

## Islington Center Survey Results July 30, 2016

### How often do you visit Islington Center for each of the following activities?

#### Shopping (groceries, pharmacy, sporting goods, etc.) 667 responses

Daily	226	33.9%
At least once a week	312	46.8%
Less than once a week	72	10.8%
Less than once a month	37	5.5%
Seldom or never	20	3.0%

#### Services (post office, banking, salon/barber, daycare, dry cleaning, etc.) 666 responses

Daily	97	14.6%
At least once a week	292	43.8%
Less than once a week	91	13.7%
Less than once a month	77	11.6%
Seldom or never	109	16.4%

#### Dining (dine-in, take-out, coffee shop, ice cream) 661 responses

Daily	35	5.3%
At least once a week	191	28.9%
Less than once a week	166	25.1%
Less than once a month	144	21.8%
Seldom or never	125	18.9%

#### Community (library, recreation, yoga, playground, organized sports, community events, public services) 665 responses

Daily	84	12.6%
At least once a week	265	39.8%
Less than once a week	97	14.6%
Less than once a month	101	15.2%
Seldom or never	118	17.7%

#### Other Visits

Walking route.

Walking route.

Visit my father every 2 weeks

Visit my father every 2 weeks

I live on east street

I live on east street

walking

walking

Dog walking ~ Lowell woods etc.

I might pick up take out from Islington Pizza or Wild Blossom once in a blue moon.

Work at Youth & Family Services

I drive through at least twice every day, but in terms of doing business, it's really just Roche Brothers and Dunkin'.

I walk recreationally every day through Islington.

drive thru daily

Islington Community Center for Westwood Recreation Activities

Walking, post office, coffee

baseball fields

School Street playground. I also run from my house (Whippoorwill) to Clapboardtree and back at least 2x per week.

Walk in town

My child attends preschool there from Sept to June daily

MMO Nursery School

Employed at MMO Nursery School. 3 days per week. Park in town lot.

3 times a week - my daughter attends MMO Nursery School

Food shopping at Roche

Usually more than once a week but that wasn't an option!

Preschool

MMO, Westwood Rec Classes

My kids are currently and will in the future be enrolled in MMO Preschool.

Mmo preschool daily visits

MMO nursery school- it's the best place in Westwood. It cannot close!!! This town needs it desperately.

MMO Pre-school

Preschool 5 days a week

One of the many reasons I moved to Westwood, was due to the sense of community I saw in Islington.

On a daily basis I am dropping off/ picking up my son from pre-school, using the train station, shopping at Roche Brothers, getting my hair cut at Islington Barber Shop and just taking walks with my family.

We frequent the library and the rec center. We also would love to be able to get lunch and an ice cream after visiting school street park! Part of the reason I moved to Westwood was the charm of Islington. We are new residents with babies.

We attend Westwood recreation sports and activities in Islington too

MMO Nursery School at More than once a week

Preschool 3-5 times per week, library at least once/week, cvs at least once per week and Roche bros at least once/week. If preschool was not there I probably would not frequent the area as much.

Social

Our family commutes through Islington Center multiple times a day, in more than one vehicle.

I would love for there to be more merchants that fit my needs rather than driving up to Westwood Center. Specifically, I go to Westwood Center for Starbucks, dining, gas, dry cleaning, and specialty shopping more frequently than I go to Islington Center.

Community meetings (e.g., Girl Scouts)

My family attends St. Denis in Islington & often go to the center to shop or eat after Mass

Preschool-- we love MMO-- our child is so happy there

If there were more dining options, I would go more frequently. Need kid friendly places. CVS is important.

Food

CVS visits are more frequent.

We use the community center for so many great activities.

church

Work...3 days a week

MMO nursery school daily

My husband and I run through the center at least 3 times a week. My kids also enjoy taking walks with us to get pizza and back home. I would hate to see traffic increase.

Sports at Morrison, weekly

Walking around-daily.

Mmo nursery school

Walking/running

Baseball 2-3 times a week in the spring.

MMO preschool

preschool daily from Sept-June

Going for walks

MMO School daily

Library and Post office weekly. Library is very important!!!!!!

seldom

walks around the area

We're there for many baseball games at Morrison.

roches

Roche and dunkin

Walking the dogs

When little league is at Morrison, we may be there 2 or more times per week but there is no safe way to cross from the field to the CVS or to the library if you have young children. The crosswalk is extremely delayed and it only allows for you to cross 1 street at a time. It should allow for you to cross diagonally like on busy intersections in the Longwood Medical area. Pedestrian safety should prevail over motor traffic. There is also very little police presence and no cameras to catch folks running red lights.

Library, weekly

Once or twice a week I walk threw the center will exercising.

I walk to the train 5 days a week

Dog walks, stroller walks, clothes and book donation boxes

School st playground

Walking through on way to Islington train station

Only ball field for children's games, CVS only for medicine, and grocery only when passing by. St. Denis several times a year.

Theater camp is run in the summer weeks that my child is attending which is daily. This is held at the community center.

Baseball games

Super market

Walking my dog through center frequently

Drive through the area everyday

Mmo

Roche bros

Dr.Stuchins,Roche's,CVS.USPost office

CVS 1@ week, yoga 1@ week

CVS 3-4x mos, Dental - Dr. Jjoey Dulex 1x mos

visit to church once a week  
 Dunkin Donuts nearly daily.  
 none  
 Community meetings  
 grocery - 2 times  
 Lack of shopping in Islington  
 Ball field  
 Walk my dog 3 -6x/day  
 Roche Bros - once in a while. Otherwise I just go thru Islington to get to other places like Frugal fannies on Rt. 1  
 baseball game, supermarket, banking, post office  
 Shopping, walking, visits  
 We walk through Islington Center for exercise  
 Roche Bros. - 3-4 times a week CVS  
 Roche Bros. - once a month  
 Walk my dog. Walk to mailbox. Watch Little League.  
 I usually walk around the center area around 5 times a week and often sit on the benches. Go to grandchildren sporting events at playground & Morrison  
 Exercise walking, view a sporting event, sit on park bench  
 walking around neighborhood  
 Bank 1x a week, Branch Library 1 x a week.  
 CVS, shop once a week.  
 CVS at least once a week.  
 I would like a good ice cream shop.  
 Roche Bros.  
 post office box daily, church on Sunday, Pharmacy several times a week.  
 church services, club meetings  
 walks  
 Post Office - daily; walk to library; church, dry cleaners, pharmacy  
 Roche Bros., Library, CVS  
 Walk to library, Roches Market, post office and bank.  
 CVS, playground  
 Haircuts - once every 6 weeks.  
 Grocery shopping at Roches  
 Visit friends at their home monthly.

**Where do you currently do most of your retail shopping? 663 responses**

Islington Center	276	41.6%
High Street	53	8.0%
University Station	370	55.8%
Legacy Place	349	52.6%
Other Community	154	23.2%
Online	192	29.0%
Other	56	8.4%

Dedham Old Navy TJ Maxx  
 Costco in Dedham; Wegmans, Walgreens Pharmacy

Kohls

Dedham Mall

BJ's

?

BJ's

Westwood has nothing in it - would fully support change and interesting restaurants/boutiques/town green area

Norwood and Dedham

Islington Center, If by most we are talking in terms of time spent.

costco

Shaws Plaza Medfield

BJs

South Shore Mall

local malls

Islington Center

Lambert's Farm market

Bj's in Dedham

costco, frugal fannies,

Walpole Mall

Cosco wholesale-Dedham

South shore plaza

Needham

roches

Wellesley

Needham center

Costco

Kohls

Malls

Norwood

Needham

Natick

Trader Joes (needham) and Stop & Shop

Various other places due to stores they have

Home Depot / Lowes

Dedham Mall for Carters, Childrens Place

neighboring towns

BJ

Roche Bros

Chestnut Hill Mall

catalog

Norwood, Newton

Norwood, Needham, Newton

Catalog - mail shopping

Stop & Shop in Dedham

Norwood

None of the above

phone - catalogues

Norwood

Pharmacy, Norwood, Grocery Store

Costco

Costco

Convenience

various malls - South shore, Natick

### What are the primary reasons for shopping where you do? 667 responses

Convenience	530	79.5%
Selection	400	60.0%
Price	224	33.6%
Other	29	4.3%

Accessibility for parking

Certain stores and near work

Variety

Selection of stores

Roche Bros high quality, cleanliness and community support

I like Roches Bros. CVS is convenient.

traffic/parking

loyalty to Roche Bros.

Able to connect pharmacy to md's office for electronic prescriptions; healthy food choices and congeniality of small businesses

Target store

Supporting Local Businesses

their commitment to the town

Service at Roche Brs.

Better stores at legacy

Small children at home

Better stores

Few options in town & not pedestrian friendly

other stores nearby

Locatiob

I can walk to the center.

Price and convience

Roche bros community support

AVAILABLE PARKING

I go to the store which has what I need vs shop at larger center finding what I need from some other store

Stores that are locally owned and run.

Roche Bros is just the right size and friendly

a walking village

I don't like the traffic light situation coming from Highland Glen to Islington. I think it's actually dangerous

Avoid traffic back roads to other towns.

## What types of businesses would you patronize in Islington? 664 responses

Antique Store	113	17.0%
Apparel Store	180	27.1%
Appliance Store	39	5.9%
Art Gallery	70	10.5%
Bakery	462	69.6%
Bank	209	31.5%
Bed & Bath Store	102	15.4%
Book Store	291	43.8%
Caterer	43	6.5%
Coffee Shop	473	71.2%
Childcare Facility	84	12.7%
Chiropractic Office	33	5.0%
Convenience Store	161	24.2%
Craft Store	98	14.8%
Dance Studio	55	8.3%
Dental Office	61	9.2%
Deli	287	43.2%
Dry Cleaning	237	35.7%
Electronics Store	17	2.6%
Fitness Club	91	13.7%
Flower Shop	189	28.5%
Furniture Store	24	3.6%
Gift & Novelty Store	212	31.9%
Grocery Store	317	47.7%
Hair Salon	164	24.7%
Home Furnishings Store	59	8.9%
Hardware Store	194	29.2%
Ice Cream/Yogurt	385	58.0%
Jewelry Store	40	6.0%
Law Office	14	2.1%
Medical Office	49	7.4%
Nail Salon	161	24.2%
Nursery School	114	17.2%
Office Supply Store	40	6.0%
Packaging/Shipping	77	11.6%
Party Store	40	6.0%
Pet Supplies Store	79	11.9%
Pharmacy	312	47.0%
Printing	10	1.5%
Real Estate	15	2.3%
Restaurant – Breakfast	377	56.8%
Restaurant - Casual Dining	449	67.6%
Restaurant - Fast Food	136	20.5%
Restaurant - Full Service	356	53.6%
Sporting Goods Store	66	9.9%

Shoe Store	72	10.8%
Specialty Food Store	190	28.6%
Tailor Shop	111	16.7%
Toy Store	101	15.2%
Veterinary Office	69	10.4%
Vision Office	69	10.4%
Other	42	6.3%

bike shop, wine bar

Bar-restaurant

Pub

UPS; FedEx; Clothing Consignment store for adults and teens like Plato's closet

?

Nursery School

I clicked yes to apparel but due to the number of chain stores available close by in legacy, nice boutiques would be a wonderful addition to the community.

Confusing since a lot of these exist already like grocery store and dry cleaners I am already a frequent patron at these place

Public library

Post Office

healthy food casual dining both adult and kid friendly

internet cafe, pro bono town arbitrator

A nice high end restaurant like Sweet Basils PLEASE

Knitting store

Wine store

Pub

none, I live on fairview and dont want people cutting down the street

Upscale restaurant, nice bakery, ice cream, home furnishing

Pub

Liquor store, craft beer/fine wine store, gas station

Library

I chose to live in Islington for walkability to train and basic shopping needs compared to other neighborhood s. Please maintain, and add more small store fronts for goods and services.

Library, bar

Bagel shop

I wouldn't visit if it became any more than it is now because traffic and population will be absurd and it takes away from what is there

Yoga

No chain restaurant

Organic food store, trader joes

Crate & Barrel, Pottery Barn

CVS is convenient for me.

Health Food



- children's store
- no fast food
- post office
- insurance, taxes
- library
- library
- gas station, pizza/sub shop take out
- library
- businesses that create activity
- preschool needed
- no fast food

**What is your most frequent mode of transportation to Islington Center? 665 responses**

Automobile	493	74.1%
Bicycle	7	1.1%
Bus/Van	0	0.0%
Train/Commuter Rail	2	0.3%
Cab/Uber/Lyft	1	0.2%
Walking	149	22.4%
Other	13	2.0%

**Auto & Walking**

- walking and car
- love to bike but Gay street needs separate bike lanes and/or sidewalks. It is a sin of all town administrators to have not worked to connect our community.
- Drive for groceries, walk for others
- Walking or car
- automobile, train
- automobile and walking
- automobile and walking
- automobile and walking
- automobile and walking
- automobile and walking
- automobile and walking

**Do you live near Islington Center? 669 responses**

I live in Westwood within walking distance of Islington Center	384	57.4%
I live in Westwood and not within	247	36.9%



Other		
Other		
Other		
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Other		

I would not consider living in Islington Center 290 43.9%

**What are Islington Center's greatest attributes? 635 responses**

Architecture	95	15.0%
Businesses	199	31.3%
Community services	255	0.2%
Housing	33	5.2%
Landscaping	65	10.2%
Mass transit – bus	158	24.9%
Mass transit – MBTA	271	42.7%
Parking	102	16.1%
Pedestrian and bicycle facilities	80	12.6%
Recreational facilities	222	35.0%
Traffic flow	41	6.5%
Village character	371	58.4%
Other	75	11.8%

small walkable "town center" type area.

None at this point

Do not go there much

MMO, CVS and Library

It's strange name

library and preschool

school street park

Library and preschool and school street playground

MMO nursery school

Nursery school, MMO

,The rec center, library, school street park, and baseball fields are the gems of the community. Building up infrastructure for some shops and food around this would allow Westwood to have a similar downtown to some of the other great towns in Eastern Ma-Needham, Wellsley, Belmont, Lexington, etc. This is seriously lacking for Westwood. I have friends that refuse to move here because of the lack of a nice downtown.

Library / rec center / baseball fields / school st park

has the bones to cute downtown that you can walk to and have options.

affordable housing compared to other parts of Westwood AND a walkable neighborhood

I loved the old firehouse - removing it has taken away from the character of the neighborhood.

its potential

Outside of village character, there isn't much great about Islington Center currently. It is congested, lacks adequate parking, and the merchants do not fit my needs.

Library and preschool

Nothing really

Sports

SMALL HISTORIAL TOWN

Cvs Roche brothers

Islington has the strongest community sense because there are sidewalks so neighbors can speak with one another. healthier lifestyle

Community, family friendly (library, nursery school, playground)

MMO Nursery School & Library

Nothing, it needs to be redeveloped

Having a small town center WITHIN a town like Westwood

MMO, library and

small town atmosphere

Convenience

Roche Bros

none right now. too little parking, main road too busy

MMO Nursery School/Branch Library

LIBRARY

CVS

The close knit community

none

Library

Roche Bros.

Roche brothers, Morrison park, train station, playground

We need a tennis court again.

convenience, play ground, need a dog park

It's family neighborhoods and walkability

I don't know any right now. Roche Bros?

Library, post office, restaurants, Nursery School, CVS

Library

I think some of the existing buildings could add character if rehabbed and maintained

Roche Bros and the ball field

green space

Roche Bros.

It's a lovely area, but I don't frequent it much as the area is far too congested and it doesn't contain the stores I like to do business with.

playground

Shopping. Optometrist

NONE

Can't think of any

Homey atmosphere.

playground

church, library

small town appeal

lets not lose village atmosphere

location

like the open space of it

Shopping convenience

friendly attitude

small and lovely

quaint, small

library

convenience of shopping in town

dunkin donuts

old fire house roof - santa's sleigh

close to home

Roche Bros.

### What attributes need significant improvement? 619 responses

Architecture	239	38.6%
Businesses	285	46.0%
Community services	101	16.3%
Housing	49	7.9%
Landscaping	205	33.1%
Mass transit – bus	24	3.9%

Mass transit – MBTA	37	6.0%
Parking	227	36.7%
Pedestrian and bicycle facilities	185	29.9%
Recreational facilities	97	15.7%
Traffic flow	271	43.8%
Village character	252	40.7%
Other	44	7.1%

dining out options are very limited

BRING BACK THE TENIS COURTS!! That was promised by SELECTMAN!!!

Amenities

Better businesses and overall look

Just the left off Washington onto East St.

Village character is a big one. It has SO much potential but it really does lack the charm that it could have.

Hardware store, nice gas station, coffee shop, restaurants, craft beer/wine

It would be nice to have a more village/ center feel. Restaurants, park benches near Morrison, reduce traffic on East St, make it easier to talk under rail bridge,

It appears trashy, which is not true, but it is so run down

I love it as is.

