

Below are examples of comments made in the surveys (edited for spelling and length, some similar comments combined). **Bold comments indicate those that are often repeated.**

What additional features of Higganum do you feel are important (please rate using 1-3 rating system)?

3- quiet, friendly village atmosphere; 3- heritage as industrious village where many useful things were made; 3- low crime

3- **Natural resources:** cove, brooks, river, reservoir; 3- surrounding hills that form a beautiful “bowl” around Higganum; 3- superb access to Rte 9; 3- an extensive list of well-kept historic houses

slower traffic through village; more variety at Farmers' Market

3- The **rural nature** (also includes minimal street lighting- we don't need light pollution); 3- If keeping rural nature includes lack of urban sophistication, go to a real city; bottle/can recycling- the reservoir and other parking lots are littered with cans and bottles; 3- outdoor activities (seating, other) on nice days

3- our history of water power industry and boat building; 3- **potential for outdoor activities-** hiking, kayaking, cycling

3,3- **more business to offset taxes for homeowner**

Higganum has the feel of a rural town. Sewers would lead to profit for real estate developers, hence the most important blockage to maintain our rural character is no waste water treatment facility. Sewers will only lead to overdevelopment.

What buildings in Higganum Village should be preserved?

Preservation is difficult when there are other properties that are detractors and not interested in improvements. Refer to anti-blight ordinance problems.

Rossi's brick building, Claddagh house, **Scovil HoE** (new owners doing a wonderful job), **Grange**, Old Blue School House, **Old Firehouse**, Higganum Congregational & historic homes on Saybrook Rd., Coffee Connection, SNET building

None. They are eyesores. Tear down, install sewers & create a charming center we can be proud of - not embarrassed by.

What properties/natural resources do you feel could be better utilized? How would like to see them used?

Higganum looks like a ghost town. I grew up here and it is a shadow of what it once was, very depressing.

Scovil Bldngs; Rossi bldng; Waterways; Picnic area; riverfront

Town Green, Reservoir- **Walking / Biking Trail**, Swimming; Use River Front - Like Essex!
The river running from reservoir through Rossi property can make a very nice River Walk with quaint shops, small firms & restaurants.

3- I would like to see the Fire Dept. turned into a public rec building and put the trucks in a cheap Bulter building and sell a few.

How about kayak-canoe rental in the Higganum Creek?

We need a **market, drug store**; we don't need 100 apartments in down town.

List 5 services that you would like to see available in Higganum.

Grocery, pharmacy, café, bakery, shoe repair, tailor, deli / caterer, * nice **restaurant** or two (choice would be nice), non-biker pub (classy pub), nice shops, boutique; fitness center with a variety of classes; localized can/bottle receptacle drop; nature education and appreciation, park, more foliage

I would not like to see a large number of shops in Higganum Center; I would prefer emphasis on natural resources and outdoor activities.

3- Drug store; 2- Hardware store (more extensive than feed store); 2- Ice Cream shop; 2- Video rental; 3- Dog Park

a transfer station, a transfer station, a transfer station, a transfer station, a transfer station

What other Connecticut town would you like to be similar to? Why?

Madison, Guilford, Old Saybrook. Have 'true centers' and a sense of community. Need/want to stay in town to run errands & do activities w/ our young children.

Lyme - lower taxes, no development. Haddam needs to Cut Taxes & really inspect development as it's going along.

Aesthetics < Riverton - cross between Riverton + New Hartford

Chester center or Essex. New England Charm, Jobs, opportunity for gathering. No multi family housing.

Why are we so far behind **Chester, Deep River, & Essex**? They all have light manufacturing hidden away outside the center of town.

Higganum/Haddam is unique and residents should not be pushed to "copycat" others. Deep River Main St. is nice; Cromwell is abominable.

There is no town I can think of that I would like to see Higganum similar to. I prefer Higganum to have most emphasis on the beautiful natural resources available and less emphasis on development.

Collinsville Village- safe, peopled streets, repurposed/preserved buildings, and connection with nature; Chester Village- safe, peopled streets, funky, colorful buildings, stuff to do and see; Madison- slow traffic on state road, lots to do: book store, art cinema, great restaurants

Additional Comments:

We are the future of Haddam & want development to help offset our 10K taxes! [With reference to the "There are buildings in... question]: Knock them down & build more energy efficient buildings

Higganum will never grow without City sewer + H2O; Too may limitations with well + Septic + lack of available land to make improvements.

[With reference to "Sewers are essential to improvements..." question]: depends on if they put it in apt buildings. If they do, we need sewers. If not, we don't.

I feel one of the biggest disadvantages to downtown Higganum is the **run-down feeling and look of many of the buildings/businesses**. I think not only will new business add to the area, but also some more plantings (i.e. trees, shrubs, perennials), flags, evoking the feeling of a New England Village.

Love the summer farmer's market - hopefully this can keep going and expand! We really need a place for basic groceries & supplies that is local!!

I see no need or benefit for "Subway" type Businesses. This destroys the quaint image of a small town.

3- Higganum is a very cherished town. Higganum is COOL the way it is. Don't raise our taxes. More/different Development does not lower Taxes. Never has/Never will. If you want stores and big government move to Clinton or Cromwell. Wrong zip code, folks...Don't screw up our town like Cromwell.