# TRENDS IN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & OUTREACH

NNECAPA CONFERENCE 2012

#### **PANELISTS**

- John Barstow COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR, ORTON FAMILY FOUNDATION
- Amanda Bunker PLANNER, WRIGHT-PIERCE
- Nate Miller

PLANNING DIRECTOR, UPPER VALLEY LAKE SUNAPEE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

### SESSION OVERVIEW

- Introduction: Issues and Trends
  AMANDA BUNKER
- Keypad Polling
  NATE MILLER
- Community Story-Telling JOHN BARSTOW

#### INTRODUCTION

# **Public Participation**

Communication:
What is our message?



Methods:

What tools are we using to deliver that message, and how are we facilitating community feedback?

#### **Tools in the Toolbox**

Traditional

Public meetings, press releases, stakeholder meetings



Technology

Project websites, on-line surveys, keypad poling, Facebook, email lists, "live" forums

# High-Tech vs. High-Touch

Who are we engaging?

What is the quality of the feedback, how

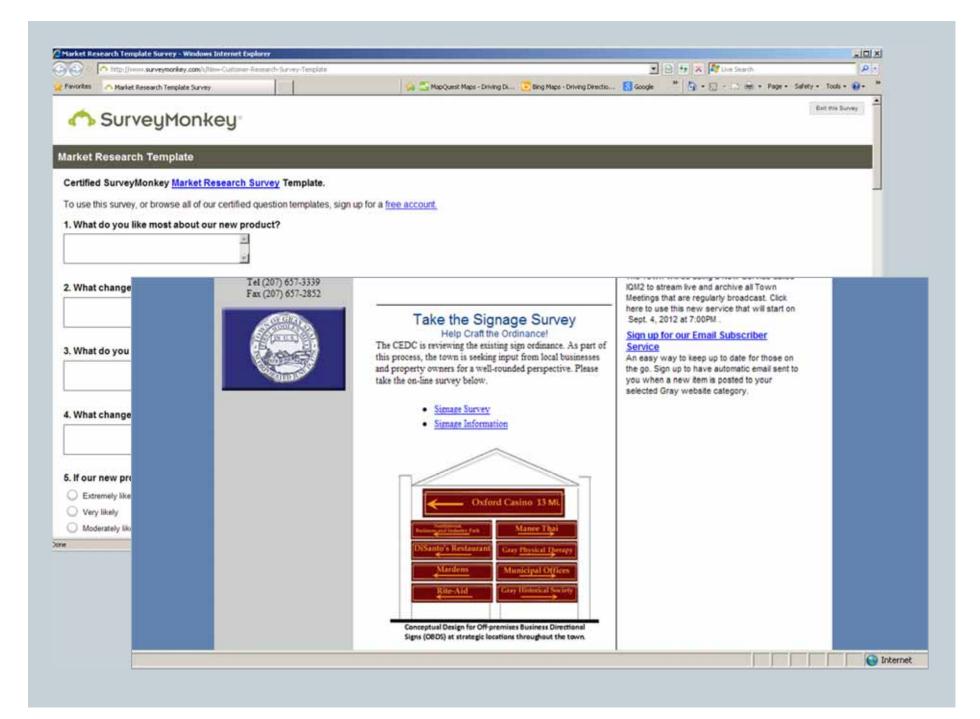
will it be used?

