

Committee to Identify Community Pool Site Options

Public Forum #1

Tracy Hall

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Overview of Committee's Work
3. Potential Sites
4. Survey Results
5. Public Comment
6. Adjourn

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Anne Goodrich, Chair

Jim Gold, Vice-Chair

Gered Dunne

Jerry Ireland

Rob Johnson

Mark Lilienthal

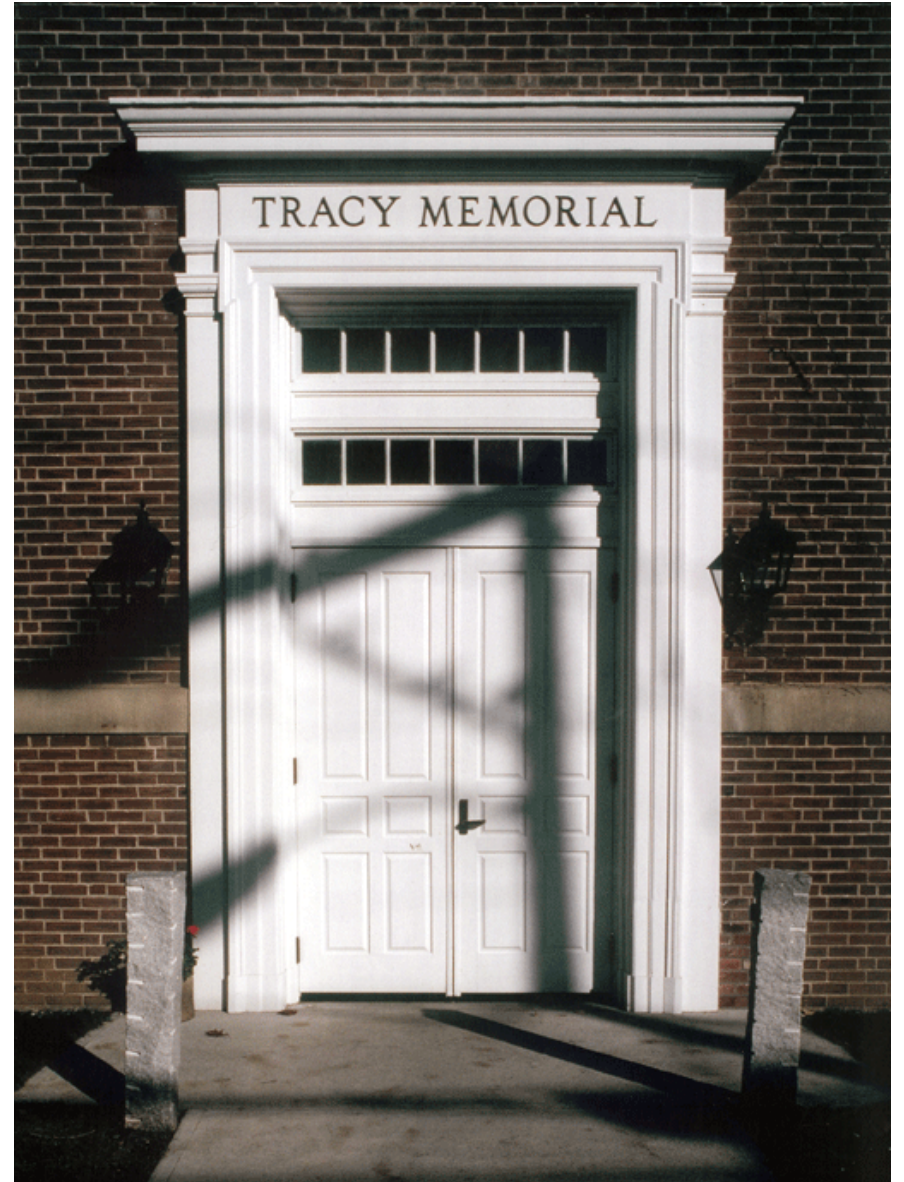
Carl Tracy



Norwich Historical Society

Committee Charge:

“Make recommendations to the Selectboard regarding options for providing swimming access to Town residents, including established swimming sites and the development of one or more new sites, readily accessible to townspeople.”



