

Question 6

How might Natick improve its current Rules and Regulations and practices to support (more) responsible service and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages?			
Answered	98		
Skipped	51		
Respondents		Responses	Response Date
1		Make sure servers are aware of how much they can serve and when to limit a customer. Make rideshare services info easy to access.	Apr 11 2022 08:49 AM
2		Don't know	Apr 11 2022 08:29 AM
3		Obviously when an individual is impaired you stop serving. perhaps the town needs more modes of transportation if it is concerned	Apr 11 2022 08:25 AM
4		More bars/restaurants downtown with an open carry to music on the common or even while shopping	Apr 04 2022 01:43 PM
5		Pretty simple remove barriers, egos etc	Apr 04 2022 10:37 AM
6		add the ability for food establishments to sell	Apr 04 2022 08:43 AM
7		No change. I believe current rules strike a good balance.	Apr 03 2022 07:25 PM
8		Not enough parking in downtown area, increased police vigilance for drunk driving, location location location, noise complaints if live amplified bands allowed, bar owners will ask for it eventually. Proximity to neighborhoods. Check with Framingham how they manage rules and regs.	Apr 02 2022 06:05 PM
9		See prior comment re parking regulations. Also, the food sales requirement is antiquated and should be removed.	Apr 02 2022 10:46 AM
10		Carve out a portion of sales to go to substance abuse rehabilitation services	Apr 02 2022 10:11 AM
11		Require alcohol servsafe or TIPS training	Apr 02 2022 05:26 AM
12		There is no responsible consumption. It's poison and creates a lack of empathy by those that consume it.	Apr 01 2022 07:18 PM
13		See prior comment.	Apr 01 2022 06:08 PM
14		Look at rules and regulations of other towns such as Hudson and Marlborough for ideas.	Apr 01 2022 03:39 PM
15		n/a	Apr 01 2022 02:18 PM

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16		Get rid of the weird rule about percent of sales from alcohol	Apr 01 2022 01:21 PM
17		Insure business owners are monitoring who they are serving and how much they are drinking.	Apr 01 2022 01:07 PM
18		Have restrictions on the hours of service, require all establishments to serve some food, have strict policies on when a person is cut off from ordering more alcohol, regularly remind staff of the rules around alcohol service.	Apr 01 2022 10:42 AM
19		Frankly, given the heavy "nips" consumption by teens in the area I'd like to see more emphasis on healthy alcohol consumption AND more emphasis on non-alcoholic consumption.	Apr 01 2022 10:36 AM
20		Better regulation of sales to minors, those who overindulge in service establishments	Apr 01 2022 10:19 AM
21		remove parking minimums	Apr 01 2022 10:10 AM
22		Fresh ideas	Apr 01 2022 09:38 AM
23		I answered this in the last section, but essentially, remove the 35% policy, and focus on controlling the things that generally lead to social problems with alcohol- which are usually cheap products with higher alcohol levels. Craft cocktails and creative wine service options like combination locations are much more likely to be a huge social and cultural benefit rather than a source of abuse. As it is, the town policies actually inhibit this sort of place rather than encourage them. It instead motivates businesses to offer cheap, mass produced booze that they can get at discount prices from big distributors. This is almost diametrically opposite from what we should be trying to achieve.	Apr 01 2022 08:41 AM
24		Allow a higher percentage of alcohol sales.	Apr 01 2022 07:21 AM

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25		This I don't know much about but things like - maybe bars are for over 25s, closing time of midnight	Apr 01 2022 07:01 AM
26		Unknown.	Mar 31 2022 11:41 PM
27		Don't know	Mar 31 2022 10:55 PM
28		More responsible? Natick is already one of only 3 towns in MA that requires in person TIPS certifications. Change the regulation about food/bev sale requirements per seat for restaurants. We need a pub or better restaurant here.	Mar 31 2022 10:43 PM
29		More Uber/Lyft, public transit?	Mar 31 2022 10:15 PM
30		Create laws that facilitate bars and pubs opening , make it easy for every business to have a liquor license	Mar 31 2022 10:13 PM
31		Obey state laws regarding training of servers	Mar 31 2022 09:52 PM
32		N/a	Mar 31 2022 09:36 PM
33		I don't know enough to answer this.	Mar 31 2022 09:32 PM
34		Research with other local towns on their practices.	Mar 31 2022 09:22 PM
35		Reduce the food % requirement	Mar 31 2022 09:18 PM
36		I don't think there are any problems that I could speak of.	Mar 31 2022 09:00 PM
37		Not sure	Mar 31 2022 08:57 PM

