

**Input from Meeting at Ellis Hollow Community Center, March 9, 2020  
(3 participants)**

What makes Dryden a good place to live/work?

- Sense of community, especially in Ellis Hollow, fostered by people working together, eg. For the Ellis Hollow Fair, and the neighborhood list serve
- Seeing neighbors out walking dogs, joining on the list serve
- The EH Community Center serves as the “front porch” of EH
- It remains rural with easy access to Ithaca for work and commerce
- Don’t relate to Dryden Town much (all 3 participants)
- I chose Dryden 2 decades ago for lower taxes than Ithaca or Lansing

Challenges for the Town

- Residents identify with different school districts
- Neighborhoods like EH, Varna and Bethel Grove at southwest end of Town relate to Ithaca City School District
- Town Hall is not at Town center
- Route 13 corridor: land is being sold for development
- There are two needs along Route 13: access to business along the road and need for quick transit through
- Don’t want to duplicate the traffic climate on Elmira Rd. Ithaca
- Prefer fewer businesses along the Route 13 corridor
- Public transit is needed in Ellis Hollow; previous effort to get TCat route was unsuccessful because of limited bridge capacity (Genung Rd?)
- Adapting to climate change
- Question: does the Town limit external boiler systems? There is a pollution problem with burning noxious materials in EH

Initiatives the Town should take in next 25 years

- Housing for the elderly
- Affordable housing that’s linked to public transportation
- Freese Rd. proposed development raises question: What does affordable mean?
- More support for geothermal heating – by education and promotion. HEAT Smart Tompkins is working on this
- Finish the Rail Trail to ADA specs with stone dust surface. It’s not bikeable yet in some sections
- Transportation – traffic speed. Address lack of through-fare roads (which have been prevented by NIMBY) and enlarge bridges
- Address nutrient run-off from farms into the watershed, i.e. spreading manure that runs down into the creeks and lake
- Town should keep on minimizing use of salt by mixing with sand
- Avoid excessive ditching (a Conservation Board priority)
- More breweries!