COMMITTEE TIMELINE

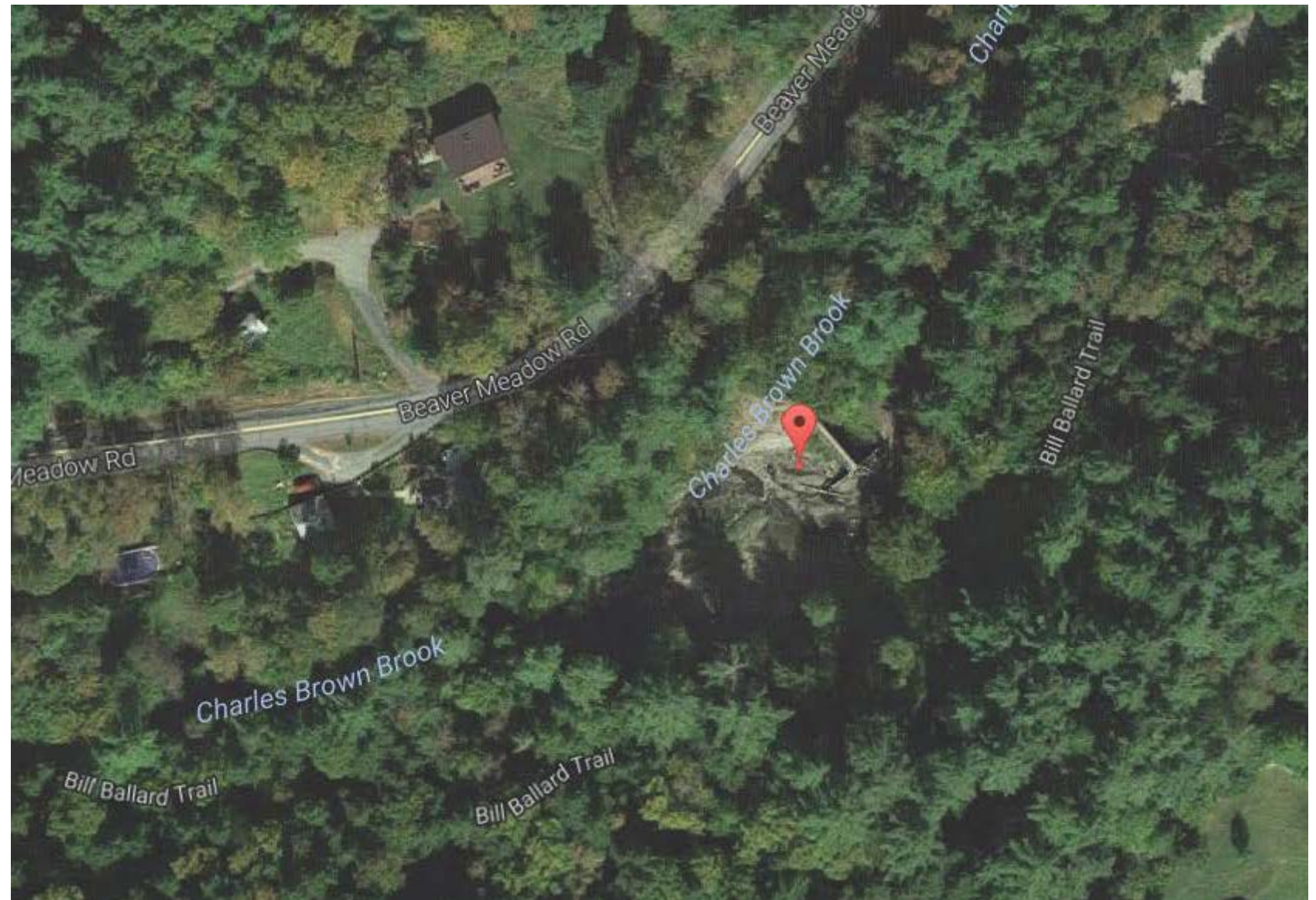
- August/September: Committee formed; survey of residents; 1st public forum
- October/November: Discuss options with Agency of Natural Resources; 2nd public forum; initial report to Selectboard
- Late 2016/Early 2017: Third public forum/final report to Selectboard

Potential Sites

1. Old Norwich Pool Site
2. Huntley Meadows
3. Connecticut River: Patchen's Point
4. Connecticut River: Ledyard Bridge
5. Dresden Athletic Fields
6. Ompompanoosuc River: Boat Launch
7. Other Sites (Not Represented)