Less business

The East Street Bridge

None

nothing

none

Better access and safety for elderly pedestrians

The church building is iconic in Westwood but the town has neglected it since it became owners

Bathrooms and concession stand at Morrison Park

Clean up paint the beautiful church building, cafe diva and library

LIBRARY

Except for the Morrison and the playground that was privately funded, Islington had been neglected over the past 10 years

Very difficult to take left hand turn from Wash. to East St. when coming from Dedham

The sidewalk on the side streets (for example, on Carroll Ave, the sidewalks are in terrible shapes for years and need significant maintenance)

It'd be great if it were developed to be a true "town center" like Needham or Wellesley.

Library needs to be updated

multiple run down vacant properties. Washington street sidewalks do not feel safe. Way too busy, not safe for children and families to walk into Islington center and playground (especially from

Clapboardtree street to School Street)

Local bus service for all areas of town

It meets my needs as-is

sidewalks

more trees, more green

Need left arrow at East St

church

Street needs a new road

parking when sporting events are at Morrison. Could improve on what you already have (Village character). Area could be kept cleaner

more parking for ballpark

maintenance lacking

East St. footpaths to T

more parks & food options

senior housing

### **Do you have a favorite building, place, or destination in Islington Center? If so, please describe. 299 responses**

Morrison Park

1. Convenience of having Roche Bros in walking distance to my house. 2. The Village feel and old school neighborhood vibe of walking in to stores in your neighborhood.

Wild Blossom, Morrison Field

The church that the MMO school is in. It is that classic New England look. It is so pretty, I wish there was a way to renovate it and make better use of it.

Roche Brod

Mmo

It sounds lame, but Roche bros is so convenient

Wild Blossom, Needham Bank, RB

Roche bros

Roche bros, cafe diva, barber and CVS

library - both my kids love to read and everyone working there knows us

The church, mmo.

Roche Bros

Library

MMO Nursery School, baseball fields, School Street playground

Roche brothers

The church building

No. There isn't/hasn't been much of anything going on in Islington for as long as I can remember.

The look of the church

School Street playground

the library branch is awesome and needed!

Community center. It adds a lot of character to the area

School St. Playground, Library

School Street playground

Wild Blossom

Library

Roche Bros

Roche Bros

Islington Pizza

Favorite but most underused building is the old church Islington community center.

Why we bought the church is beyond me. Tear it down, keep the steeple and put in a cell tower. Make the property functional.

I like all of the businesses that currently exist there now and use almost all of them regularly, but the buildings that house many of these businesses need to be upgraded.

Islington Community Center

Islington Pizza

Post office

Islington Pizza and Roche Bros and Dunkin

Wild Blossom

Islington Pizza and Roche Brothers

Wild blossom

Roche brothers

Islington pizza plaza and wild blossom

Library

Roche Brothers!

ICC for boys scout meeting and Morrison field is really nice for baseball games

Library

Roche brothers

Roche Bros & library

Roche brothers

No

I've patronized Islington Pizza for years and will continue to on a weekly basis. I also regularly use CVS and Needham Bank. Moreover, I use the Islington train station every day.

MMO, Library, baseball field and play ground.

Community Center, and the library

Wild Blossom, CVS, Bank, Post Office, Cleaners, Roche Bros

Library

The Library. I like the antique building and the character.

The clock

Community center

Playground when my kids were young

Pizza store. Cvs

Community Center

park, CVS

CVS is very convenient as is the dry cleaner

Roche Bros

Islington Pizza, Post Office, Firefly, Diva, Roche Bros.

Roche bros

Mmo nursery school

I really like Isl pizza, PO area the best.

Roche Brothers; character of clock and steeple

Morrison Park

I like the older building that lend a small town feeling to the area.

Islington Pizza , CVS, Roche, Brothers, and Islington Community Center

Park, Islington Pizza, Library, Westwood Youth and Family Services

Riches Islington pizza, park, field , post office , wild blossom



Islington Community Center/CVS

Morrison Park

library and ICC

Roche Bros. Customer service and merchandise is excellent.

Islington Pizza and Roche Bros

ICC for community purposes. MMO Nursery School - definite need of a preschool in the town of Westwood.

Community Center, Islington Library

mmo nursery school

MMO Nursery school where my daughter will attend next year, we feel it's great to have such a well established and attended pre-school in walking distance to residential neighborhoods and the playground. We also love the kids programs at the Islington library branch.

Library and firefly yoga

We enjoy the Islington library and have been a huge supporter of the MMO preschool program for all of our children over the past years.

Islington Pizza

Idling ton Pizza and school street playground

MMO preschool

MMO Nursery School

Community building were my children go to MMO Nursey School and take Westwood Rec classes

MMO

Roche Bros, MMO, CVS, Barber Shop, ISLINGTON PIZZA

Mmo nursery school, pizza place, library

MMO nursery school & library

MMO Nursery school

Library, community center, preschool

The Islington Center Church

Library

Islington pizza, the playground

Pizza

Post office, Roche bros, cvs

Library, MMO and Roche Bros

MMO Nursury school

Islington Library and MMO

Cvs and post office

MMO nursery school for this kids

Youth services, library, roache bros, Morrison park

Library

Community center for my daughters girls scout meeting and the library

Roche Bros./MMO

Rec center and Library. Hands down. These are amazing.

School st park

Yes, the Islington Library I frequent with my children and the Islington community center for MMO preschool is a vital part of our community I send my 4 yr old there now and can not wait to send my 1 year old, the staff and curriculum there is the best around! I will be devastated if we lose that preschool it will be an enormous loss to our community and I will be panicked looking for a preschool for my youngest that has availability and measures up. As a resident of Westwood I can not fathom that the

town would take away an educational facility to profit when the schools in this town are such an important and well recognized part of our community.

Morrison Park

The Islington Church steeple

School street playground, Wild Blossom

Islington branch library / MMO Nursery School

Library. I love that it's all one room and I can watch my kids and look for my own books at the same time.

Islington house of pizza

The Community Center is iconic.

MOM child care and Library

islington pizza

Love the white church across from Fire Station - describes "Islington" for me. CVS is great and I enjoyed the library when my kids were at the MMO. Post Office is a nice convenience. And of course Roche Bros! Loved the old firehouse. Community center is a great building but it seems to be under utilized.

The community center adds character-wish it could offer more. I visit CVS quite often and Roche Bros.

Islington Pizza & Islington communitiy centre

Islington Comm Ctr, CVS

Roche Bros. Little League Fields and tennis courts

roche brothers

MMO

the look of the buildings, the train station

church

school St playground

Islington Pizza

Library

The Islington Community Center

The branch library

School Street playground

Library and school street playground

MMO and the library

Library

Morrison Park and Islington Pizza

I love the convenience of Islington pizza, CVS, the post office, etc.

Islington pizza

Library

The Westwood Library and Roche Bros.

Roche Bros. Post Office Library CVS Pizza

no

Islington Community Center/MMO NURSERY .. My children both went to school at MMO and I now work there

MMO building

Branch library

Cvs

Wild blossom

Community center and playground. Roche

CVS, Roche Bros, textile donation bin

ICC is the centerpiece of town and is the building my family frequents the most after Roches and the library.

THE OLD CHURCH (the community center) Love the HISTORIAL steeple give center character.

Islington Branch Library is a major asset to Islington center

Library

Roche Bros and Morrison Park

roche brothers

white church on the corner

The library

CVS and the library

Library. It has amazing activities for all age groups.

library

Church on the corner of Washington St and East street is the Architectural landmark; School street playground is the best in Westwood and can be the meet place; Roche bros hires the disabled and brings your stuff to the car particularly with toddlers in hand.

Cafe Diva -

Islington pizza!

I associate The community center church/steeple w islington

MMO Nursery School

Library, Rec Center, MMO nursery school, Post Office, Islington Pizza, Café Diva

School street playground

Sushi Restaurant

We love the Islington branch library because of its convenient location. We frequent the library more often because we can walk to it. We also love how the size of it makes it a very personal experience. The librarians know all of our names and what types of books we enjoy.

Library, Playground, post office, Wild Blossom

white community center building that hosts MMO

Diva, library

CVS, Roche Bros, Crown Cleaner, Islington Pizza

CVS and Morrison Field

Islington Branch Library

Library, Recreation and MMO buildinf

Community Center, and library. They are the epitome of small town charm that makes Islington so revered by its residents.

Islington Pizza

Morrison field

I love Islington Pizza & PO, Wild Blossom. I also love Crown Cleaners & CVS businesses buildings

Roche Brothers

The barber shop and the playground.

Roche Bros. and CVS Dunkin Donuts Cleaners

Church building

Roche bros islington pizza and orange blossom and sallieand and Roccas

Library, MMO building, Roche Bros., Wild Blossom

Morrison field, cvs, dunkins

Library, preschool and playground

Roche Bros. and ICC

Wild Blossom has been a great addition. Hopefully it lasts for a while in that location. Roche Bros. has always been great.

MMO

Library

MMO building, library

Roche Bros

Islington Pizza and the Library.

MMO and the library

Library

library

library & community center, preschool & school street playground

Islington Pizza--it's quaint, cute, and local

The Community Center! So many wonderful activities and the nursery school is close to our heart.

Roche Bros

MMO, Cafe Dive, and Firefly Yoga

MMO Nursery School, School Street playground and the branch library

The white church and it's steeple, as well as the parking lot across from CVS and the big clock and benches around it.

Roche Bros.

MMO, Library PLEASE KEEP!!!

Morrison field, School Street Playground

cvs, salli and roccos,

The Library (Old Wentworth Hall) is very important. It's a historical landmark. Roche Bros. is very convenient for shopping. Islington contains all needed services and businesses for a small town center to operate. Adding things would be good, but I'm against taking anything away.

Mainly Roche Bros. and Islington Pizza - terrific family run businesses that keep us loyal.

Roche Bros

Roche Bros, CVS, Library, Sally and Roccas hairdresser, Post office, Cleaners

Roche Brothers; character of clock and steeple

Library. Love the charm and scale of it for the neighborhood.

School street playground

MMO, Islington Community Church, library, Roche Brothers

MMO nursery school. My child absolutely loves it there. They have a wonderful program there that I hope to send my daughter to next. My husband vote would be the Chinese food!!

Islington community center- I love the look and character it gives Islington Center

Roche Bros., Needham Bank, Preschool, Playground

Roche Bros, Post Office and CVS

THE LIBRARY

Morrison field

Post office

Morrison Park, Roche Bros.,

No

Islington Library

I like the Islington Barber Shop Building

Library

Islington Pizza

Roche Bros, CVS

Roche Bros

The School Street Playground

Post Office

CVS, library, dry cleaners, post office, Roche Bros.

Islington Pizza

Roche Bros

Barber shop cotner

Roche Bros

Roche bros, post office, cvs, dry cleaners, hair and dunkin donuts

Post office block. it brings back lots of memories

CVS

Roche bros. islington pizza

Roche bros

Both Roche Bros and CVS are regular stops for my weekly routine

Roche Bros, Needham Bank

The ICC. It is a place where many things occur that involve the community.

The church building is beautiful to see as you enter Islington,

My favorite building is the white church

LIBRARY

Roche Bros and Wild Blossom

The community center building

Roche brothers

Community Church building

Playground/field

roche bros , the children's park

roches

CVS

The new fire station

Favorite building is the church and its charming steeple.

Islington Pizza great food great people

My house

Islington Barber shop been getting my cuts there since I could walk

My friends single family home

Roche bros. Friendly service, convenient, support the community and offering healthy a la carte options.

Roche bros, islington pizza, cvs

Roche brothers,school street park, community center/library

Roche bros

School street park, to take children

roche bros

Islington pizza and Crown cleaners

Post office, roche bros

library

Love the office building at 265 Washington Street

Roche Brothers

Morrison Park

I am a regular shopper at Roche Bros. I also enjoy the character of the Islington Pizza building. More buildings like this with apartments or condos above would be nice and I would definitely be interested in moving.

Only Place I go to his Roche Bros.

library

Library

Library

The community center, library and preschool

no

Cvs, Crown Cleaners, Islington Pizza

Roche Bros/CVS

School Street playground

Roche is nice! Worth the 10 min drive for me across Westwood

Roche bros and Morrison park

Morrison park, roches

the library

Church/community center

Library

Islington community center

Blue Hart tavern, nice to have some history

Roche Bros

School Street Playground

Library, but limited hours

The church with it's steeple. The p!aground. It's small town feel and look.

MMO building/community center and Blue Hart Tavern. Both have the most character.

i l

LIBRARY, CVS

The church now owned by the town

MBTA Stop (Islington stop), Roch Bro and Playground

Wentworth Hall

Really? I guess the School Street Playground.

Library and CVS although would like larger CVS.

Roche Bros. grocery store

steeple ef church

We like Wild Blossom Restaurant, it attracts our neighbors and friends. We have had several neighborhood get togethers there. Comfortable setting and the friendly staff who have come to know the neighborhood.

Branch Library

The Library

Church is a landmark I enjoy seeing. School street playground and the library get a lot of use from our family.

Library, MMO building, baseball field, playground and Roche Bors

Islington library

Islington community church center

No

The Library, it is a community gathering place and is an anchor in the community. MMO provides a great service to the community as well. The train station is fantastic for those living close to commute to Boston.

Islington Pizza, Baseball Field

Library

Park

Playground

The library

Islington Library (it's a gathering place as well as a library)

Pick Up at MMO, Roche Brothers, Post Office, CVS

That there are no apartments

No, I find it does not offer enough business (or types) where you'd walk and visit them. You drive to what you need and leave. Too much traffic where I would not want to walk with family like I would say through Lexington center or Legacy

family and youth service

Morison Baseball Field, Islington Pizza and School St Park

The Islington Branch Library

Playground, Islington Community Center and Library

School Street playground

The library is a gem and well used by all ages.

School Street Playground, CVS, Sallie & Rocco's, Crown Cleaners, Islington Library, Roche Bros

Barber shop

Roche bros

I love visiting the library and Church especially with my young nieces to show them things I grew up with that are still there. I also love going to cafe diva and walking to school at playground with a coffee.

Islington pizza

Islington church. /community center

Morrison park is beautiful

Live in retirement community

The quaint church steeple

School St playground, roche bros, MMO

Roche Bros

Roche bros

Library

Roche bros

Islington Library

Church

CVS and post office.

Church

The former church is the cornerstone of the center. That whole block should be updated with a small town character feel and quality establishments. I also would like to see the library be moved to another site. Small quality restaurants similar to Isabella's in Dedham or Olivadi's in Norwood. Outdoor seating would be a nice feature.

The old idling ton community church...its historic to islington

Branch library

Roche Bros.

Islington library

The local businesses: Islington barber, Islington Pizza, Roche Bros.

I like it's small town charm and local businesses.

I typically only use the library.

Love Chinese restaurant

School street playground

islington library

Islington Community Center (former church)

The new fire station is nice, I like the steeple on the community center (would like to keep it)

Roche Bros

Mmo nursery school

The library

Islington Branch Library

I like Roche Brothers as a market. I like the Islington Pizza shopping plaza.

library

No

library

Islington Community Church

post office, roche brothers, MMO

The Islington Branch Library. I like the small comforting feeling that you get when you go. The librarians are helpful and friendly.

Grocery store

Library

Roche Brothers

Roche Bros

barber shop

Roche Bros - it is close, has a good selection of food, and supports our community. It also isn't too big.

Islington pizza - great food and such a nice staff - known them for a while and hope they stay around

Barber shop and CVS

White former Protestant Church, corner of East & Washington Street opposite Islington Fire Station.

Identifies Islington as a peaceful rural town; a country village

ICC building, MMO Nursery School, Islington Branch Library, Post Office

Library, Church, P.O., Bank

Library, church bldg. for programs, Roche/CVS convenient

the easy access library

The library for over 30 years, the church adds to the village feel, also cafe diva

Wentworth Hall - library-so convenient and within walking distance. School Street playground.

Islington Pizza, CVS, Roche Bros., Post Office

Church on corner - I believe it is now owned by the town.

The library and community church both of which are historic and should be kept as the beloved bones of the past. The past made the present possible.

Roche Brothers

Morrison Park, School Street Playground, Wild Blossom, Barber Shop

Islington Branch Library. I love how small and quaint it is; how friendly everyone is.

Blue Hart Tavern; historic significance should be in Islington Center

playground

Roche Bros., Post Office, coffee shop

church, library

Islington Community Church, Wentworth/Library, Magaletta's historical house

Library

the church building. It is part of what a village looks like.

Library

CVS

Library

Library

Love the New England white church, love the small intimate library, love the playground

The Church and our small library. I walk my grandchildren there and we all love it.

No

School Street Playground, Morrison park



Roche Bros.

CVS, islington Pizza, Roche Bros.

Church, Roche Bros., Dunkin DONuts

Church

Cafe Diva, Barber Shop

Roche Bros.