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38		Add a bylaw that if someone receives a DUI after leaving an establishment that served that person alcohol the liquor license of the establishment that served that individual last is suspended with a second instance leading to removal. Conduct nightyky stakeouts of establishments that serve alcohol in search of impaired drivers. Also require additional annual serve safe training beyond the minimum currently set for establishments to maintain their liquor licenses. Furthermore conduct sting operations for checking IDs! Too many places in town dont check and it seems (by apperance) underage kids could be obtaining alcohol. Lastly, ensure parents are charged with serving minors for things like parties where kids are drinking.	Mar 31 2022 08:49 PM
39		I don't know	Mar 31 2022 08:25 PM
40		...	Mar 31 2022 08:18 PM
41		Lighten up rules to allow more business owners to have more full licenses. Allow for more places/choices for the residents. Require Education and Training of business owners and staff to regulate intake if needed and provide an easy way to provide help if needed to business with patrons that are not cooperative.	Mar 31 2022 07:52 PM
42		Allow restaurants to have higher alcohol sales.	Mar 31 2022 06:31 PM
43		No idea	Mar 31 2022 05:55 PM
44		I don't have a ton of specifics recommendations. I think it's great to collect info, like you're doing, so that good ideas come forward. I do think the food/alcohol sales % ratio needs to be adjusted. And the language around use of the word bar needs to be addressed. What Dah Mee had to go through to have a "sushi bar" was ridiculous.	Mar 31 2022 05:51 PM
45		At the end of the day, it will be about oversight.	Mar 31 2022 05:35 PM

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46		I don't think we need a rule about what percent of sales is from food versus alcohol.	Mar 31 2022 05:18 PM
47		Put bars downtown which would increase foot traffic rather than car traffic.	Mar 31 2022 04:52 PM
48		Outside patio seating, no extra fees or license,	Mar 31 2022 04:42 PM
49		allow so-called pubs where food does not have to be the focus	Mar 31 2022 04:39 PM
50		First, everything should be brought together in one place and all inconsistencies should be examined and changes made. Second, we have never, to my knowledge, been rejected by Beacon Hill when we wanted additional liquor licenses however we need to request on-premises licenses. As an aside, the requirement that X% of sales must be food just meant that liquor sales were keyed in as chicken wings or some other food item. Unless the SB looks at how much they purchased you really can't determine if they are meeting any food requirement.	Mar 31 2022 04:29 PM
51		No opinion	Mar 31 2022 04:13 PM
52		I think we could try increasing the cap and looking to see what other towns that have the kind of establishments that we would like to see in Natick have for their rules and regs and if they have safety issues based on them.	Mar 31 2022 04:13 PM
53		Encourage use of Uber/taxi/Lyft so people can travel home safely.	Mar 31 2022 04:05 PM
54		I think they are overly restrictive today causing people to go to other towns. If we had in town options, people could walk which would be safer	Mar 31 2022 04:04 PM
55		Review transportation and safety policies when reviewing alcohol policies.	Mar 31 2022 03:56 PM
56		Not quite sure. I've heard the current state was a reaction to being known as a bit of a drunkard town at one point. There should be ways to regulate the environment to avoid the dark, windowless dives typically associated with that kind of image.	Mar 31 2022 03:39 PM

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57		Allow pitchers and happy hours	Mar 31 2022 03:39 PM
58		I don't know. My primary concern is safety especially regarding drunk driving.	Mar 31 2022 03:36 PM
59		No answer	Mar 31 2022 03:25 PM
60		Funnel tax revenue from increased licenses to prevention of substance abuse (natick 180)	Mar 31 2022 03:22 PM
61		It seems parking is frequently cited as a reason that restaurants and other businesses can't open downtown. Those rules need to be revised to be more flexible.	Mar 31 2022 03:05 PM
62		See previous answer	Mar 31 2022 03:02 PM
63		More liquor licenses less expensive liquor licenses for places that want to serve food and alcohol. Easier for is easier for entertainment to be offered at places that serve food in alcohol.	Mar 31 2022 02:50 PM
64		Allow more restaurants to have liquor licenses	Mar 31 2022 02:49 PM
65		Abuse of alcohol is a serious issue, but Tips training and potential legal punishment of the established business should be enough to curb excess serving in a restaurant. Having 5 less barstools at a bar does not change someone's mindset in over indulging on alcohol and potentially getting into legal trouble. The town doesn't even have a "bar" or brewery and is missing out on serious mess tax revenue for the town of Natick.	Mar 31 2022 02:45 PM
66		Allow more liquor licenses and relax some of the current rules	Mar 31 2022 02:42 PM
67		That's a question for the regulators, not the patrons. Why not just follow the same rules and regs as Framingham or Hudson. Both towns have vibrant restaurant and pub scenes.	Mar 31 2022 02:40 PM
68		I think Natick does a find job.	Mar 31 2022 02:40 PM

