

VISION STATEMENTS

Branford Vision Project

Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality parks and recreational facilities for all ages – bocce courts, etc. • We have more events like the Branford Festival celebrating Branford • Branford seniors have preference in Branford – senior facilities not based on State income 	1	6/20/07
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, culture and entertainment are valued and supported • Puppet house revival • Development of tourism • Educational funding • Mandatory new builder assessment which supports the above • More entertainment opportunities 	0	6/27/07
Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families of a variety of economic means can live and contribute to the growth and well-being of the community with the benefit of knowing they can maintain their lifestyle into their retirement years 	3	6/27/07
Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use planning provides for a balance between open space, commercial and residential uses, attractive urban design, reduce today's traffic congestion, protect and enhance vibrant Town Center 	11	6/20/07
Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase amount of open space and keep it well maintained • Development should be a combination of economic viability, environmental health and human well being. This can happen when all interested parties are brought to the table. Parties would include business owners, P&Z, environmentalists, regional health, transportation expert, local homeowners. The eventual result should be sustainable development that is the balance of all these factors 	4	6/20/07
Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a careful balance of open space acquisition with prudent development so as not to overextend town resources 	2	6/27/07
Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance business and residential growth (e.g. East Side of Town) • Designate East part of town special development area – mixed use, leave it open, what makes sense • Retain current Green Character • Retain center as it is • Parking/traffic patterns • Walking • Fix Town Hall drive 	1	6/20/07
Big Picture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipate what Branford can and cannot control • Macro view and risk management • Leader of surrounding towns and form coalition • Commercial and housing development and diversity 	3	6/20/07

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce/preserve downtown and green 		
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth is contained and development focused on enhancement, improvement not on getting bigger or expanding • I could retire comfortably • People of every age can live here affordably • We can enjoy our beautiful shoreline • The arts can thrive • We don't have a traffic light at every intersection • Rte 1 remains two lanes; east and west main stay separate • No malls • Develop old sites rather than create new • We continue to acquire open space • Post office that is able to serve the public • We still have small business support – no big box stores • Quality schools thrive 	11	6/20/07
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain historic structures and values • Encourage participation in cultural activities • Use of schools and libraries as cultural and artistic centers • Continue to promote the volunteer spirit that exists now 	10	6/27/07
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoreline • Shoreline neighborhoods • Still Diversity – socioeconomics, age, ethnic • Plan for affordable housing – elderly , single family (not condos), 30-somethings, cluster • Combine Commercial and Residential options – Mixed Use • Single Family housing – no more than 2 family • Include Design Review 	10	6/20/07
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a small town feel and look • Ample open space • Visual appeal (business façade and signs) • Management of density • Effective traffic control via design and planning • Developers should have a vested interest in the Town and pay into account that supports education and culture 	8	6/27/07
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The historic and unique character of our buildings and neighborhoods are valued and preserved 	6	6/27/07

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	<p>(especially the area of the Green and local business)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of life • Avoidance of sprawl • Encourage maintenance of downtown character • Encourage controlled "green" light industrial development – stay within existing zoning 		
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People feel connected • Ease of the use of town services • Accessibility to buildings, transportation, recreation facilities • Local transportation within Branford (water taxis, train station in Stony Creek) • Affordability of homes, services, culture • Community garden with strong link to schools 	1	6/27/07
Coastal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development is guided by showing high regard for these areas (shoreline) by preserving public access to Branford Point, Foote Park, Marina, Supply Pond, Young's Pond, Indian Neck, Short Beach, Double Beach, Queach, Town Center 	2	6/27/07
Coastal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope out desirable areas – plan for potential purchase or lease • Expand boat launch areas – do repairs to current launch areas – eliminate fee requirement for town residents, charge fee to non-residents • Increase parking areas to support beach/boat launch 	0	6/27/07
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural resources are protected • Open space is preserved • Enhanced access to the shore • Safe recreational shell fishing • Trail systems are enhanced and maintained 	12	6/20/07
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cherish our natural resources • Maintain parks and green and open spaces • More open space/support land trust • Clean up Branford River • Encourage local farming, lobstering • Maintain beaches, clean up sound • Maintain sewage treatment plant • "green" the town – energy, recycling 	12	6/27/07
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and cultural resources are protected • Public access to Long Island sound • One of Thimble Islands is a public park 	9	6/27/07

