

Team Kartik:

Strengths:

Bikeability access to town by bike
Character of neighborhood school as hub/public space
Cultural opportunities and arts contributions
Family safe parks
Historic buildings

Independent businesses
Invested people, time to plan
Involved, brave people opening businesses!

Neighborhood feel
Nonotuck Park
Old town hall improvements, arts council
Open space
Pond boardwalk
Reuse of mill building
Sense of self as a community working together
Small town/roads
Strong feeling of community, tight city feeling

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Opportunities:

Affordable housing perhaps in tandem w/civic bldgs. Ex. YMCA, youth center, library, cultural and community center
Communication on parking or moving around
Coop arts building
Downtown elderly housing
Increased pedestrian walkways, increased access to bike path
Innovative housing concepts – examples: vertical additions, connectors – contemporary to historic buildings
Boardwalk-more events there-summer concert series, movie night
Low income housing
More open space by closing last block of Park St. and consolidating that space with old library and 2 old schools
More parking walking access
New library
Open space walking trails
Pedestrian access further up Everett St. foot bridge
Pedestrian and bicycle easy access
Affordable studio space for artists
Affordable housing
Theater in Pepin
Performance space in arts district
Pond trails (pedestrian)
Public transit
Small affordable housing rents for students and young adults
Small playground/gathering spot
Teen center in town
Traffic patterns
Unclear/lack of signage for public parking
YMCA or equivalent

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Weaknesses:

2-way traffic on Cottage St.
Access for tractor trailers
Auto encouraged planning (box store)
Bad, inaccessible sidewalks
Brewery peddle cart on bike trail
Chains
Nigh safe walkways
Rental and function space
Run-down looking properties around Main St. green and around Florence Bank area
Some poor business uses on Union St. need reconfigurations
Unsafe crosswalks

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Threats:

Chain stores
Traffic
More traffic lights enough already
No parking
Bike lanes
Big box stores and large corporate intrusions that are not in character
Auto-centric design
Higher speed threats widening etc.
Maple St. School grounds/playground should remain partially public space/not all condos and parking lot
Parking
Gentrification
Costs/money funding
High speed through town traffic
Characterless cookie cutter buildings (Home Depot, Applebee's, etc.)

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Team Jess:

Strengths:

Bike path	
Boardwalk	
Good restaurants in downtown	*
Gym @ Pepin	*
Gym in Pepin	**
Keep events community-oriented, keep variety in what's offered*	*
Library	
Library	
Library	****
Local business	
Local businesses	*
Locally owned super market	
Playgrounds @ Center/Pepin and Maple	*
Playgrounds at Center/Maple	
Pond area downtown for gathering	*
Restaurants	
Restaurants and coffee shops	
Restaurants and entertainment	
Strong cultural institutions doing important work	*

Weaknesses:

Aging/inadequate buildings/spaces for our strong cultural institutions	**
Cottage St. would like one way	*
Dog poop in green space by pond!	
Empty buildings	
Entertainment is not well advertised	
Lack of playgrounds and green spaces	*
Late night non-bar	
Major traffic issue cottage and union	***
Maybe blinking light at cross walks for at night	
Narrow sidewalks	
No clothing or general merchandise stores (not everyone drives)*	*
No park play space downtown	*
Not bike-friendly	**
Parking areas for business area	
Strip mall	
Too much hard-scape	
Traffic	

Opportunities:

A cultural community center dedicated to our strong cultural insitutions	*
Better spaces for senior center, library, and Head Start	
Community arts center	*
Downtown park/playground/greenspace	
Green downtown playground at current Center School	*****
Improved senior center space/ ? (indecipherable) space at Pepin	***
Larger library space – maybe in addition to current?	
Maker space	*
Mixed businesses use	
More variety of eateries! Do we really need 3 Mexican places?	
Open green space on Union	
Play areas / outdoor recreation	
Playground	
Rec Center	
Regular Cottage street closing in the summer (say Saturday om?)	
Safe Sidewalk	*
Tech/vocational school	
Teen and youth rec center	*
Wider sidewalks	*

