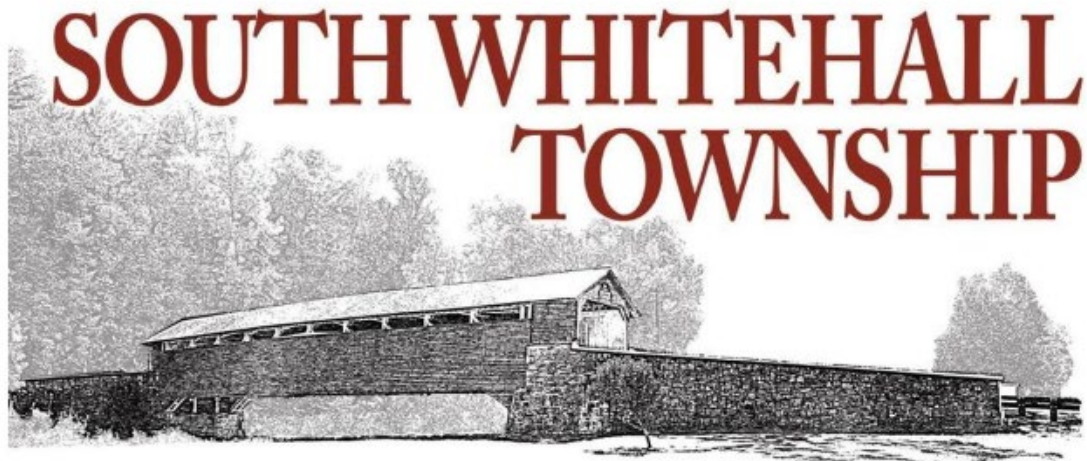


2021
Comprehensive
Plan Update



Working Group: Concluding Meeting and Report Out
August 19, 2021

Comprehensive Plan Update:
Phase 4 Working Groups Timeline

Introductory Virtual Meeting [All Working Groups together]: Tuesday, June 29th, 2021, 6-8PM



Meeting #1 – Existing Conditions [by Topic Area]: Week of July 12th



Meeting #2 – Recommendation Brainstorm with Subject Matter Experts from LVPC [by Topic Area] Virtual Meetings: Week of July 19th

7/19, 6-7:30PM: Community Facilities

7/20, (Sessions 1 and 2 running concurrently) 6-7:30PM: 1) Transportation 2) Housing

7/21, (Sessions 1 and 2 running concurrently) 5:30-7PM: 1) Resource Protection 2) Community Utilities



Meeting #3 – Identify and Develop Recommendations [by Topic Area]: Week of August 2nd



Concluding Meeting Working Groups [all Working Groups together]: August 19th

Comprehensive Plan Update: Working Groups Introductory Meeting

In March 2021, South Whitehall Township kicked off Phase 4 of the Comprehensive Plan Update. South Whitehall is excited to have community participation in the Phase 4 Working Groups: Housing; Transportation; Resource Protection; Community Facilities; and Community Utilities.

When did Phase 4 of the Comprehensive Plan Update begin?

The Comprehensive Plan Phase 4 Kickoff Meeting on March 31st, 2021 introduced the five Working Groups which reflect the required Plan Elements from the PA Municipalities Planning Code (MPC). Community members joined Township staff, elected officials, and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) to learn more about how to engage in the Working Groups. The meeting reviewed work to date, and LVPC staff provided brief presentations during breakout sessions on existing conditions and how each topic fits into regional context.

What's next?

Community participation is needed to assess existing conditions and develop Working Group recommendations during Phase 4 of the Comprehensive Plan Update. The groups will follow the meeting schedule on the next page, where Working Group members will evaluate data and future scenarios, and build out recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan Update.

housing

transportation

community
facilities

community
utilities

resource
protection

Working Group Meeting #1: Existing Conditions

This meeting will focus on the current existing conditions for Housing in South Whitehall Township. Relevant information will be discussed and presented from the growth, economic development, and transportation scenarios, the South Whitehall Township 2009 Comprehensive Plan, Comprehensive Plan Update Guiding Principles [2019], Comprehensive Plan Update Existing Conditions Report [2019], and the 2019 regional comprehensive plan FutureLV.

Goals

- **Identify significant data trends within South Whitehall Township**
- **Identify where updated data and/or additional information is needed**
- **Complete Existing Conditions Discussion Template**

Outcome

Solidify a baseline understanding of current data and information to best inform the recommendation process.

Working Group Meeting #2: LVPC Subject Matter Experts

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) will present relevant data, tools, and best practices to each working group. Participants will have a chance to discuss the ways to address problems in South Whitehall Township and move forward towards identifying recommendations with SMEs.

Goals

- **Review and discuss SME sourced data**
- **Learn about tools and best practices**
- **Identify initial recommendations**

Outcome

Create a high-level list of initial recommendations that will be prioritized and built out at Working Group Meeting #3.

Working Group Meeting #3: Prioritize and Develop Recommendations

Meeting #3 focuses on building out the recommendations identified in Meeting #2. Working Group members will prioritize their recommendations and develop recommendations utilizing the Recommendation Template.