Former Norwich Pool Site

Distance From D&W: 1.4 Miles



Huntley Meadow

Distance From D&W: 0.8 Mile



Connecticut River: Ledyard Bridge

Distance From D&W: 1.0 Mile



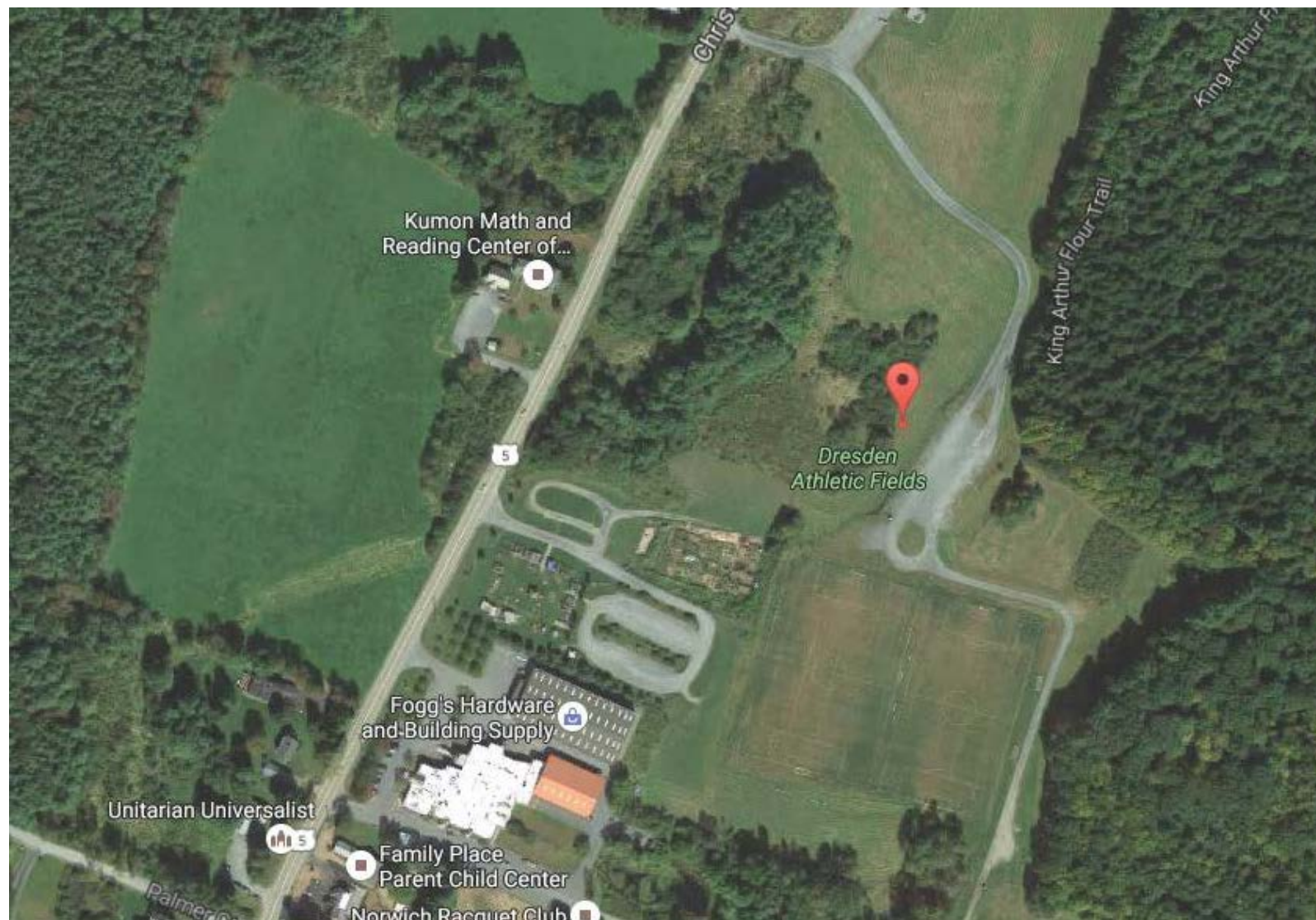
Connecticut River: Patchen's Point

Distance From D&W: 2.8 Miles



Dresden Athletic Fields

Distance From D&W: 1.4 Miles



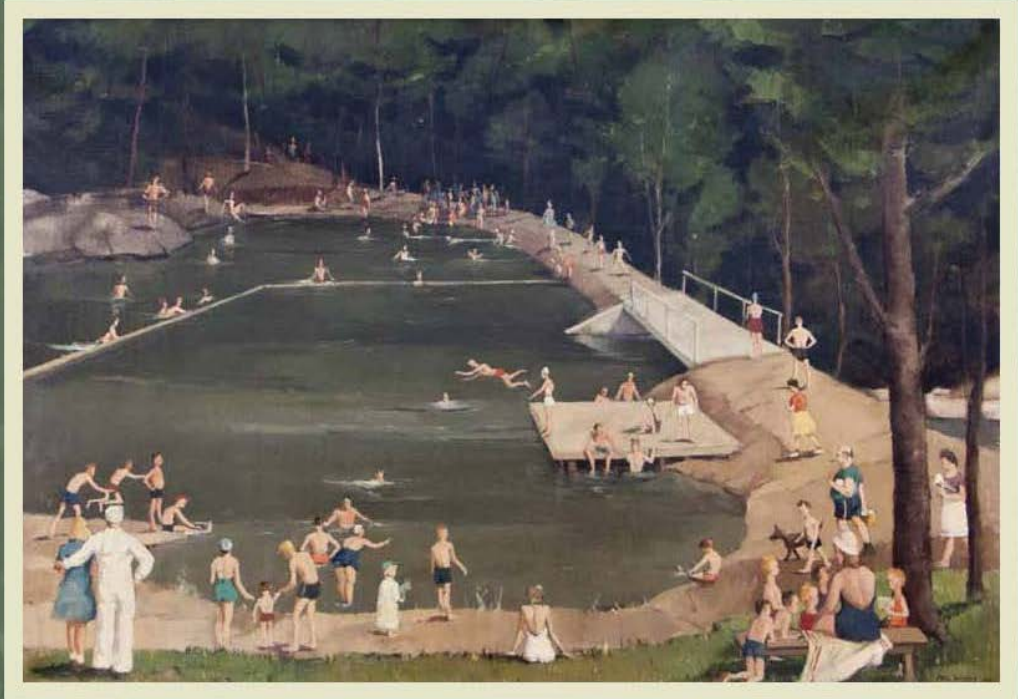
Ompompanoosuc Boat Launch

Distance From D&W: 5.5 Miles



SURVEY RESULTS