Threats

Big box stores	
Chain stores	*
Charter schools	***
Making downtown overly commercial and not a place to hang	
More big buildings owned by a select few individuals	**
Parking garage/or additional lots	
Parking garages/lots	*
Speed bumps	
Too many parking lots	***
Too many parking spaces	
Too much parking lots, more buildings and business than can support	

Team Dave:

Strengths:

Arts	
Arts	
Arts & culture	***
Big E's	
Big E's	
Business diversity	
Farmer Market	
Flywheel/Old Town Hall	*
Grocery	
Grocery stores	**
Historic school facades – especially Maple School in cultural district	*
Library	*
Library	
Library	
Library in center of city	
Library in downtown	
Library in town	
More parking	
Mt. Tom!	**
Mt. Toms!!!	
Nash Pond	*
Nonotuk Park is awesome!	*
Practical downtown businesses/services (grocery, hardware, library, senior services, etc.)	*
Rail trail	**
Restaurant variety	
The green	

Weaknesses:

Chamber hours too limited for ? to be ? (indecipherable)	*
Cottage St. too narrow for parking both sides	**
Don't keep empty buildings	
Double-sided parking on Cottage	*
Empty buildings	*
Improve business facades lacking design integrity	
Need to improve relationship w/ Williston	
Not enough easily accessible parking	
Old and dangerous structures	
Road conditions	**
Trafficky spots and speeding areas	
Union St. needs to bring the arts night up the street	

Opportunities:

Alternative educational sites	*
Greater traffic control	
Hostel	
Improve roads and sidewalks for pedestrian safety and ADA compliance	
Improve traffic and make parking easier to understand	*
Larger library	**
Larger library	**
More affordable housing and artist studio space	*
More arts venues	*
More community space	*
More pedestrian safety	**
Movie theater	*****
New Senior Center, more opportunities for old and young to interact	
Outdoor pool in Nonotuk Park needs shade areas	*
Public indoor pool	**
Shelters for pedestrians	
Upgraded street light system for better traffic flow	
Well-painted crosswalks	*

Threats:

Big chain businesses	**
Big companies	
Box stores	*
Box stores, boo!	
Lack of involvement	
Less hair salons and tattoo parlors	
More bars	
More bars	
Starbucks	*
Too many parking lots	
Unaffordable housing	**

Team Raisa:

Strengths:

Pond/Diverse businesses
Restaurants

Cooperative Neighbors/business owners

Pond and boardwalk/bike path
Open space/community space
Diversity
Artists and interesting craft stores
Pond and the boardwalk area
Monthly art walks
MT Tom Ice cream
Local businesses
Mills/Pond/Pot

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Opportunities:

Wider sidewalks on Cottage St
Old town hall
Our library underutilized in its current building due to being denied grants of accessibility issues
Walkability
Can't cross the street because of fast traffic
Better looking store fronts/housing for elderly
Parking garage
Better public transit
Restaurants
Mill district/Northampton St/Union St/Cottage St
Accessible library/schools
Increase bicycle paths
More collaborations between student groups and businesses
Maintain community space at Maple school
More senior parking and entrances
Accessibility and parking

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Weaknesses:

Lack of housing types, especially elderly
Empty store fronts
Parking mess/access to existing corridors in the city
Too many bars
Traffic congestion/insufficient signage to parking
More parking lots
Hurry and Scurry – vacant
Missing signage/communication/traffic
Cottage/Union/Main/Mills-Pleasant St are all divided
Very narrow streets – Cottage St.

