COMMENTS, IDEAS, VISIONS FROM JULY 4TH SURVEY AND OCTOBER 25, 2005 OPEN HOUSE

Town Center
- Town Center by Blue Fin
- Town Center by Bluefin – don’t spread things out
- Town center where this is room – closest to Town / hotel complex
- Town center near Fire Hall, already somewhat a focal point
- Town center – Tofte center
- Center of Tofte – not clear where Tofte begins and ends
- Center is 61 and Sawbill Trail
- Two centers market – Coho and USPO Town Hall
- Tofte takes up a lot of room – How do you tie it together?
- “Traditional Town main street may not be possible

Uses / Aesthetics / Character

Uses
- Café where locals and tourists can connect
- Make visitors feel like they are connected
- Have festivals and activities: 4th of July Wilderness Trek, parade fireworks
- More places to eat
- “home grown” restaurants – special and interesting
- Number one vacation activity is shopping. Shops can entertain visitors and provide service to locals
- Hardware store would be nice
- Laundromat and / or car wash
- Great potential for salvage yard
- Redevelopment of salvage yard?
- Redevelopment of “Paniekes” property – (formerly Casey Tofte property)

Aesthetics / character
- Beautiful aesthetics
- Have a theme but not Disney-like
- Music, flowers etc
- Maintain small town flavor
- Horse friendly community—tie in with Taconite Harbor development
- Cemetery as visitor attraction
- Make history accessible to people
- No Walmart
- No chain stores
- Get perspective on visitors of what makes Tofte unique
- There needs to be more for people to do in Tofte
- Need to develop a little more to attract and hold people
- Tourists want local color
- Keep North Shore flora and fauna

- Have a square footage / big box ordinance
- Preserve green space
- Need to pull things together for a sense of community
- Safety lighting
- No light pollution
- Tighten up design review standards
- Setbacks for commercial buildings on highway—long distance
- Zero lot lines setback in town center
- Slogan from LTTA “America’s North Coast”

Trails / Connectivity / Roads / Highway / Gateways

Trails
- Highway a commercial detriment now?
- Superior Hiking Trail spur to Tofte
- Trails on both sides of highway for bikes / pedestrian traffic with crossings – two or more crossings
- Better connectivity through town for pedestrians
- Business dependant on Highway now?
- Provide trail access to Bluefin
- What’s on the Lake – is it inviting to trail access
- Community center school
- Connect to Birch grove trails

Parking
- Parking at Temperance River on roadside will be eliminated – where to park? —stickers and alternate parking?
- More parking space
- Parking handled differently – Ten Sleep, WY
- Plan for event parking / safety
- Hide the parking from Highway view

Road Systems
- Require subdivision developments to plan for a road system
- Grid road system
- Parallel streets to highway – lacking
- Have a street following the power line

Highway 61
- 30 mph design speed for Highway 61 with center islands
- Route highway around town?
- Speed and how it affects highway design

Gateways
- Norwegian fishing village image at entrance and exit
- Stone entry monuments
- Bridges as gateways
- Combine SNF and Tofte visitor center at Smokey’s grave site – gateway
Public facilities
- Combine SNF and Tofte visitor center at Smokey’s grave site
- Public facilities with Old Erickson / Rodne House Wayside rest on Lake side of Highway across from Erickson house
- Should Township expand Park system... across from existing park? Henry’s field, Coastal zone funding?
- Town park is seems to be a secret – keep it that way or promote use?

Housing
- Economical, affordable housing is needed
- “Aspen” syndrome forcing locals out
- Land values are rising faster
- Land trusts
- Infrastructure to encourage full time housing (own or rent) ways to help with affordable housing
- Apartment building
- Dormitory
- Build social capital to create stronger community
- Age issues: transportation and housing, services etc.
- Tofte Schroeder sanitary district—shred septic
- North Shore management regulations / planning requirements
- Lot size and relationship to affordability

Other / Cooperation
- Consolidate Lutsen-Tofte-Schroeder
- Coordinate with county on zoning issues
- Review Lutsen Town center plan for ideas for Tofte
- Co-operation with other units of government to coordinate planning
- Eminent domain vs. cooperative planning – prefer cooperation
- Septic and waste water treatment?