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a place where kids of all ages can sled (?????) • Develops old developed sites before undeveloped sites 		
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoreline is preserved • Walking on our streets is easy and safe (and bicycling) • Center not overdeveloped and current character preserved • Reduce traffic congestion • Have town plan, town funds to preserve certain areas, avoid crises and last-minute problems and legal fees • Preserve beach and water access • Community actively improves its livability and protects nature 	7	6/20/07
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Space is preserved, maintained and utilized by a diverse population – i.e. community garden, walking trails, access to sea coast and waterways • Preservation of wetlands • Sustainable development with due consideration of the real cost to traffic and utility use 	3	6/27/07
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space preservation expansion and utilization is the norm • Walking trails – maintain, map, use • Environmental education awareness • Energy efficiency, recycling (expanded recycling) 	2	6/27/07
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the Sound quality • Maintain and improve waterfront • Continue growing open space • Plant street trees • Identify pocket parks and new recreation • Encourage smart cluster zoning to improve land 	1	6/20/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive housing for people over 55 • Convenient retail and professional services available (affordable) • Teenagers have a place to go • Improved cultural and entertainment opportunities • Locate heavy commercial activities at Exit 53 and Exit 56 to minimize traffic in the rest of town • Improve appearance of Branford River 	24	6/20/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careful development of retail and housing with emphasis on the needs of Branford and quality of life. We don't want to be Orange, but not Madison either. Housing development should be affordable, east and west ends of town near highway interchanges should be priority 	15	6/27/07

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Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage small business development • Discourage big box development esthetic criteria in zoning laws • Increase and carefully preserve open space – not just the land trust • Maintain diversity – among ages, income levels, ethnic backgrounds • Increase housing at (near) center for elderly and disabled – in the interest of accessibility of services • More trees and less emphasis on impervious surfaces • Green buildings 	14	6/27/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensible development supports the needs and nature of our town • Encourage local and traditional businesses and trades – farming, shell fishing, masonry • Encourage small, clean industry to locate and thrive which creates jobs • Town government uses tax base wisely and secures the trust of the taxpayer • Current residents and their children and grandchildren can afford to live in Branford 	11	6/27/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population has been maintained at approximately the current level and urban sprawl has been contained 	11	6/20/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail development is scaled and aesthetically consistent with a New England community and contains “green” elements 	9	6/20/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIF proposed areas (conference center, shops, marina, etc. – ended up as upscale, high priced condos. Premise didn’t match reality • Height and density restrictions will lessen traffic patterns and increased services – schools, fire, police, sewer 	2	6/27/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development works to improve quality of the community • Good public transportation • 24 hour emergency medical center • Works with neighboring towns • Majority of retail business are owned by local people • Regulate style of buildings and signs for aesthetics 	1	6/27/07
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable, environmentally conscious and economically viable industries provide opportunity to live and work • Targeted recruitment • Aesthetics • Support business and individuals who are helping Branford grow responsibly 	0	6/27/07
Downtown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downtown has been preserved and expanded • The green 	13	6/20/07

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian friendly • Expanded cultural Activities and visitor opportunities • Expand east/west • Improve the green usage • Arts and entertainment downtown (the Giardano Property) Branford Building 		
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development will improve leading to diversity in development including: (1) housing/residential (55+ and affordable) (2) Improved retail mix and (3) road improvements and traffic flow – especially North and East Main Street 	4	6/20/07
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing – bring into town • Cooperate with ?????? • Pro-active economic development/coordination • Good for tax base • Additional railway parking; encourage workforce to come to Branford businesses • Create opportunities for walking safely; sidewalks • Bike trails/walking trails – creates a sense of community • Town Dock/Stony Creek – maintain • Maintain a connectivity where people interact 	2	6/20/07
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable and local economy balanced for a diverse community • Increased commercial and industrial tax contributions • Job diversity • Diverse and affordable housing stock • Where the world knows Branford for it's people, it's places and it's businesses • Stable population • Diverse population • Convert Tilcon Tomasso property into an environmental center 	8	6/20/07
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An excellent education is provided for our children (and for adult education) with a view to maximizing educational achievements including college bound students • Gifted programs – guarantee reaching maximum potential • Revision of statewide educational distribution of funds • Completion of YMCA facility in Branford – encourage establishment of facility within Branford 	8	6/27/07
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased enthusiasm for learning (goes beyond test scores) • Community excitement about academic endeavors • Wider recognition of our teachers and their roles as our leaders • More equitable funding for schools, compared to other CT communities 	8	6/27/07

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved community centre 		
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education is recognized and supported as a life-long endeavor More support for public education Library as a educational/cultural resource Strong support of senior center/activities Education begins at or before birth and continues throughout life All phases supported and encouraged 	6	6/27/07
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain excellence in education with a visionary role and leadership. equal opportunity for all students 	1	6/27/07
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education has top priority to meet student's needs for 21st century skills 	1	6/27/07
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are proactive in abatement of causes of climate change by reviewing how town actions and regulation can contribute to CO2 reduction Provide where possible tax benefits for energy reduction and efficient land use – as in “green” buildings, recycling of old buildings before more buildings go up Establish town wide awareness and education re: climate change abatement, green energy Town should become more bike/pedestrian friendly and have better public transportation More desirable 	11	6/27/07
Feeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like Cheers – everybody knows your name A comfortable town to live in – safe and affordable and promoting long term residency 	10	6/20/07
Feeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People feel safe and secure with effective public services, environmental security (clean air, land and water and proper waste treatment), and responsive Town government 	7	6/20/07
Feeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The historic quality and small town feeling is maintained by: (1) protecting and enhancing the center of Branford by promoting locally owned retail, fixing traffic patterns, parking, bike lanes. Keep town hall there. (2) keeping the town affordable for a diverse population 	4	6/20/07
Feeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens feel they are part of a real community not only a place. A place where neither rich nor less than wealthy can share the experiences available in a unique place that Branford is Try and make the town more livable with (1) better sidewalks throughout town (2) safer and more civilized traffic controls and (3) a master plan and implementation process to keep properties in good repair 	3	6/27/07
Feeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The citizens of Branford can live full lives Experience diversity in arts and education and housing Job opportunities 	0	6/20/07

