

Economic Development Survey - Town of Dudley - 2
Generated: 2017-11-12 03:53

Please Select Your Current Status (Select One)

Total votes: 229

1. ■ Current Dudley Resident

214 votes, 93.45% of total votes

2. ■ Prospective Dudley Resident

6 votes, 2.62% of total votes

3. ■ Current Employer / Business Owner in Dudley

3 votes, 1.31% of total votes

4. ■ Prospective Employer / Business Owner considering Dudley

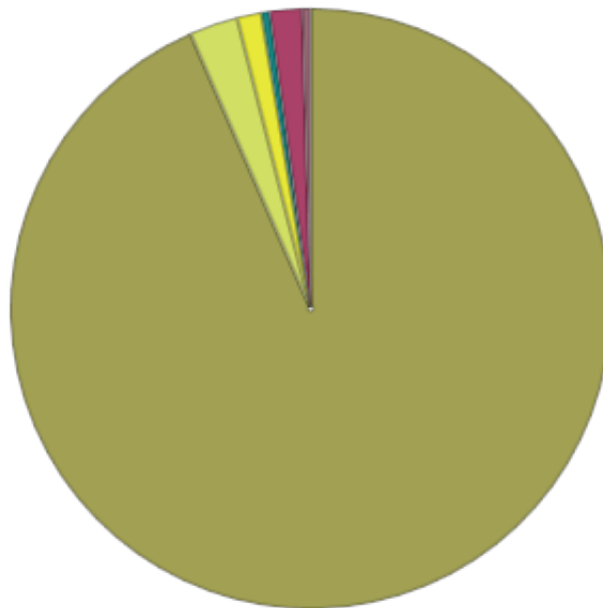
1 vote, 0.44% of total votes

5. ■ Visitor

4 votes, 1.75% of total votes

6. ■ Other - Type Here

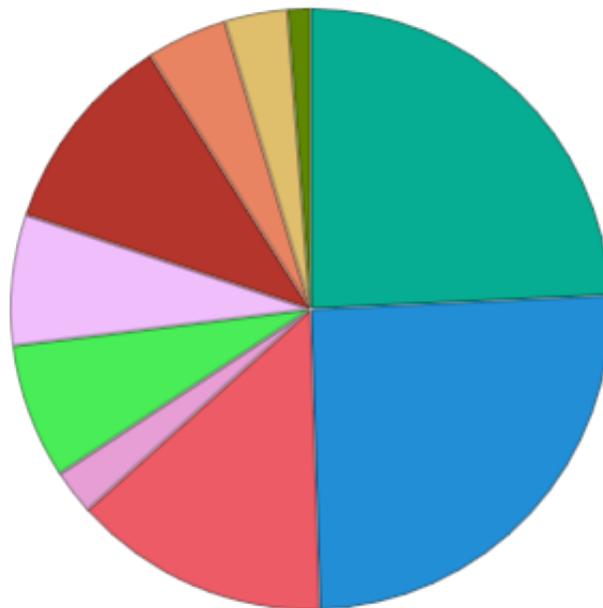
1 vote, 0.44% of total votes



What are Dudley's greatest assets? (Multiple Selections Allowed)

Total votes: 412

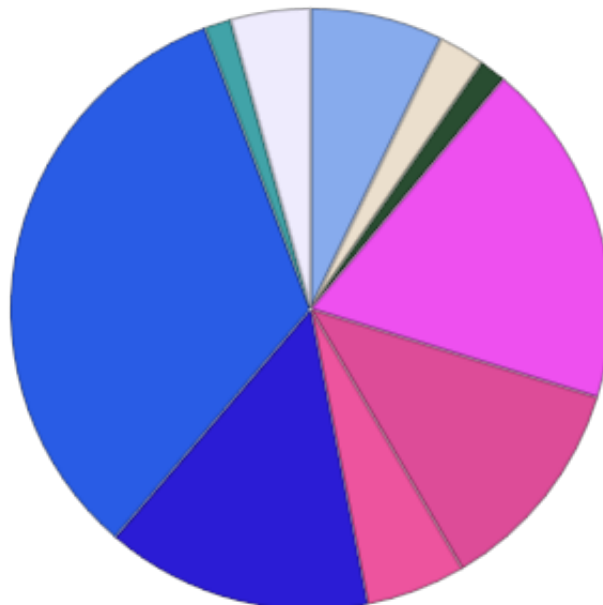
- 1. Low Tax Rate**
100 votes, 24.27% of total votes
- 2. Educational System**
104 votes, 25.24% of total votes
- 3. Natural habitat**
57 votes, 13.83% of total votes
- 4. Recreational opportunities**
10 votes, 2.43% of total votes
- 5. Sense of community**
30 votes, 7.28% of total votes
- 6. Affordable housing**
29 votes, 7.04% of total votes
- 7. Location**
45 votes, 10.92% of total votes
- 8. Best overall value in New England**
18 votes, 4.37% of total votes
- 9. All of the Above**
14 votes, 3.4% of total votes
- 10. Other - Type your answer here**
5 votes, 1.21% of total votes