Goals

- **Prioritize and assess recommendations**
- **Build out Recommendation Templates**
- **Prepare to present Recommendations at the Concluding Working Group Meeting**

Outcome

Prioritize recommendations and then identify key goals, key actions, leaders, partners, funding, and timeline. These recommendations will be presented to the South Whitehall Township Planning Commission at the Concluding Working Group Meeting, and will directly inform the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Working Group Concluding Meeting

Each Phase 4 Working Group will present their recommendations to SWT staff and the Planning Commission to generate constructive feedback and discussion. The recommendations, feedback, and discussion will inform the drafting of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Goals

- **Present recommendations**
- **Provide feedback and facilitate discussion**
- **Advance recommendations to Planning Commission drafting of Comprehensive Plan**

Outcome

Phase 4 will conclude with presentations of Working Group recommendations to the Planning Commission, informing the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Guiding Principles



Protect natural, historical, recreational, scenic, open space, and agricultural, amenities, resources, and assets.



Coordinate future land use, development, and redevelopment, in sync with the capacity of the road network and utilities to absorb changes.



Promote an effective continuation of opportunities, facilities and services for open space, parks, recreation, education, public safety, and wellness.



Promote techniques to limit the sprawling pattern of development, by advocating for land use with more effective smart growth attributes.



Coordinate with PennDOT, LVPC, and adjoining Municipalities, in order to alleviate existing problems and to avoid future conflicts, and to promote opportunities for alternative transportation such as bus service, ride sharing, bicycling, and walking.

MPC Guidelines: **Comprehensive Plan**

The Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code (MPC) enables local jurisdictions to conduct a comprehensive planning process to identify areas where growth and development will occur so that a full range of public infrastructure services, including sewer, water, highways, police and fire protection, public schools, parks, open space and other services can be adequately planned and provided as needed to accommodate growth.

The comprehensive plan, consisting of maps, charts, and textual matter, shall include, but not be limited to, the following related basic elements:

- Statement of objectives concerning future development, including, but not limited to, the location, character and timing of future development**
- A plan for land use**
- A plan to meet the housing needs of present residents and of those individuals and families anticipated to reside in the municipality**
- A plan for movement of people and goods**
- A plan for community facilities and utilities**
- A statement of interrelationships among the plan components**
- A discussion of short- and long-range plan implementation strategies**
- A statement indicating that the existing and proposed development of the municipality is compatible with the existing and proposed development and plans in contiguous portions of neighboring municipalities**
- A plan for the protection of natural and historic resources to the extent not preempted by federal or state law**

The MPC requires that comprehensive plans shall be reviewed at least every ten (10) years.

Housing Working Group

MPC Guidelines: Housing

The PA Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Act of 1968, P.L.805, No. 247 as reenacted and amended states in Article III, Section 301, that in the Preparation of Comprehensive Plans, in relationship to Housing, shall include:

(2.1) A plan to meet the housing needs of present residents and of those individuals and families anticipated to reside in the municipality, which may include conservation of presently sound housing, rehabilitation of housing in declining neighborhoods and the accommodation of expected new housing in different dwelling types and at appropriate densities for households of all income levels.

Key Takeaways: Housing Meeting 1

Clustering of housing to maintain density but also preserve open space connections and access

Missing middle housing

Attainability for newer/younger populations

Housing: Key Takeaways Prioritization



Housing: Recommendation Brainstorm

Clustering Incentives

Planning for walkable, bikeable communities

Utilizing infill opportunities

Affordable housing incentives

Rental tracking and permitting

Transfer of Development Rights

Incentives, Options for family-sized units

Shorter review periods to address changing markets

Examine opportunities to allow accessory dwelling units

Balance in land uses -- to offset costs of development types

Review and amend the zoning ordinance to ensure all types of housing are provided for, to meet the needs of current and future SWT residents

Match housing density and development to existing utility and transportation infrastructure

Replicate successes of restricted communities without age requirements

Opening planning efforts to younger, newer populations

Recognize the likelihood of fast population growth as work-from-home and commuter needs change

Housing: Recommendation Ranking

Final Working Group Recommendation Prioritization

1. Cluster Incentives
2. Affordable Housing Incentives
3. Review and amend Zoning Ordinance to ensure all types of housing are provided for to meet the needs of current and future residents
4. Transfer of Development Rights
5. Planning for walkable/bikeable communities
6. Replicate success of restricted age communities without age requirements

Recommendation: Cluster Incentives

Key Goals:

- Increase property values
- Complete Jordan Creek Greenway, trails integrated into housing
- Educate the community on what this is
- Walkability, bikeability
- Less expensive to construct and maintain infrastructure
- Housing affordability
- More open space, trails

Key Actions:

- Right standards to ensure open space is useful
- Good examples to present to public (from county planning commissions)
- Buffer from transportation corridors, industrial uses
- Answer WHAT will look like - examples, aesthetics
- Incentives for family sized units
- Stay off steep slopes
- Incentive for infill?
- Add to existing parks, open space
- We need new housing - encourage this type?
- Proper standards to make sure works way intended

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- CED
- Planning Commission

Who Partners?

- LVPC
- County Planning Commissions doing the work

Funding Sources

- Township Budget
- Enhance clustering incentives (i.e. R2/R3 zoning)

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near-term for zoning changes

Measures of Success:

- Acres of open space preserved
- Community consensus that it is a good idea

Recommendation: Affordable Housing Incentives

Key Goals:

- Close to infrastructure and amenities
- Walkability, bikeability
- Look at requirements to see if change, updates needed (i.e. lot sizing)
- Have new construction for middle market (seniors, young families, downsizing)
- Education on standards, parameters
- Infill opportunities

Key Actions:

- Update current ADU regulations, permissions
- Shared inspectors across municipalities (can cover if out/on vacation)
- Affordable housing tax credits
- Education
- Update zoning
- Expedited permit reviews
- Streamline inspections, approvals
- Attractive ways to integrate Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs, granny flats)
- Office building conversions to apartments?

