What is working well now in South Whitehall Township?

Parks are good (eg covered bridge)

Parkland Acquisition Vibrant parks, retail, and medical facilities. We have a new libraryand good park programs.

New library

Summer daycamp program, run at the schools. Very successful program. Good relationship with PSD for shared facilities

Great school systems.

What are the problem areas in South Whitehall Township?

We are growing very quickly. We need to make sure we can maintain what we have, and make sure our emergency services are not over-extended.

Importance of coordination with Emergency Management, use their inventories to coordinate planning

Assess hazard, and perform a capability assessment to manage hazard. Where capabilities can be enhanced - base for recommendations in hazard mitigation planning

Traffic, as we grow, will affect our quality of life. We also want to maintain the feel and character of our township. People are drawn here because of our facilities and the feel of our township, which is not an urban feel.

We do have buildings which are in need of work/restoration and they could be used and re-purposed.

What land choosing for park space and what uses intended for them (specifically, Kohler Ridge)? Better ways to get public input on uses.

Volunteerism

Jordan Creek
Greenway trail gap
(regional gap)
(discussed by LVPC)
- working with
Lehigh Valley
Greenways

The Walbert corridor could be more attractive.

related to keeping a quaint character, mom and pop shops, beautifying with flowers.

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Walkability. Repurpose buildings/beautify

What SME tools or best practices are relevant to addressing these problems?

Looking into measures to enhance walkability - to enhance/maintain quality of life Thoughtful development which incorporates green space.

relationship with school district (relationship to facilities/population growth), relationship in discussing growth and where may occur. How school district may response and township can respond.

Recommendations that can encourage greater community coordination, potentially community messaging systems. Land is becoming scarce and re-purposing may help with preservation.

hazard mitigation tools

sustaining relationships between entities to provide mutual support of community services scorecard/progress report (annually) mechanism to check-in and see how we are doing, one year from Plan adoption. Where there is successful and where we may need to refocus our efforts.

I feel that so much can happen within a 10-year period. One year brought us a pandemic and really changed our world. It may be wise to revisit our Comp Plan every 5 years.

Official Map

Citizen
Survey keeping it
simple

Surveys to assess community priorities.

Preservation Tools --Easements, etc.. Preserve natural resources first, farmland, then provide development within needs of community. (suggestion from LVPC

What recommendations based on SME tools and best practices should we carry forward to the Comprehensive Plan Update?

Assess current capabilities and where want to go from there.

Update Hazard
Mitigation
recommendations
every 2.5 years (to
prepare to be involved
in County Plan).
Engage in Annual
Process to look at
amendments on a
yearly basis.

EMS fire needs to reflect new and changing housing development

Look at Walbert Corridor and determine how we want it to look and act.

Parks Rec and Open space plan update (how will further recommendations from Comp Plan)

Develop Parks, Rec and Open Space Plan Walbert Ave seems to have little consistent zoning...auto junk shops mixed in with mom and pop stores, bakeries, etc. This is also true in other areas.

Example: Lower Nazareth updated official map Land preservation, and re-purposing of current structures for community facilities. i.e. A community center in a re-purposed building. can be placed on official map (i.e. park space, etc). Where might residents of Township not be as well served as other areas - and understand what we can do. Process can lead to trying to find opportunities for

Official Map easements
(conservation,
agricultural).
Identify priorities,
and where priorities
provide
opportunities.

Lower Mac is planning for a solar farm. Is this feasible for SWT?

Consider connectivity via the Official Map (i.e. connect greenway to park to agricultural easement)

trail and
recreational centers
- how they are
connected and
make it easy to get
to community
facilities