

# Town of Amherst Strong Places Weak Places: Commerce



## Strong Area

1 Dot = 1

Dots

## Weak Area

1 Dot = 1

Dots

Trails

Strong Areas: 29 Clusters; 166 Dots  
Weak Areas: 26 Clusters; 103 Dots

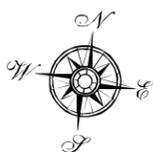
Strong & Weak Places in the community were identified by participants of the Planning Amherst Together Idea Gathering Sessions in Fall 2006. Participants at the sessions were divided up into small groups of eight to twelve. Each group was provided a town-wide basemap & charged to identify places in Amherst that are "Strong" or "Weak" in terms of a specific topic. (See list of topics below.) Generally, strong places are those that reflect well on the community, while weak places do not. Each participant was given three green stickers & three red stickers to indicate strong places and weak places, respectively. Participants placed the stickers on the locations of their choice. After each participant placed six dots onto the map, the group collectively identified & circled the three most concentrated clusters of dots that for the strong & weak places. For each cluster, the group noted the reasons for the area being deemed strong or weak. They then provided recommendations for improving the physical environment of Amherst.

Following are the themes that were assigned to the groups:

- Circulation & Transportation
- Commerce
- Community Appearance
- Cultural & Historic Resources
- General
- Housing
- Natural Resources
- Parks, Recreation, Open Space

All of this information was compiled into digital format by digitizing the strong & weak cluster circles into the Town of Amherst GIS database. Each cluster was coded with the meeting date & place, group, category, rating (strong or weak), number of dots & the reasons for the rating. The clusters are rendered on the resulting maps using a dot-density display: one dot on this map is equivalent to one dot placed on the map at the Idea Gathering Sessions. The dots on the map are not meant to be exactly placed according to the original placement by the groups, but rather are restricted to falling only within their associated cluster.

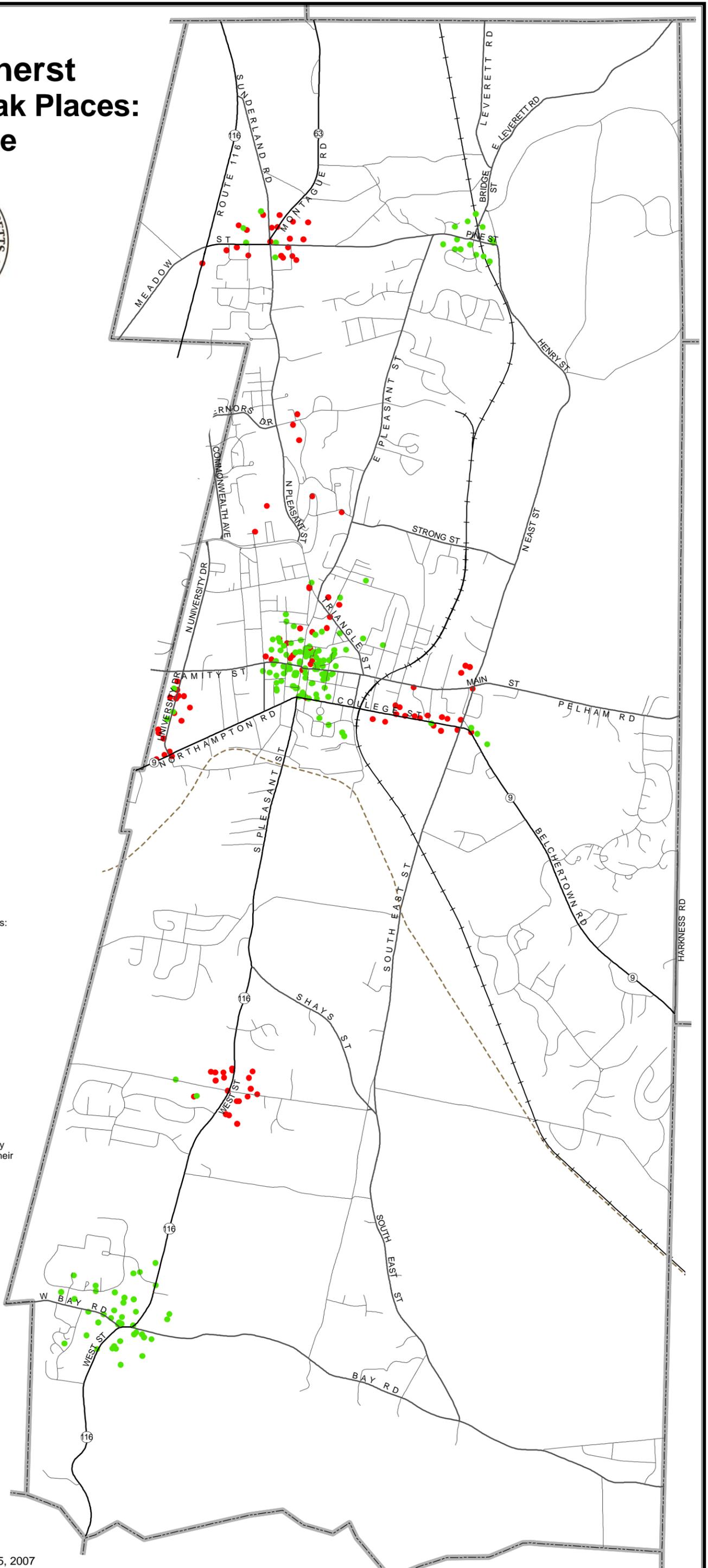
Basemap: Spring, 1999 with some updates to structures, pavement & streets.