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Threats:

Gentrification
Traffic vs Walkers
Narrow street layout
Congestion – Poor flow
Saving a space/lots of demand for parking
Wider Cottage Street
Residential or Commercial Space at Maple school
Traffic
Traffic control on Cottage/Sidewalks/Slow traffic lights/more wide walkable streets for the disabled
Drugs/lack of affordable housing/tax base to increase
No more pot dispensaries
Bike path crossing
Gentrification/Corporate business

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Team Moe:

Strengths:

More green spaces
Low cost of entry for small business
Boardwalk
Small businesses
Walkable shops and downtown area
Stylish older buildings
Variety of shops offering good income rates
Pond area and Cottage Street district
Useful businesses, pharmacy, grocery, hardware, etc.
Historic character “hometown feel”
Ponds/boardwalk
Focus on the arts
Small-scale retail

Murals sculptures art

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Opportunities:

Affordable housing elderly
Strengthening downtown with parking and walkability
Sidewalks that look better with gardening
Utilities underground
More retail spaces as opposed to offices on Union and Cottage
Tables by the pond
More arts/theater venues
Still lots of open space
Bigger emphasis on ponds, water
Larger libraries
Trolleys to circle town from Mill district through downtown
Bike access
Increasing parking – Union and Cottage
More affordable housing including for youth transitioning out of foster care and for elders

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Weaknesses:

Abandoned run-down properties
Dangerous sidewalks for able-challenged folks
Signage and lighting
Too many crosswalks – confusing and dangerous
Lack of trees, shade
Under used parking – too much pavement
Union St is a mess
Wide, unsafe streets
Narrow streets – discontinues between areas
Crosswalk improvements
Traffic plus parking congestion

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Threats:

Excessive parking
No more bars
Bars/tattoo shops
Gentrification
No hotel chains
Parking lots with street frontage
Fewer pot shops
Through traffic – only one main route through town
Big chains/box stores
Traffic
Homogeny

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Team Jamie:

Strengths:

Local business	****
Restaurants	**
Mix of businesses that appeal to different folks	
Storefronts and businesses along Cottage St.	*
Coffee	
Great restaurants	
Variety of stores	
Shops	
Art galleries	*
Neighbors care	*
Pond/paddle boars	
Nash Pond – boardwalk	****
Rail trail	*****
Nash Pond	
Cultural fabric	*
Walkability	
Pond	
Beautiful views of Pond	
Big E's	

Weaknesses:

Increasing rent	
Difficult to park on narrow Cottage St.	*
Library	
Gentrification	*
Family Dollar Store and Strip mall – Ugly	*
Library	
Union Plaza – aesthetic blah in middle of town	***
Senior center	
Potholes	
Bikes in traffic	*
Traffic pattern from main routes (Route 141 and Route 10)	**
Traffic dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists	
Crosswalks/Traffic (unsafe)	
Safety hazard walkability	***
Unsafe crosswalks, blight in downtown, lack of parking	**
Crosswalks	*****
Transportation	***

Opportunities:

Make Cottage St one way	*
A new traffic pattern that alleviates some of the safety issues	
Swimmable pond	**
More open space opportunities	*
Green space	
Pedestrian forward	
More affordable housing	*
Caps on rent for low-income seniors	
Senior housing at one of the schools	
Potential housing	*
Public library at one of the schools	*
Beautiful union	
Senior center	****
School buildings	
Community land trust	****
Keep Pepin and use Center and Maple for parking	
Better traffic patterns	
Better crosswalks	*
More restaurants/galleries	*
Safety for all drivers	*
Unused business spaces	*
Better signage at current parking	
Connecting cultural district areas	
Community art making spaces	

Threats:

Too many bars that downtown becomes a party zone	**
Chain stores	*
Corporate chains	*
Development that only appeals to the rich	
Lack of affordable housing	
Landlord monopolies	*
Gentrification	
Loss of artists and lower income residents	*
No room for pedal party bikes	
Pedal party	**
Seniors in the planning process	*
Parking displacing people	**
Tourist trap	
Chain restaurants – retail/another pot shop	*

Team Chris K:

Strengths:

