

# Town of Wiscasset | Public Community Development Survey re: Birch Point and Old Ferry Road

We are excited to announce that the Town of Wiscasset has been selected to participate in the [Maine Community Energy Redevelopment Program \(MECERP\)](#). This program is designed to foster economic development in municipalities across Maine by advancing development projects in communities with existing energy infrastructure assets. While the MECERP program does not fund project construction or development, it connects towns across Maine with technical assistance provided by [HR&A Advisors](#) to help smaller communities (like ours) produce detailed action plans and identify funding sources for development projects that will stimulate economic activity and create family-sustaining jobs.

Through MECERP, Wiscasset will study potential development opportunities on two (2) sites. Maps are featured below. The sites are as follows:

- 1) Birch Point
- 2) Old Ferry Road

## Why We Need Your Input

The purpose of this survey is to gather valuable insights and ideas from our community members to help guide the development of these two sites. The information collected will be used to inform the development process and align the projects with community needs and goals.

This survey is designed to take approximately 10 minutes and no additional research is required. Your personal data will be protected and handled with utmost confidentiality in accordance with government security protocols.

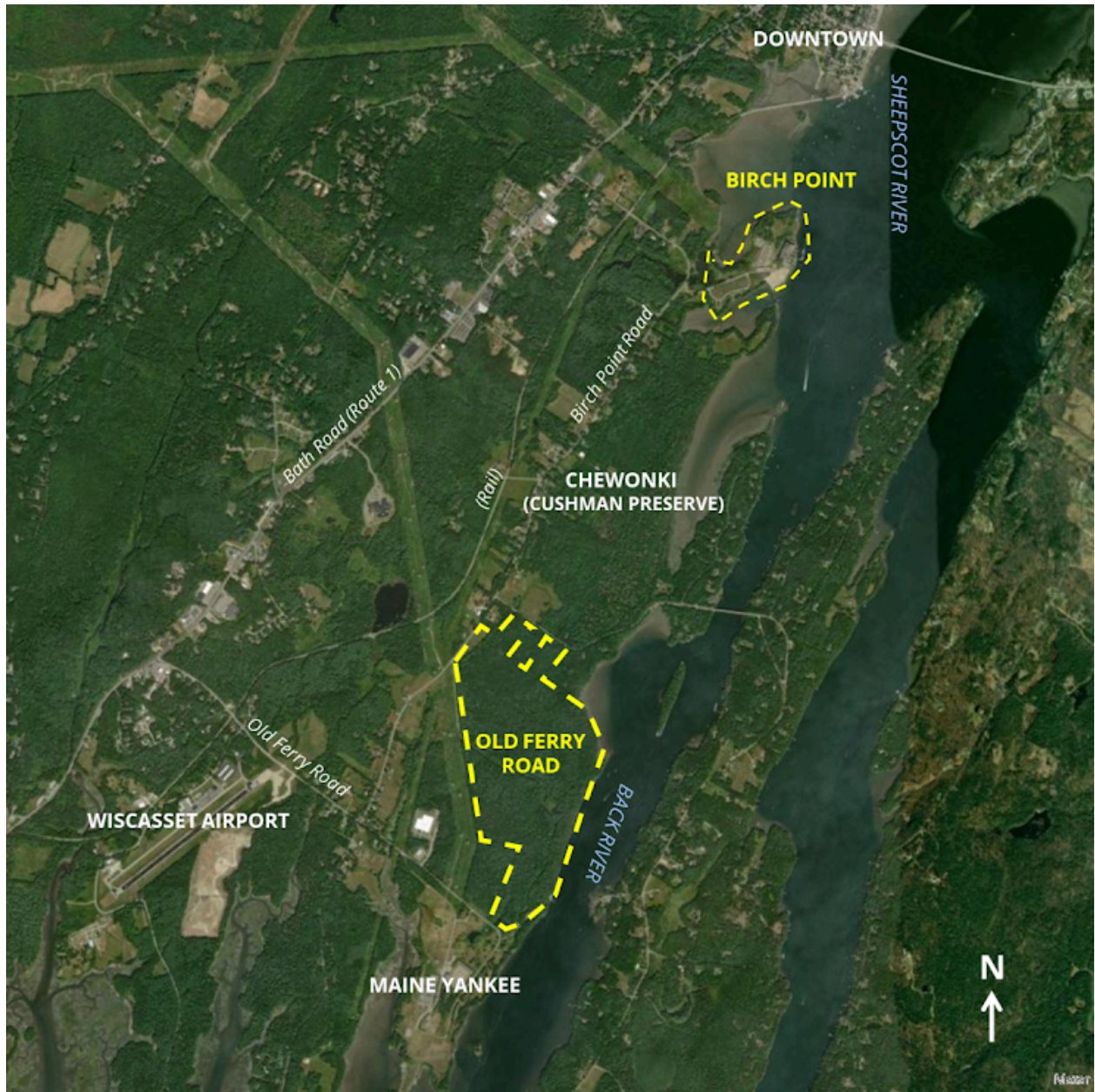
Thank you in advance for your participation. We look forward to hearing your ideas and learning about your perspective.

