

What I would like to change

The ideas below have been identified by members of the Clifton-Fine community in past visioning exercises, including meetings held in the summer of 2005 and additions made by participants in the Local Waterfront Revitalization public meeting on July 31, 2006.

Economic features such as:

- A destination to attract more tourist traffic
- Better linkage in regional identity among hamlets & towns
- Lower Poverty rate
- A larger pool of resources
- More economic growth
- Increase high paying jobs
- Introduce manufacturing
- J & L site
- Open the Paper Mill
- More businesses and jobs in line with a small wilderness community
- Change laws to give incentives to businesses to hire young workers
- Cheaper electricity
- local town benefit from local hydro-power
- need appealing and interesting local periodical. The bargain hunter does the job but is a real eyesore. We need a newer periodical
- more jobs
- access to high speed internet
- Encourage construction of housing beyond local needs to bring in outside resources & increase real property tax base
- Support local business – economic stability
- Control local government spending & continually rising school taxes
- Lower per pupil expenditure in school District
- Encourage credit card acceptance at all businesses
- Fear of investing in ourselves and our community (dispel negative attitude)
- More accommodations
- Small boutique shops
- Rent out part of CF school to outside businesses
- Improve hospital finances
- Satellite library in Star Lake at CF school
- Publication listing all waterfront resources - campsites, fishing holes, restaurants, hiking trails, accommodations
- planning and support for existing and new businesses (business development)
- boutiques-small shops
- better quality services at existing businesses - i.e. better produce, wider variety, clean rooms
- The ability to act quickly to protect property or businesses vital to the community when they are in danger of being closed, sold, subdivided, or otherwise threatened
- Need Chamber of Commerce
- Brochure for tourism; trails, simple hikes, themes, culture, history

Quality of Life and Culture such as:

- Attract more year-round residents;
- Closer relationship between year-round & seasonal residents
- Community pride/remove depressed stigma
- year around cultural events - not just summer
- need for a newspaper or use of the internet to report news, issues and Town decisions with all seasonal and permanent residents
- concerted effort to bridge social class/ income differences to encourage shared community
- beautiful old school targeted for demolition because it costs too much
- Maintain (rather than destroy) historic buildings
- More humor/ less fear
- Apathy
- More interest in the history of Star Lake
- Need Main Street Culture
- poor quality of food and lodging in Cranberry Lake - more restaurants
- need public beach on Star Lake for all visitors/tourists and all children
- more volunteer recognition to encourage broader participation
- improve scope of available housing to improve tax base
- community music programs
- better understanding of group planning phases – build trust
- access to water for low income people as housing costs on the water continue to increase

Quality of Life and Surroundings such as:

- Appearances need improving for Route 3 houses and businesses
- cleanup Rt. 3 east end, houses, (yards-mow lawns-paint) not expensive
- Approach & involve businesses and private homes whose improvement could benefit the overall look of the community
- Encourage businesses to do more landscaping
- Clifton Comm. Center needs improving
- historic landmarks in Cranberry L
- improve Clifton Comm. Center as a tourist stop and promote tourism and day trips

Services and facilities such as:

- Dental Office
- Cellular access
- Need high speed connectivity
- Have local medical/emergency training
- A local directory – local yellow pages
- Activities & events for young people & teens
- Add college football at Ralphies
- Better' access for all residents on political decisions
- More people running for public office
- More restaurants
- Transportation for Senior Citizens
- Walking and bicycling paths
- Increase ATV access between hamlets
- Reopen trails that haven't been cleared since microburst
- Keep old buildings i.e. old Community Center
- Need chamber of commerce
- More customer friendly hours at local businesses
- More sidewalks
- Traffic calming to reduce speeding
- Optimize use of local businesses and services that are available

- Combine local governments highway departments, town boards, clerks
- Improve local produce
- When part-timers are gone we have no way to voice our opinions - we should count
- Village docks at Cranberry L
- reopen little River from Rt. 3 to Aldrich for canoe trips
- more restaurants, motels, B&B
- market the eco-tourist venues
- make arena more inviting to visitors - rent skates, serve hot food, advertise hours regularly, make the warm up room warm
- Maintenance plan for Wanakena footbridge
- Cranberry Lake boat launch – port-a-potty, wash station, pollution assessment
- Encourage business owners to better, cleaner, friendlier etc. service
- Zoning laws
- keep Star Lake school
- improve outside property of Clifton Comm. Center - organize parking in back for lake residents - playground - signage - windows – landscape
- high speed internet in our homes
- building for teens
- better restaurants
- artificial ice for the arena
- Upgrade roads that provide access to the waterways (eg Rt 3)
- Repair dilapidated stone wall Wanakena Beach
- Repair ranger school road
- Better management of school system – innovate and become more efficient
- Floating camps on Cranberry Lake
- Community planning initiative

Natural resources and water front features such as:

- Clear air – no burning plastics and toxics
- Better interpretive material about history, environment and recreation assets
- Better marked and maintained access into forest and waterways
- Public access to launch motor boats in Star lake and Wanakena
- village docks in Cranberry Lake presently very limited
- Improve Wanakena motor boat launch and beach
- improve access to Little R for canoeing and fishing etc.
- clean-up mine property; tear down J&L buildings
- Identify access points that need to be upgraded
- Put fish ladders on Oswegatchie River to return natural fish
- Better signage and access control at water access points on town land
- Maintain channel markers
- Increased access to reservoirs
- ATV abuse at Schuler Falls
- Limit motors and jet skis on Star Lake
- Community beach in Star lake
- Limit boat (hp) size on Star Lake
- An appreciation for living in the Adirondack Park and less resentment for the Park and APA
- Open mine property for recreation activities
- significantly increased access for canoeing and fishing on the Oswegatchie River
- open Oswegatchie r from Cranberry L. to Newton Falls and on to Rt 3 to significant public access. Also Little R from Aldrich Route 3 and also in vicinity of Heath pond; few places that aren't posted from Newton Falls to Windfall; work with timber co owners for access through the right of way from FERC process
- No more State purchases of land in Clifton and Fine
- need APA commissioner from Clifton or Fine
- increase incentives to recycle use trash
- further develop the Cranberry Lake Town of Clifton Beach Park - a lakeside pavilion
- education and alertness to invasive plants in our waters (will a boat wash be helpful?)
- better utilization of Clifton Comm. center for parking, access to beach, etc. - some way to promote day trips to beach?, to fish, etc.
- Keep out invasive species
- Improve access on Little River from Aldrich to Rt 3 for whitewater canoeing and fishing
- Trailhead signage
- Identify water pollution sources
- Restrict motor size (speed not enforced); restrict jet skis
- Save the highbush cranberry after which Cranberry Lake is named
- Protect open space Fish ladders; trout restoration
- Wanakena - don't allow large buses on beach road; monitor boat parking at beach; boat launch away from beach