Roche Bros.

Church, library

Area of the big clock, Roche Bros.

Cafe Diva

I love the library. Roche bros. i also a favorite

Library. Close to my home. The librarians are informative, friendly, intelligent and social. I love the antique Wentworth Hall. I brought my children and now my grandchildren.

Islington Branch Library - wish it were opened more - Like the different adult activities 7 the friendly manner. Also like the look of the islington Community Center - makes a perfect "village look"

Visually the community center. functionally the library. Open space.

Roche Bros., Library

Cafe Diva, Islington Pizza, Wild Blossom, Roche Bros.

Islington Library - a good place for meeting - multipurpose, multigenerational. School Street Playground - same reason.

I love the branch library, its small, current magazines are available, I see my neighbors there and attend book club there.

CVS, bank, Roche Bros.

Islington Library, Roche Bros.

The library. It is a nice library close to home with very friendly staff.

CVS, close pharmacy near my house.

I like the community center and the library. Both give character to Islington Center.

library

I love the library but it needs a new roof.

Library, Roche Bros.

School St. playground

MMO church

Barber shop, post office

The community church sets the New England flavor of the village, Wentworth Hall, rich in history, used by the Islington School for plays and shows twice used by catholic schools for services.

The Library - always helpful and ?

I've grown fond of the ICC, the old library building. It was nice to get a pharmacy in the neighborhood! And of course - Roche Bros! & the "post office".

The library is welcoming, informative, helpful. CVS, Roche Bros.

Library

Branch library - do not want it moved or closed.

Islington branch library

dunkin donuts

The library and Youth and Family Services

Library - convenient, friendly. Barber shop

Library, Community Center (church)

Community church, library

Playground, library, Roche. Bros.

Roche Bros., Barber shop, CVS, Library  
Roche Bros., Barber shop, CVS, hairdresser, library  
Library, post office, Islington Pizza  
Roche Bros., library  
Islington Library  
Wild Blossom, School St. park, Morrison Field  
no  
Salli & Rocco  
Roche Bros.  
Roche Bros.  
Library needs update  
Crown Cleaners & CVS Pharmacy

### What is the greatest change you have seen in Islington Center over the years? 256 responses

The new Fire Station being built  
Traffic has increased tenfold  
Energy and attention to invest in changes and upgrades. Fire station, landscaping.  
Increased east st traffic  
I've only been here for 9 years, but I find Washington St. more intimidating to walk along than I used to (although the cars have always driven way too fast). Also, the addition of a restaurant where Cold Stone used to be is a great addition. It's a place where neighbors, book clubs, and families can go out to eat or have a drink. It's a place that the kids look forward to going to as a treat. It's like having our own "Cheers" because you walk in and they know your order. I would love to have at least one other restaurant in Islington.  
Traffic  
Decline of business  
Street lamps,  
Traffic has increased. Looking forward to new fire station.  
Trucks hitting the bridge  
Landscaping  
Not enough retail  
the baseball field/ building of fire department  
Traffic - very heavy at the lights by the fire station  
New fire station  
Huge increase in traffic. There were no traffic lights at Roches when I moved here.  
The new fire station has been the biggest change I have seen/noticed in Islington in 25+ years.  
Fire dtatkn  
Amount of cars  
The current building of the new fire station  
All the new shops that have opened up.  
traffic!  
Morrison Field. School Street Playground  
lack of usable businesses  
Restaurant turnover  
Increase in traffic  
School Street playground  
It's gotten run down over time with few modifications.

The cars that try to kill people in every direction. The traffic is horrendous.

The deterioration of the old yellow buildings.

School Street Playground and Morrison Field Redevelopment

New restaurants

none

ball field and fire station

Morrison Park and new fire station

Increased traffic

Cold stone becoming wild blossom

Increase in Traffic

Small improvement in retail outlets. Would love to see more

None which is why I love it

nice landscaping added

Construction areas are unusual to see

Updating the street lights and sidewalks

Traffic

Very difficult to turn left onto East street from Washington heading toads Norwood. Also dangerous.

It's character

I like the depression of the power lines, sidewalks and clock/ lights

N/a

The baseball field

The improvements to Morrison Field. The volume of traffic at the intersection of Washington Street and East Street is too high and, in my opinion, inhibits the area from have a true village feel. With Route 1 nearby, there seems to be no reason why measure can't be taken to reduce the volume and minimize speeds along Washington Street. In my years living within a short walk from Islington, I've notice that traffic continues to increase in volume.

The horribly big fire station. The size is out of control. Please don't make other buildings match this. It's too small of a place.

Heavy traffic

Fire Station

The whole area is a disgrace and falling into further ruin. The constant change over of small businesses and restaurants. Very few businesses seem to stick for long periods of time. CVS building is a mess and not very handicap accessible and it is a pharmacy! The ramp is outside and becomes covered with ice. The building that houses MMO nursery school and the recreation department classes is deplorable. The former church should be torn down and rebuilt to code. The parking for CVS and MMO is a disgrace and very dangerous. The entire downtown area needs to be rebuilt and the space needs to be repurposed for housing and commercial living.

The addition of Roche Bros

None really

Community center

Too much traffic. Speed of cars has significantly increased. change of no red on right at fire house now causes back up of traffic making it difficult to exit street.

Traffic

too much traffic,

Stores that used to be there have left - like hair dresser and dry cleaners as well as cold stone creamery

Parking lot instead of texaco, also love the lights

the huge fire station - it will change the feel of islington

Sadly there really haven't been. Clock and trees and parking was best area you ever put in

The Fire Station

Clock landscaping

The amount of traffic is the invest change that I see.

Fire station renovation

Morrison Park

Morrison Park

School st Park and ball field

Restaurant with a bar

Morrison Park

Traffic congestion

Traffic increase

More traffic

Fire Station

significantly more traffic

We haven't been here long enough to answer

The fire station

Increase of traffic

Walkers

Don't know

J P licks closing :(

Fire house

I like that it has stayed the same.

The new fire station and revamp of the playground, new businesses - firefly

No real changes

Ball Field

Increased population causing congestion.

New business in the area where cold stone used to be. The fire house, redid playground.

Fire station

None

Less & less parking

Fire station

None that I can think of

Need and use for the community facilities

Gradual decline in the care of the center as far as commercial and Town owned properties.

Fire station will look nice, much improvement is needed to be honest. The area just doesn't look nice and there are no real destinations besides going to Roche Bros. Cell service is awful as well.

The baseball field and fire station

Baseball field

Firefly yoga and Wild Blossom

Fire station development

The fire department

Landscaping project was wonderful

More people have discovered the Center

fire station

School Street Playground renovated beautifully.

Morrison Field is awesome

more of a community, more pedestrians, more families gathering near ballpark/playground/former ice cream store

The new fire station, the parking lot and the weird Chinese Rest.

Traffic

The new ball field

Aside from retail spaces changing hands I haven't see change there in several decades. It has so much potential and of revitalized it would keep people shopping small business in our town as opposed to going to dedham or Norwood.

building up

getting rid of the yellow paint, lighting underground

Morrison Field/Fire Station

Yoga studio

Increase in traffic

I've only been in town two years, but have recently seen the changes with the fire station.

Developers who abandon upkeep of their properties

traffic

Change over in business and traffic

Fire station

More traffic

Restaurant with liquor license

Traffic traffic traffic

Increase in traffic and lack of curtesy by drivers to pedestrians.

For me it has seemed the same until now places are closed or closing

the new fire house

The baseball field

Fire station

Increased traffic

Thank God it is not bright yellow anymore, but seems we cannot keep anything where Cold Stone was. I never see people walking around there, which is a shame.

Parking

new fire station

Some of the buildings look dumpy.

Morrison Park and the School St. playground.

Improvements to Morrison field and school street playground

Stayed the same

landscape and policedept and baseball field

Roche brothers

Fire station

It is clean, the businesses are solicitous and with the fields and community center people gather together and play, garden and live.

Increase in through traffic; trucks;

The new fire station

THE HORRIFIC TRAFFIC at the corner of East & Washington streets

Traffic congestion

Traffic congestion at the intersection

too many appartments/condos

The fire station

none

Landscaping looks better

The development of the Little League field & School street playground which are wonderful

Stores closing and vacant shops

The new fire station. Not much - which is what we like. It could use a "face-lift" but not much more.

New fire station

Bad traffic. not enough parking.

Fire station/ Morrison field

Volume of traffic.

I haven't seen much change, need to add more recreational buildings, restaurants

Making it safer, but it's still not safe enough.

More traffic

The idea of a developer coming in and building condos and rental properties

None

Fire station remodel

nicer now than ever before

Morrison Park updates

It was sad to see the Congregational Church close (not that I am religious). I wish the town could make better use of that facility. Also, the traffic on Wahington Street gets worse every year. It would be great to have a left turn light for people turning onto East St., driving southbound on Washington.

Traffic has gotten worse

Morrison Field, Fire House

Roche Bros getting larger

Fire Station.

a better selection of businesses

Increase traffic; looming over-sized fire department

more children

Traffic and limited parking

The dugouts at Morrison Field, and mostly the things that haven't changed.

The sports fields are very well maintained. The new fire station will be a wonderful addition as well.

more commercial

The renovation of Morrison field and the fire station

The repainted little league snack shack and the re-doing of the tennis courts before they were ripped down.

Nothing. It is a misused space

Morrison Park

new firehouse

Upgraded Outdoor recreational facilities

left off Washington onto east in front of fire station used to be no left on red. was changed to left OK on red. This made flow of traffic on east more steady and created more difficulty getting out of fairway neighborhood from Smith onto east

The change in nature of businesses over the decades.

Improvement in Morrison Field, upgrade to buildings like CVS & Roche Bros., traffic flow.

loss of businesses

Fire station renovation

increased traffic on Washington Street

Traffic. We live on Pine Lane and the increase in speed down our street has been a real negative. I value the vitality of our Center but traffic lights and other speed devices need to be installed to help with the expected increase that will happen as this area becomes a more vital center.

Deterioration of buildings, roadways and landscape, the last 10+ years It's been very neglected by the town

Not a lot has changed in 6 years. Ice cream out--> Chinese in. New fire station

Its losing the village look- Ugly buildings and oversized firehouse

Needham Bank

Do not think it has changed much in 50 years except for changes of stores

INCREASE IN TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES

Morrison field

The new fire station

Increased traffic

Nothing. Maybe the fire station.

Use of Islington Church for town

lack of parking and a lot of traffic coming from I95.

Morrison field upgrade, new fire station

The new ball field

Lack of character and design. Vacant buildings.

I was never so glad to see that awful yellow paint go from buildings!

The corner with the fire department and the baseball diamond

gigantic new fire station, too big!!!

the different businesses

No more yellow buildings

Village feel and municipal lot

Increased traffic

Amount of traffic

too much traffic

Increased traffic congestion

Added traffic

increase in traffic and business turnover

more traffic and for the positive - the elimination of utility poles

Getting too busy. Too much traffic.

Traffic increases and lots of tree removals

Fire station, municipal parking lot

Much more traffic. Buildings are becoming run down

TRAFFIC

Improvements with the street lamps which add character

Not sure

reconstruction of Washington St.

the fire station the baseball field cvs

not much which I like

Fire Station

New bike racks along Washington street and the upgrades to Morrison Field. Wild blossom is also a great change as it brings a good quality of dining and is a great place where people do gather.

The traffic is awful. The parking is limited. In the afternoon east street is backed up to the rotary. The morning east street is backed up to Smith. Now we have a jumbo fire station.

The new ball park is nice

Morrison park

Nothing, possible useless fire station rebuild that I guess must shoot the first trucks out a lightning speed towards the direction of a fire. Considering a house burned down a block away from the old station.

Morrison Park & Fire Station

New fire station looks nice

New fire station - this should make the area look nicer. Many of the buildings closer to Dunkin donuts look ugly and run down

Stores need a facelift, fresh competition

fire station/ getting rid of coldstone ice cream

No change

the area is more walkable with pedestrian lights at the major intersection, the trees and lighting have added a lot.

Not a lot really. Just painting the post office block yellow.

too much traffic

Fire Station

Keeping up with larger and trendier destination spaces like Legacy Place in Dedham.

TRAFFIC and lack of planning with respect to access--ex. CVS try getting in and out of there with traffic on East. St. With larger and wider SUVs width of roadway under bridge is a major concern in addition to height.

Morrison Field

Ballpark fire station

Traffic, parking problems-it takes forever to get through islington and then you get there and no parking for baseball games etc

not much has changed

looks the same to me.

More traffic

Traffic flow improvement

Upgrades to Morrison park

losing the tennis court

making it more pedestrian friendly

The exterior of the church/community center is not maintained. Heavy traffic is a constant and needs monitoring by police. Difficult and dangerous crossing Washington St.

No change, meaning no improvement to the look of the buildings

Traffic

Washington St makeover, painting of Magaletta block a less jarring yellow

Traffic, getting too busy

Loss of tennis courts. Not happy to see it torn down

More care, community center

In the fifty years or so that I can remember the retail buildings have not changed much but the tenants have. The biggest retail change was when Roche Bros. opened. The community changed when the Islington school was taken down and the playground replaced it.

Fire station and park updates

The fire station

**TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES**

The rehab done over ten years ago that have us the parking, street lights, etc

Increased residence taking MBTA at Islington stop.

The loss of business, increased traffic, bifurcation by Washington Street

School Street Playground. The new fire station looks like it'll be nice although it's not a public 'convening space' per se.

Do not visit Islington enough to know except problems with traffic.

too many garishly bright yellow buildings

heavy traffic and right turn on red

The new Morrison Field.



Traffic

Lack of upkeep high rents

Increased traffic

Change of landscape, parking and sidewalks

There hasn't been much change, except for more traffic.

There hasn't been any real change

New baseball field

Firehouse

Morrison Field and the number of street signs warning people there's a low bridge.

Increased Traffic

greatest change was the repainting of all the hideous yellow buildings

Traffic

That there are no apartments

Ball field; School street playground

not much

The School St park improvement as well as Morrison Baseball field.

I've only lived here 5 years but I love the convenience. Shopping, recreational facilities, library, post office and access to bus and train and 128 are all within walking distance. I hope that we can keep the village feel in Islington while growing and changing to become a relevant modern town center.

Too much traffic

Too much traffic and speed of cars, no right on red at fire station now increases traffic and makes it VERY DIFFICULT to access 1 A from our street

The new firehouse

Poor traffic flow. We finally have a no turn on red but need an arrow for left turn from CVS to East St.

The new fire station, firefly yoga studio

paving project

Enormous fire station

better parking

Increased traffic flow

The consistency of no change . An ice cream shop was nice.

Fire station

new fire station

ugly fire station

I grew up in Westwood, and lived here '78-'96. Moved back in 2014. Biggest change in Islington CVS-Roche Bros sells wine!

New Fire Station

Traffic

New Restaurants

morrison park

The increase in traffic & lack of safe parking

Too much traffic. It's out of control. Makes me want to avoid it some times.

Repurposing of Community Church building and construction of the new fire station.

the insane fire station that is way to large for the plot of land it is in.

Beautification, sidewalks, trees

The great playground on school street

Morrison Field enhancements (and now the new fire station)

Lack of upkeep of properties

TRAFFIC! Please go back and check the WW/Univ Station traffic studies for 2015-2020. Were they right? Considering the final development is half what was originally planned? NEW TRAFFIC STUDIES BEFORE ANY NEW DEVELOPMENT!

Congestion

No real sense of coordinated amenities, no feel of village center, not a place to walk to.

Morrison Park.

More and more traffic, buildings becoming run down and tired

Not enough improvement.

TRAFFIC FLOW

decline in condition/ appearance of buildings

The center has been updated and the landscaping has improved

Traffic

Increase in traffic.

traffic increase

Yellow paint is gone from buildings

new fire station

Morrison Field

more traffic

The traffic at the intersection of East Street and Washington Streets is horrible. The bridge is awful. You never know when a truck will hit it and cause you not to be able to get through.

No change

Landscape etc

More traffic congestion

Not much

The School St. Playground renovation was great when my kids were younger. It may need a refresh soon.

Landscaping, underground electric line, very little has been done. I guess Islington is the black sheep of Westwood, and some people who live here hate that.

Traffic - Commuters using Washington St., 1A, to avoid travelling on Route 1, Providence Highway, (early morning and late afternoon).

too much traffic

Not much.

Traffic (NEED MORE GREEN SPACE!) and now that UGLY fire station - TOO LARGE ... out of character with rest of Ctr. Should be with the UGLY University Station

fire station

The Morrison Park upgrading, the new fire station

Traffic (especially during commute hours)

Traffic

More traffic congestion.

Increased traffic and congestion. No real "destination spot" that is with happy anticipation.