- 300 responses
- 65% support new swimming access
- Old site, Huntley, Connecticut River best choices



NORWICH, VERMONT: A HISTORY

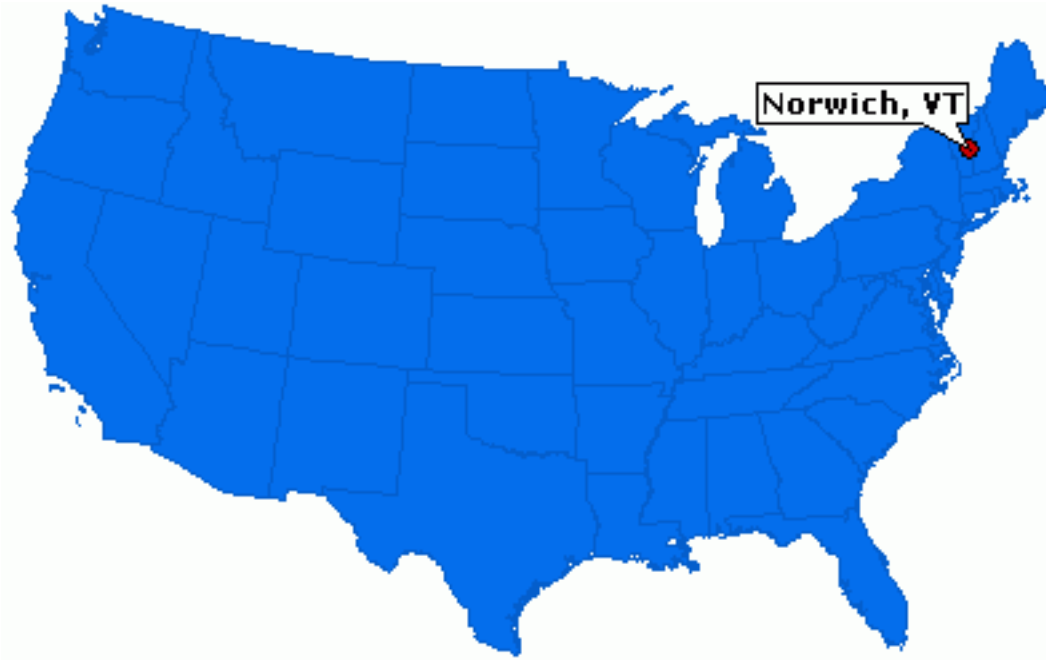
A high-angle photograph of a natural swimming hole. A wooden ladder with a platform at the bottom leads down to the water. The water is a vibrant turquoise color. The surrounding area is lush with green vegetation, including ferns and large trees. A person is visible swimming in the water.