Farmers Market	***
Great restaurants	*
Accessibility of mill – build events there	
Nature spaces hikes/walks	
Community	
Ponds	
Boardwalk & Scenic view	***
Community involvement and liaisons	*
Bike path	*
Ice cream	
Family friendly	
Renovated mill bonding	*
Great local businesses	*

Weaknesses:

Lack of continuity between streets	**
More flow of downtown areas (walkable)	
Dangerous intersection at Brass Cat/Cottage St and Adams St.	****
Littering	
Municipal building is ugly and occupies very valuable real estate move and redevelop	
Empty bank of America building	**
Lack of trees	*
“Dead” buildings not in use	*
Hurry Scurry – Get rid of it	****
Difficulty acclimating to including non-white families	*
Crazy zoning	*
Ugly lot at Dollar Store plaza	*
Lack of continuity between different areas of town	
Terrible road/sidewalk conditions	

Opportunities:

Boutique hotel like McMenamins	**
Senior Living communities	***
Activity center/public meeting areas	*
Makespace	**
Mixed use shared co-op housing	***
Intergenerational spaces	**
Connect recreational facilities to downtown	*
Bike lanes/bike parking	**
Mixed-income housing	***
Close Cottage St – street to car traffic – either full time or weekends	*
Idea of a one way on Cottage St	*
Pond swimmable?	
Social consumption space cannabis	*
Green spaces downtown	***
Venue for film and dancing	****
Movie theater (missing the old Popcorn Noir)	
Theater Arts Performance Venue	****
Cottage Street front sidewalk too narrow at Cottage/Union connection	
Urban community garden	*
Lack of bike lanes	
Bike lanes	
More community spaces	

Threats:

Overly focused on parking of cars at the expense of accessibility, walkability, and bike-ability of the downtown	****
Crosswalk safety – distracted drivers	**
New-old resident divide	
Parking meters	
Pricing current residents out pf their homes	****
Expensive parking in front of buildings	*
Environmentally friendly waste containers throughout downtown	*
No more businesses coming in	
Big box stores	****
Big corporation stores like Walmart and Starbucks	
Housing costs	
High-end expensive housing	*
Lack of affordable housing	**
Corporate takeovers	

Team Steve:

Strengths:

- Lots of owner occupancy
- New school
- There is good stuff to do here
- Value of buildings and products
- Community spirit of a small city
- Traffic

Weaknesses:

- Condition of the roads
- Affordable Downton housing
- Streets are too narrow
- Downtown is fragmented
- Weird rotary / triangle
- Traffic (cut through)

Opportunities:

- Maple Streets school as community use
- Green space and parking at Maple School
- Reuse of Pepin and Central School
- Downtown art
- Rotary or small roundabout
- Improve zoning to be practical
- More small “pause” green spaces
- Take over and reuse vacant buildings
- Small affordable business space
- Potential attractions (ice cream) - pet shops

Threats:

- too many to be all successful
- Adequate funding

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Team Chris C:

Strengths:

- culture on 2 ends with practical in the middle
- public art
- old town hall
- municipal buildings
- library
- public buildings
- rail trail
- convenient locations (ie. grocery stores, small shops convenient stores)
- interesting mix of historic kinds of building
- walkability to arts, music, and practical things like shopping
- walkability
- pocket parks
- rail trail
- open space
- pond views
- arts integrated into public spaces
- library
- older buildings
- pond
- boardwalk
- bike path
- "hidden" gems
- pond
- rail trail
- little free library
- music/art spaces
- boardwalk
- restaurants
- public parks / play space
- the pond
- pond/boardwalk
- beauty of the pond/boardwalk
- historic buildings
- keep the heights of all new construction in keeping with existing

Weaknesses:

- overcrowded buildings
- congestion streets
- scattered activities
- side walks'
- nip bottles
- lighting on side streets
- police doing walking patrol
- dog poop
- weeds
- vacant buildings
- my sidewalks are broken up
- potholes
- not enough street trees
- high traffic
- ada accessibility to buildings
- traffic congestion
- not enough garbage cans
- bad streets
- bad sidewalks
- no shade on boardwalk
- traffic congestion
- dangerous pedestrian and bikeways
- empty buildings
- bad traffic
- too many crosswalks in unsafe areas
- small sidewalks
- orange flags every way
- dangerous crosswalks / not painted crosswalks
- 3-4 areas of the downtown and there is no natural flow between them
- library needs more space to serve growing community of users

Opportunities:

- facade improvements
- parking
- expanded library
- green municipal aggregation for sustainable energy
- public multi-use space
- one way on cottage street
- permanent family center space
- municipal power source
- play areas for kids / passive rec
- art house movie theater
- move rec department downtown (not just sport/Nonotuck)
- garbage cans everywhere
- shade sails (or some kind of shade) on boardwalk'
- fix the fence at Cottage St Parking lot - broken for years!
- new wider sidewalks
- speed bumps on Clark Street
- more affordable and accessible housing
- artist design crosswalks
- trade schools
- senior living
- public parking garage / university lots
- college/community college
- bike lanes
- expand rec center to provide more sporting opportunities
- indoor areas for children
- schools converted to...expanded library affordable housing, affordable artist studios

Threats:

- chain stores
- more banks
- weapon shop
- gentrification
- hind end/luxury apartments
- more bike trails
- prison
- big box stores
- liquor stores
- bars
- too many of one thing (liquor store, weed store, gas stations, thrift stores)

Team Jeff:

Strengths:

Great restaurants and bars	
Don't want to lose small shops, restaurants, market, hardware store	
Natural Areas - Parks, Ponds, Mt. Tom	
Cultural Districts- Arts, etc	**
New restaurants	*
Walkable - Good mix of business, culture,	
Close knit community of doers	
Cultural District, Pond	
Lots of Independent sole proprietors	
Restaurants	
Arts and Sense of Community	
Arts	
Nonotuck Park	*
Local businesses / Business owners	*
Waterfront Area	****
Pond / Promenade	*
Open Spaces to congregate / play	***
Affordable and diverse housing options (rent/buy/size/price/etc)	
Art walk, cultural chaos	
Grocery store, hardware store in downtown	
Affordable and flexible space for new or creative ventures	
Great mix of restaurants	*
Nonotuck Community gathering space	**
Bikepath	**

Weaknesses:

Cottage is very narrow	**
Lack of parking	*
Affordable housing (co-housing mixed generational)	
Public restrooms	*
Congested narrow streets	
Sidewalks, pavement-potholes	
Traffic - Congestion, narrow streets, potholes	
Parking	
Lighting in some areas of town	
Parking not close enough to popular venues	
Affordable houses	**
Municipal building / public spaces that are not being maintained.	
Poorly maintained roads and sidewalks	*****
Senior housing	**
Mangled awnings and signs	
Flow of traffic	

Opportunities:

Destination city	*
Reuse of schools	**
B & B's motel	**
Ease congestion on Cottage Street if possible	
Community recreational center	*
Incubator space, ex: Community kitchen to support new food start ups	
Signs / Parking / Storefronts	
More housing downtown	**
Toy store / Place to buy kid stuff	
Integrating community Riverside, Senior Center, Arts, Library	*
Dog Park	
Increase Tax Revenue	
More green space playground / trees	*
Walking town	*
Mills	*
Increase walkability / bikeability	***

Threats:

Prices go up so much that average people can't afford to live in east Hampton	**
Large corporate stakeholders that don't invest in the community	
Losing small town feel	*
Developers with money in mind, not the town/city	
Not having a plan	*
Chain retail stores	**
Losing access to Mount Tom	
Losing local businesses to bigger chains	
Traffic bottle-neck	**
Traffic	*
Groups of people being forced out go East Hampton because they don't have resources	
Losing Big E	
Loss of open space	*
Loss of artists if priced out	
Taxes	
Congestion on Cottage Street	****
Development which cannot be maintenance / sustained in the long term	