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- BOC, Planning Commission, CED

Who Partners?

- Developers
- Nonprofit housing organizations

Funding Sources

- Affordable housing tax credits

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Continuous
- Short-term for planning
- Review annually

Measures of Success:

- Middle price housing available

Recommendation: Review and amend the zoning ordinance to ensure all types of housing are provided for, to meet the needs of current and future residents

Key Goals:

- Fully recognize different types of households (e.g. seniors, 1 person, etc)
- Recommendation of what (types) and where (it should be)
- Match housing density and development to existing utility and transportation infrastructure

Key Actions:

- Water, sewer capacity
- What roads can be improved and what can't
- Adding, reexamining assisted living and personal care
- Include recommendation in Comp Plan process
- What levels of infrastructure support what levels of density where
- Evaluate by-right development

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- BOC (speed of process), Planning Commission, CED

Who Partners?

- Utilities

Funding Sources

- Township Budget

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Planning now to understand restraints and limitations

Measures of Success:

- When have recommendation on what can use and what can't
- Minimize congestions, safety hazards
- People live and work in closer proximities

Recommendation: Transfer of Development Rights

Key Goals:

- Written into the Ordinance
- More middle priced housing (lower infrastructure costs per unit)
- Incentive for infill, redevelopment
- Preserve substantial areas of woodland, farmland
- Farmland preserved close to population
- Minimize land consumed by grouping housing

Key Actions:

- Density incentive
- Revise Zoning Ordinance
- Education (farmers and developers; community)
- Identify sending and receiving areas in zoning

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Planning Commission, CED

Who Partners?

- LVPC, Lancaster County (for examples)

Funding Sources

- Preservation -- self-funding

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Plan early (near-term)
- Continuous for prioritization of areas

Measures of Success:

- How many units transferred
- Successful utilization of land
- Amount of land preserved

Recommendation: Planning for walkable/bikeable communities

Key Goals:

- Mobility
- Safe for all ages to walk, bike
- Lower amounts of traffic, traffic calming
- Linking, looping existing trail systems
- Roads without curb => wider, smoother shoulder when no alternative
- Create commuting corridors
- Lessen parking requirements
- Kids can get to school safely

Key Actions:

- Sidewalk construction plan into SWT Capital Improvements Plan
- Update inventory of deferred sidewalk construction
- Widen key shoulders where there are no other alternatives
- Bike lanes
- Sidewalk inventory

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- BOC, Public Safety, Public Works, New Committee?

Who Partners?

- Bicycle Organizations

Funding Sources

- Act 209
- ADA funding
- Safe Routes to School
- PennDOT Multimodal Grants

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Planning for near-term
- Continuous

Measures of Success:

- Contiguous bike routes, sidewalks
- Accessibility
- Connection to other trails
- Feet of sidewalk added

Transportation Working Group

MPC Guidelines: Transportation

The PA Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Act of 1968, P.L.805, No. 247 as reenacted and amended states in Article III, Section 301, that in the Preparation of Comprehensive Plans, in relationship to Transportation, shall include:

(3) A plan for movement of people and goods, which may include expressways, highways, local street systems, parking facilities, pedestrian and bikeway systems, public transit routes, terminals, airfields, port facilities, railroad facilities and other similar facilities or uses.

Key Takeaways: Transportation Meeting 1

**Money
money
money**

**The
control of
PennDOT**

We will not change the transportation issues in one plan, its a long game, but the game keeps changing players

**The
Jamboard
is cool!**

Recommendations that form a roadmap and plan for implementation

as 2009 plan shows, not everything gets done, be selective in your priorities

Reactionary to developers - when, where - we are just responding. We have a lot of control over this stuff.

The importance of the official map - and including projects in the comp plan/official map to get them done.

How will we work collaboratively with other working groups? To ensure recommendations aren't conflicting/work against each other