Sample Survey Responses

“It is really important for Norwich to have its own swimming area. The former pool was terrific and I wish we could duplicate it somewhere else.”



“Negotiate a Norwich rate with the Hanover Improvement Society for summer use at the Storrs Pond/Pool area.”



“All kids need a place to learn to swim as a basic survival skill.
It needs to be free and accessible to all Norwich kids.”

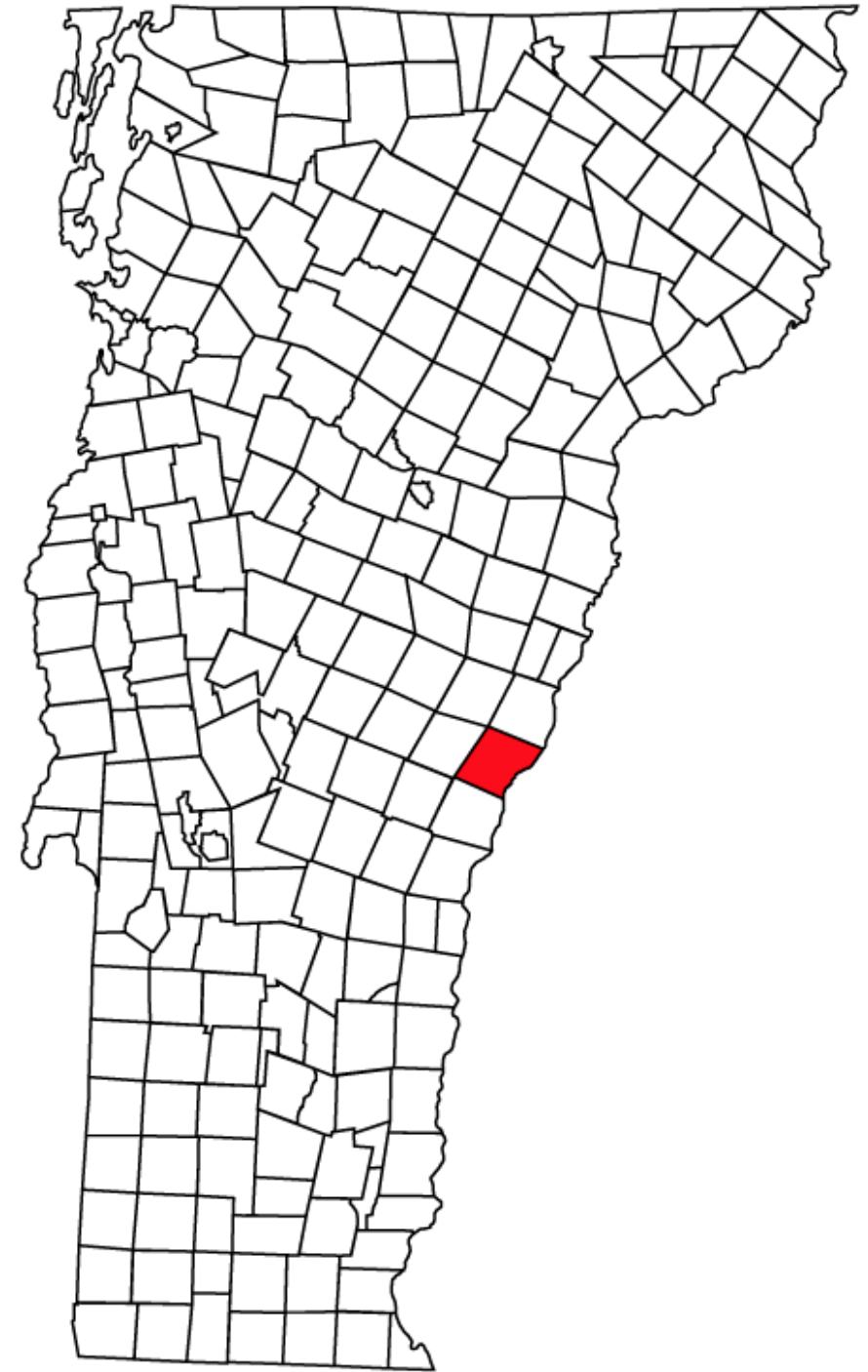
“I don't want any of my tax dollars spent on this. If people need to swim, there are plenty of places to go for a small fee or no fee...Norwich does not need any additional burdens placed on the taxpayers.”



