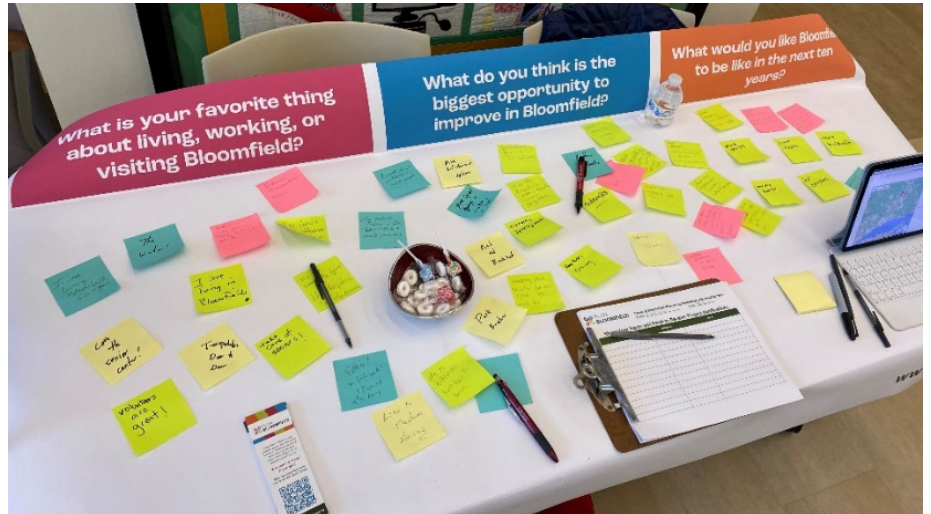
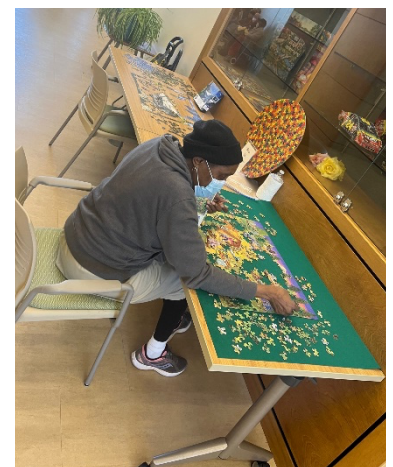
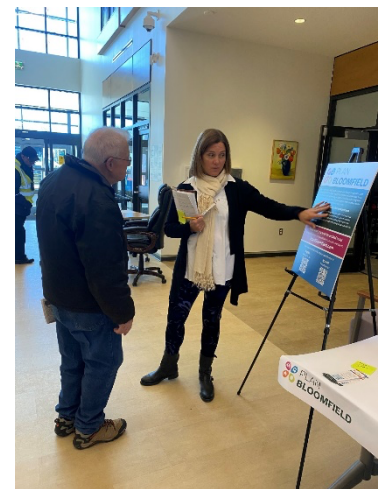


Food Share Pop Up Event Summary March 7, 2023

Marcy Miller and Kevin Rivera of FHI Studio hosted a project activity table at the Human Services Center at 330 Park Avenue on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. They represented the Town of Bloomfield Community Visioning and Plan of Conservation and Development work effort from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. The event was a great opportunity to engage with seniors and other residents using the Center for the Food Share and other senior activities.



1. **Number of People Engaged (Approximately)**
 - 30 adults
2. **Prior Study Knowledge**
 - Most people had not heard of the plan and were interested in learning more.
3. **Mailing List Sign Ups**
 - 0
4. **Favorite Things About Living, Working, or Visiting Bloomfield**
 - Love living in Bloomfield! (3 responses)
 - Convenient place to live. Errands (including driving and parking) are quick and easy.
 - Bloomfield takes care of its seniors! There are plenty of activities and services for seniors.
 - Senior center facility
 - Town volunteers
 - Police
 - Diversity of residents
 - Quiet residential communities
 - Great drinking water
 - Limited sidewalk infrastructure (less to shovel)
5. **Opportunities to Improve Bloomfield**
 - Economic development
 - i. Movie theater (2 responses)
 - ii. Open up shopping plaza, make it less mall like
 - iii. More stores (2 responses)



- iv. More entertainment / recreation destinations (2 responses)
- v. Library
- vi. Bed and breakfast
- vii. Another reasonably priced grocery store
- viii. Low to medium income housing
- Gas service / lines in streets (e.g., Evan Lane, Jonathan Place, Richard Lane)
- Lower taxes (2 responses)
- Better door-to-door transportation services
- Stop light, not a traffic calming plan, on Maple Avenue
- Road maintenance (e.g., potholes on Stillman Rd and Kenwood Rd)
- Speed bumps on Jackson Rd
- Remove the blinking function after 10 PM at the light at Mountain Rd and Maple Ave. This is a dangerous intersection.
- Better maintained sidewalks (2)
- Close gaps in sidewalks (3), particularly between the senior center and Cottage Grove Rd
- Computer and cell phone training for seniors
- Park benches
- Coffee machine in senior center
- Activities for emerging seniors (59+)
- Keep the Bloomfield water in Bloomfield (no bottling facility)



6. 10-year Vision

- Pursue grants for sidewalk construction and a more walkable Bloomfield
- More clothing stores
- More activity destinations
- Fewer doctors' offices
- Fewer residential high rises
- No new churches

7. Other Notable Discussions

- Several participants noted that they have lived happily in Bloomfield for 20+, 30+, and 50+ years.
- One participant lamented on the history of growth in Bloomfield, noting that many families settled in Bloomfield from Hartford decades ago. The hard-working, middle-class population have made the community a desirable community to live. The rate of home ownership is high. The most recent influx of residents is less eager to settle into homeownership.

8. Is this Event Worth Attending Again?

- Yes, this event provided the opportunity for the team to connect specifically with the Town's senior community. Most participants were willing to discuss and learn more.

9. Other Considerations / Recommendations

- This is a nice location for this type of tabling event. The team should consider doing a similar event when other users are at the building.