More frequent updates are needed

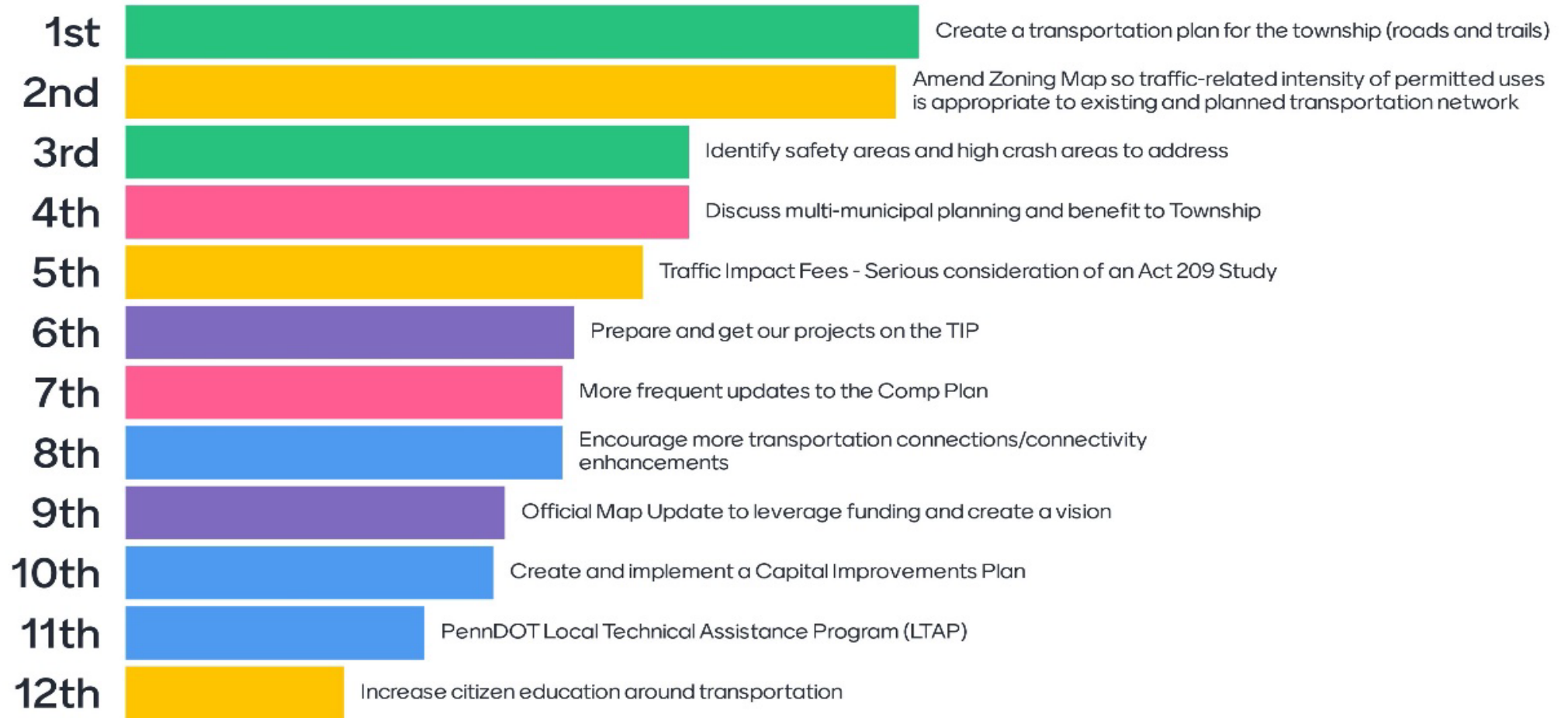
Transportation: Key Takeaways Prioritization



Transportation: Recommendation Brainstorm

become subject matter experts ourselves on the township as a whole transportation wise	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.	Traffic impact fees	How use what we have efficiently?
LTAP program	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.	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.	Encourage more transportation connections where feasible
Get our projects on the TIP	Prepare now for the call for projects to get on the path to the TIP	Tech Assist Programs - w/ engineer and LVPC staff	Create a transportation improvement plan for the township (roads and trails)	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
Create and implement a Capital improvements Plan	Better connectivity based on multimodalism	Connect people with places, how do we do that best?	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.	Update Official Map with desired transportation projects	Official Map update to leverage funding and create a vision

Transportation: Recommendation Ranking



Recommendation: Create a Transportation Plan for the Township (Roads and Trails)

Key Goals:

- Look to other local municipalities who may have had success with this - to gather possible ideas and guidance
- Work to balance future planned growth with appropriate future traffic capabilities
- Coordinate Zoning with road capacity and infrastructure
- To prioritize our projects to put them in line for transportation funding
- Understand high traffic areas for the duration of the plan
- Utilize the Official Map and keep it in concert with Transportation Plan

Key Actions:

- Inventory non-automotive transportation options (e.g., trails) in the Township
- Action: make sure to coordinate trail development with The Link trail network
- Provide transportation options beyond cars (transit, bike, pedestrians)
- Calculate financial impact of long range transportation needs
- Action: ask PennDot for their planning assistance
- Coordinate Zoning with road capacity and infrastructure
- Stand Alone Plan? Can it be a part of the Comp Plan?

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Community Development Department, Township Engineer, Public Works

Who Partners?

- PennDOT, LVPC, Link Trail Network, Neighboring municipalities, Developers

Funding Sources

- PennDOT
- Gas Tax/Liquid Fuels
- State grant opportunities for township plans? DCED?
- Developers
- Grants for ADA that could be used for sidewalks/trails

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Creation = Near
- Should still include mid- and long-term elements

Measures of Success:

- Creation of Plan itself as deliverable
- Getting projects on TIP
- If in 30 years all major SWT roads are not rated H
- Citizen satisfaction that the Plan developments are supported by the planned or existing infrastructure

Recommendation: Amend Zoning Map so traffic-related intensity of permitted uses is appropriate to existing and planned transportation network

Key Goals:

- Intensity of permitted uses is appropriate to existing and planned transportation network

Key Actions:

- Inventory available capacity of individual roads and intersections
- Coordination with adjacent municipalities on large developments (Warehouses leading to truck traffic)
- Make sure we don't miss existing planned/ongoing developments when considering transportation evaluation
- Inventory of usage on roads

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Planning Commission, Township Planning Staff, Township Engineer

Who Partners?

- PennDOT, LVPC, Neighboring Municipalities

Funding Sources

- Township Budget (Line Item?)
- Grants?