Traffic

New fire station and improvements to baseball fields

Traffic. It is so hard to take a left hand turn under bridge. Finally at least you can cross the street since you finally took away the right turn on red at the new fire house. Hope you keep that. I gave up walking to Roches because it was so hard to cross there before.

oversized new fire station

change of businesses, traffic

loss of walkable community, no reason to go to Islington

traffic, lack of parking

Traffic increase

Traffic

traffic

More traffic

Traffic

Too much traffic. Town does not tend to needs outside the library or church.

Too much traffic. Some buildings "shabby" Need painting. Town does not always care for grounds at library and white church.

The new fire station

It's become more run down and trashy

NA

new firer station

Church close, bus depot gone, Rioche Bros. came in

Too much traffic for a village character

Sidewalks

Sidewalks

New baseball park and firehouse

traffic

No changes

Very little has changed in 37 years

The closing of all the small businesssed there.

Improvement of fields and now new fire station.

Seems to be more traffic. Like having Roche bros.

Playground. Roche Bros. Increased traffic congestion

New fire station and new commercial building - huge improvements over the old. Can't wait for the construction to be finished so everyone can see how good it looks

Increase in traffic

The traffic is horrendous. I'd hate to see more buildings/people/cars added at the intersection of Washington St. & School St. as it can handle the current traffic.

Taking the Texaco Service Station to put in the parking lot. New fire station.

The still in construction phase of the horrid fire station.

busy

The increase in traffic in the area.

traffic - less parking available for sports

Finally got rid of that awful yellow and red.

Fire Station

Improvement of rec fields (Morrison) and Fire Station

It hasn't happened yet. The apartment buildings are a real disappointment to me. Its going to change the area. Not for the better.

Little League Baseball field, Roche Bros., Fire Station

The ball fields are a real plus, town parking lot on Washington St. is a winner. However traffic in general is a problem, number of cars, noise.

shopping malls, traffic flow increase

Too much traffic. The upgraded playing field is very nice.

traffic flow

Lack of small businesses.

Different types of businesses. Not all changes are improvements.

traffic

too much traffic

Traffic from Norwood and Norwood businesses.

Poor maintenance by the Town. Traffic

Traffic. Needs more care.

East St. back up traffic to golf course. Traffic and accidents, Traffic lights on East St.

New fire station

Roche Bros. - great; yellow buildings - odd then, unique now. Redesign Wash/East St this intersection is too wide for pedestrians, traffic

more traffic

Opening of Roche Bros. store

none

none

a lot busier

East St. lights; Roche Bros. in and out lanes.

Removal of Texaco Station to make parking lot, landscaping and clock improved greatly.

Slowly making commercial building improvements

increased traffic . loss of tennis courts

### What do you hope never changes about Islington Center? 237 responses

it village feel - only improved.

The quaint village feel

Adding commercial business (coffee shop, pub/tavern) that add to the neighborhood feel and draw more people there.

Church steeple

That it is walkable. I hope the traffic doesn't become so bad on Washington that people don't feel safe walking. I hope that the businesses that support core needs of a community (grocery, coffee, nursery school, library, public transportation) also remain - its very nice to know that you can be without a car but still have access to all the essentials.

New England Village feel

Quaintness

I don't want to see any changes that would result in increased traffic.

Walkability

Small town feel

It's character

Village feel and that you can walk everywhere.

The church library nursery school. It looks like an old New England town. Keep it that way. Don't turn us into Dedham.

The small village feel

Village feel/ uniqueness

quaint small town feeling. I would not want businesses that would draw too much traffic.

Community feel to Islington.

That it turns into a busy shopping area. It needs to be more like Norwood, Needham and Medfield centers

Better traffic flow ~

Morrison field & church

Raising the bridge

It's village/small town character

I hope the Islington Commuter Rail stop never changes location.

it's small town feel

The look of the community center

Ability to walk to stores, variety of options for shopping

small town feel but do want more shops and restaurants

Charm

I don't want the railroad bridge raised I. Height. Will only increase traffic

Owner occupancy. Post Office, CVS, Roche Bros and bus stop.

The small town feel

Playground. Baseball field.

Don't make it like Dedham with the horrible oversized buildings.

Nothing the buildings need a complete overhaul, keep the current businesses but clean up the buildings.

village feel

Over crowded, too much traffic and too much congestion in an already small area

Village community feel

ISLINGTON PIZZA CANT BE TAKEN AWAY

Character

Walkability

Community feeling and walk ability

Town services

small town feel

I like small shops and village feel

Library

Lose Roche brothers....

Library

Nothing, I have no attachment to it

Roche brothers

I hope the retail stores, community center, library, and park facilities remain.

No more apartments!!!! No condos! Keep the business we already have.

No apartments and condos. It will ruin the town.

No apartments

traffic

The library is the only building in Islington Center that I think adds character to the area. The rest of the buildings are embarrassing tear downs. I really like the tall clock I can see from the library. Personally, I would not want to live over commercial space. I would prefer to live next to it as I would prefer to live on the first floor. How about some town houses?

The village atmosphere

The small town feel. Please don't consider large national brands. Do not "gap-ify" the area.

Small, character

Village character

Village feel and livability for children

Community center building on corner

Convenience and limited traffic

No more apartments/condos, never close library

I do not want any more apartments built in Islington. I understand the developer is putting in 12 apartments, but my wish, as a long term Islington resident is that no additional apartments go in. It would be lovely to have more businesses added, in addition to the current ones there.

walkability

Little library

All of it.

Nursery school

I hope the character of aisle center never chS gee. I love the quaint small town feel it gives off.

Community feel. Would be disappointed in too much commercialization but some influx of business would be nice.

Character and village feel

The small town look & sense that it's got some history.

Park and Westwood Youth and Family Services

No apartment buildings

Destruction of ICC. CVS.

Community feel

The character of the area (old New England) the Library and ICC

Hometown feel

baseball fields, Roche Bros, retail offerings... but need more retail/dining options there

The small town environment. Keep small businesses and local feel.

small business feel, walkability

always has a library and nursery school

The library branch and the pre-school

The small town feel I do not want a Dedham center. That's just gross and has made a mess

I hope the preschool, library, baseball fields, and pizza shop remain the staple of this small commercial area, it's why we moved to Westwood.

The history of it

MMO nursery school

Keep the character and vital facilities that are there

MMO stays!!!

Would never want to lose the Community Center building and see the center become all commercial businesses

MMO

The current businesses that are in place should stay there, I do not want to see more apartments or housing in this area.

Mmo nursery school

MMO nursery school & library

The historical church / library and nursery school. This town needs pre-schools and MMO is a great pre-school and the largest in town. Education is one of the top reasons we moved to Westwood and it would be a real shame to see MMO have to close its doors for more commercial space in Islington. Legacy Place and University Station are less than 5 minute drives away and the commercial space on Route 1 in Norwood, Dedham and Walpole are less than 10 minute drives away.

Library, community center and preschool

MMO nursery school

Small town feel.

The local pizza place, the homes, the cvs, the Roche bros.How it is not a congested area and has the right amount of parking and businesses.

Its lack of apartment buildings

It's a walkable center

It's character, the library and MMO

The Nursury school & New England charm of buildings (spire of church etc)

Islington Library and MMO

Quaint

The small town feel.

Child care and yoga

Church, community center, Morrison park, No Apartments!!!!!!

Library

Village feel and architecture

Amount of dwellings

I would hope the old tavern/Magalettas Old office Building. Would find a new home when it's moved somewhere in the center and be restored to it's former glory.

Please do not make this another university station. Make it charming. Keep the library and rec center and build around this. Look at Belmont Center, they got a liquor license about 10 years ago and their downtown was drab and now it is booming. All businesses, besides CVS and Starbucks, are small businesses but do well and have had longevity.

Rec center/library. Two lanes of traffic in each direction should also be kept.

As described above I do not want to lose the library or Islington community center as we use that for preschool and attend Westwood Rec programs there.

Morrison Park

the quaint New England feel to the area

Available businesses school and public library

The community center and library moving.

Library and MMO nursery school

The library

The great New England type buildings. Library. Old church.

I wish it to remain the same

no more traffic, cant get kids to after school activities in a timely manner, i also hope we dont have apts there, we are not a city

We keep the Village character (including the white church) while updating the buildings and introducing a casual restaurant for friends and family to meet for a HEALTHY bite to eat. Also important is to NOT increase traffic on Washington Street much.

small "4-corners" new england town feel.

I like the clock and the four way stop. Would like to go back to the right on red in front of the fire station (after waiting for pedestrians).

The community buildings

Islington comm ctr

the volume of vehicle traffic

Nothing!! Major change is needed. More retail shops. We definitely don't need anymore nail salons, real estate offices or dry cleaners in Westwood.

small charm

Keep the small town feel. No large apartment complexes

MMO

walkability, bikability

the church

Ice cream place

The small town feel

The traffic patterns, specifically having the MBTA bridge expansion project happen so that walking paths and safety are improved.

The library, ICC, field, playground, village feeling

playground

Daycare and library

I don't want to lose the preschool and the community feel of the community center, library, and preschool

It's charm

Increase in apartments

I hope it does not become too busy and overcrowded and create lots of traffic

Moving the library

It's delivery of community services directly to those in the area.

I would hope it to remain a nice convenient shopping center area with Roche Bros. a post office, the library eating places with convenient shopping like Cvs or Walgreen's, party stores, small business buildings, nice housing complex would be fine. Make it a nice Westwood Village Center with lots of small great shopping and eating experiences.

nothing

The beautiful building of MMO

The small town look

Village character

Additional residential housing

The character of the village.

Not to be overbuilt with 4-5 stories building multi-units to filled with people that have no interest in our town.

I hope there is no housing added to Islington center.

cafe diva

its charm

No new housing.

The library, ample parking

I hope that they do not put condos and apartments there. Right now it is a place of community. With more apartments and condos the traffic will make it impossible for residents to walk to the center of town. With the east street rotary we are cut off from going that way on foot. If traffic increases around the bridge and center of town we will be cut off and not be as likely to go to islington center.

the village apperance we do not need mulitple large retaleor housing projects

Small town features

The quaintness

The community closeness!

See above

MMO Nursery School & the library

Its since of community and not over crowding with multi unit condos and apartmants

Small town feel (no big box stores)

The small town feel of it. I'd hate to see any chain restaurants or stores go in. I like how I can walk my kids to preschool and get basic errands done on my walk home- drop off dry-cleaning, drop off library books, pick up items at CVS, and mail packages at the post office.

its village character. Please keep the white community center building (MMO building)!

No condos/ apartments

All of it.

Ease of parking, convenience of entering shops, small-town feel

No apartments, or at least a very limited number! That completely changes the dynamics, irreversibly, by having a significant number of people who are not invested in the community long term. Also, Islington already needs more business traffic and apartments would take away from that.



The community feeling

No more housing, I would like to see community focused small businesses. I like the current walk-ability and convenience.

The small town feel - not big development/housing/apartments - they are simply not needed. There are 3 large apartment complexes all within 1- 1 1/2 miles of Islington Ctr. (new development in Norwood, Legacy Place & University Station.

It should remain a small community center and does not need housing. We have that at University Station.

the small town feel

We do not need more housing

I hope the character & small town feel, safety of Islington Ctr never changes.

Small town look

Local businesses that you can walk to easily.

The small town village image

The small town charm.

I hope it doesn't become more residential. We don't need it

The community and neighborhood feel. I DO NOT want rental condos in the center. I am AGAINST the apartments. I DO NOT want Islington Center to become a transient section of Westwood where people move in and out because they are renting the apartments. I am ok with some updates to the facade of the current businesses

Parking at Morrison. I would hate to see apartment buildings

Library - the location, not the building per se

hop[e] it never becomes a center with over sized buildings

Character

Everything we need is right there, and within walking distance.

I would hate to lose MMO or the library. We need community services on this side of town. After all we pay the same tax rate! Not to mention MMO is the biggest preschool in town. Would Westwood really force it's students to seek school outside of town?!

Small town center feeling

Do not remove the MMO building. Please do not add any more living apartments/condos. We need the parking.

The branch library

Roche Bros

The small village feel. It is why we live here.

MMO is a fantastic preschool and fulfills a tremendous need in Westwood. Preschool placement is already tight in town, it would be heartbreaking to have to seek preschool outside of town because there was inadequate schooling available in Westwood. My husband and I grew up in town (and attended MMO as children) we love the small town advantages of Westwood. Excellent schools are one of the reasons we returned here to raise our family. Making friends in preschool and going on to enter Kindergarten together is an important part of the small town experience that we both remember and hope to provide for our children

library; church building; village character

family quaint landscaped calm area

The character of the area. Keep the library and the ICC

The small community feel and the small businesses

The community "village" feel.

small town feel

MMO

I hope Islington center will never change and stay the same, I like the small village character, we do not need a multi-familial over commercial with many units-codominium and all the busy activities that will generate from this new center.

I hope Islington center will never change and stay the same, I like the small village character, we do not need a multi-familial over commercial with many units-codominium and all the busy activities that will generate from this new center.

the old quite atmosphere / we don't need apartment building around Islington

MMO nursery school and school street playground

The small town feel, the little businesses, the family-friendly vibe, the non-commercial aspect of Islington

It needs to be redeveloped with some nice retail and restaurants so that it becomes an attraction. The town needs to let go of the ICC and the Library. Both are prime real estate locations that could be brought additional tax revenues to the town. Move family services somewhere else and if MMO can afford to stay there then let them.

Small village feel

PLEASE don't make it look like Dedham center please! It's terrible and would ruin our little village!!

Traditional New England architecture

small town charm. baseball field.

The Library, Roche's and the Post Office.

Easy access and limited business/residential units. Any additional draw will simply add one more location we're we've overbuilt. As it is now, needs help with parking in and around CVS/Community Center/Post Office areas.

character

The above businesses continue without excessive traffic. The library is an important part of the local community.

Community feel. Would be disappointed in too much commercialization but some influx of business would be nice.

mix of useful businesses and ability to walk among the same

That it feels like ours. It's not over commercialized and the scale and the architecture of the buildings stay true to the few historic landmarks (Church building and small wooden structures).

Preschool

The iconic character which is the Church building, yellow historic blue bird tavern, town services and the library. Destroy or move them and you will destroy what has made Islington special and beautiful for generations.

Small community downtown feel.

I would hate to see Islington become too commercial - I think aside from Roche Bros- only small shops should be there Its too small for any big box stores

Character

The East St. Bridge (keep it low), Roche Bros., location of preschool,

Do not want condos or apartments

THE LIBRARY REMAINS THERE

It's a great spot to watch a ball game...just lousy parking!

Sidewalks -hope they always stay

The character! The architecture is a little eclectic, but the area has character. Please don't allow a generic design that strips Islington of its character...it should still feel like you're in Islington. The historic buildings add to the feel of the area so hopefully they can remain and be incorporated somehow.

Small town feel

I want everything to change. More cool shops.

## Islington Library

keep the library, post office, barber shop, bank, grocery store....these are necessities the people need, especially elderly people

It's small town feel

Small town charm

Everything can change. Keep cvs and Roche brothers.

It has a small town feel but is close to MBTA services

Roche Brothers and the Islington Commuter Rail stop

the small town character, NO HOUSING!

I hope you do not push the business out that are already there. Although my children no longer attend MMO, I hope it stays. I know many families that go there and also mothers who are employed there. It is a staple. Keep islington Center children friendly.

the quaintness

The quaint village feel

I hope Roche Bros never leaves.

Village feel

The small town look and feel

Character

Roche Bros

I wish you would leave it alone. We have everything there that we need. We don't need any more businesses. Needs some work on outside appearance that is all. (Paint, business signs)

The character of Islington and the historic buildings

The white church

the village feel

LIBRARY

Community Center building and village-feel

The character

Playground

SMALL TOWN FEELING

Playground

the traffic flow on my street

Little League space

Maintaining Islington branch library is a must to serve all group ages.

The small character of Islington and not what happened on university ave. What began as a destination for shopping in Westwood with small, unique stores with outdoor cafes, new restaurants and community building on University Ave turned into a place to just run errands and drive around a large parking lot. If you want to meet friends to shop and dine you go to legacy or other surrounding towns like medfield and Wellesley. If you need to run errands and grab a fast food meal to go, you go solo to university ave. Look to medfields new restaurant called Avenue. It's not a chain, its in a charming historic restored building and it's packed with people.

The people there's no need to start building apartments of condos it'll only drive us long time folk out and raise the prices for the rest

Leave it how it is

The sense of an actual neighborhood the fact I can walk around the block and see how the old folks are holding up and see their grandkids running in the same lawns I did as a kid

Quiet community with wonderful nieghbors, minimal minorities and lower class citizens on welfare.

Aesthetic appeal of the community housing.

Love the Islington Community Center façade. Only remaining place that shows character.

Roche brothers, community center, ball fields and parks

Small town look and feel, walkable

Village feel, availability of rentals should be limited to keep continuity of neighborhood

the accessibility to the Islington community

I hope it never loses it's small village like appeal!!!

better traffic...you would need to improve parking if developed

It all ready has

The character of a beautiful and quaint downtown neighborhood.