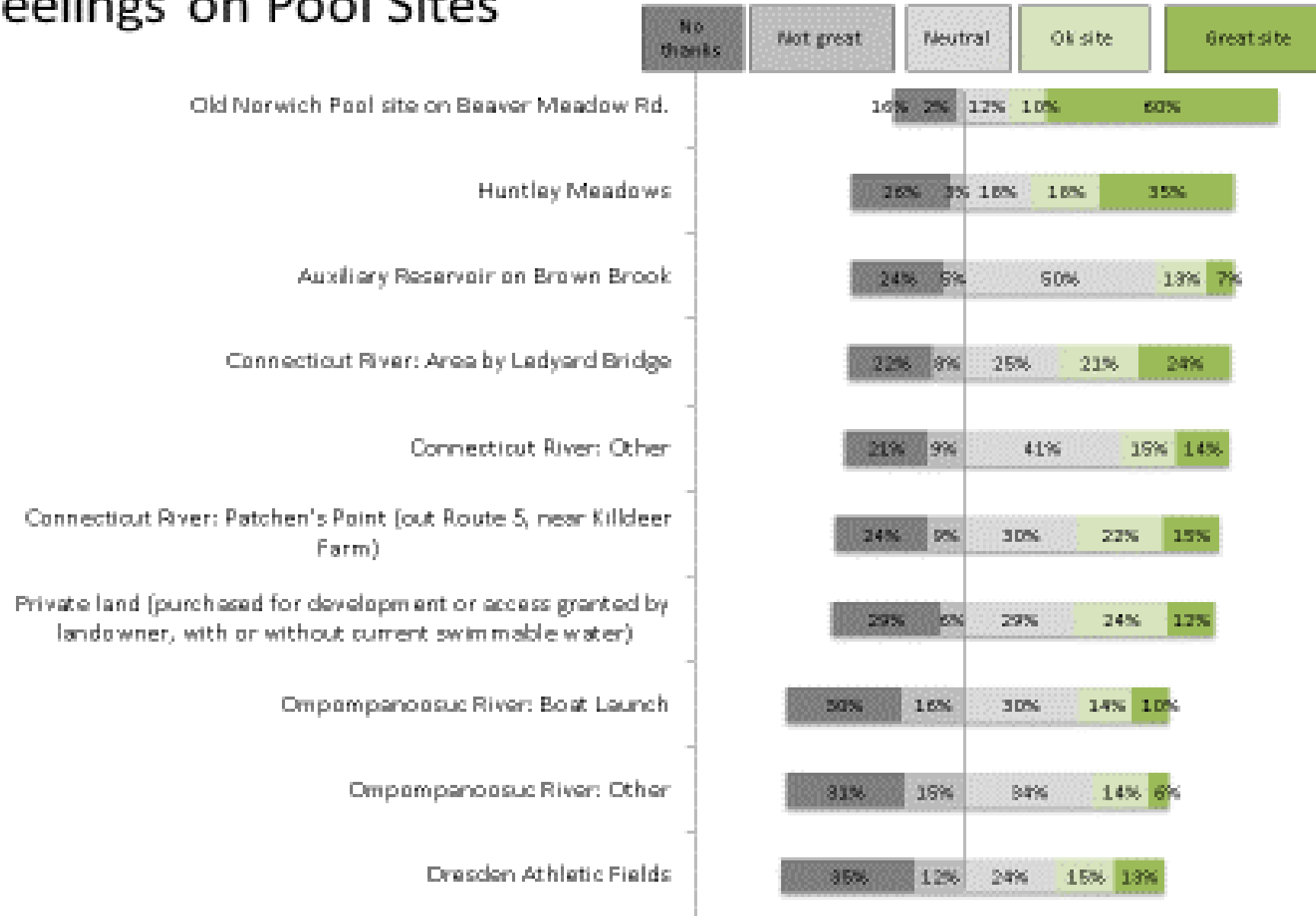
“The idea of Norwich
having to provide its own
pool is ludicrous.”