What are Dudley's greatest weaknesses? (Multiple Selections Allowed)












Total votes: 279

1. ■ Low Tax Rate
20 votes, 7.17% of total votes
2. ■ Educational System
7 votes, 2.51% of total votes
3. ■ Natural habitat
4 votes, 1.43% of total votes
4. ■ Recreational opportunities
52 votes, 18.64% of total votes
5. ■ Sense of community
33 votes, 11.83% of total votes
6. ■ Affordable housing
15 votes, 5.38% of total votes
7. ■ Location
40 votes, 14.34% of total votes
8. ■ Lack of local jobs
92 votes, 32.97% of total votes
9. ■ All of the Above
4 votes, 1.43% of total votes
10. ■ Other - Type your answer here
12 votes, 4.3% of total votes



What should be the top economic development priorities? (Multiple Selections Allowed)

Total votes: 436

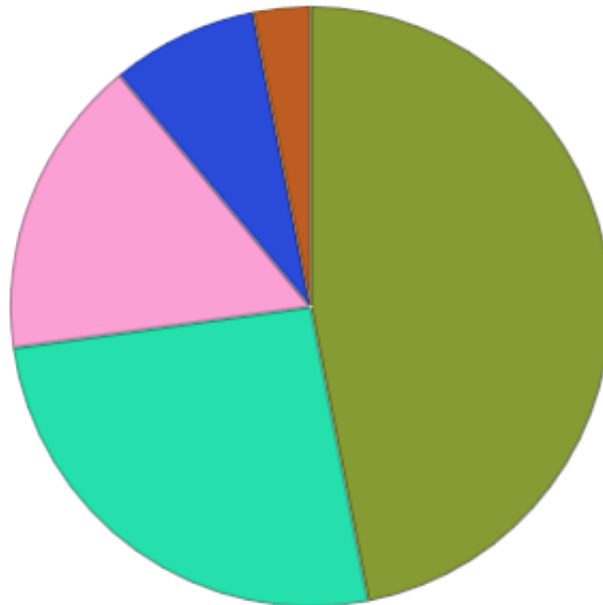
1.  Recreation and tourism
41 votes, 9.4% of total votes
2.  Manufacturing
25 votes, 5.73% of total votes
3.  Residential Construction and Development
14 votes, 3.21% of total votes
4.  Retail Stores
45 votes, 10.32% of total votes
5.  Creating a Restaurant District
67 votes, 15.37% of total votes
6.  Attracting Office Parks and Clean Industry
43 votes, 9.86% of total votes
7.  Turning our dormant Agricultural Lands into Active Farms, Wineries and Craft Breweries
98 votes, 22.48% of total votes
8.  Increase Solar Farms
20 votes, 4.59% of total votes
9.  Revitalize West Main Street
72 votes, 16.51% of total votes
10.  Do Nothing
0 vote, 0% of total votes
11.  Other Ideas - Please Explain Here
11 votes, 2.52% of total votes



Where Should Town Officials Concentrate Their Economic Development Efforts? (Multiple Selections Allowed)

