality (water, trees)
- Loss of the community center
- Vacant and aging downtown buildings

Summary of All Opportunities Input **OPPORTUNITIES**

What would improve Catskill's Main Street & Catskill Creek/DRI Area experience?

- **Safe, accessible multi-modal streets:** Pedestrian safety: accessible and connected sidewalks; Creekside trail; Bike lanes, paths, racks; Better public transit (bus, shuttle, trolley); Expanded parking
- **Waterfront improvements:** creek access for pedestrians, pocket parks, trails, public kayak/canoe rental, new dock with paddle-boat rentals at Cone-e Island, vendors, waterside events
- Improving green spaces and playgrounds
- Expanded **recreation** options (youth activities, senior activities, pool, skatepark)
- **Main St. and streetscape improvements** (façades, lighting, vacancies, seating, trees, infrastructure upgrades, restrooms)
- Murals and public art
- **Wayfinding signage and branding** (e.g., community kiosk, general wayfinding, branding with art themes, parking signage, trail signage)

Summary of All Opportunities Input **OPPORTUNITIES**

What would improve Catskill's Main Street & Catskill Creek/DRI Area experience?

- **Entertainment/events** (music, theater)
- New and renovated **housing** (e.g., mixed-use, replace fire-damaged homes with higher-density apartments)
- Use and reuse of **vacant buildings** in DRI Area, particularly into mixed-use housing/retail
- Increased range of **community services and supports** (e.g., skill share spaces, adult education, home for Food Pantry, diverse representation, After School Program, etc.)
- More **restaurants, bars and retail shops**
- Supporting improvements to **local businesses**