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near-Term (But after Comp or Transportation Plan)
- Consider mid- and long-term aspects

Measures of Success:

- Traffic alleviation
- Citizen acceptance that development plans are reasonable
- Safe roads and intersections

Recommendation: Identify safety areas and high crash areas to address

Key Goals:

- Eliminate hazard areas
- Minimize injury and property loss
- Pedestrian safety
- Sidewalk improvements
- Zero Pedestrian deaths

Key Actions:

- To inventory hazard areas
- Capital Improvement Plan to implement the safety strategies
- Consulting public safety on areas that are unsafe to pedestrians
- No deferral of sidewalks anywhere

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- BOC

Who Partners?

- Resident input, Police, Township Engineer

Funding Sources

- Township Budget
- Grants

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near-term to begin process
- Identifying areas = near
- addressing issues may be mid to long term
- Township roads v state roads may increase time

Measures of Success:

- Crash/Fatality/Injury Data and Statistics
- Zero accidents zero injuries
- "Vision Zero"
- Create categories to define improvement
- Deliverable of graphic representation (GIS)

Recommendation: Discuss multi-municipal planning and benefits to Township

Key Goals:

- Coordinate activities of increased traffic due to development

Key Actions:

- Approach all neighboring municipalities to gauge interest on multi-municipal plan
- Utilize LVPC support

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- BOC, Township Staff

Who Partners?

- LVPC, PennDOT, Neighboring Municipalities

Funding Sources

- Township Budget
- Grants for Multi-municipal Plans

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near-term

Measures of Success:

- Plan adoption

Recommendation: Traffic Impact Fees – Serious consideration of an Act 209 Study

Key Goals:

- Study to identify whether or not this is worthy or feasible
- Get additional funding sourced for roads
- Speak to townships that have these fees, or to LVPC
- Education for township to better understand our options, gains, potential negatives

Key Actions:

- See which, if any, neighboring townships have an act 209 plan
- Education and understanding best practices
- Understand landscape of those that have 209 Plan

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- BOC

Who Partners?

- LVPC, Local Legislators, Residents

Funding Sources

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Mid- to Long-term

Measures of Success:

- Money

Recommendation: Official Map Update to leverage funding and create a vision

Key Goals:

- Community consensus
- Leverage funding and create a vision

Key Actions:

- Look at 2009 Plan and re-evaluate
- Roadway improvements
- Intersection improvements; new trail; new parks; new schools

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Planning Commission and Staff

Who Partners?

- Public, Any Township Department

Funding Sources

- Township Budget
- Grants

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near
- Directly follows Comp Plan Update (1 year)

Measures of Success:

- Achieving our Goals

Community Facilities Working Group

MPC Guidelines: Community Facilities

The PA Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Act of 1968, P.L.805, No. 247 as reenacted and amended states in Article III, Section 301, that in the Preparation of Comprehensive Plans, in relationship to Community Facilities, shall include:

(4) A plan for community facilities and utilities, which may include public and private education, recreation, municipal buildings, fire and police stations, libraries, hospitals, water supply and distribution, sewerage and waste treatment, solid waste management, storm drainage and flood plain management, utility corridors and associated facilities, and other similar facilities or uses.

Key Takeaways: Community Facilities Meeting 1

Expand our great park system in a sustainable way.

Inventory EMS services

As we grow, the ability to maintain what we have, and make sure our first responders have the support they need to accommodate our growth.

Community Input on new park acquisitions

Better systems to compare our township against national averages across all community facilities

Community Facilities: Key Takeaways Prioritization

1st



Expanding our great park system in a sustainable way

2nd



Inventory EMS services and equipment

3rd



As we grow, the ability to maintain what we have, and ensure first responders have what the support they need to accommodate our growth

4th



Ensuring facilities access and service access to less developed areas of the Township

5th



Community input on new park acquisitions

6th



Existing maintenance should be a focus instead of always focusing on expansion

7th



Better systems to compare our township averages with national averages across all community facilities

Community Facilities: Recommendation Brainstorm

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.

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?

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

Consider connections to facilities when reviewing developments (Open Space, Parks, Services)

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

Keep relationship with schools (Shared facilities) (Communication on growth)

Many community facilities can be placed on official map, Where might residents not be as well served, and understand what we can do.