Total votes: 228

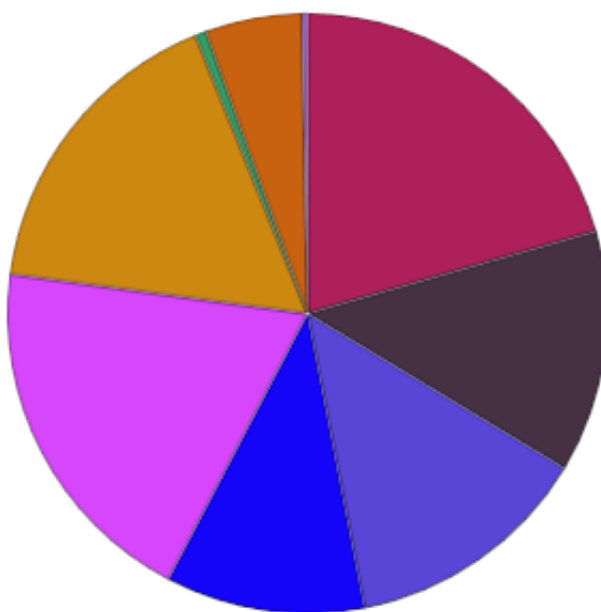
1. ■ West Main Street (Rt. 197 to CT State Line)
107 votes, 46.93% of total votes
2. ■ Schofield Avenue (Rt. 12 From West Main to CT State Line)
59 votes, 25.88% of total votes
3. ■ Oxford Avenue (From West Main to Oxford Town Line)
37 votes, 16.23% of total votes
4. ■ Southbridge Road (Rt 131) West Dudley
18 votes, 7.89% of total votes
5. ■ Other : Type your answer here
7 votes, 3.07% of total votes



What do you see as the major benefit(s) of encouraging business/industrial development in Dudley? (Select One)












Total votes: 345

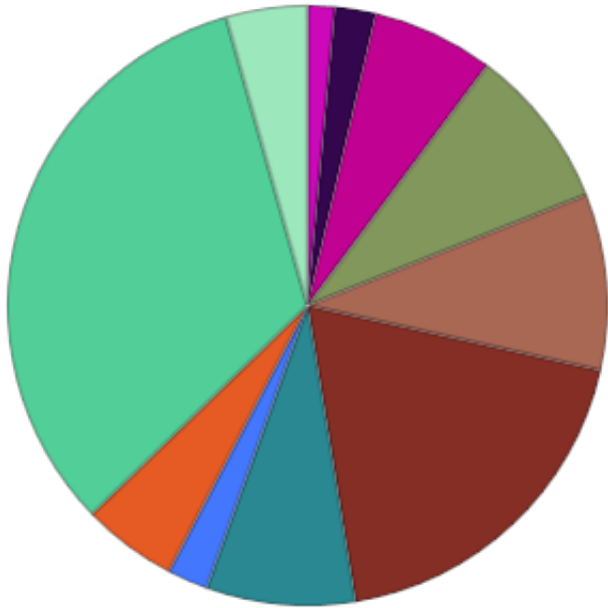
- 1. ■ More in-town jobs
71 votes, 20.58% of total votes
- 2. ■ More retail stores and services
45 votes, 13.04% of total votes
- 3. ■ More tax revenues to help ease residential tax burden
46 votes, 13.33% of total votes
- 4. ■ More tax revenues to help MAINTAIN current municipal services
37 votes, 10.72% of total votes
- 5. ■ More tax revenues to help IMPROVE municipal services
67 votes, 19.42% of total votes
- 6. ■ An economically strong Dudley will give residents better government services and recreational opportunities
58 votes, 16.81% of total votes
- 7. ■ There are no benefits to Economic Development!
2 votes, 0.58% of total votes
- 8. ■ All of the Above
18 votes, 5.22% of total votes
- 9. ■ Other: Type your answer here
1 vote, 0.29% of total votes



The Old Stevens Linen Mill by West Main and Schofield Ave should be.... (Select One)