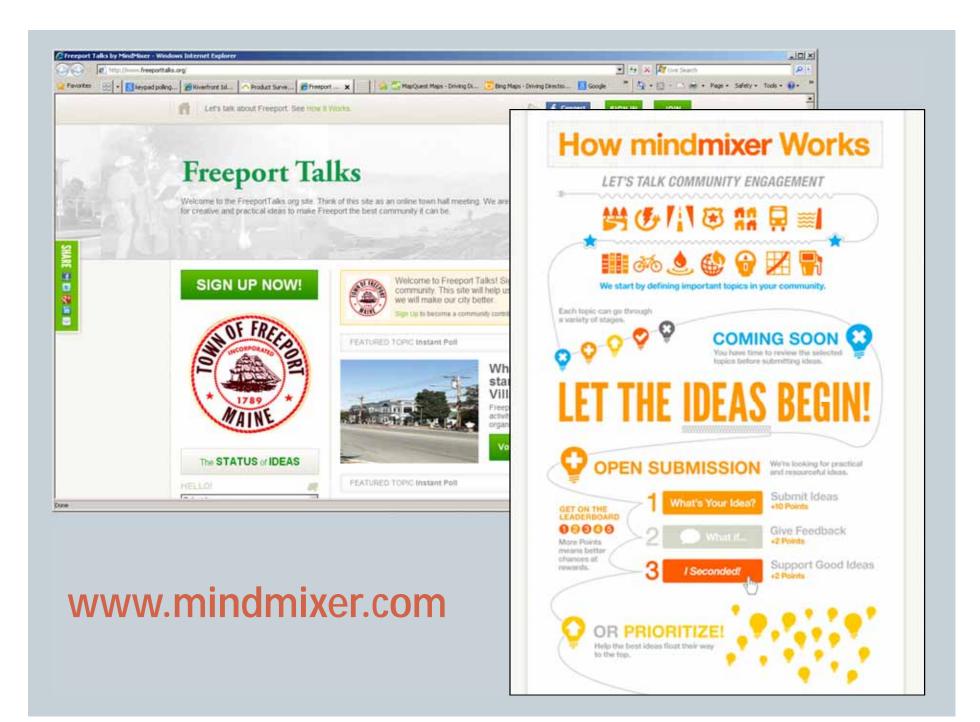
What is the balance between high-tech and high-touch?