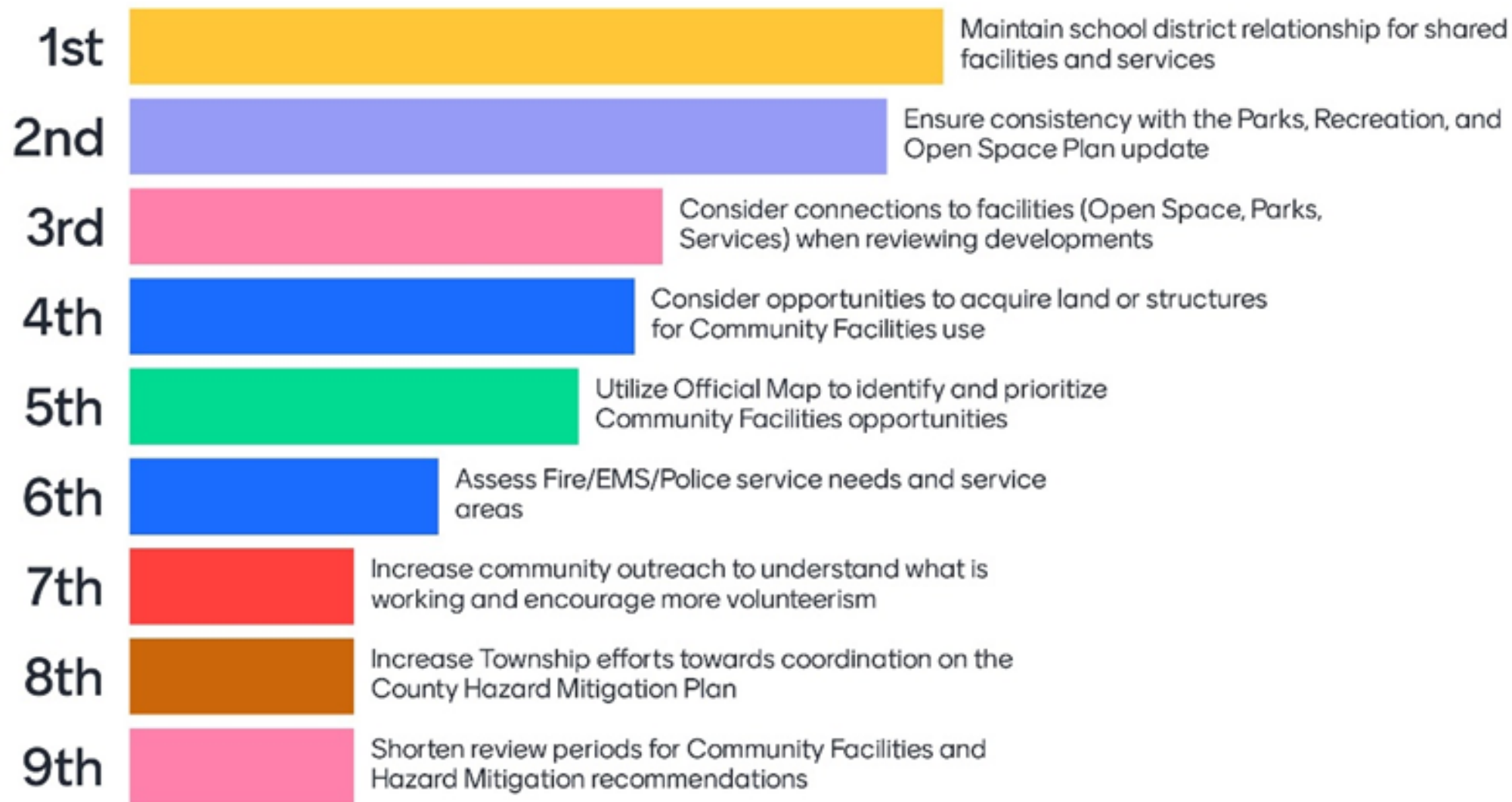
Assess fire and ems needs and service areas

Community Outreach to understand what is working

Volunteerism

Become more involved in County Hazard Mit efforts

Community Facilities: Recommendation Ranking



Recommendation: Maintain school district relationship for shared facilities and services

Key Goals:

- More formal document outlining the relationship between the school district and the township
- Working to expand community program
- Including student artwork, music in the park

Key Actions:

- Defining Maintenance responsibilities
- Safe routes and partnerships
- Shared indoor recreation facilities
- Shared Library resources

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Township Staff, Parkland School District

Who Partners?

- Churches, Religious Institutions, Youth Groups, Eagle Scouts

Funding Sources

- Township Budget
- Parkland School District
- Possible Grants

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near-Mid
- 1-5 Years

Measures of Success:

- Creation of the Document
- More participation in existing programs
- Increasing community programming

Recommendation: Ensure consistency with the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Updates

Key Goals:

- Ensuring Consistency with the parks, recreation, and open space plan
- Follow through with the comp plan and the parks/rec/open space plan to come

Key Actions:

- Making sure that the parks plan recognizes the official map
- Robust public involvement in the parks, rec, open space plan
- Use data from the comp plan to inform the parks, rec, open space plan

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- BOC, Land Owners, Consultants, Developers

Who Partners?

- Public, School Leaders

Funding Sources

- Township Budget
- DCNR Grants
- Potential USDA Grants

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near

Measures of Success:

- Plan adoption and implementation
- Upgraded recreation standards for SALDO

Recommendation: Consider connections to facilities when reviewing developments

Key Goals:

- Make sure our services aren't spread too thin
- Walkability and sidewalks

Key Actions:

- Perimeter trails that can lead to sidewalks and connecting developments
- Not waiving SALDO standards
- Looking at sidewalk deferrals to make important sidewalk connections
- Encouraging recreation credit for trail connections and improvements
- Identify what needs to be connected in the Jordan greenway trail
- Identify gaps in connectivity and where additional connections and services are needed
- Using Green Storm water Infrastructure for its place making abilities and amenities
- Coordinating with resource protection efforts
- Put these connections on the official map

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Planning Commission, Township Staff

Who Partners?