Total votes: 137

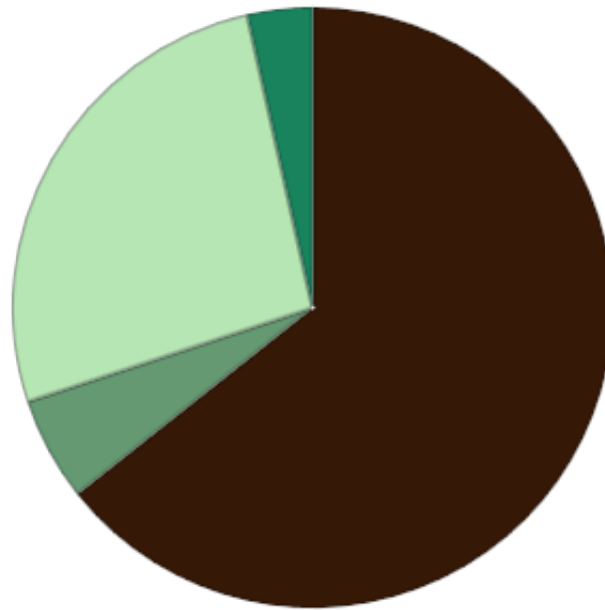
1.  Converted into Low Income Housing by a private developer with Tax Breaks from the Town
2 votes, 1.46% of total votes
2.  Converted into Low Income Housing by a private developer with NO Tax Breaks from the Town
3 votes, 2.19% of total votes
3.  Converted into Senior Housing ONLY by a private developer with Tax Breaks from the Town
9 votes, 6.57% of total votes
4.  Converted into Senior Housing ONLY by a private developer with NO Tax Breaks from the Town
12 votes, 8.76% of total votes
5.  Converted into private sale Condo's with Tax Breaks from the Town
13 votes, 9.49% of total votes
6.  Converted into private sale Condo's with NO Tax Breaks from the Town
26 votes, 18.98% of total votes
7.  Acquired by The Town of Dudley and used for Senior Housing ONLY to supplement Joshua Place
11 votes, 8.03% of total votes
8.  Should be converted into Office Space by a Private Developer with Tax Breaks from the Town
3 votes, 2.19% of total votes
9.  Should be converted into Office Space by a Private Developer with NO Tax Breaks from the Town
7 votes, 5.11% of total votes
10.  Should be converted to commercial, mixed use or low-impact industrial uses
45 votes, 32.85% of total votes
11.  Other: Type your suggestion here
6 votes, 4.38% of total votes



In-home occupations are currently allowed as a permitted use throughout Dudley. Do you have any objections to how in-home businesses are regulated/enforced in Dudley? (Select One)

Total votes: 143

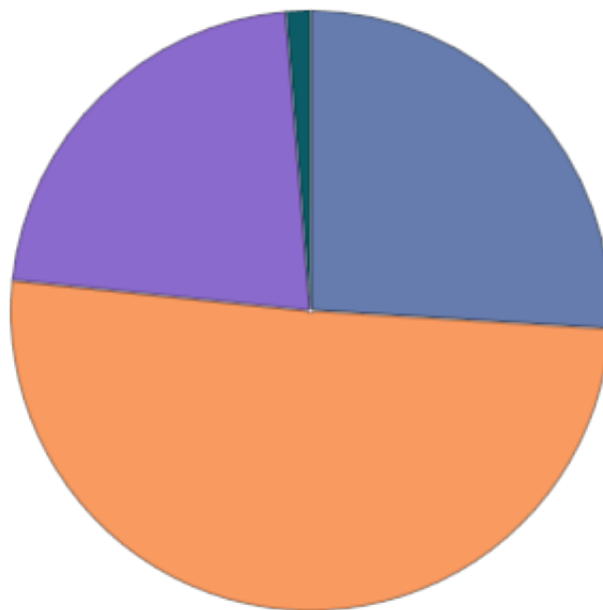
- 1. No
92 votes, 64.34% of total votes
- 2. Yes
8 votes, 5.59% of total votes
- 3. Unsure
38 votes, 26.57% of total votes
- 4. Here are my concerns : Type Here
5 votes, 3.5% of total votes



As more people shop online, traditional retail businesses are struggling. Would you support broadening the definition of the In-home occupations category in our Zoning Bylaws - to include small online sellers of merchandise who would also like to allow retail customers to buy merchandise from them at their homes, in residentially zoned districts if the Town limited the retail traffic count to less than 10 cars per day?