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69		Less strict but still carefully overseen.	Mar 31 2022 02:36 PM
70		G	Mar 31 2022 02:35 PM
71		We're all adults.... So they should Just open it up. The population density doesn't support more than a few anyway.	Mar 31 2022 02:34 PM
72		Allow more of revenues to come from alcohol (where restaurants make most profit), fewer hoops to jump through, greater number of bar/restaurant alcohol licenses.	Mar 31 2022 02:19 PM
73		I don't know. However, it's clear something should change. Other towns have been more successful in attracting new bars and restaurants. Hudson, MA is a great example. What is holding Natick back?	Mar 31 2022 02:16 PM
74		I think relaxing the rules and regulations makes sense.	Mar 31 2022 02:12 PM
75		I feel like people on the board thinks theres a causal relationship between the current rules and responsible consumption. I don't think that's true and I think making the rule less restrictive such that it would encourage investment in the town would not change the pattern of responsible consumption.	Mar 31 2022 02:12 PM
76		Responsibility isn't the issue. We already have the Morse tavern near town. It's not like if we lessen the restrictions downtown will become the next Bourbon St. gimme a break	Mar 31 2022 02:10 PM
77		Reducing the revenue from food percentage	Mar 31 2022 02:09 PM
78		Idk	Mar 31 2022 02:09 PM
79		I'm in favor of less regulation. Restaurants and bars should be training staff to not overserve and to verify age.	Mar 31 2022 02:02 PM
80		Act like all other towns	Mar 31 2022 02:00 PM

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81		I see no need to change anything to support more responsible service or consumption. I believe service and consumption is being done responsibly. At the state level, I support a deposit for nip bottles to reduce littering.	Mar 31 2022 01:56 PM
82		See my previous answer. Removing any limits on sales ratios between food and alcohol sales would be one less thing for a new business to worry about. Remove any seating limitations so smaller restaurants and pubs can use the smaller spaces that are available in downtown natick.	Mar 31 2022 01:55 PM
83		See other comments on earlier question	Mar 31 2022 01:51 PM
84		Have a way available to get home and leave your car if you had too much to drink.	Mar 31 2022 01:51 PM
85		Relaxation of the rules that make it hard for small independent businesses to get going. Natick should be seen as a place where new businesses can thrive and grow their brands.	Mar 31 2022 01:49 PM
86		Reduce parking requirements. We want drinkers to walk or take a ride service. Consider ride service pickup areas.	Mar 31 2022 01:45 PM
87		Training and enforcement, backed up by community education and ride options - mass transit, ride sharing support etc	Mar 31 2022 01:44 PM
88		See previous answer about requiring food/snacks with purchase. Add spaces for uber pickups.	Mar 31 2022 01:39 PM
89		We should try to prevent over-serving individuals, instead of trying to prevent bars from opening here at all.	Mar 31 2022 01:36 PM
90		Change rules/regs so they are not so cumbersome and prohibitive.	Mar 31 2022 01:34 PM
91		Less seats required. Just look at other towns!	Mar 31 2022 01:31 PM
92		Relaxation of food/alcohol ratio and removal of parking provision to promote responsible drinking whilst walking/taking public transport.	Mar 31 2022 01:30 PM

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93		More spot checking of IDs, TIPS certification, and reminding bar owners how important it is to not over serve their customers.	Mar 31 2022 01:30 PM
94		do not restrict food consumption	Mar 31 2022 01:28 PM
95		Unrestrict the proportion of alcohol sales (vs food sales) required for licensure	Mar 31 2022 01:28 PM
96		Good as is	Mar 31 2022 01:17 PM
97		See above	Mar 31 2022 01:16 PM
98		We already have laws that cover responsible alcoholic beverage service.	Mar 31 2022 01:14 PM