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 6,000 Feet

1 inch equals 3,000 feet



# Town of Amherst Strong Places Weak Places: Community Appearance



## Strong Area

- 1 Dot = 1
- Dots

## Weak Area

- 1 Dot = 1
- Dots

Strong Areas: 30 Clusters; 119 Dots  
Weak Areas: 28 Clusters; 96 Dots

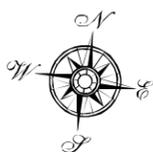
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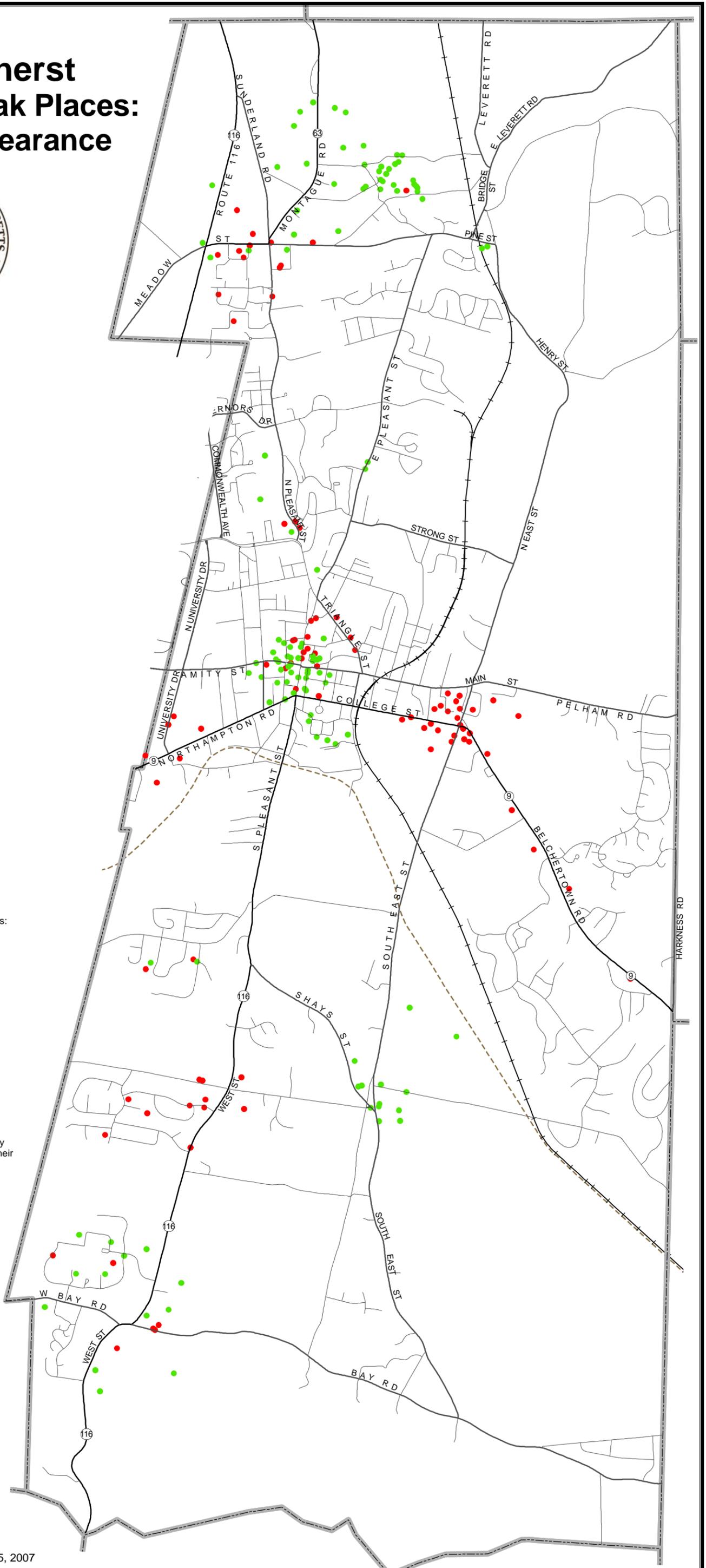
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0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 6,000 Feet