- Parks and Rec, Developers, Green Advisory Council, Local Elected Officials

Funding Sources

- Grants
- PennDOT
- DCED, DCNR, USDA, DIFIA
- PennVest
- Developer Credits or Requirements

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near/Ongoing

Measures of Success:

- Define where these connections ought to be
- More connectivity
- Increase in services amenities
- Implementing the official map

Recommendation: Consider opportunities to acquire land or structures for community facilities uses

Key Goals:

- Re-purposing buildings. Would be great to have a re-purposed Community Center
- Upkeep of current facilities

Key Actions:

- Inventory areas of need
- Identify facility gaps in our current park system
- An action should be including these lands and structures on the official map
- Buffers between developments
- Pocket parks

Stakeholders

- Who Leads?**
- Parks and Rec Board, Historic Preservation Board
- Who Partners?**
- Land owners, Lehigh County, Agricultural Preservation, Historic Preservation

Funding Sources

- Increase income tax
- DCED
- DCNR Land Acquisition Grant

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Ongoing

Measures of Success:

- Sustainability
- Follow recommendations that come out of the parks, rec, open space plan

Recommendation: Utilize Official Map to identify and prioritize community facilities opportunities

Key Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include all the facility recommendations, as well as Park/Open Space goals, on the map• Incorporate historic/important structures and connectivity goals	Key Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare the map and its ordinance, public notice• Public Education component• Working with developments to ensure implementation of the official map
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Stakeholders	Funding Sources
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Who Leads? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BOC, Planning Commission, Department of Community Development Who Partners?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Township Budget/Community Development Budget
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Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near

Measures of Success:

- Adoption and update of the Official Map

Recommendation: Assess Fire/EMS/Police service needs and service areas

Key Goals:

- Identify funding needs
- Increase volunteerism
- Increase volunteer membership, ensure that our first responders have what they need to keep themselves and us safe

Key Actions:

- Inventory of equipment
- Identify partnerships with other municipalities, fire companies, State Police
- Upkeep and repairs of equipment
- Assessment of the fire department and see what improvements need to be made
- Increase township involvement the county hazard mitigation plan
- Replacement plans for aging equipment
- Adequate personnel available
- Find out if FEMA 100/500 yr flood plane is available

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Police/EMS/Fire, Fire Commissioner and Chief

Who Partners?

- County, Volunteers, FEMA

Funding Sources

- Tax revenue
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant
- Grants

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

Measures of Success:

- Public feeling like they are adequately served
- Measure of success would be based on input from the firefighters and police themselves
- Recruitment and retainment

Community Utilities Working Group

MPC Guidelines: **Community Utilities**

The PA Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Act of 1968, P.L.805, No. 247 as reenacted and amended states in Article III, Section 301, that in the Preparation of Comprehensive Plans, in relationship to Community Utilities, shall include:

(4) A plan for community facilities and utilities, which may include public and private education, recreation, municipal buildings, fire and police stations, libraries, hospitals, water supply and distribution, sewerage and waste treatment, solid waste management, storm drainage, and flood plain management, utility corridors and associated facilities, and other similar facilities or uses.

Key Takeaways: Community Utilities Meeting 1

Evaluating growth area designations

Lack of service north of Huckleberry Ridge

Working with developers to help provide system expansions or evaluate capacities

Considering natural gas expansions or other alternative utility expansions

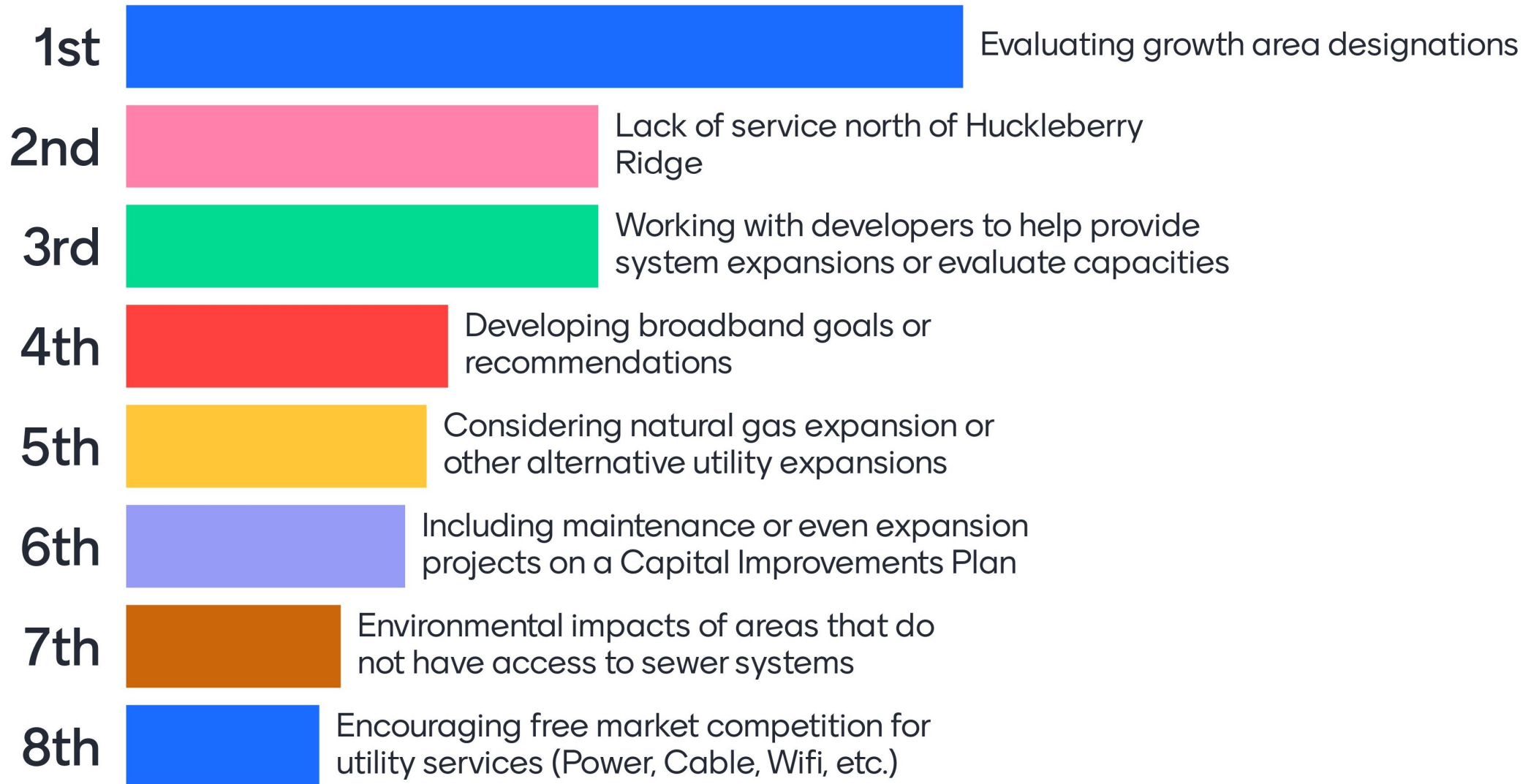
Including maintenance or even expansion projects on a Capital Improvements Plan