**\*\*Survey Closes: Thursday, November 14, 2024\*\***

\* Indicates required question

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### Map of Birch Point and Old Ferry Road Sites



#### Section 1: General Information

1. Your Name \*

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2. Your Email Address \*

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3. What is your affiliation with the town of Wiscasset? \*

*Check all that apply.*

- Full-time resident
- Seasonal resident
- Employed in town
- Business owner in town
- Business owner interested in expanding into town
- Frequent visitor
- None of the above

4. If you are a resident of Wiscasset, what is your housing status? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Homeowner, full-time
- Homeowner, seasonal
- Renter, full-time
- Renter, seasonal
- I do not live in Wiscasset

5. What types of businesses are currently lacking or would contribute most to quality of life in Wiscasset? \*

Please select **UP TO THREE** choices.

*Check all that apply.*

- Retail/shopping
- Grocery stores
- Restaurants, bars, and cafes
- Pharmacies and medical clinics
- Wellness (e.g., beauty shop, gym, spa)
- Healthcare-related (e.g., pharmacies, medical clinics)
- Culture and entertainment (e.g., movie theater, concert hall, museum, art gallery)
- Outdoor recreation (e.g., marina, camping sites, trails)
- Childcare and educational facilities
- Hospitality (e.g., hotels)
- Professional services (e.g., local attorneys, accountants, landscape designers, architects)
- None of the above

6. If you chose "None of the above" in the previous question, please feel free to elaborate.

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7. If you are a business owner in Wiscasset, what made you choose Wiscasset as your business location? \*

Please select **UP TO THREE** choices.

*Check all that apply.*

- Reasonably low cost of doing business
- Quality of town amenities
- Sense of community
- Proximity to place of residence
- Workforce and talent
- Vibrancy of the business community
- None of the above
- I am not a business owner in Wiscasset

8. If you chose "None of the above" in the previous question, please feel free to elaborate.

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9. If you are a business owner in Wiscasset, what are the most critical issues facing Wiscasset today? \*

Please select **UP TO THREE** choices.

*Check all that apply.*

- Housing is becoming increasingly unaffordable
- The composition of the community is rapidly changing
- Small local businesses are struggling
- Lack of retail options
- Lack of new or high-quality commercial spaces
- Lack of new, modern housing supply
- Lack of open space and dedicated park space
- Need for additional senior living facilities
- The town is unprepared for our changing climate
- None of the above
- I am not a business owner in Wiscasset

10. If you chose "None of the above" in the previous question, please feel free to elaborate.

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11. In your opinion, what are the primary challenges to opening or expanding a business in Wiscasset today?

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## Section 2: Development of Birch Point and Old Ferry Road Sites

12. How would you rate your general level of familiarity with the current condition and history of the **BIRCH POINT** site? \*



Mark only one oval.

- Unfamiliar
- Limited familiarity
- Very familiar

13. How do you currently perceive the **BIRCH POINT** site? \*

Mark only one oval.

- An eyesore
- An opportunity for development
- A community asset
- I'm unfamiliar with Birch Point