Density and traffic. Why even consider some of the businesses on survey when can't even support those at Univ. Station. Should focus on small businesses such as CPA, law practices--businesses that do not generate significant traffic.

The quaint feel of a small town center-it just needs some improvement.

Library, community center, post office, D&D, Roche Bros., Islington train station

Library

The community center, preschool and library. Those are what makes the center special for all the families on this side of town. We don't have any other preschools close. Our schools are what make this town great and desirable. To destroy a library, community center and preschool to put in condos and retail is a huge mistake and bid loss for all of our young learners. Also, Traffic is already a mess on East street. Could you imagine putting condos and retail shops above the post office on 109? It would never be approved.

some retail ( no more nail salons) and condos

The businesses that already exist

Village feeling

The community center

The playground and Morrison park

More restaurants, psrking

how convenient it is

More parking and greater facilities at the commuter rail station

Want it to look quaint and not big box stores

Village feel of Islington community center and library

Character and would like small center town charm

Community feel. Don't want transient residents and proliferation of apartments

character and convenience, not to lose services and places that we have already

The iconic white church building as the centers focus. The town branch library. The current residential business mix. The look of the center with no retail buildings over two full stories in height.

MMO building/community center. It's the main focal point of all pictures I see of the area.

The small town fell of the center - I do not want lots of tall, brick buildings - I would love a feeling similar to Wellesley -- NOT Dedham!!

THE MIX OF RETAIL AND HOUSING

The church

The residential and community feel. We would not want to have any mass housing for elderly and/or low incoming household in the neighborhood. Also, The Islington MBTA stop is in a perfect location and we would like it to remain there.

The rural character; School Street Playground

Roche Bros.

N/A

Improve traffic flow if increase commercial space. Already a nightmare like 109.

the community building (former church)

village character

more of a town center look with open space and more retail and condos

The charm.

Branch Library

The character

Character of small stores, short buildings, wide sidewalks. It feels like a small community even with the chain store Cavs due to the look and feel of the district.

I hope it doesn't get too large. Please do not turn our small center of town into an urban jungle. It already has too much traffic as is. Please do not add any more apartments. There is too much at stake with apartments. There is no real commitment for people in apartments for the area.

Walk ability to community offerings

Islington community church Center, library and most of islington center

Charm

The small town feel.

Library

Small simple feel

No multi unit apartments

Mix of shops, restaurants and community services (e.g. post office, library)

The library goes away; old-time character (as reflected by older buildings)

The village feel

would not like to see all apartments

I fear the potential changes will make the traffic worse.

That there are no apartments

Keep store fronts up to the sidewalks w/ parking in back. Feel of a center w/o big box type buildings / stores

Community/village feel. No need to develop a huge multi-room apartment complex. If anything, improve space for small businesses, coffee shop, bakery, breakfast restaurant, etc.

not really

I hope to never see big box retail stores take over the center.

The cozy feeling, mixed generational residents, easy and convenience.

The village look & feel

the character of the small village

The neighborhood feel and want village feel to remain with look of village

Roche Bros

It would be nice to have a more consistent look throughout the area conducive to walking around to different stores. A variety of stores.

I don't want a giant CVS where the church is. It isn't fair to those with homes there.

Islington Library, School Street Playground, family-friendly/focused community and small businesses, Roche Bros.

the number of apartment buildings

the name

Roche bros

The buildings.

Islington church

Should stay a gathering space for community

place is important to people who can walk to library, etc.

it's quaint scale and appearance

Playground, Ballfield, basketball court, old buildings, (ie Tavern)

Sense of community

Quaintness

Character

The quaintness

Morrison

The small town feel that is so unique compared to Dedham & Norwood

Village feel

Please keep it small. No more apartments or condos. Traffic be out of control, there will be no parking. New England style appearance of the community church building.

Please don't let it get to be too large and over crowded like Dedham center. That place is a nightmare! I choose my house because the convince of the highway. Every year the traffic gets worse. If you add more apartments and condos it will be out of control!

28 apartments, no thank you. How about no apartments.

Village character with good support services and decent upscale dining experiences. Upscale shops and quaint, friendly establishments

I hope the ICC stays

Village feel - presence of community services, including library and family type services

Village look, historic buildings

Village atmosphere, walkable

I hope it does not become a cluster of apartment buildings thus creating a transient community.

It's small town feeling, but with easier navigating and parking.

hope we never have too many apartments

Always want the library! We love it. The playground.

Bring character back to Islington. Make it more inviting.

residential character

Leave the church and library!!

Please keep the branch library!

Small town feel

the small village feel; quaint feeling > don't make it look like a strip mall

Roche Bros.

Character- do not want apartments

The small shops.

Small-town (village) feel

Not to be over developed business / housing wise. Limited increase of appropriate selections in both categories would be fine but not to over do it. It should retain a small town feel to it.

village appearance

It needs a lot of change.

branch library

Islington Community Church

hope it's not an apartment complex

The nice village feeling.

Dont know

It needs a major face lift

I hope the traffic never becomes a problem. No "improvement" or change is worth that. The Westwood planning board and selectmen have created a traffic nightmare and ruined Canton Street. I wonder if they truly believe that making Blue Hill Drive a dead end street was a wise idea. The truth is, it has affected far too many people in a bad way. It would have been preferable for University Place to have NEVER been built.

Availability of the stores we rely on. CVS is convenient as are the hair salon and barber.

Islington pizza!!

I love the charm, but I think it is too costly to move a building--just tear it down. I hope the town is not paying for the moving of some old tavern?

Its Rustic Charm

The beautiful white church. It represents Islington and gives our town the New England feel.

Church - only character in the center.

Leave it alone!!

the village feeling, the church, the library, barber shop, Cafe Diva

The village appearance and cozy feeling. The Library MUST remain - it is such a warm, personal place, welcoming all ages from babies, toddlers, teens up through seniors.

small town flavor

Small community atmosphere

Please no big box stores.

Warmth and homey village feeling.

Upscale, but still warm and inviting with respect for the old and beloved buildings.

Roche Brothers

Morrison Park and School Street Playground

I hope the village character doesn't change. We don't need it to look like Dedham center with all those tall buildings. We don't need to have all those apartments. There are plenty of apartments for rent in Dedham, Norwood & University Station. Don't let that contractor take over our town too.

the historic buildings on the corner including Wentworth.

playground

small town feel

The village which includes the church building and the library. The church imparts a New England town image. Let us keep it.

Islington Community Church, Wentworth Hall

Corner church

A village feeling.

location of the train station

?

The way it is!!

The way it is!

The small New England character, progress is good, but let's not "our" Islington Village look like Rt. 1 - "Big Stores" tons of apartments and not pedestrian friendly!!

The Village character.

Keep the recreation areas. Don't build too many big brick buildings.

Nothing

?

Its quaintness with the past only

village atmosphere

The Church

Character

I hope it gets better

village character, no tall buildings

Ballfields and playground

the location

Small Village Feeling!! Safety of Pedestrians! No 3 story Buildings! Height Limit!!

The typical village look of the Community Center with the steeple. i hope the town doesn't sell or trade its property. Improve what you have. Hopefully one person doesn't control the character of this area. Want to avoid creation of a densely populated project that negatively impacts current residents. Do not want concentration of ownership by one entity.

Islington itself. Don't need Big Buildings, offices, etc. Keep the small village feeling.

Trees and recreation areas

Feeling of community

I'd hate to see Islington Center filled with apartment buildings because there's no traffic access and its already chaotic and dangerous for walking. Islington Center is not Dedham Center.

Leave as is.

Former Islington Church, the most attractive building on Washington St.

library and sports center

It's appearance.

Appearance

I never want the village feel to change. The community center and little branch library really add to the feel that residents like.

Don't take my library.

the quaintness

The village feel. I hope we don't lose the library and the post office.

Community

I hope it doesn't become too commercial looking or add apartments/rental home space.

Please leave the church and the MMO building, library and CVS. I would hate to see these businesses leave.

East St. access to 128 & Dedham, post office, barber shop, Roche Bros., Needham Bank.

No turns on right after stop and should all be taken down and double lane in front of cvs should be eliminated. Bridge on East St. - it is time for it to go.

small-town (village) character

The fact that it is a local shopping area for "our" side of town - post office, library, grocery, pharmacy, etc.

small-town feel

The village character, the church and the library.

It's look. DO NOT CHANGE LIBRARY OR COMMUNITY CENTER.

I like it the way it is.

Islington Library

the quaintness

Village character/small town look

The character (sense of community); small town feeling; unique (not copy cat of other towns); our fabulous library.

Small town feeling.

Roche Bros., CVS, Post Office, Fire Station, Train and Bus Service

Low density character.

We need affordable preschool.

existing businesses can stay

small local library

Commuter rail stop

Roche Bros.

becoming too commercial

Architecture = keep village look.



Village character.

Church building gives it character.

The small town character

I hope that the traffic never reaches the point that it is impossible to access the center; currently, there are actually times of the day when this is the case.

### How old are you? 668 responses

Under 18	4	0.6%
18 – 25	15	2.2%
26 – 35	55	8.2%
36 – 55	392	58.7%
56 – 70	131	19.6%
Over 70	71	10.6%

### Where do you work? 612 responses

Islington Center	23	3.8%
Westwood, outside of Islington Center	103	16.8%
Dedham	34	5.6%
Norwood	26	4.2%
At home	121	19.8%
I am a student	13	2.1%
I am retired	94	15.4%
I am currently unemployed	20	3.3%
Other	244	39.9%

Needham

Boston

Boston

Waltham

Wellesley

Boston

Boston

Boston

Boston

Needham

Canton

Boston - MGH

Newton

Boston

Boston

Natick

Walpole

Boston

Brookline

Hyde Park

Boston  
outside of Westwood  
Waltham  
Boston  
Boston  
Sharon, MA  
Newton  
Newton  
Brookline  
Boston  
Quincy  
out of town  
Various locations as a consultant  
Franklin  
Hyde park  
Wellesley  
Brigham and woman's Hospital  
Quincy, canton, boston  
Milton  
Foxboro  
Boston  
Self Employer Contractor; work locally  
Boston  
Wellesley  
Boston  
Boston  
Boston  
Boston and south shore  
Quincy  
boston  
Milton  
A yoga instructor and stay at home one mom  
Will soon work in Islington Center  
Boston  
Busines owner  
Boston  
Waltham  
Boston  
Needham  
Easton  
Boston  
Providence RI  
Concord  
Boston  
Boston  
Wellesley  
Natick  
Roche Bros, Wellesley

commute to north shore

West Roxbury

Physician West Roxbury and JP

Boston

Franklin

Downtown Boston

Newton, MA

Newton MA

Boston

Hyde park, MA

boston

Boston - train

Franklin, MA

Boston

Lowell

Boston

I work outside of the immediate area

Dover

Needham

Boston

Needham

Boston

outside of westwood

Various

Boston

canton

Newton

Boston

Medfield

belmont

Lincoln, RI

Roslindale

Canton

Wellesley

marshfield

Boston

Boston

Boston

Waltham

Boston and Cambridge

Boston

Lexington

Brockton

South Shore

Stay at home mom

Boston

wellesley

Waltham

Boston, Quincy, canton

Chestnut Hill

area town

Newton

Boston

Wellesley

Stoneham

Hyde park

Boston

Canton

Walpole

Boston

Boston

needham

Boston

Foxboro

Cambridge

Boston

boston

Boston

Stoughton, MA

Boston

walpole

Boston

waltham

Waltham

Boston

Easton

Wellesley

Boston

Brookline

another town

BOSTON

Cambridge

Westwood area contractor

Boston

Boston

Boston

Cambridge

Boston

boston

Boston

Walpole

Boston

consultant

Boston

Wellesley

Boston

Everett  
Boston  
West Roxbury  
Boston  
Downtown Boston  
Boston  
Brookline  
Boston  
Needham  
Walpole  
Bostin  
Boston  
Boston  
Downtown Boston  
Boston  
City  
Medway  
Boston  
Wellesley  
Canton, MA  
Wellesley  
Boston  
Boston  
Needham  
Boston  
Needham  
Metro biston  
Boston  
court system  
Boston  
Wellesley  
Boston  
Watertown  
West Roxbury  
JP  
Burlington  
Boston  
Wellesley  
canton  
Boston  
Boston  
Boston  
Chestnut Hill  
Boston  
Boston  
Boston  
Boston  
Boston

Quincy, ma

Outside sales

Boston

Boston

out of town

Burlington

Boston

Boston

Boston

Cambridge - why is Boston/Cambridge not an option on this page?

Boston

retired

Boston

Boston

Boston

semi-retired

Volunteer - COA

Milton Hospital

Needham

not your business

Chestnut Hill & Wayland

Foxboro

Self-employed, travel

Boston

teacher's aid

Boston

Boston

independent

senior center

Boston

### **Do you have any suggestions or comments about Islington Center that you would like to share? 203 responses**

Make it better, more vibrant, more inviting, more safe for pedestrians.

I think town should budget for better landscaping and large flower pots and hanging flower pots. This would make a significant improvement

Please make sure that architecturally buildings that are enhanced and newly built look cohesive (i.e., fire station, community center) - keeping with the look and feel of a village center.

Parking needs to be addressed

Please don't turn Islington into low income housing or another Dedham center

MMO should be a top priority. Relocating it isn't likely to be successful. It's closure would result in not enough preschool slots for the town's children which is unacceptable.

Need a series of focus groups and discussions, maybe examples of other town centers to get ideas. Need to think outside of survey choices. Need to press people on underlying values in major areas like

housing, community services, recreation, and retail to get a real vision of an integrated 21st century village. Surveys are important but people do not accurately respond when given list...it all sounds good to me. Need to do real research into underlying needs to discover what is possible and come up with ideas that are not just a checklist.

Keep building heights low, keep green spaces

The traffic is already brutal, there are many conveniences for the elderly and the young like the library and nursery school. Westwood doesn't have an internal transport or even walkable paths from one side to the other, so services like these are needed. Full service restaurants would be a plus, it's the hub of the town, it should have an old new england feel to it. Don't make it another Dedham.

No apartments in Islington! There's no room. Need to create a cohesive modern town square aesthetic in Islington.

Give thought to additional traffic on both Washington and east street. They are already over taxed

Slow down growth until traffic issues can be resolved. More is not always better.

I would be great to have something similar to what NYAJ is at University Station: a family friendly full-service restaurant that is casual, serves alcohol, but perfect for all ages, maybe just smaller scale. Better food options would be nice. Islington Pizza and Wild Blossom are truly lacking. We always end up driving to Norwood Center or University Ave. because of the lack of good quality selection by us.

Please make sure there is enough parking

As a Westwood resident who drives through and lives on East st, I see how it's becoming a cut through for Norwood, Medfield and other towns. Raising the bridge will increase that problem. I've taken pictures of trucks that are over the to age requirements that travel on Rast at now. The are needs small businesses to keep the community feel. The ballpark will be greatly impacted by traffic

Islington Center needs a family friendly pub/restaurant much like a Not Your Average Joe's or the Yard House (but smaller to fit the village's character).

please keep us informed and let us know how to help!

It is uncomfortable to walk on the sidewalks in Inslington. The traffic is too close and the intersections to dangerous.

Would love a coffee place like Starbucks; ice cream place; kids activities

More sidewalks. On East Street. Better pedestrian access

Keep the branch library, but enlarge it!

Pedestrian walk ways are crucial to connecting School Street Playground and the ball fields.

Wish parking at post office complex was better. Also drive up mailbox. Could the library move into Islington community center building? That seems like ICC is a bigger more beautiful building and seems to need a purpose. I think the library building is nothing special and would consider demolishing it if the library could be relocated

Tennis courts. Bring them back. A resource for families has been lost.

There is currently a new owner in place of all the old yellow buildings who happens to be a developer with a great track record in the Town of Dedham. Please allow him & his company to do what they do best and spruce up islington center.

Yes, please don't add to traffic. It is bad already. Anything that goes in should aesthetically fit the neighborhood and town of Westwood. It should also add value to ALL in the Islington area not reduce the value of this great location.

We need to add businesses and buildings that will maintain a village feel and be useful to residents and business owners. I would love to see a community pub or tavern with food along with bar service. Do not take away Islington Pizza please or Wild Blossom. I live for food and those food places are my favorite!

Love it. Would love to see some new development.

I'm worried about too many apartments.

Lets not have it look like Dedham. Leave the village feel.

I would like to see a few more businesses or perhaps another restaurant

I'd love to see more places to dine out and ice cream shops and a Starbucks. I'd like a hang out area where everyone knows my name.

Traffic flow needs to be better especially on East Street.

We n Ed a local restaurant...similar to brick house in n Dedham....family feel, pub like

Yes but could use a bar restaurant. And a new cvs.

