

Vermont 2050 Vision Summary

Below are the categories and a short summary of the individual comments that were read aloud and placed on sheets of paper as participants voiced their own vision for how Vermont could look in 2050.

A complete transcription of all the post-it notes from individuals is available upon request.

Categories and Summaries

Nature--Land, Air, Water

Summary:

Healthy ecosystems and sustainable use of resources. Decisions made valuing other species in addition to humans - nature is no longer discounted but seen as necessary to human prospering.

Culture/Values

Summary:

Work is meaningful and valued beyond simple monetary benefits. Policies provide for the improved well-being of all residents in an equitable fashion and communities are integrated and connected.

Healthy

Summary:

A thriving population with universal access to high quality health care for all residents with a definition of health that incorporates diets, mental well-being and connections with nature.

Policy

Summary:

Political action works to ensure equity and fairness for all residents and protects nature in addition to humans. Residents are actively involved in decision-making at all levels and policies are considered at a bioregional scale.

Community

Summary:

Communities are livable and inclusive for all residents regardless of income or demographics. Neighborhoods are walkable, diverse and welcoming and affordable. Communities are built in harmony with the natural surroundings and include spaces for residents to work, play, grow and connect.

Tolerance and Inclusion--Gender and Racial Justice

Summary:

Diversity is celebrated not feared, and leadership represents a variety of perspectives and backgrounds. A larger variety of perspectives and voices are included and valued at every level of community and state life.

Housing

Summary:

Affordable, safe housing for all with access to local food, local energy and recreational opportunities.

Agriculture

Summary:

Farmers and foresters using sustainable methods are valued for their contributions to healthy societies and rewarded for their ecological contributions that maintain healthy soils, waterways and ecosystems. Vermont residents consume locally grown food and vote with their wallets for a diversified, organic agricultural sector.

Economics

Summary:

A switch to an economic model that focuses on more than just the monetary value of products on services and that disincentivises growth for the sake of growth. Diverse regional economies based on the culture and resources of specific areas allowing communities to maintain their unique character. Ensuring that residents of all communities have the opportunity to support their families and contribute to the well-being of their town or city.

Energy

Summary:

Vermont will embrace local, renewable energy, invest in efficient and usable public transportation throughout the state, and ensure that buildings are energy efficient.

Transportation

Summary:

A combination of effective public transportation, bike lanes, live/work spaces, walkable communities and electric cars will give residents options for getting around other than individual, gasoline powered automobiles leading to healthier populations and ecosystems.

Education

Summary:

Every child has access to high quality education at every level which includes instruction on ecology and the interconnectedness of human and natural systems, STEAM topics, humanities and social justice. Schools are places where children are safe and valued.