

## Bolton and Business: We Need To Know What You Want

### *Economic Development Committee Survey Request*

The Economic Development Committee (EDC) was established to help Bolton attract, retain and grow businesses and jobs in Bolton while improving the economic environment and quality of life for its residents. We are faced with the following civic challenges:

- 1) Fill vacant commercial space to support local businesses and increase town revenue.
- 2) Provide revenue strategies for funding projected operating budgets over the next 10 fiscal years.
- 3) Operate within the framework of preserving community character and quality of life.

The EDC is beginning to draft an Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP) and the goal of this survey is to gather feedback from Bolton residents on key issues. Additionally, in January and February the EDC will be holding public forums to gather and share information. With this critical information in hand, the EDAP strategies and actions can be consistent with the views and values of the majority in our community.

As we head into the New Year, please take a few minutes to help Bolton determine how best to face our present and future challenges by taking our survey. Just type this link into your browser:

**<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BOLTONEDC>**

If you prefer a paper survey, copies will be available at Town Hall, the Library, and the Senior Center after January 1, 2011. Please help us to understand what the town wants and rest assured that your answer will remain anonymous.

Thank you.

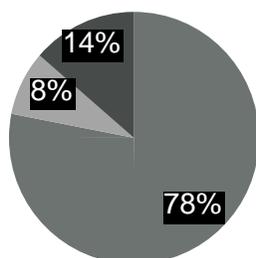
Chris Nelson (EDC Chairman)

### Preparing for the Survey

Here are some data about current and future taxes to consider. On the back of this sheet, you will find a map that indicates where current business zoning is in effect or could be. This information may help you when you take the survey, so please keep a copy handy.

The total Fiscal 2010 Bolton budget was \$19,010,560. Funding for that, \$14,819,269 (77.9%) came from property taxes and \$1,584,866 (8.3%) came from business taxes. The balance came from state aid and other sources. If Bolton budget increases are held at the 2.5% rate (with all overrides and debt payments included in that figure) and there is no change in the share of non-property tax revenues, our property **taxes could increase by 13% in five years and 28% in ten years when compared to 2010**. If state aid or other resources increase at a lesser rate, our property taxes will go up even more.

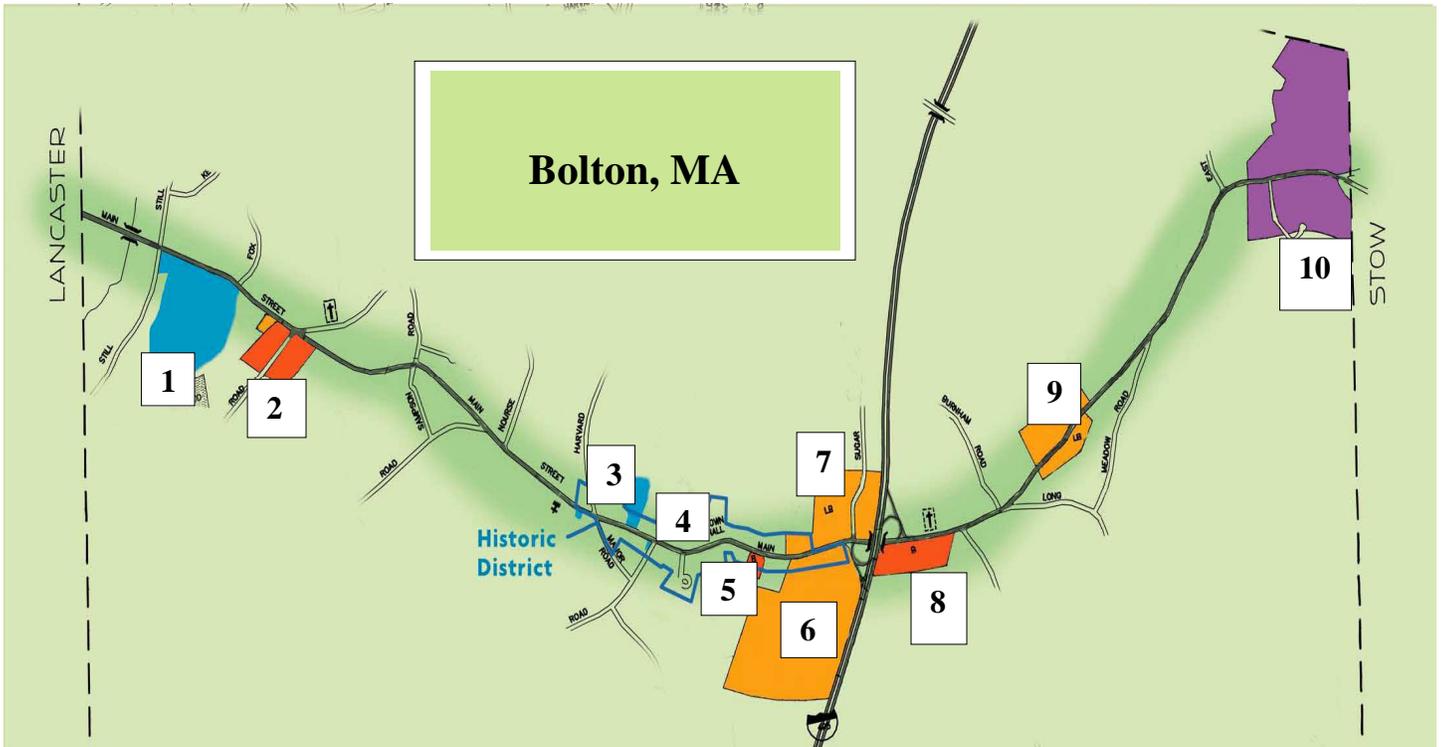
### BOLTON TAX REVENUE SOURCES



■ Real Estate ■ Business ■ Other Sources

The survey will explore ways to deal with these increases and ask about your preferences among them.

## Current Bolton Zoning Along Rte. 117



### Key to Present Zoning

- 1: Bolton Orchards – Pre-existing Business Zoned Residential
- 2: Classic Pizza/Post Office – Business
- 3: Murphy Insurance – Pre-existing Business Zoned Residential
- 4: Smith's – Residential
- 5: Salt Box – Business
- 6: Bolton Office Park – Limited Business
- 7: Freidus Building/ Clinton Savings/Colonial Candy – Limited Business
- 8: Country Cupboard - Business
- 9: Skinner/Great Brook Farm – Limited Business
- 10: Future Electronics/Cobham - Industrial