14. If the **BIRCH POINT** site were to be redeveloped, what would you like to see included in the development? \*

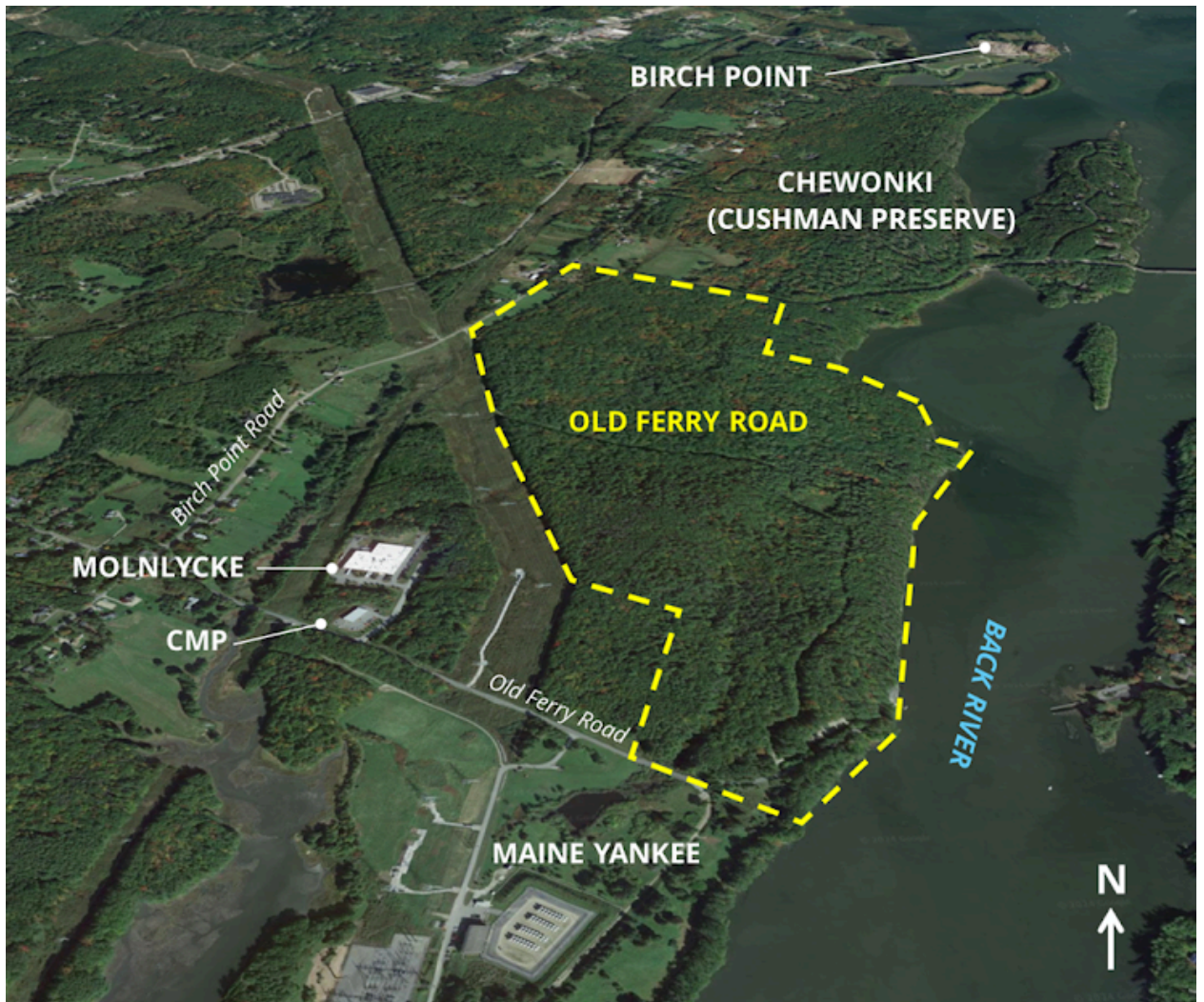
Please select **UP TO THREE** choices.

*Check all that apply.*

- Energy storage facilities
- New marina and boat storage
- Manufacturing and industrial job opportunities
- Public access to the waterfront
- Single-family homes
- Affordable/workforce housing
- Public buildings (e.g., municipal building, public safety building, libraries, community centers)
- Childcare and/or educational facilities
- Retail and restaurants
- Cultural and entertainment venues
- Hospitality
- Public recreational facility



15. How would you rate your general level of familiarity with the current condition and history of the **OLD FERRY ROAD** Site? \*



Mark only one oval.

- Unfamiliar
- Limited familiarity
- Very familiar

16. How do you currently perceive the **OLD FERRY ROAD** site? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- An eyesore
- An opportunity for development
- A community asset
- I'm unfamiliar with Old Ferry Road

17. If the **OLD FERRY ROAD** site were to be redeveloped, what would you like to see included in the development? \*

Please select **UP TO THREE** choices.

*Check all that apply.*

- Energy storage facilities
- Manufacturing and industrial job opportunities
- Public access to the waterfront
- Single-family homes
- Affordable/workforce housing
- Public buildings (e.g., municipal building, public safety building, libraries, community centers)
- Childcare and/or educational facilities
- Retail and restaurants
- Cultural and entertainment venues
- Hospitality
- Public recreational facility

18. In your opinion, which of the following is most important to make Birch Point and Old Ferry Road sites feel welcoming and inclusive for the Wiscasset community? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Public spaces for community gatherings, sports, or other activities
- Affordable housing options
- Employment and business opportunities
- Accessibility via roads, sidewalks, and bike trails
- A new park and trail system

19. In your opinion, which of the following are the most important features of public spaces and parks that you would like to see at either site? \*

Please select **UP TO THREE** choices.

*Check all that apply.*

- Riverfront access and water-based activities
- Walking, running, and biking trails
- Preserved natural areas
- Sports facilities
- Concert and performance areas
- Playgrounds for children
- Exercise equipment
- Shaded plazas
- Picnic and barbecue areas
- Gathering lawns
- Aquatic and pool facilities
- Signage and plaques with information about Wiscasset

20. What challenges do you think could prevent Wiscasset's community from benefiting from development on these two sites? \*

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21. If there is anything more you would like to include with your survey submission, we invite you to add your comments here.

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