Total votes: 154

- 1. ■ No
40 votes, 25.97% of total votes
- 2. ■ Yes
78 votes, 50.65% of total votes
- 3. ■ Unsure
34 votes, 22.08% of total votes
- 4. ■ Other: Type your answer here
2 votes, 1.3% of total votes



Tradespeople are becoming scarce. Would you support broadening the definition of the In-home occupations category in our Zoning Bylaws - to allow tradespeople (Electricians, Welders, Auto mechanics, Carpenters) to have retail customers visit them at their homes, in residentially zoned districts if the Town limited the retail traffic count to less than 10 cars per day?

Total votes: 146

1. ■ No

31 votes, 21.23% of total votes

2. ■ Yes

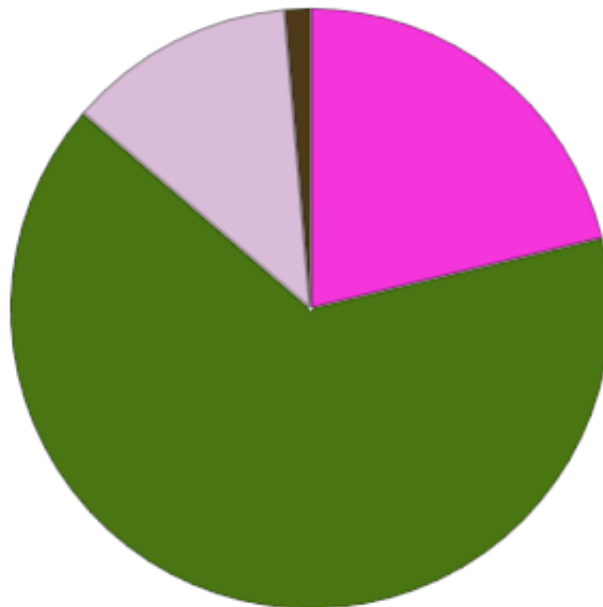
95 votes, 65.07% of total votes

3. ■ Unsure

18 votes, 12.33% of total votes

4. ■ Other: Type your answer here

2 votes, 1.37% of total votes



Dudley is the Home of Nichols College. Many parents who visit their children at Nichols have no place to stay in Dudley. Would you support the Town of Dudley efforts to create Air-BnB Regulations that would allow homeowners to rent rooms / houses or create Bnb (Bed and Breakfast) establishments in residentially zoned districts?

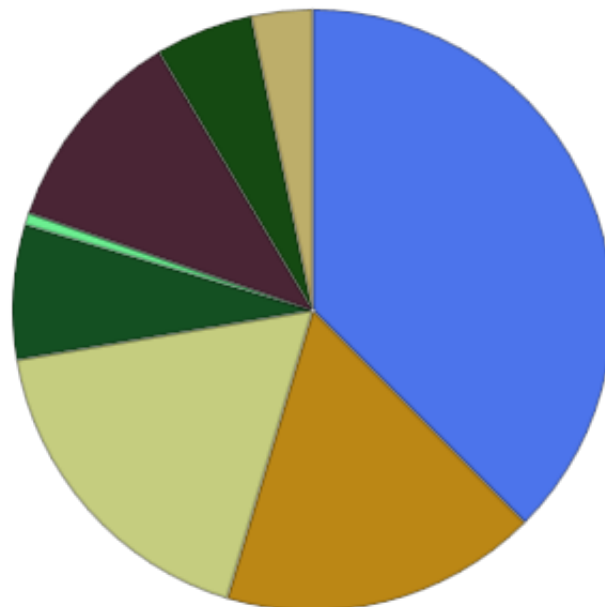
Total votes: 149

- 1. ■ No
17 votes, 11.41% of total votes
- 2. ■ Yes
108 votes, 72.48% of total votes
- 3. ■ Unsure - I would need more information
21 votes, 14.09% of total votes
- 4. ■ Other: Type your answer here
3 votes, 2.01% of total votes



Massachusetts recently legalized Marijuana. It also passed overwhelming in the Town of Dudley. How many Marijuana Retail Store Permits should Dudley issue?
Total votes: 152

