

1. What is Working Well Now in South Whitehall Township?



2. What are the Problem Areas?

Not enough North South Connections through the Township

The last comp plan had dense development centers but no plan to improve infrastructure

Limited capacity feeder roads (e.g., Orefield Road) and corridors (e.g., North Cedar Crest) that can't handle current traffic loads, let alone expected/planned development.

Repeated repair of potholes instead of addressing the root cause (e.g., poor drainage).

Walkability and sidewalks on Tilghman, Hamilton, and Cedar Crest

lack of sidewalk infrastructure, critical gaps in sidewalks on major bus routes

not enough money

lack of modern bus stops

political priorities all over the place no consensus of elected officials

Lack of political consensus within the Township. Without it we can't get things done.

Update street lights to LED to improve lighting, conserve energy and save township funding

Need to improve streetlighting

Lack of township road improvement plan to keep up with growth.

Planning has become to reactionary rather than being proactive to transportation needs

We need to understand the planning laws more. It will help us be more proactive and have better outcomes.

Enforceability [impact fees] - how get things done (Act 209). Need these policies for the Township

Opportunity for LTAP program (consider for recommendations) - address pedestrian and connectivity issues (Engineer and LVPC staffer)

no capital improvement plans

Lack of shoulders wide enough to safely accommodate cyclists and pedestrians on main corridors such as Cedar Crest Road (between Walbert and Orefield).

Growth must include the reality of the traffic increase that it brings.

no vision

Township needs to learn more about the traffic impact fees to fully understand options before the comp plan is complete.

2b. What SME Tools/Best Practices are Relevant to Addressing these Problems?

Update the official map with more detail to create a vision

build relationships with the money people

how can we manage congestion - drive to other modes (walk/bike/transit), manage it with traffic signals optimization, use what have road already to most efficient capability

Understanding vast amount of data out there, understand where we are right now.

Traffic Impact Fees

Presentation by the LVPC to the township to keep the elected officials in sync with the regional plan. Need to work together.

South Whitehall needs to participate in the LVTS to be part of project funding

Better understanding of available infrastructure capacity when updating zoning

have the township use Tech Assists like the City of Allentown

traffic impact fees!

3. What Recommendations based on SME Tools and Best Practices should we carry forward to the Comprehensive Plan Update?

become subject matter experts ourselves on the township as a whole transportation wise

LTAP program

Identify safety areas and high crash areas to address

Take a serious look at implementing an ACT 209 Study

Traffic impact fees. Dense growth must include infrastructure impact.

Knowledge is power. The more info the township can attain - multi municip plans, traffic impact fees, etc - the better we can construct the new comp plan.

Official Map update to leverage funding and create a vision

Update Official Map with desired transportation projects

How use what we have efficiently?

Discuss multi municipal planning and how it would benefit the township

create a dedicated bank account (impact fees) to match funds from state and federal for projects

More frequent updates to the comp plan.

Traffic impact fees

Encourage more transportation connections where feasible

Get our projects on the TIP

Tech Assist Programs - w/ engineer and LVPC staff

Coordinate with other municipalities just how many warehouses we can absorb in the Lehigh Valley. Sadley we are becoming the VALLEY OF THE TRUCKS

Bus transit improvements to enhance ridership and mitigate congestion

Connect people with places, how do we do that best?

Create and implement a Capital improvements Plan

Prepare now for the call for projects to get on the path to the TIP

Create a transportation improvement plan for the township (roads and trails)

Better connectivity based on multimodalism

Amend the Township zoning map so that the traffic-related intensity of permitted uses is appropriate to the capabilities of the existing and planned road network.