Would like to have a village feel or town center feel

More should be done to decrease the volume of vehicular traffic while encouraging increased pedestrian traffic. For instance, it would be invaluable if there were a pedestrian bridge connecting Morrison Field to Islington Pizza plaza and the School Street playground. Washington Street traffic is too congested and too fast--it is unsafe and inconvenient to walk across Washington Street, discouraging visits of Morrison Field from making increased use of Islington Pizza and the playground. Also, there is such limited parking at Morrison Field that most folks park at CVS and are then forced to cross East Street, which is inconvenient and unsafe, especially during commuter hours. More should be done to slow traffic and make street crossing safer and more convenient.

Please keep the center small. Don't get rid of the parking and places that are already there. I'm already upset about the apartments that are going in, and the sneaky way the board allowed that section to become multi use buildings. Don't let Westwood become Norwood or Dedham. There are over 2,000 apartments within 2 miles of Islington Center. What happens when the builders can't fill those apartments? They aren't for the town, they are for their profit.

Stop ruining out neighborhood. It needs a face lift, but not an overhaul. This is a family town, and you are making it un-friendly for the families and children to visit islington.

Islington Center is long overdue for a renovation and I have only lived in Westwood since June of 1989. However, I used to come from Dedham to the soda bottling plant as a child for Moxie! Islington is an important area that deserves to be improved upon. I would like to see townhouses built in addition to housing over commercial space. As I age and look to the future, I would like to be able to stay in Westwood in a place that has less maintenance. A townhouse and/or condo would fit that need. Walpole has lots of townhouses and Westwood does not. I would like to see mixed use with both commercial and housing integrated. The church that is a HUGE financial burden on the town should be raised and rebuilt for a decent site for MMO. CVS pharmacy's building is a disgrace. Those with disabilities should be able to easily access the pharmacy for their needs and it is not well designed. I look forward to the rebirth of Islington Center!!!

Put a green arrow for cars taking a left onto East Street from Washington Street.. Near the barber shop.



Put a red arrow for the cars taking a left from East street to Washington Street.. Many cars already get through with their green arrow. It is hard for cars trying to go straight from Cafe Diva area . The cars keep coming at you . It is unfair!!

While I am happy to have university station, I'm disappointed it didn't turn out as first envisioned. I would hate for Islington to jam a bunch of stores into place, just to create a town center. Let's keep the small, sweet feel if the area.

Fixing the RR overpass on East St

Please develop the abandoned businesses. Make them attractive, with landscaping. This is first place seen when entering Westwood.

Do not like traffic issues. Would like village character maintained. Needs family pub food place, ice cream store and bakery. Keep post office pharmacy and grocery stores.

I would love to see a revitalization of the area particularly beyond the Roche Bro. Area towards Clapboard Tree Rd.

You should get ice cream shop for after games and for people to go after park, put an arrow light for traffic on Washington to go left onto East St like they have for going right onto School St. I do not want it to look like Dedham center when you are heading in from by Mall with all those apartments on top of store fronts.. It's so crowded and starting to be more like city than small suburb. I do not want it to lose it's small town feel and/or look. No doubt, there will be crazy traffic, there all ready is and once all the places in Norwood open the apartments and the elder facility. Reality is all the stores and businesses you need are in Norwood, Dedham, Walpole and University Ave so what type of stores/ restaurants are we going to get and how long would they stay open?? They'll just be a vacant retail space with and apartment building..Not good they cannot even rent the vacant apartment they have open on Washington St as is , so I cannot imagine who would want to pay to live in the new apartments they are building. Very sad days for Westwood.

I want Islington center to be a place my kids can walk to for helping with small chores (i.e. Pick up milk etc.) as well as a place they can grab a hot chocolate or ice cream. I don't want it too built up and I don't want much more traffic or parking issues. With the the potential plans for a new school at the Hanlon site, this is a big concern for those who live between Islington and Hanlon.

No more apartment/condos, don't close library

keep it's charm - westwood is a great town but lacks charm. if you lose the charm of islington, you lose a part of westwood. businesses have to be places people can frequent. please NO MORE banks and realtors!

If you put in better businesses, nicer coffee shop where people could hang out, make the overall appearance nicer... More ppl would want to live close and values would rise

Part of the reason we moved to Westwood was the small town feel. Changing that would be a mistake. Westwood is not Dedham, and never should be.

I hope Isl center does not lose the small town feel & the safety is currently has.

Great opportunity to enhance our community. Area could use facelift. If done responsibly, could be situation where everyone wins. Would highly recommend someone living there in mixed-use development type of project. Has tremendous potential. One restaurant like Ciara, as well as a good breakfast spot/coffee shop, could be a home run.

I think there really should be a left turn lane for traffic coming from Dedham more than going the other way on Washington st.

I would like to preserve the character of Islington Center and keep the small town feel here but am open to some new stores that fit that character.

No housing complexes at all ,don't need to add to the congested area ,sidewalks on clapboards and gay st ,left turn only on Washington to east st

Don't homogenize it. Keep a community center. It is the glue.

Seems like lots of dead space around Dunkin Donuts that could be better utilized. Would be great to refurbish buildings on corners of East/School Streets.

There is little parking for the ball field and businesses in the area. To sell the spots that are now town owned I feel is a mistake. To sell the library which is so special to young families and the elderly in the area I feel is also a mistake. Also we need preschools in this town. If you close down MMO there will be few places for young children to attend. For a town that values education I feel that this is also a mistake. Families move to this town because of the education system and private preschools are an important start to the education of our children. If the town put a little thought and effort into making the ICC and this side of town work for the community it would benefit all. I feel that it is a big mistake to sell this property for the sake of a few dollars. Many who live in this side of town feel that those in charge do not really care about the families who live here. Quality of life does not seem to be considered. Also too much traffic and congestion.

Preserve the 'feel ' of the small town.

need police presence to deter people from running light taking left onto 1A towards Roche Bros. People come from School Street going straight cannot do so because of oncoming traffic taking left after their left green signal turns off

There is a high demand to keep a preschool in town. MMO serves over 100 families (from Westwood Norwood Dedham) and employs 10 Westwood residents. Non profit business should take priority in any town.

Any development of Islington Center should preserve the community, small town feel, encourage walkability, support small businesses (much like Dedham Square), manage and slow traffic, and encourage community meeting places. There are many residents living within walking distance of Islington Center, and it would be wonderful if there were more small businesses to attract and draw the community members to the area.

No condos or apartments. A pub, a good coffee shop great no more apartments cheapens the town

It's old and run down - it was a negative in our choosing the town. Would love to see it revitalized and more community friendly

More parking at park

The loss of MMO/library would be terrible. We live on Fairview street and what a wonderful experience it is for my children that we can walk there and have such enriching experiences.

Save MMO!!!

I think there can be improvements made, but I wouldn't want the center to lose its new england small town charm. I would want the library and community building to remain as I think it's very important to keeping a true close knit community.

Improvement to this area and all commercial districts in Westwood is greatly needed however I would be sad to see a wonderful educational facility like MMO go away. This should be considered as part of the overall plan

It would be nice to have a coffee place or a bakery to have a sweet and a coffee, but I would not like to see places that have been there moved or eliminated to make room for changes. Additionally, MMO is a staple and I do not under any circumstances want to see it removed from this area. The library is nice to have as well, considering that the brand new one was closed for 3 months even after we poured tons of tax money into it. Just an observation, it would be good to have the people from the Islington/Downey/Hanlon side of town make the decision as opposed to the folks on 109 driving the decisions for our neighborhoods (see University Station and whatever they have done to the roads - it takes me 4 times longer to get to the train station now and we can't get on the rotary anymore in good time during peak hours). Best to make sure that we are more heavily weighed in the decision than people that are unaffected by changes made to this area.

Change is very good and must be embraced but we must keep the community services and character of islington. Part of the services that are essential being Mmo having served this town for over 30 years. One of the main reasons people move to Westwood and stay in Westwood is the excellent school system. There is a early Ed/preschool population that needs schooling not daycare but preschool before entering elementary school and Mmo meets that need. While there are preschools in town, there is still an unmet need as 40% of the children entering kindergarten this year attended a preschool or daycare facility outside of the town. The need for preschool education is growing with a younger demographic moving to town and more residents will be forced to look outside of the town they live in for care. There are currently not enough spaces in the existing preschools to meet the need. We have a lottery system and waiting lists until 2018 at some of the preschools. This is a real problem and should MMO lose their tenancy over 285 enrollment spots will be taken away from the children and families in town. Additionally, they are the only preschool in town that serves children ages two and up. Most preschool service ages 2.9 and up. They fill a very important need in this community and we must work to keep them here.

Please do not jeopardize all the children and families by closing MMO nursery school. We need it. We all do. Thank you!

The town does not need another commercial center on top of that at University Station where there is still ample space for development.

PLEASE DO NOT ADD HOUSING, and Please don't take away our community center, library and preschool. Those are what make islington great and this side of town needs/uses them.

Perfect place to raise kids with the Ball Field, Nursery School, Pizza Place. Bring back an Ice Cream Parlor and we'll be good!

Architectural upgrade to existing storefronts with a family friendly restaurant.

It would be nice if Islington center became more of a community- maybe having parades or community events for the locals to gather at. A new cafe- it would be nice if cafe diva had the same feel as spot in (Dedham). It is not a restaurant, but serves coffee and sandwiches for people to get on the go, there are some seats to eat at. Also the character of the buildings can maybe have a more village feel, so it stands out when people drive through it. In my opinion chain restaurants/stores will make it lose the "small town" feel

Love the library

More open space with tables, a quaint coffee shop would be nice and the yoga studio is a bonus. I think with all the apartments being built in Norwood as well as university station more apartment buildings do not appear to be needed in the area

There are so few preschools in Westwood. MMO provides a nurturing, wonderful preschool experience. It also employs many residents from the community.

Both the library and MMO are Important and needed for the westwood community. Taking these away and selling the buildings will impact 110 preschool children, as well as the many people that use and depend on the nearby library.

What attracted us to Westwood was the caring and feeling of a small town, these changes will turn Westwood into another growing busting at the seams town with too many places to go shopping, and too many apartments. We're surrounded already with this, why do we need more."

Apartments would ruin Islington. If any housing need senior housing. People want to downsize. Keep parks and small mom and pop businesses.

I would love to see a casual family restaurant, a bakery and other restaurants go in.

Please do not take away our community center. This is why we moved to Westwood. We do not need or want any more apartments. It is losing our sense of community. My daughters school experience has already been impacted by many children in and out of her classroom in the past year. Please not brick or concrete structures. Also ensure this is kept a quaint community place not a place for business development. The town is in need of more space for community activities. If we lose the library and community house you will several impact the ability for the people of the town to meet and serve the wellbeing of the towns constituents.

I wish I had known about the Islington Taskforce before it was formed. I would have liked to been chosen as a committee member.

Craft beer store, ice cream store, some niche clothing stores, a toy store, ethnic restaurants like Arlington center (thai, indian, etc). Put the more boring business upstairs and allow people to window shop and want to spend time in our village.

Glad you are looking into this. The bridge at Everett St and East St don't look nice. The area from Everett St to Roche Bros features very run down buildings and looks uninviting. The area definitely needs some restaurants and bars and nice stores.

One of the main reasons we moved to this town is for the small town feel, sense of community and the wonderful facilities available to us, we would be very upset if these important facilities were taken away as they are so important for our children and the future generations.

I would like to see a charming center with a few useful stores - coffee shop, restaurant, ice cream, gift shop, boutique, etc

The area needs some updating but I hope that you can add business that the people in the area want and need.

The timing of the pedestrian lights is very brief; it barely allows time to cross the street. I think that there should be improvements made for the pedestrian paths under or near the bridge. The bridge can be dangerous for walkers and vehicles.

Change is inevitable. But let's not loose what is so good about this area. Established businesses. Beautiful buildings like the old church and library.

Keep the Center the same.

Keep it simple and classic and keep the small town feel that it is...please

Westwood is a family town. We have Legacy Place and other areas for fine dining and drinks. I think it's important to remember who will be visiting Islington Center most and to keep to our roots: a village, small-town feel that offers a walkable safe neighborhood.

It would be nice to create a more village center feel to the area. Maybe put a traffic island in middle of Washington outside Roche Bros and encourage development of civic space, restaurants etc between Firehouse and Rochjes bros and same stretch opposite side of the road.

preserve the new england town feel, but encourage new types of businesses! bookstore/cafe, ice cream, restaurant that is not fast food, a real community center. this is an opportunity! the 109 center of westwood is nothing to brag about, but islington could be!

I would love to see the building with the PO have more character and better parking. We need a better breakfast/coffee place than that Cafe Diva-it's way to small and cluttered. Would like something at the Tailor shop. And near the Dunkin Donuts, those buildings that have been vacant forever-would be nice to add something there (not sure if that's even on the table). But no matter what, making it more aesthetically pleasing would be nice. Funny thing that on Rte 109 (our "center")-the chain "Starbucks" has more character than most everything else in town.

I would like the opinions of the abutters weighted more highly than those not directly affected.

need bike access down gay street

I would love to have a neighborhood gastropub. That would be my ideal addition.

I feel that the library and organizations housed in the Community Center are such a vital part of Islington Center! If they were removed or relocated, it would devalue many of the aspects of why families choose to move to the Islington area of Westwood. Personally, I use the Community Center for preschool, Girl Scout meetings, and WYFS services. Having the library close by also allows my family of young children to access books and library programming more frequently. I would hate to see these services and resources taken away from Islington Center; on the contrary, these buildings should be the first to be refurbished, not only to ensure continuity of these wonderful Westwood services, but to preserve their history.

Would love to see upscale restaurants, nice bakery, hardware store, ice cream shop....picture Wellesley Center

Keep the daycare and library locations as well as the community/youth services. Do not add housing as the traffic will worsen. Encourage more restaurants

Please, please, please keep MMO and the library. They are so intregal to the community, I can't imagine my children growing up without them.

I would love to see a General store that is a throw back to old times with great food, service and friendly people. It would be nice to have a sit down restaurant and more opportunity to get neighbors together. I would hate to see anything happen to the library, MMO or community canter. I hope it is all tastefully designed.

I would consider moving my Podiatry Office there from Rte 109

Fix the traffic problem on East Street and make it pedestrian safe

If a true village atmosphere is to be achieved, then traffic calming measures must be implemented such as raised cross walks across East Street at both ends of the Morrison Field parking lot, and across School Street at the entrance to the playground.

I already have on another question. I live in the Islington Section and I find it much nicer than the High St. section. The development could be a big draw for Westwood so prepare the area for parking.

Modernize it; make it useful

Don't take the authentic look away from Islington center. Residents pay too many taxes as it is.

It should NEVER look as urban as Dedham center

Nicer architecture, more shops promoting foot traffic. Better landscaping.

respect what's left of its natural attributes; mitigate and plan for flooding from more extreme weather events

Please keep it useful for residents in walking distance. (library, post office, preschool, community center, pharmacy, coffee shop) Thanks for your time and efforts!

The town has enough apartments. Apartments have no value to town only to the developer. Condo's would be a better fit in Westwood versus apartments.

More unique local business

Would love a decent restaurant that serves alcohol. A Chiara but not as expensive

Just the train bridge, make it safer to walk through to get to the center

My daughter uses the community center for Girl Scouts and other community events. I'm hoping we can maintain a location for these types of activities.

It would be great to have a more walkable Islington center--the crosswalk at CVS is terrible!

Continue to work on the flow of traffic. It is hard to take the left turn into east street from Washington street across from CVS. Keep the fields and community center.

keep it as a village we enjoy the friendliness of the library staff and many of the retail establishments

Islington Center is the geographic center of town and is near Rt 1, East St. rotary and two MBTA stations (Islington zone 3 and Rt 128, zone 2), and now University station. The police chief reports that the crime rate has now doubled in Westwood since the police chief's arrival three years ago (increasing prior to University station). He has dismissed the importance of this crime and arrest rate stating it is ""transits"", but has used it to promote a police ""headquarters"". Either more aggressive targeting of minority groups that travel through the town, politically driven arrests to promote his personal agenda, and/OR these numbers reflect the negative impact of Legacy place on Rt 1 or University station on crime rate. After the quality of schools, safety is the next most important determinant of desirable towns and values of homes. The new police station should be in Islington center, INTEGRATED and MERGED with the fire department at Islington center as SAFETY CENTER and it is a better use of the land (baseball fields are cheaper to move and probably can be pushed back towards the railroad tracks). This physical merger would fulfill the modern need for cooperation and WILL save costs and the presence of the police station closer where crime occurs will PREVENT crime. It is short-sighted by our town ""leadership"" to do anything else. It is foolish to rebuild it next to town hall since most administration is at Carby. Our town hall is more historic in function and most of administration is at Carby street disconnected from supervision and town hall. No more Fiefdom's, build the Town's Fire and SAFETY CENTER in the geographic center of town.