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# Town of Amherst Strong Places Weak Places: Cultural Resources



## Strong Area

- 1 Dot = 1
- Dots

## Weak Area

- 1 Dot = 1
- Dots

Strong Areas: 26 Clusters; 86 Dots  
Weak Areas: 15 Clusters; 41 Dots

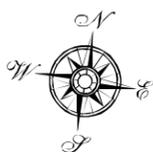
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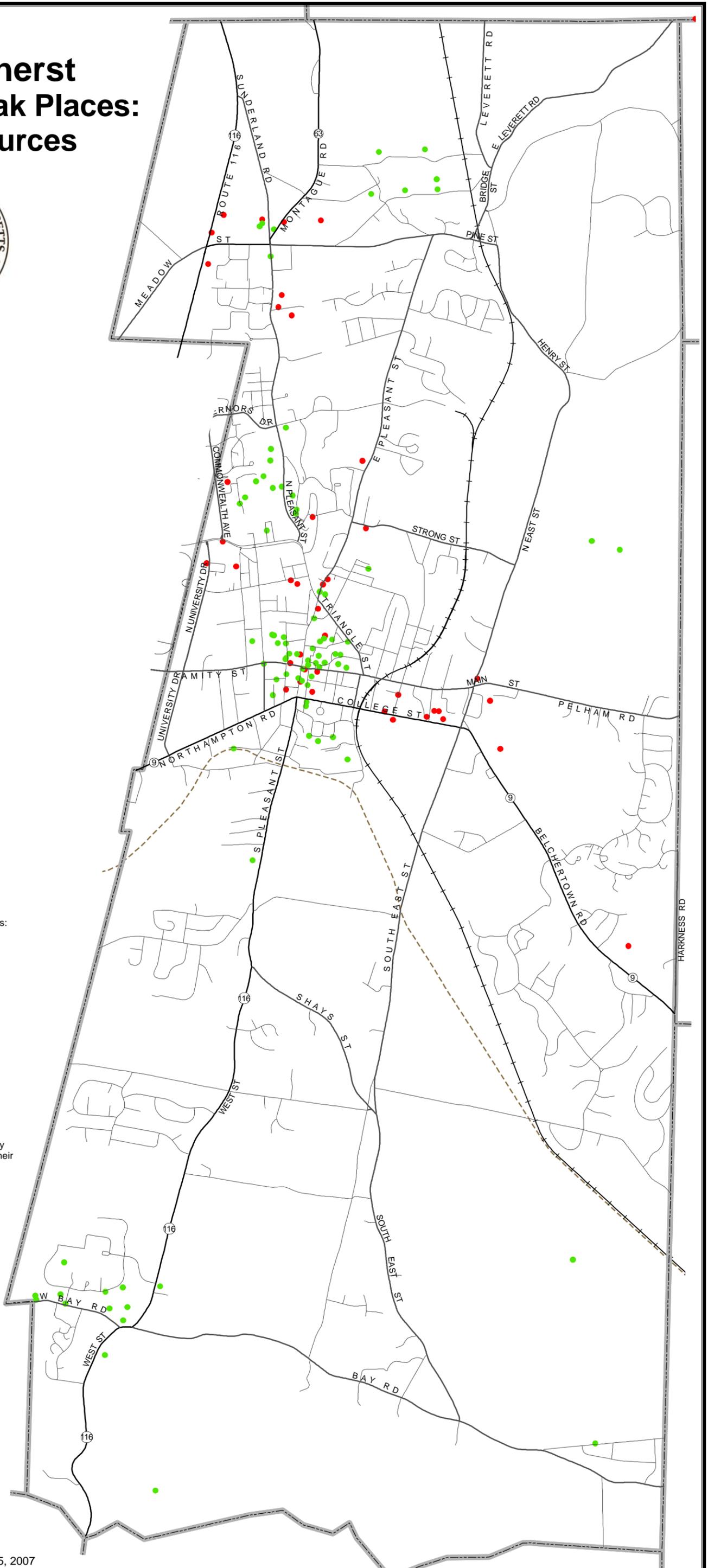
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0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 6,000 Feet

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# Town of Amherst Strong Places Weak Places: Open Space



## Strong Area

 1 Dot = 1

 Dots

## Weak Area

 1 Dot = 1

 Dots

Strong Areas: 6 Clusters; 21 Dots  
Weak Areas: 4 Clusters; 13 Dots

Strong & Weak Places in the community were identified by participants of the Planning Amherst Together Idea Gathering Sessions in Fall 2006. Participants at the sessions were divided up into small groups of eight to twelve. Each group was provided a town-wide basemap & charged to identify places in Amherst that are "Strong" or "Weak" in terms of a specific topic. (See list of topics below.) Generally, strong places are those that reflect well on the community, while weak places do not. Each participant was given three green stickers & three red stickers to indicate strong places and weak places, respectively. Participants placed the stickers on the locations of their choice. After each participant placed six dots onto the map, the group collectively identified & circled the three most concentrated clusters of dots that for the strong & weak places. For each cluster, the group noted the reasons for the area being deemed strong or weak. They then provided recommendations for improving the physical environment of Amherst.