- 1. ■ Zero (0)
57 votes, 37.5% of total votes
- 2. ■ One (1)
26 votes, 17.11% of total votes
- 3. ■ Two (2)
27 votes, 17.76% of total votes
- 4. ■ Three (3)
11 votes, 7.24% of total votes
- 5. ■ Four (4)
1 vote, 0.66% of total votes
- 6. ■ Five (5)
0 vote, 0% of total votes
- 7. ■ Do Not Limit
17 votes, 11.18% of total votes
- 8. ■ Unsure
8 votes, 5.26% of total votes
- 9. ■ Additional Thoughts: Type here
5 votes, 3.29% of total votes



Some people have suggested that the Town of Dudley should have a theme that it is centered around. Eg: Sturbridge has Old Sturbridge village and its theme is centered around the old colonial days and tourism. This theme would help guide the overall feel, look and overall atmosphere in Dudley. What theme would you prefer?

Total votes: 152

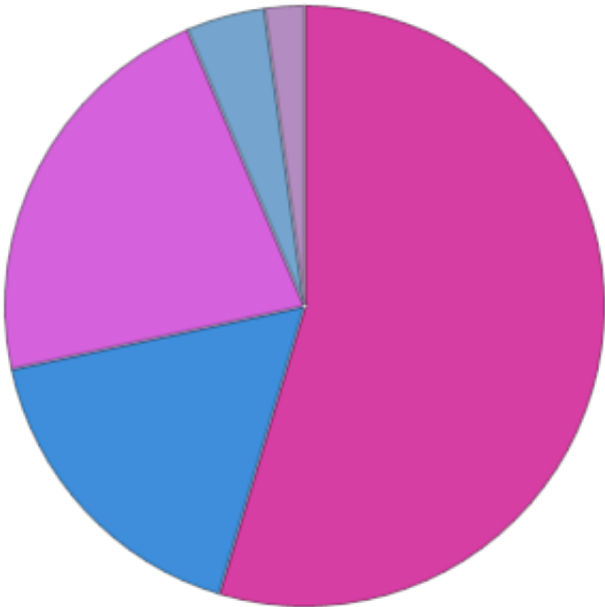
1. ■ The Town does not need a theme
71 votes, 46.71% of total votes
2. ■ Nipmuc Indians and their history in Dudley
10 votes, 6.58% of total votes
3. ■ The Industrial Revolution
14 votes, 9.21% of total votes
4. ■ Colonial Days
14 votes, 9.21% of total votes
5. ■ No Opinion
36 votes, 23.68% of total votes
6. ■ My idea for a theme is... Type your answer here
7 votes, 4.61% of total votes



The overwhelming majority of cities and towns across the United States breakdown their property tax bills into 2 separate Tax Bills. One for Local Government Funding (Property Tax) and the other tax bill for the School System. (School Tax). The benefit of separating them out is that residents have a greater knowledge of where their taxes are going and can also vote to increase one, without increasing the other. Would you support Dudley breaking down their tax rate into 2 categories - Local Government Tax and School tax. (Important Note: Separating them out would not increase your overall tax, it would merely separate it from an accounting point of view and would allow separate town meeting and town election actions on each)

Total votes: 141

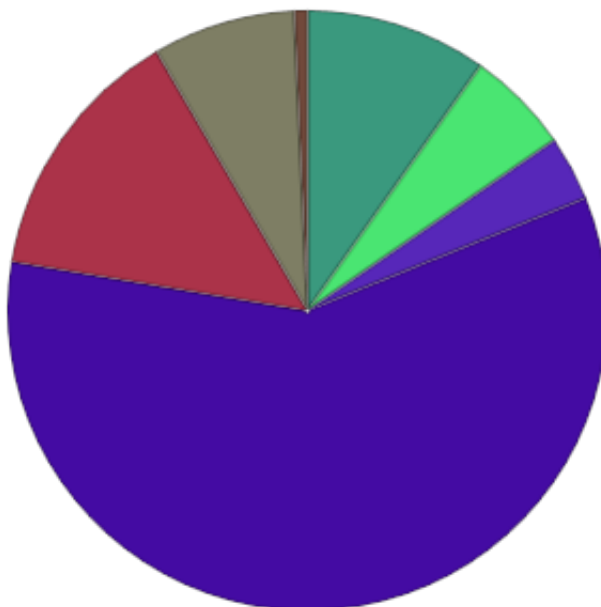
- 1. ■ Yes
77 votes, 54.61% of total votes
- 2. ■ No
24 votes, 17.02% of total votes
- 3. ■ Unsure: Would need more information
31 votes, 21.99% of total votes
- 4. ■ No Opinion
6 votes, 4.26% of total votes
- 5. ■ Comments:
3 votes, 2.13% of total votes



Would you approve the use of Town funds to upgrade our existing infrastructure (roads, sewer and water) to attract new business or industry if it meant increasing your local taxes?