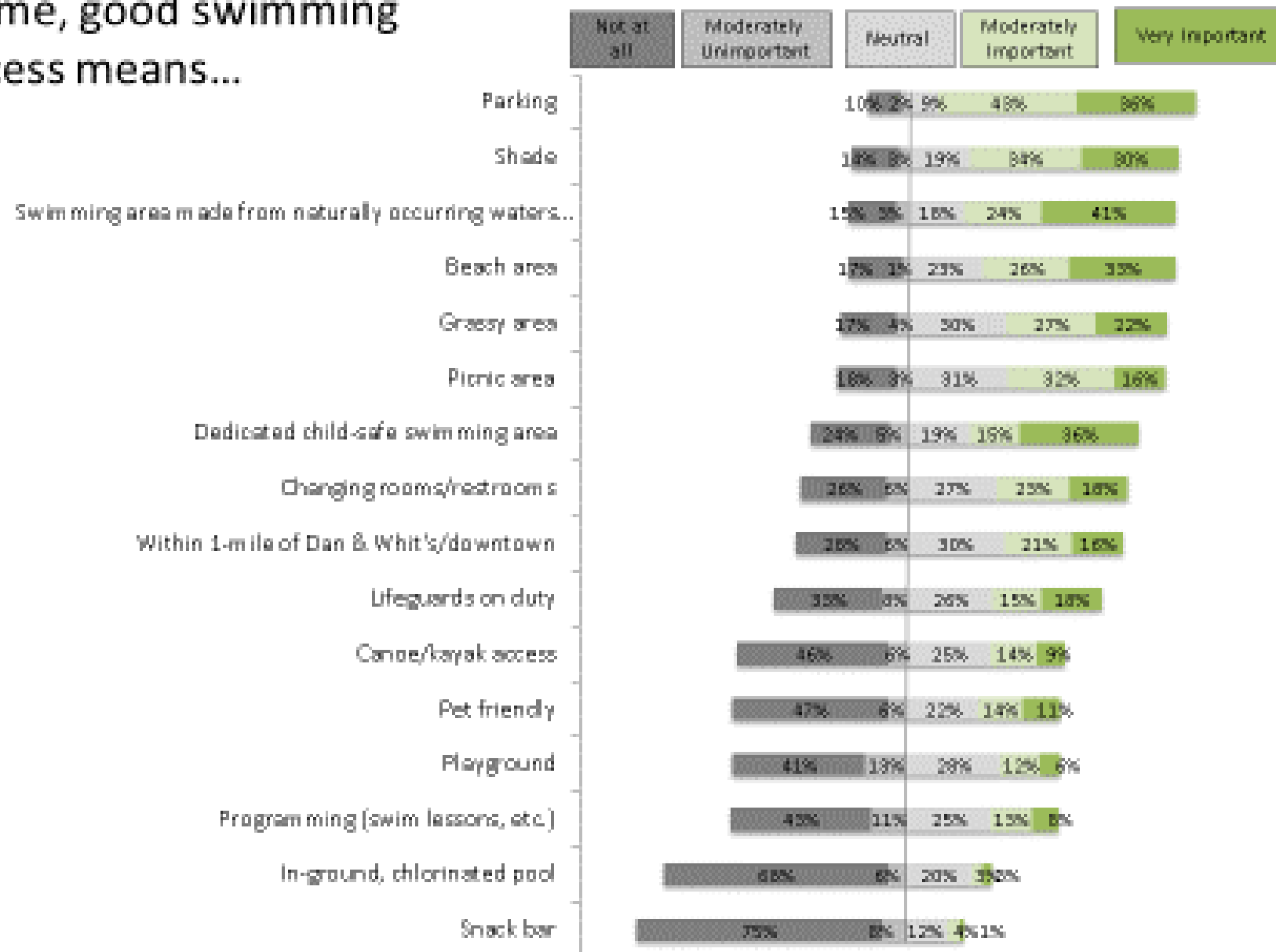
“The old [Norwich Pool] site is a magical place. It had all the most essential features of a Norwich swimming access point and gathering place: a small, grassy picnic spot; a small, child-friendly beach and swimming area; a nice spot from which to jump; and above all, a place where townspeople could come to enjoy a tranquil but joyful swim in natural waters in a beautiful setting in nature.”



Feelings on Pool Sites



To me, good swimming access means...



Public Comment