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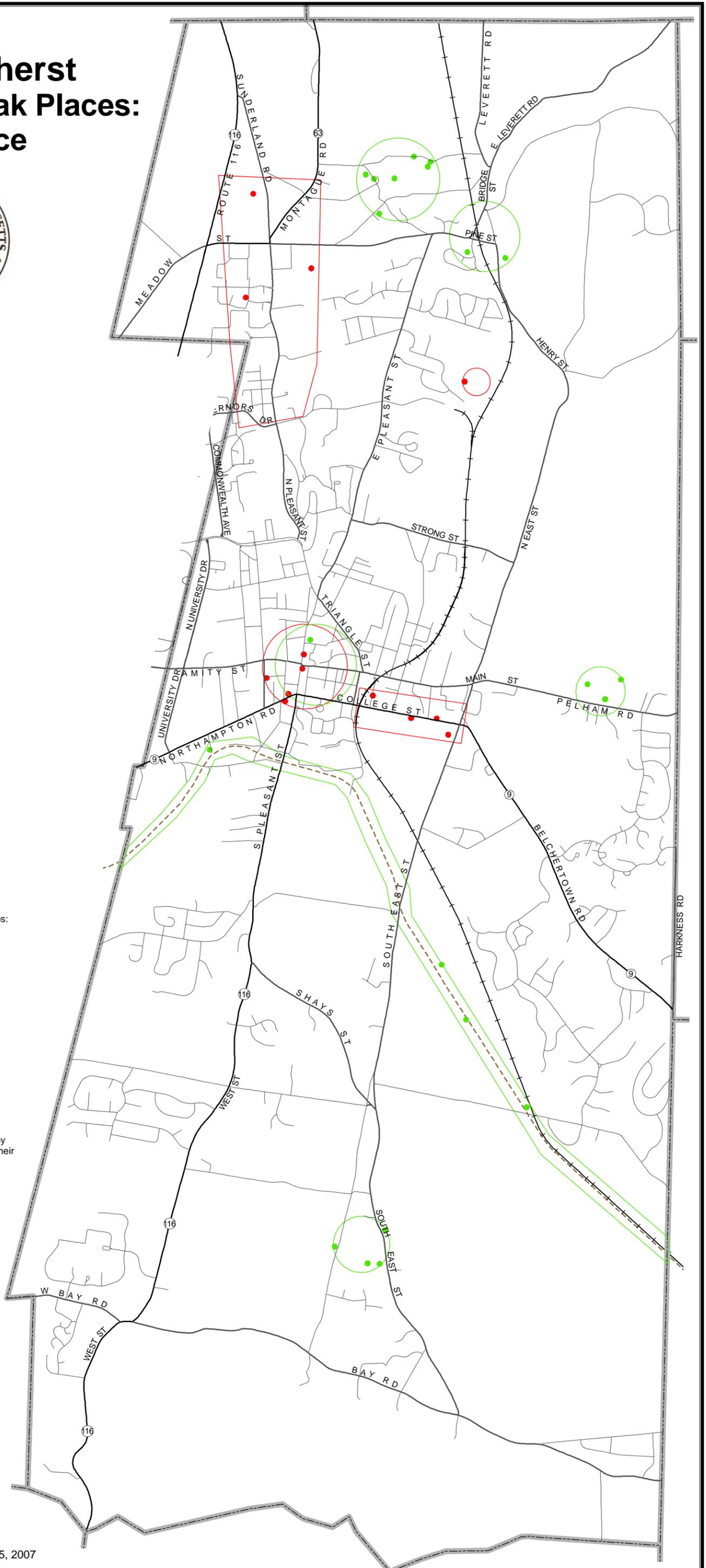
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# Town of Amherst Strong Places Weak Places: Transportation & Circulation



## Strong Area

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- Dots

## Weak Area

- 1 Dot = 1
- Dots

Strong Areas: 42 Clusters; 137 Dots  
Weak Areas: 44 Clusters; 166 Dots

Strong & Weak Places in the community were identified by participants of the Planning Amherst Together Idea Gathering Sessions in Fall 2006. Participants at the sessions were divided up into small groups of eight to twelve. Each group was provided a town-wide basemap & charged to identify places in Amherst that are "Strong" or "Weak" in terms of a specific topic. (See list of topics below.) Generally, strong places are those that reflect well on the community, while weak places do not. Each participant was given three green stickers & three red stickers to indicate strong places and weak places, respectively. Participants placed the stickers on the locations of their choice. After each participant placed six dots onto the map, the group collectively identified & circled the three most concentrated clusters of dots that for the strong & weak places. For each cluster, the group noted the reasons for the area being deemed strong or weak. They then provided recommendations for improving the physical environment of Amherst.

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