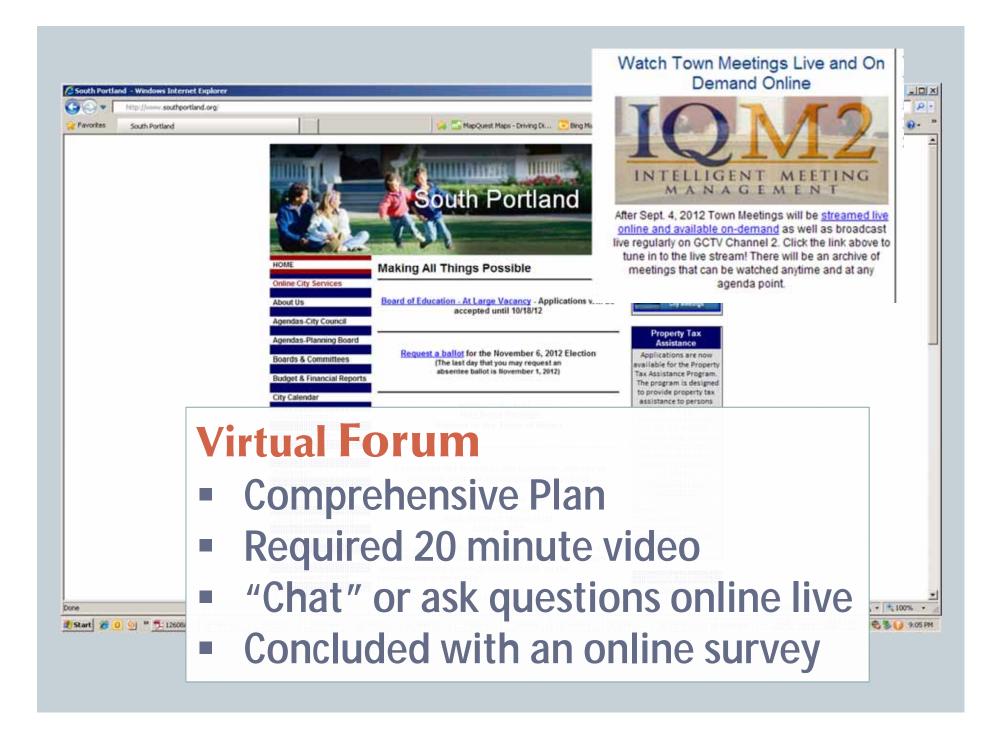
# **High-Tech**

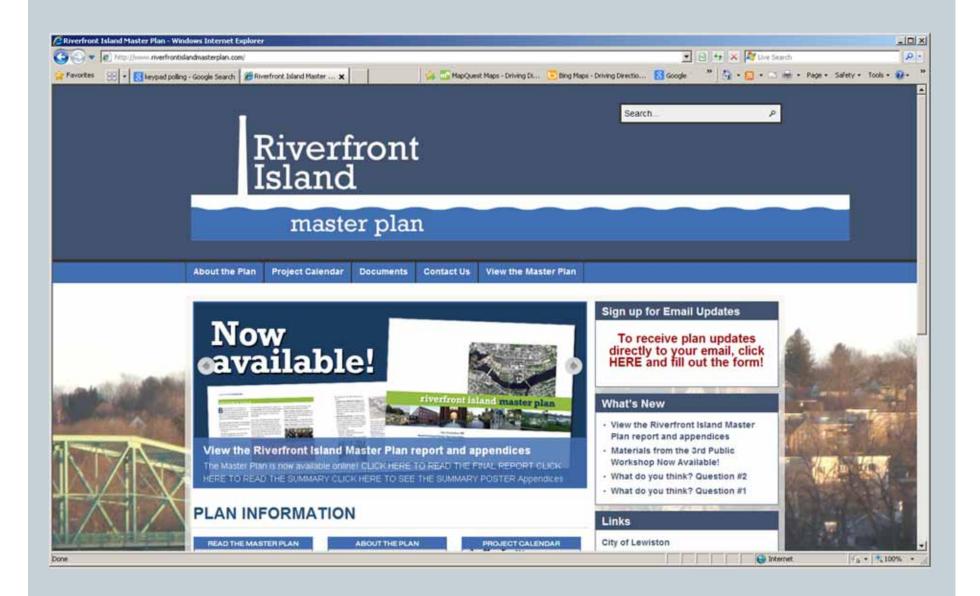
- Engaging younger population segments
- Age of convenience
- Reporting results faster













# **High-Touch**

- Not all people are tech-savvy
- Gain deeper information
- Build partnerships
- Connection, ownership



- Neighborhood meetings
- Site walks
- Reach out to stakeholders & community groups
- Story-telling







Return to Wilton Town Office or go to www.wiltonnerne.org on-line survey, by NOVEMBER 23, 2011

#### DOWNTOWN WILTON REVITALIZATION PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

The Town of Wilton is developing a strategic plan to revitalize and improve the downtown (Main Street between Depot Street and Route 2). Please take a moment to answer the following questions to help the Town prioritize revitalization efforts and understand residents' and business' needs and ideas for the downtown. You can return a completed form to the Wilton Town Office. OR complete the ON-LINE VERSION (available on the town website <a href="https://www.wiltonmaine.org">www.wiltonmaine.org</a> by NOVEMBER 23, 2011. Thank you!

Return to Wilton Town Office -- 158 Weld Road -- Wilton, ME 04294, or go ON-LINE to prove nollowormine org

* OF LAND STATE ST	Use in Wilton Wilton Over a business or property downtown    Use to Sear Desentown Wilton Over a business or property downtown   None of the above			
(May 12 a) 44 44 161	Daily Daily	Weekly M	onthly Infrequ	ently Never
	do you go downtown?			
	do you make purchases or use			
All and the second seco	Downtown Wilton on each of the following:  Location by Validability tes  Other:  k the Town Office should be located on Ma	the lake	Library/church cultural read Small-town feel	ions)
	important do you think the following are to revitalizing the downtown?	Important	Not sage	Not important
73300	alkability by making sidewalk and crosswalk			
Custo-	cape amenities such as: benches, new street r street furniture, etc. pport and attraction, economic development			
	The second of th			
	and Lead of the state of the st	nd		
	visibility and patronage from non-residents			
	The state of the s			
	thents to downtown buildings (properties			
	o improve residential buildings in the downto	esch.		
	Public/municipal incentives or investments in the downtown (in general)			
	Other:			
	Additional questions on the back of this page. Please and suggestions you would like to make regarding im			ther comments

Do you (check all that apply):

# **Building an Approach**

- Building a public participation plan
- What are communities looking for
- What works



# **Building an Approach**

- Identify specific goals
- Think about the end game
- Take advantage of volunteers & partners
- Prioritize



# **Building an Approach**

- Use a combination of tools
- Go to the stakeholders, don't make them come to you
- Involvement in outreach important to the long-term success

# INTRODUCTION

# Trends in Public Participation

- Highlight tools& approaches
- Pros & cons