I am afraid of the changes once the new developer takes over

DO NOT OVERDEVELOP AND RUIN IT by selling out to a developer

Don't let developers ruin the area by bringing in more housing that will do nothing but create more traffic headaches than there already are!

Need a great local coffee shop!! I would put it in myself but I don't have the time.

We do not need another library. Maybe better use of Community Center

I am shocked that the traffic light hasn't been adjusted to have a green arrow for a left hand turn from Washington onto East St.

The fewer major changes, the better! Islington only needs new paint and some TLC.

No condos/ apartments

It's upsetting hearing about the proposed changes. I worked in Newton for many years, and my husband and I were deciding between Westwood and Newton to raise a family. The reason we chose Westwood is because of the quiet community and lighter traffic flow. I don't want to see this sweet town turn into something else.

Improve but don't mess with it too much; don't need more housing; keep convenience, ease of visiting and parking; support small business

I think that it is absolutely imperative that the residents of Islington have significant say in any plans for our community, and that voice needs to be more important than the voice of those who live in Westwood but would not be directly affected.

I love Islington the way it is and do not wish to see it turn into a giant apartment complex

No more apartment/condo housing. Also consider all changes in light of the proposed school board changes to consolidate elementary schools. Islington Center and Hanlon school redevelopment must be considered in tandem to ensure the Islington and greater Westwood community is best served.

Please do not allow the building of more condos, apartments, multi-tenant buildings. It is simply NOT NEEDED!

I do not think we need apartments in Islington Center.

I think apartments & taking up parking areas is a misjustice to everyone just so someone can make a profit. It hurts the town, changes traffic & safety issue for kids/ families who walk to park & baseball field. Plus it looks ugly.

No. condos. Small village local stores with ice cream shop where families can walk

I DO NOT support the apartments being built in Islington Center. The apartments at Westwood Station are not even filled- we do not need any more apartments in our town

This is a great little center. Building it up to commercialize it will ruin the community as it is now.

Keep the preschool and library, they are vital to the Islington town center amenities and there is no way to safely walk or bike to the other side of town.

I think it is essential Islington retains its village character. The fire station concerns me in that it is too big for the streetcape. Over done. If we were in Iowa the temp building would be permanent. Please do not allow over sized buildings here. We are not in the city.

Would love to have more boutique type shops and a nice coffee shop/café with outdoor dining

We need to keep MMO and don't need housing. That would be shortsighted and letting the residents and children down. The town doesn't need to be greedy.

Don't make it more congested

Don't turn it into Dedham center. Please keep it a safe place for our children to visit and walk around.



Improve the attractiveness and make it appear more like a village

We like the quiet atmosphere and being able to walk to everything we need. We don't want to see large buildings and traffic coming in.

MMO and school street playground are the two reasons that I visit Islington center and consequently do some shopping there. Without those attractions I wouldn't probably visit Islington very often

Keep library and church building; improve traffic flow on East St; maintain village character

Keep it simple!! No residences Keep 1 story

I feel that it is not wise to sell the library that is loved and used by so many. The need for preschools in the town should be considered before the ICC is sold. I also feel that the parking lots are needed for Morrison field, School St playground and shopping. The parking study was done on an evening when that is not the time when these lots are used and greatly needed. The town may gain a little money by the sale of these valuable pieces of property, but will lose so much in return.

Do not change the feel of the Islington community. Adding the addition of larger buildings/apartments would take away from the community feel that we love so much.

I really hope that the Community Center is preserved for all to enjoy.

Don't put in apartments!!!

Please leave Islington structure as it is, quite and friendly, we don't want it to look like Dedham

High quality education is one of the Westwood's greatest assets! Make sure MMO Nursery school stays where it is and continues to serve young families as well as the school street playground.

Please don't try to change our home. Westwood wouldn't be the same without small, townie Islington.

See previous comments. A lot can be done with Islington to make it more vibrant. The town should sell the properties there to someone who has a good redevelopment plan. Allow at least one nice restaurant to come in there and some nice shops. Figure out the parking situation, maybe some mixed use retail/housing. Use the proceeds from the sale and increased tax revenues to build a community center somewhere else in town. Forget about MMO, let them figure out where they need to go and don't put a plan together that addresses their needs. The town should not be making plans to accommodate a business. Let people with a business background and some imagination review and approve these plans, not a bunch of lawyers and bureaucrats.

Traffic flow is a major concern about making substantial changes to Islington Center.

**NO CONDOS PLEASE!!! DEFINITELY NO APARTMENTS!!!** Please don't ruin our little village and keep its character. We love it here!

Would love for Islington center to become a shopping destination with unique shops and restaurants, as opposed to apartments

I would love to see a bakery/coffee shop or a pub come to Islington

Put up a GIANT statue of Al Magaletta

In light of the current state of limited parking and traffic flow, I can't believe we're even considering adding more residential units to that small area. Upgrade the buildings and character, but keep additional residential units out of the proposal.

Please keep the library

Great opportunity to enhance our community. Area could use facelift. If done responsibly, could be situation where everyone wins. Would highly recommend someone living there in mixed-use



development type of project. Has tremendous potential. One restaurant like Ciara, as well as a good breakfast spot/coffee shop, could be a home run.

Islington is a residential community and as such, we don't need more housing in the area. Rather we need businesses that make sense for those who already live in the area and will draw those from the other side of town.

I work in the design community and I value greatly anchoring our town architecturally on both ends of Gay Street. I think this is an exciting time for the town in really establishing an architectural character as well as places, inside and outside, for the community to own and celebrate. There are a lot of young families in our neighborhood. The School Street playground is a gem. The traffic and speeds in the area concern me with the development taking place. The supporting side streets, including Pine Lane on which I live, was not built for the quantity or speeds that it is starting to encounter. I think the thoughtful approach to turn signals, stop signs, and other speed reducing elements will help to maintain these side streets as a walking safe community for children to play in and hopefully divert larger volumes of traffic of people wanting to "cut through" back to Gay Street which can handle the higher speeds. I would love to be involved in this process in some way. If you are looking for more community members to become involved in this effort, please email me at [amandavigneau@gmail.com](mailto:amandavigneau@gmail.com). Otherwise, looking forward to all the exciting work to come.

Listen to what the towns people are saying and want and NOT what a developer wants. Specifically listen to the Islington residents who will be affected the most. Do not let a few people in town make all the decisions and take over the project. The town is notorious for this as is evident by the members on this task force who are overwhelmingly not Islington residents. This was by design.

I fear the new developer is going to try to make Islington similar to Dedham- While Dedham square is nice- It is a ""square"" and Islington is nowhere comparable to that. Housing in Islington will take away the village charm as will buildings that are too big. Visible underground parking garages will ruin Islington Keep it small and quaint!

Please no more apartments/condos. Dedham looks terrible and we don't want it to look like that!

I would like existing parking areas to remain. No condos or apartments - particularly apartments. The library to remain. The appearance to improve.

Offering a playground with a better fencing (closing issues) and better parking.

Hopefully the design for the new buildings in Islington will add to the village character and not detract from it. Generic buildings that can be found in Dedham, Norwood, or wherever wouldn't fit in with the village feel of Islington. I would love to see the historic buildings (Blue Hart Tavern and the branch library) remain but I know that's not entirely realistic. Parking lots hidden behind the buildings would keep the area pedestrian friendly and help with the village feel.

I really don't think the Islington Community Center and the library should have major capital expenditures made for them. The money should be spent on facilities which better meet the whole town's needs. However, please do not let a giant CVS or Walgreens move in. Keep it a village feel. Better parking for retail is necessary.

Model it after Park City or Burlington.

Don't ditch the library!

try to attract large companies to have a local presence. utilities companies like verizon, national grid, eversource....many of there employees live here and lots of their customers and shareholders :)

Make it quaint, walkable. Somewhere with cute shops, cafes people would drive to then walk around. Like Newburyport or Wellesley.

It would be great if Islington had more dining options, a bakery and coffee shop.

Islington is a good place, I just wish I didn't live about 6 miles from it

Please do not make it too busy with huge buildings. Just clean up and update the existing ones and bring in new businesses.

Do not sell all the land that Westwood owns. One person/company should not own all of Islington center. It needs a facelift, not a complete makeover. Do not take away any more of the parking. ALL of it is needed. Don't ruin this town for the families. People moved to this small town for a reason. If we wanted all this infrastructure, we would have saved some money and moved to Dedham or Norwood. Do not turn Islington into an urban jungle.

I would hate to see new large buildings which would destroy the village feel.

I think the new no turn on red at the intersection of Washington and Canton Streets is a huge mistake and it will increase traffic. This recent change will probably influence my decision to go to Roche Bros. I will most likely frequent Shaws in Dedham to avoid the traffic created by this poorly thought out change in traffic law.

Consider the traffic flow for every project.

Consider the traffic flow for every project.

Make it more New England feel like Hingham.

Improving the flow of traffic and decreasing the congestion would make shopping and visiting the area easier. I go out of my way to avoid driving on Washington Street from Dedham to Norwood.

How can you improve the parking

More green space is needed to encourage people to walk, sit, stay and relax. Right now, you can park close enough to take a "nice walk" and sit and eat a sandwich.

Correct the traffic flow on East Street and Washington Street.

Before you go to all the trouble of trying to redesign it, why aren't you finding out what the people who live here want. Fire station is already too big and looks awkward in the center. I think you would find that most people want you to leave it alone. If WE don't like it, WE will not vote for it at town meeting.

Keep it quaint, historic. Keep the church building and library. Keep the teen services and pre school. Add parking. Add outdoor dining, cafe, ice cream, kid family friendly, add non chain restaurants. Keep signage uniform on store fronts, clapboard siding, add landscape lighting, picnic tables/bench areas. No big chain stores, no chain restaurants, no brick building, no neon signs or lighted signs on buildings (tacky) we already have university for that look.

Add trees, better landscaping, add color in landscape. Make it safer for families who park at the pre school lot for baseball games to cross the road.

Islington Center needs a unifying look. Right now it is a hodge podge of buildings and does not feel or look like a "center." Wider sidewalks, similar signage, park benches, pedestrian shops, better landscaping, and being more bicycle-friendly would be big improvements and make it feel like a significant destination instead of just something you drive through on your way to Norwood Center or Dedham Center.

Be sure there is adequate parking

less traffic on east street

1. Please add pedestrian areas to sit outside
2. Add coffee shop or good cafe
3. Add neighborhood pub
4. Keep the charm and add to the village feel
5. No more banks or other corporate offices

I would love to see a pub in Islington center. It would be a great meeting place in Islington.

It would be nice to have a similar feel to Wellesley or Needham center

I HATE the proposed retail/apartment building much too big, destroys the feeling of Islington. Looks like Dedham Square--overbuilt, cold, with no character.

It would be great to have a sit-down cafe and a non-chain, restaurant. A pub with character would be great! I would love a boutique clothing store. A children's toy/bookstore would be nice.

Think it is an asset. Would like to see improvement

would love some thought to affordable senior living

If there is that much development planned then Fairview should be made a dead end just like was done for Blue Hill Ave, we have over 15 kids on this street and no sidewalk and a blind corner

I would love to see parallel parking coming back to Islington Center. And more open spaces incorporated to the new future changes

I would love to have more places for the community to gather and meet in the center. Something like a Starbucks or an ice cream/bakery where people could congregate and hangout....people watching

Keep it small, no big ugly chain stores, no more mix use buildings. We have plenty of apartments on University Ave to settle that need. We need community meeting space. This side of town has to drive to the other side for most meetings. Keep the library its used and cherished by many old and young. Keep the church and restore/expand it. Keep MMO in Islington it's a value to the town's education. Stop moving services, recreation space, community buildings to the other side of town.

Maybe have some nice mason work done around the clock hell get a nice new clock for all I care something easy on the eyes would be a nice change

Leave it how it is

The crosswalk is extremely delayed and it only allows for you to cross 1 street at a time. It should allow for you to cross diagonally like on busy intersections in the Longwood Medical area. Pedestrian safety should prevail over motor traffic. There is also very little police presence and no cameras to catch folks running red lights. In addition, there is not enough parking esp when T-Ball & Little League are in session. Not sure how you could promote more foot traffic without improving pedestrian safety. Cars are going way too fast. Consider lowering speed limit in that area to 25 like Dedham and Needham Centers that have vibrant town centers. Same goes for High Street. Now that it is heavily populated, you should consider 25 mls/speed limit. More bike racks and sidewalks.

The area needs updating to buildings and nice businesses like full device restaurants that will attract people to the area and will help the other businesses. Outdoor dining would be a great feature.

Bring in new unique (non-chain) businesses to increase village feel. Add landscaping along Washington street (trees) to make it feel less like a main road.

It could use a design refresh.

I've been to the Post Office and Islington Pizza on more than one occasion. I wish there were more businesses in that area. It would be nice to make it a little main street where I could walk to get ice

cream; grab coffee; go grab breakfast on a Saturday morning. Right now, it's flanked by Roche Bros which eats up some prime space for small shops. There's not community feel to it.

nice food place like a bakery would be awesome

To crowded, to busy

I would have no objection to housing built in Islington. A few apartments in the center would add some diversity to the town and provide housing to a population that could easily commute into Boston on public transportation and would also patronize the business that are there.

Islington center has so much more potential than Westwood center. It would be so nice to see it developed to it's maximum village like potential

dont make it a traffic nightmare!

I'm all for progress, but I hope it keeps the same community values. My kids now hangout there with their friends. As I did when I was their age.

I work right up the street from Islington Center. I love the area and would love to someday move here. If planned well, it would be so much more attractive - and affordable - over Boston for people like myself who are in their 20s and 30s.

As someone who attended numerous Planning Board mtgs. for both Westwood Station and Univ. Station, beware of promises made, traffic studies and limited liability corporations!!!!

I moved to this area in town for the convenience of it, want to see the area improved, but keep the character of Westwood and not turn into the city environment that I moved my family away from. Thanks.

I don't think Islington center should have any residential buildings or chain retail stores. Community center/MMO church should remain

I like it the way it is. Why not develop the empty storefronts.

Please don't destroy our center. We have enough retail and condos with university station. Save our preschool, community center and library.

The village needs to be modernized to make it more pedestrian friendly and appeal to a variety of ages. It would be a great spot with more of a village feel and restaurants with outdoor dining, coffee shops, some small retail shops. A community destination for an evening out. University Station and Legacy Place are so nearby it might be tough to compete, but I think businesses with a strong community feel would work. Everyone in town would love a pub or a high-end pizza/microbrewery.

Pedestrian walkesy

It would be a big mistake to overbuild Islington. Right now it is a strip of vacant, outdated 50's , and unkept buildings. Let's not make the same mistakes made on University Station. Not exactly the village we were hoping to achieve. This is your 2nd chance to create that small village. Could take a lot of vision and creativity. Taming the traffic problem is half the battle.

Try to make it look like a quaint town center

Keep the village feel with maybe some more small businesses and eating establishments. Limit additional housing.

Look at Needham Center and copy

I would like to see more of a pedestrian friendly town center than a busy traffic cut through to Norwood.

To keep traffic under control, ask MBTA to add stops for the trains, keep library, CVS and Roche, may be to add other businesses to the free space

I do not see a need for any apartments of any size in the center. I do not want to see any three story buildings replace any of the current buildings in the center. Each building property should be dealt with individually so that no new building can be more than fifty percent residential. There must be no loss of public parking spaces. The tennis courts lost to the fire station must be replaced.

It would be great if the Blue Hart Tavern was made back into a neighborhood pub. Islington is missing a neighborhood restaurant

Please do not allow ISLINGTON Center to become like Dedham Square. Do not allow apartments - if there are going to be any housing units they should be condos.

Don't build too many apts or condos. Would love to see the multi unit building where the post office is brightened up or done over.

Keep it a suburb small town feel but adding new businesses and improved landscaping and sidewalks in all surrounding streets (especially along Carroll Ave between the MBTA stop and Route 1) will be great improvements for the people living in the area, and to increase the people coming to use business around the Center.

Please don't homogenize the architecture!

It would have more draw if it had a village feel to it. Landscaping and architecture are key as well as interesting stores. No more banks! no more real estate offices!!!!

As noted earlier, Westwood would greatly benefit from developing Islington into a true town center with character, charm and actual places people would be attracted to go, spend time and money. We desperately needs some decent restaurants - the fact that Comella's is always mobbed is proof of that!

Do not want to see increase of traffic problems that already exist on 109. Too difficult to get through town to access 128 and do not want same problem from Washington St. to 128 via East St which is already a problem. I think we need more traffic lights.

limited housing and more business shops

I would like to see more quaint restaurants, bakery, flower shop etc. Less real estate offices, law offices and banks.

Please don't change the character of our village. If the Selectmen want Dedham square to come to Islington, then accept the RFP.

Is there a space for rec activities for children and adults? Having a few options could create an opportunity to bring neighbors together.