Total votes: 143

- 1. ■ Yes, but only up to a 5% increase
14 votes, 9.79% of total votes
- 2. ■ Yes, but only up to a 10% increase
8 votes, 5.59% of total votes
- 3. ■ Yes, but only up to a 15% increase
5 votes, 3.5% of total votes
- 4. ■ Yes, but any increase must be part of an overall strategy and it must produce new revenue for the town.
84 votes, 58.74% of total votes
- 5. ■ No
20 votes, 13.99% of total votes
- 6. ■ Unsure
11 votes, 7.69% of total votes
- 7. ■ Comments: Type your answer here
1 vote, 0.7% of total votes



Would you be in favor of Dudley developing establishing design guidelines that guide new businesses regarding the appearance of their storefronts, signage and overall presence?

Total votes: 144

1. ■ Yes

85 votes, 59.03% of total votes

2. ■ No

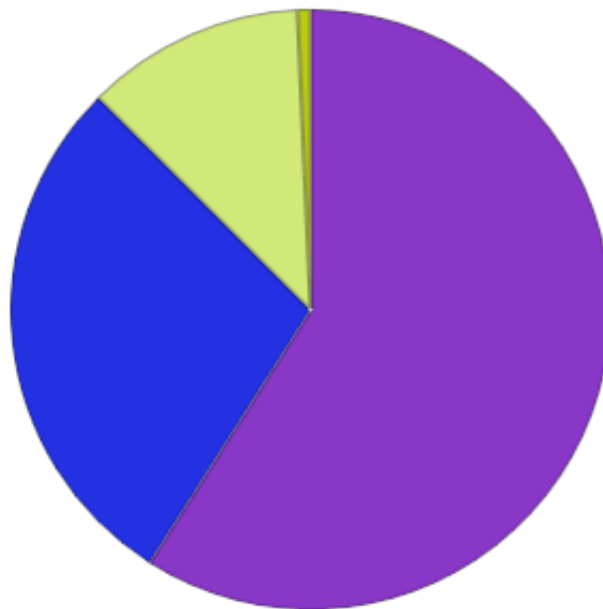
41 votes, 28.47% of total votes

3. ■ Unsure

17 votes, 11.81% of total votes

4. ■ Comments: Type here

1 vote, 0.69% of total votes



Increasingly the Federal Government and State of Massachusetts issue mandates to towns which are not funded. These unfunded mandates require Dudley to reallocate current monies from various existing programs and departments and redirect them to meet the new mandates required by the Fed and State. This means Dudley has to do more, with much less. How does Dudley deal with their revenue shortfalls created by the Fed and State?

Total votes: 141

1. ■ Ask Taxpayers for a one time permanent tax increase to get all programs and departments to proper funding levels?

46 votes, 32.62% of total votes

2. ■ Cut programs and services in order to stay within the current town and school budgets

