

**FEEDBACK COMPILATION FOR BOW COMMUNITY QUESTIONS #1
October/November 2017 – for 2018-2021 Baker Free Library Strategic Plan**

1. What are the current main priorities of the Bow community, and what are the biggest challenges that Bow will face in the next 2-3 years?

BUSINESS/EVERSOURCE

- Eversource/taxes \$, reduce costs to town, how to talk to each other about this, town revenue
- business growth/ expanding diversifying tax base

COMMUNITY

- Growth (rising enrollment in elementary school, youth programs), finding volunteers
- Impact of Dunbarton on schools
- Not a lot of “community” aspect in Bow
- No town center
- Lack of gathering places for teens
- Lack of coffee shop/food/gathering space
- Keeping things strong that are strong (schools)
- Community pride
- Historical Society Archives
- Get elections out of schools

COMMUNICATION

- Veteran citizens don't understand turnover. If school is reason people move to Bow, what are the other reasons – what can make people stay – what draw?
- Generational difference in respect to learning (baby boomers vs. millennials) as related to education/learning advocacy
- Bow residents' commitment to community/community service
- community dialogue

TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE/BUILDINGS

- School renovation – DES and BES building projects (bonds?)
- Bow Community Building plans/future – opportunity to bring business in to town?
- Gazebo/roundabout area
- Old police building plans
- Dunbarton lack of internet access in some areas
- Cell phone dead zones in town
- Infrastructure failure (Birchdale)
- water/sewer/Concord cooperation with efforts
- Exit 1 safety concerns
- Parking garage

**FEEDBACK COMPILATION FOR BOW COMMUNITY QUESTIONS #2
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2. What do you feel, as an individual resident, is the most important service that the library currently offers the community?

PHYSICAL SPACE

- meeting space
- Bow Historical Society space
- lower level
- Tardis/book sale room
- Coffee/comfortable place
- Nice facility
- Parking
- quiet retreat

COMMUNITY

- Community communication
- community bulletin board
- hub for info clearing in Town
- multigenerational
- gateway to everything
- library reflects Town

LIBRARY SERVICES

- Interlibrary loan/information from outside of Bow
- Newsletter
- children's events/programs
- summer reading program (community/family appeal)
- passports
- museum passes
- hours
- Print books
- Book bags
- collections (DVDs)

TECHNOLOGY

- Hoopla/Overdrive
- technology education
- more formal tech programs
- research
- internet

**FEEDBACK COMPILATION FOR BOW COMMUNITY QUESTIONS #3
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3. What goals do you want the library to accomplish for the benefit of the community?

PHYSICAL SPACE

- bigger parking lot

COMMUNITY

- community hub/town center
- community function/carnival – where all community groups have a table
- outreach to new residents of Bow
- coordination with Bow and Dunbarton outreach to families
- multigenerational outreach
- outreach to local/town experts
- business collaboration
- collaborations with school librarians - re-institute quarterly meetings
- partnerships with higher education

LIBRARY SERVICES

- more lectures
- fitness classes
- food “do you want fries with that book?”, drink
- skills acquisition (classes)
- classes – “TED” talks
- appreciation programs with local people in various fields (music/writing/engineering/art)
- more kids at local colleges/NHTI – how to provide space/learning resources to those kids
- learning studio for 24/7 learning
- makerspace/digital studio (music/videos)

TECHNOLOGY

- boost website/communication
- digital collaboration (supplement/complement)
- balance between tech skills and literacy skills
- sharing resources (particularly digital)
- research use for students (print as well as electronic resources)

**FEEDBACK COMPILATION FOR BOW COMMUNITY QUESTIONS #4
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4. If the perfect competitor to the library opened up across South Street from the library building, what services/resources would they offer?

FOOD

- food (? Bread and Chocolate in Lower level)
- coffee/cafe
- cocktail service (delivery?)
- brew pub/brewery
- decent pizza place
- groceries

SERVICES

- delivery
- Sunday hours
- Educational technology
- Games tournament
- Town newspaper (not Bow Times)
- Coordinated community news list (digital?) to communicate with non-school residents

PHYSICAL SPACE

- parking garage
- outdoor space (seating/tables/rockers/etc.)
- outdoor performance space
- theater
- drive through coffee/book drop
- community meeting center
- art creating room
- playground
- Kid friendly/babysitting space
- little libraries around town
- Cocoons/pods
- Outdoor full color display board
- Comfortable furniture

Groups who provided feedback:

Bow Garden Club
Bow Business Development Commission
Bow Men's Club
SAU #67 Administrative Team
Bow School Board
Bow Rotary Executive Board