No more apartments. There are over 2,000 apartments built or being built within 2.5 miles of Islington center. Who is going to fill all of these apartments? What happens if the owner sells to someone who doesn't care?

We don't want Dedham Square in Islington center! A town official has referred to Islington village. I do not think this is genuine, as accepting the RFP would ruin Islington village!

It would be nice if it was connected to the other side of town via sidewalks, especially down Gay Street.

I'd support a redevelopment to create an atmosphere where there was more of a downtown feel with multiple shops and restaurants.

Keep library branch. Don't want Islington to look like Dedham center. Keep buildings low. Take traffic flow into consideration.

Sorry we do not need more apartments , condos and or more traffic and less parking. Apartments on a bus route not a great idea. Also , if these places do not rent what are the guidelines we have in place to prevent it from going to section 8? Look at the housing by legacy place it's nothing but trouble for Dedham ask the police chief there it is his biggest headache.

Please keep the Islington train station where it is (versus moving further south)

I see no need for additional housing; my fear is that this will turn into another "mall" which we don't need. It should retain its original character and also have a place for people to gather.

The town needs to be careful with not allowing additional apartments in town and specifically in Islington Center. We carry a significant tax burden as property owners and this needs to be taken into consideration. It is unacceptable to allow folks to rent apartments in our town and access school services which they aren't paying for. Over time increasing the number of apartments in town will change the small town feel of Westwood and encourage families to move to communities like Dover and Medfield.

Would love to see it cleaned up but not with all those apartments--will change the character of the town.

Don't turn it into Dedham and norwood with a bunch of apartments

I feel the town suffers from too many gas stations, banks, and real estate business which do not provide a small-town center feel which condones families collecting in an area. Traffic patterns also affect this because of Everett, East, and 1a streets.

It is difficult to cross the intersection from the public lot to the ball field within the time of the cross signal without running.

Install some traffic calming islands similar to Canton St. This would help Islington Center retain it's village feel while also forcing the traffic to slow down. Also add a left hand turn light onto East Street from Washington St going south to eliminate most of we local drivers from using the parking lot behind CVS, etc to cut through to turn left onto East St.

Glad there is a task force with individuals interested in preserving this important part of Westwood's character.

We need traffic calming on East Street. The traffic in that area is fast and congested. It would be nice to see police there to monitor as cars often speed through a red light. A huge CVS doesn't belong on the corner.

Need to fix East Street Bridge, traffic flow/timing of lights at corner of Washington and East Street is terrible. Need a left turn arrow onto East Street from Washington. Cars cut through on Dean over to East to avoid the light, making it a more dangerous neighborhood for kids.

Based on current traffic flow, I hope we do not have any more planned apartment condo buildings. It would be really nice -but admittedly probably very unrealistic -to have more green pedestrian or cycle friendly space. A speed limit of 20 mph, speed bumps or any mechanism to deter through traffic and the traffic speed would be nice too (not holding my breath).

no need for a branch library. I thought the agreement when funding the new library was that there would no longer be a branch library in Islington

I believe changing islington would be change for the worse . Tearing down buildings that have remained for years have sentimental meaning for people that have lived there for years. Changing would lose the

character of our town. It would also increase traffic flow and there is already too much traffic down East St. Bringing more traffic would probably increase the amount of accidents on our already famous bridge. I know people in the Islington area feel emotional commitment to the integrity of the area.

Block East Street from truck traffic with hanging girders....like Storrow Drive.

Leave it quaint and charming!

Don't want to see it over developed

Please bring in a coffee shop!

Keep the Library

I strongly disagree with the current attitude in Westwood that Islington Center needs to be turned into Cambridge or Brookline. The focus should be on traffic mitigation and accessibility, not over-development.

Please no more apartments. What will the owner do with them if he can't rent them? People rent apartments because they don't have to make a commitment. Please, no more! There is not enough space for them.

The biggest concern is to improve the vehicular traffic flow through the center. The intersection of Washington St with School and East Sts must be redesigned and improved, but not at the sacrifice of the community church building or to add residential apartments.

No more apartments or condos! It's too much for such a small area. I have lived in this town my entire life and hate to see these crazy changes. I just saw the proposal and it made me sick. Where will people park that want to shop at a business or use the ball field? Enough is enough. They can't even fill the apartments at University station. What happens when they can't fill these?

Stop with the apartments already!

This is a huge opportunity to make this right. Whatever is built will be there for generations to come. Low rise buildings to keep the village feel and a green park-like area would improve the whole area. Apartments are not what this area needs. One and two bedroom condominiums would be much preferred over apartments. Too much transiency with apartments. There are enough of those at University station and what is being proposed already for Islington. NO MORE APARTMENTS! And some decent restaurants would be nice! Chiara comes to mind as something I would like to see in Islington!!!

I honestly think too many apartments, buildings, more traffic will ruin the quaint center of Islington

Between the shops, the space, the playground, the library, and possibly other good community services, it has the potential to be the "town center" that High Street just hasn't seemed to become.

1. Do something to remember Mr. Magaletta. He built Islington. When he painted all of his buildings yellow it was probably to send a message to the town. Today, yellow is cool. I know I'm home when I see the yellow.

2. The main intersection gets wider every time Washington Street is fixed. Why? It's not working. Traffic in the PM is backed all the way to Dedham and the light at Roche Bros is routinely ignored. This may be crazy but why not test a small rotary in the center like the ones seen in Dedham and pull the lights back for pedestrians. It would slow traffic, end left turns and put Univ Ave / Rte 128 traffic back on Route 1. Or, make East Street one way in front of Morrison field. We can't wait 10 or 20 years for the state to build the flyover on Route 1/Everett Street.

3. New development. Go big, go tall on 1 parcel and zone everything else small. It's not (insert name of nearby town). It's a small, unique area... build something unique!



4. Move Library back to School St. Should fit nice next to the playground.

5. If any part of this plan means taking private property, there should be some premium paid to anyone who is losing their home!

Sure, it needs a facelift, but let's not overbuild.

I feel at home in this town and would like to see it keep it's character and not look like Dedham.

Westwood is a beautiful town and I'd like to see Islington Center spruced up, but not add 40 apartments that aren't necessary. Two bedroom condominiums would be more appropriate for this area.

Keep village feel. don't over build area. need more parking

Would love to see restaurants (family friendly, as well as "date night") and a prominent corner cafe/coffee shop, ice-cream/fro yo shop, and nice breakfast place. We REALLY need improvements to increase the safety of the sidewalks, especially from Clapboardtree to school street. As is, Washington street is too busy and the sidewalks are not safe for children to walk down (unless strictly attended to) or ride bikes on. I don't want to see bars or convenient stores that sell alcohol and lottery tickets/keno. I hope all development will be in keeping with the community feel (not huge, plain, and ugly structures!). Green spaces are important. I also think it is very important for Islington to be connected/walkable/bikable to High Street. We need bike paths, too!

Changes would be most beneficial to Islington Center. More village feel!!!

do not move Commuter Rail station

No apartments - this will make more traffic. There are enough in two mile radius.

Please don't add apartments. Please also do good traffic planning

Keep the small town, village feel

I would prefer to see commercial development rather than habitational development...some apartment/condos are inevitable but to many will make parking a nightmare.

Most of the commercial buildings are old and tired looking. A tasteful redevelopment would improve the overall appearance of the area

Development and change is good, but not if it sacrifices the current character and businesses. One bedroom apartments serve no purpose in a family town like Westwood. Young professionals don't want to live here, I think they would be few and far between. I walk to Islington center daily with my children and don't think that fits the town and does not represent what residents want.

Unless traffic and parking issues are addressed, I believe people will continue to just drive through Islington without stopping. There are too many other, more convenient places to shop, dine, etc. Also, the Task Force should remember that Westwood - including Islington - is a small town. Converting Islington into a city like Roslindale is a mistake.

The area between Roche Brothers and Everett Street can use improvement landscaping wise.

I wish we took the church, library and CVS down and put up a combined fire and police station. The town cannot afford the repairs on the church.

fix the East St bridge

Don't tear down my church!

it's about time they do something and the new fire station certainly doesn't fit with the architecture of the rest of center. I am a proponent of mixed use property but definitely don't want to see apartments everywhere. That would not keep with the character of the town of Westwood.



I am thankful that you finally put a NO TURN ON RED by the Fire Station turning onto East Street so that people on St. Denis Drive, Willard Circle, Carroll Ave and Smith Drive can get out of their streets. Now if you would put a green arrow for the people on Washington Street trying to turn onto East Street coming from St. Denis . It would be safer and helpful. Also you need a flashing yellow arrow on the left turn onto Washington Street heading to Roche Bros. Many cars( about 8) can get through this on the green arrow ,but they keep coming even after the arrow goes away cause the light is green, BUT if we are coming from School Street with Café Diva on our left, we have a hard time getting across. I have counted and only 4 or 5 cars get through sometimes. It is not fair. I'm surprised there aren't more accidents at this intersection."

Bike path to dedcham corp train station and route 128 train station

Other shops and professional services,medical,dental,etc an option

It lacks character and charm

I believe Islington is nice just as it is. I certainly hope any changes forced upon it will not result in present businesses being forced out against their will.

Don't try to fix what isn't broken. The town has other priorities - school sizes, sustainable budgeting practices, maintenance of infrastructure, keeping crime low

Tear down that empty (for years now) old ugly pink building near Dunkin donuts and the gas station. That is where apartments belong, NOT in the center of town. And the traffic lights, why do cars get an arrow to turn on School street when I would think there would be more traffic heading for 128.

I would like to see: More landscaping & Colonial architecture to enhance the charm of a rural New England village.

I love that Islington Center is walkable. I would love to see a restaurant come in and the Blue Hearth Tavern reopen.

Note: This survey should have been sent to all in our neighborhood - many families have both mom & dad working - many moved here for its ""country like"" atmosphere - not for another W. Roxbury! They know nothing of survey - Do you consider 50 Marshall St - Islington Ctr? Rt 1A - at commuter time I cannot take a left from Marshall St. I have to take a right on Clapboard to Mik St. & go down Gay St. to get to center! It used to have a small town feel to it Town should buy parcel corner of Marshall & Washington & make a park going down to brook- ... a place for all to walk to and/or picnic. I already shared them!! New businesses facades should resemble small colonial town. I expect the results of this survey to be published."

My greatest hope is that the library, as we know and love it, will remain! It is the most important and necessary part of our Islington Community.

Am opposed to multi-family buildings in the center - area would become too congested.

changes to traffic for safety

Bike/Walk, Green Space, I hate University Place, - Nothing but concrete box stores!!

No high rise buildings please. Senior housing. Bus on Westwood side of town. Maintain village character of what is already there.

Landscape flowers/bushes to soften the environment. Attractive and different street lights. Signs identifying bicycle paths. Part of the Westwood I first knew and one of the reasons for buying my home in Westwood 52 years ago.

Islington Center has the potential to be so much better than it is today. Most of the buildings and landscaping is worn out and unimpressive. There are only a few stores and restaurants, and too many vacant buildings. Islington Center could be a much more attractive and inviting small New England village with stores and restaurants that residents would enjoy patronizing - a place for the community to gather and for kids to meet their friends after school and on weekends. The Islington Community Center and the Library offer great services, but these buildings need significant improvements. More parking is needed close to the School Street Playground and Morrison Park so that cars are not parked unsafely on neighborhood streets. Pedestrian safety improvements are needed to make it safe for kids to walk or ride their bicycles all around the center, and there needs to be somewhere for them to go. An ice cream or yogurt shop would be great to have near Islington Pizza. Wild Blossom has become a good place to catch up with neighbors. More restaurants like this would add to the community feel. CVS is convenient but the building is obsolete and needs to be replaced. Vacant commercial buildings on the southern end of Washington Street need new users. All new buildings should be appropriately scaled and well-managed, and building materials should have New England character. New apartments could add life to Islington Center and provide more incentive to new businesses to open here, but there must be a reasonable cap on how many apartments or condos are allowed. It would be great if the Blue Hart Tavern could be restored and returned to some useful purpose. The old tailor shop building could be torn down and the Blue Hart Tavern could have a permanent home on School Street. That would make a better transition between the commercial district and the residential district.

I know it needs some updating but don't turn it into Dedham! The parking lot should stay a parking lot. Do not let all these apartments take over everything. Fix up the community center! Get rid of that ridiculous, mile long ramp and put in a lift! Probably would have cost the same as all that wood. Keep our buildings! Don't sell any town property! Ever!

The Magaletta block with the PO needs architectural improvement.

better survey - next button does not work on my phone

add sidewalk plantings in front of CVS and library

Please do not give us a huge CVS. It would look like Rt. 1. The intersection already is dominated by the new, large fire station. The church should balance the corner. It is a New England icon. We need small businesses.

It would be great to have better bike lanes. I would also like a nice cafe or restaurant.

Change traffic lights (left arrow to East St.) Button operated crosswalks.

NO MORE HOUSING, 2 STORY MAX. Ambience Village 1-2 stories, no extra housing. Put it at University Station. We have enough!

Leave it alone.

Please listen to the Islington/Westwood residents! Do not let our town owned land be compromised. Smart growth is good!

Keep small village look and feel,

It is embarrassing. The town should spend the money to make it look better or sell to someone who will.

Make it better now!

traffic lights

Best wishes

Keep the village atmosphere

Don't change to become too commercial.

Needs ice cream or yogurt shop

Single-housing 12/under

I live there now. It would be great to have a real village center like Canton or Needham or Norwood.

Better traffic flow. Hate to see bridge wider, but New & more traffic has made it necessary

It needs overall planning to change the character into a true center which it isn't now. It should have some high end stores & restaurants. And should be walkable.

Keep it a Village! Prevent traffic. Love the Small Town Village close to Commuter Rail and MBTA.

Safety\*\*\*

Would consider small number of units for 55 and older (condos) not apartments. I basically like the center the way it is and would not like to see dense buildings with many apartments. It would change the whole character of the center and this area.

Over 55 condo fewer than 15 units. I do not want to see the future of Islington controlled by one developer. I want to maintain Town control over 4 parcels until we know what developer plans are. I do not want to see Islington negatively differentiated from the rest of Westwood. Where are similar plans for High Street?

Don't need Big Buildings, offices, etc. Keep the small village feeling.

Let it change. Do what it takes to fill storefronts and bring commercial tax dollars. Keep moving forward so property values rise. What's good for business is good for everyone.

Longer pedestrian crossing lights. More attention paid to trash pickup around parks 7 common buildings

I want to keep the library, cvs, the historic Islington Church. I don't see any plans for apartments in residential areas along Rt. 109. Why in Islington? There are more important things for the town to consider, than making money selling off Islington Center. Please listen to the residents of Islington and choose values other than money.

I love Islington Center. Please leave it alone.

Why make Islington a copy cat of Rt. 109?

Any property owned by the Town should not leave town ownership/control. I don't want to see the town sell any of the parcels including the community center, branch library or parking lot. The Town also needs to maintain these buildings. I don't think it's a good idea to have one person own all the land in Islington Center. Also, I don't think multi parcels should be combined into one project when getting a permit and it should be done on how the lots are legally divided. I also think there should be plenty of buffer between the street and other neighbors and no buildings should be built right off the sidewalk/street.

Stop turning the small town feel to a mega apartment town.

Leave Islington Center the way it is. We do (not) need apartments or further stores.

Who decides when and what changes are made to Islington Center? Quaintness of Westwood would disappear with new one bedroom apartments. Railroad tracks should be elevated instead of going down and moving all underground utilities.

I lived in Westwood for 12 years. I am now in Norwood, walking distance of Islington and would love to see new improvements in this area.

I love the quaint feel.

No condos, no apartments, keep it small. Think of the kids and families. Don't turn it into some busy congested area, more than it already is.

Washington St. light at East St., State would do well with green arrow/light also heading west, allow turn on right on red at School St.

Maintain as much as the old village as possible. It has been a great place to raise a family.

Rebuild the tennis court, preserve and improve the sports facilities.

Safe, friendly are for those living nearby.

Preserve the cozy atmosphere.

I see danger in overbuilding; I would not want a condo village. I would like to see as much of the old village character maintained as possible.

Do not change its look. Do not need lots of apartments or condos, or residential over building that houses post office. I do not need more housing. It will lose its small town appearance, do not need more traffic.

MMO

We don't need anymore apartments.

Maintenance and trash removal all down Washington St., sports places are well maintained. Walk down Washington St. is disgraceful - trash everywhere. Town green is disgraceful.

Keep our library. Listen to the residents.

Listen to the people.

Fix the bridge. Rehabilitate the library.

Do something unique, don't copy xyz town. Keep temporary fire station as a small police station, reuse equipment from police HQ. There's too much activity at University Station and its too far from HQ.

Please publish at libraries.

More shops and food options.

no

Keep it simple.

Keep MOM

Lower rentals for fixed income. Round trip shuttle regularly connecting 109 and Washington St. (Islington)

I hate to be redundant but in the past year, I find going there is no longer convenient.