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoy the natural beauty 		
Feeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can recognize a friend in the center of town, not feel like a stranger • Dense housing is not the norm • We can hike in open space 	0	6/20/07
Fix and Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix RR bridge • Fix traffic flow • Enhance look to attract good for Branford business • Utilize location to promote big businesses (i.e. Home Depot) • Teamwork with town officials, Amtrak, DOT, state and federal representatives 	9	6/27/07
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a form of municipal governance and government agencies that will implement the recommendations of the vision project, vision starts with town officials 	2	6/20/07
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of housing is available to all citizens that reflects a wide range of economic and cultural preferences, homes for families, rentals for young and elderly and supportive housing for people with special needs 	4	6/20/07
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further housing development focuses on: • Cluster housing with open space as major ingredient • More affordable housing • More affordable senior housing • Walkways/bikeways connecting these areas to Town Center 	2	6/27/07
Interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town has inter-generational community plans that work for all generations kids return as young adults; facilitate interaction between generations • Create cultural center that draws young and hip after work to participate in community. Need a focus location. A performance center • Shoreline east runs more trips • Local jitney service • Integrated community thrives through better transportation and cultural centers 	6	6/20/07
Kids Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large bike/skate park – perhaps at new YMCA • Top notch schools with low rates of bullying and drugs • Dog rules enforced in parks and neighborhoods, leash rules 	2	6/27/07
Local Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxes reasonable • Buy local first initiatives in Branford (food and other goods and services) • Weekly farmers market 	11	6/20/07

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouragement of locally-operated small business • Wal-mart area gets other small business • Entrepreneurial business encouraged • Economy is healthy and diverse, encouraging especially locally owned and entrepreneurial business 		
Neighborhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighborhoods remain well defined and encouraged to preserve their uniqueness. • Neighborhoods should be maintained in character as well as population (size) • Commercial integration into the neighborhood which impedes upon the character of the neighborhood should be kept to an absolute minimum 	4	6/27/07
Neighborhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve shoreline communities; don't knock down cottages and put up McMansions • Retain individual neighborhood character: e.g. Hotchkiss Grove, Short Beach, Stony Creek • Small scale residential development continues with open space; control over design important 	3	6/20/07
Open Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make it a priority to keep and maximize open space by buying whenever reasonably possible, cooperate with the land trust and using creative ideas towards acquisition • Make open space designation irrevocable 	3	6/27/07
People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A diverse population is attracted by good schools, wide variety of housing options and the opportunity to participate in the community 	7	6/20/07
People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our lifestyles are enhanced and protected by the Town • Provide for our senior citizens • Diverse in demographics, income level, housing stock • Excellent education system • People are involved in the community • Maintains a sense of identity and community in neighborhoods and the whole town • Can drive the length of Town without traffic problems 	4	6/27/07
Preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High regard is given to maintaining and preserving both the historical integrity and current landed purposes (industry, retail) of areas and neighborhoods. Special protection will be given to the Town Center, Historic Houses and neighborhoods, public buildings with historical significance, churches, schools, etc. • Retain retail in Western part of town, industry around Exit 56 and keep eastern region as green 	5	6/27/07
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation/Human interaction • Soccer fields • Boating • Swimming • Bikes/walking trails 	1	6/20/07

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball/soccer/tennis • Dump – utilize space 		
Regionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum advantage has been taken of regionalization including libraries, medical services, parks, etc. with the potential of reducing local expense on individual issues • Regional administration, local involvement • Parks, water access • Regional planning including transportation, infrastructure 	1	6/27/07
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a school system with a reputation for excellence for all students, that is a reason to have people want to move to Branford 	4	6/20/07
Senior Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an abundance of senior affordable housing • Senior services need to be expanded to meet the aging population • Services for adult day care are easily obtained and funding is increased • Where a new senior center meets the recreational, health, medical, nutritional and educational/creative needs of our seniors where transportation is provided 	2	6/27/07
Senior Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The needs of the elderly are met • Easy access to transportation, senior housing 	1	6/27/07
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred parking at rail station for Branford residents • More sidewalks • Intratown jitney • Improved commuter train service • Trucks not allowed to idle motors overnight • Point to point shares/community provided bicycles 	13	6/27/07