32 votes, 22.7% of total votes

3. ■ Unsure

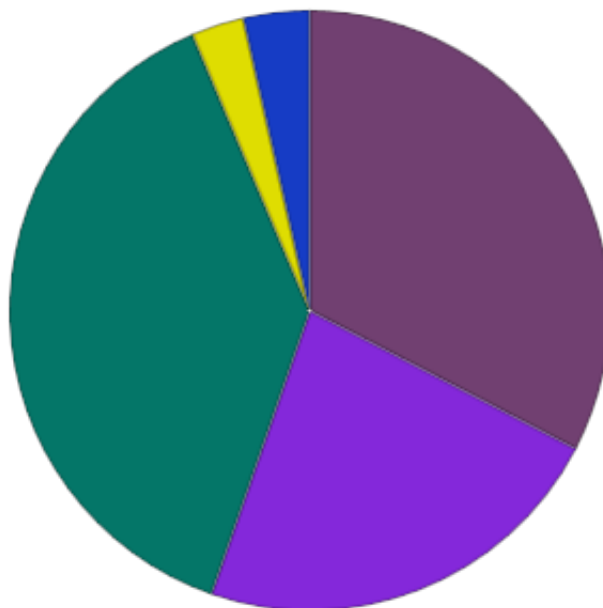
54 votes, 38.3% of total votes

4. ■ No Opinion

4 votes, 2.84% of total votes

5. ■ Other: Please provide your solution here

5 votes, 3.55% of total votes



Do you like living in Dudley?

Total votes: 144

1. ■ Yes

131 votes, 90.97% of total votes

2. ■ No

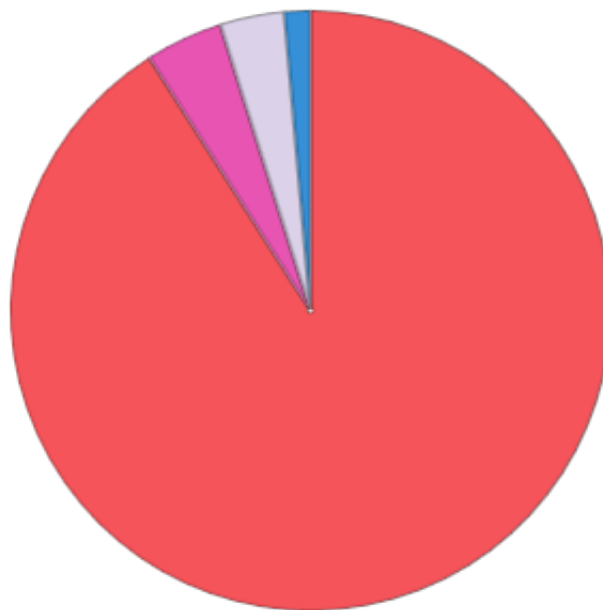
6 votes, 4.17% of total votes

3. ■ Not Applicable

5 votes, 3.47% of total votes

4. ■ Additional Comments: Type Here

2 votes, 1.39% of total votes



If you could share one thought to all Town of Dudley Officials and Employees... what would that be?

Total votes: 139

1. ■ Nothing to share right now

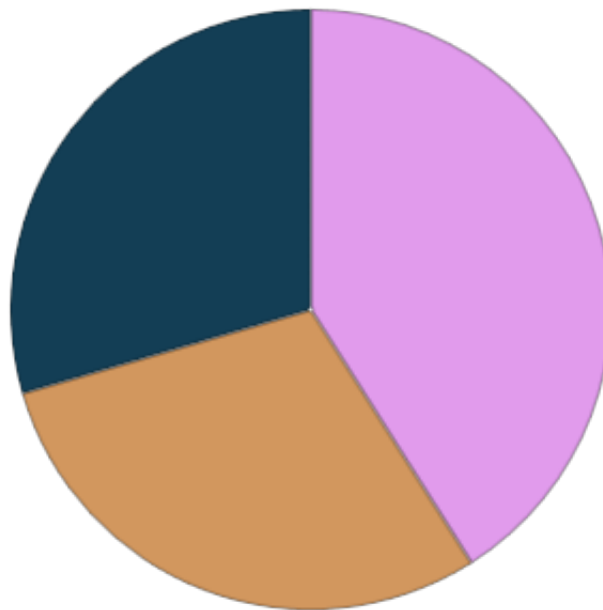
57 votes, 41.01% of total votes

2. ■ Pass on this question

41 votes, 29.5% of total votes

3. ■ Type your answer here

41 votes, 29.5% of total votes



In your opinion, what is the one thing Dudley could do to attract and retain good companies to locate themselves in the Town of Dudley?

Total votes: 139

1. ■ No Opinion

45 votes, 32.37% of total votes

2. ■ Pass on this Question

44 votes, 31.65% of total votes

3. ■ Comments: Type your answer here

50 votes, 35.97% of total votes