Environmental impacts of areas that do not have access to sewer systems

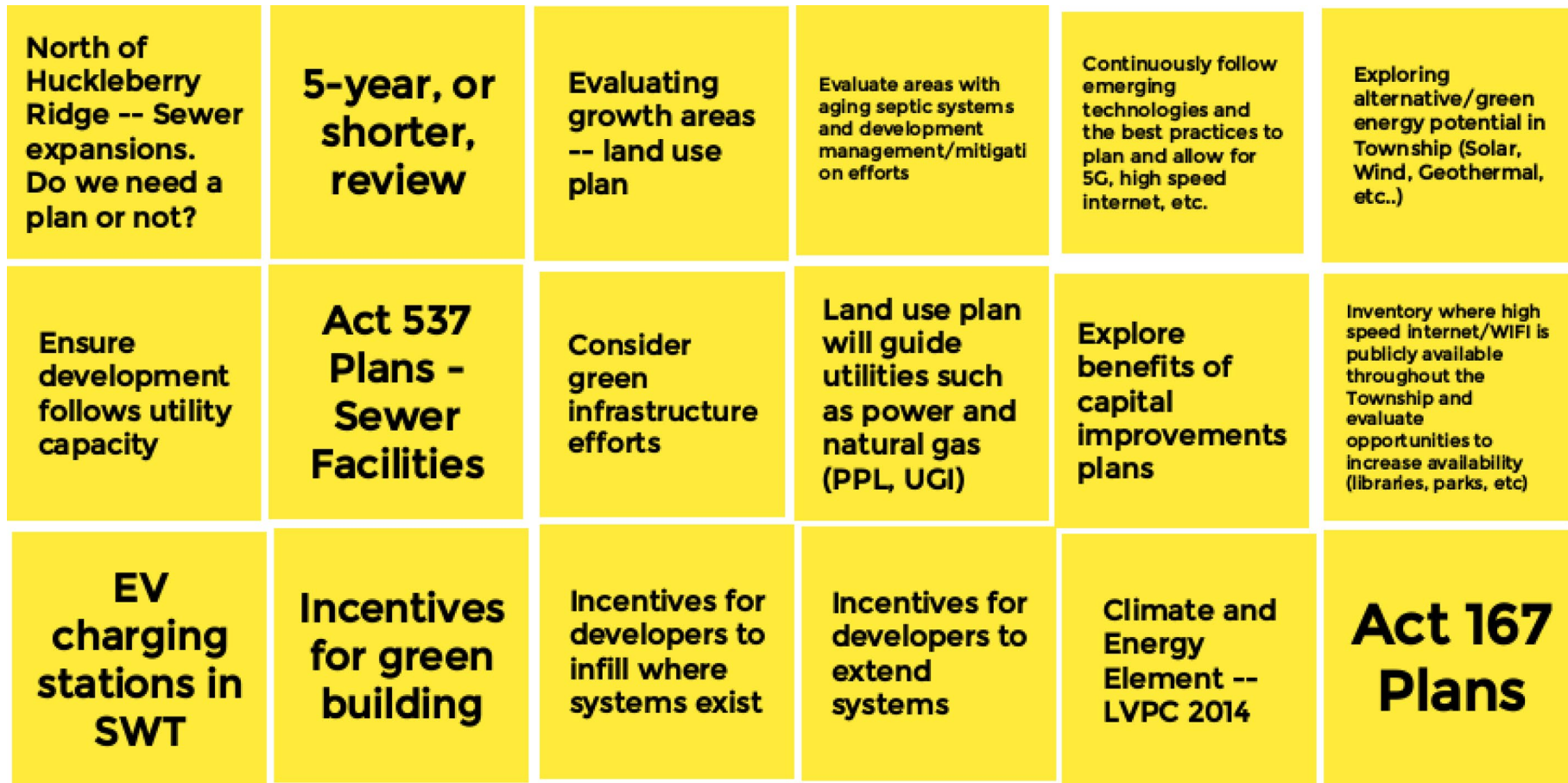
Encouraging free market competition for utility services (Power, Cable, Wifi, etc.)

Developing broadband goals or recommendations

Community Utilities: Key Takeaways Prioritization

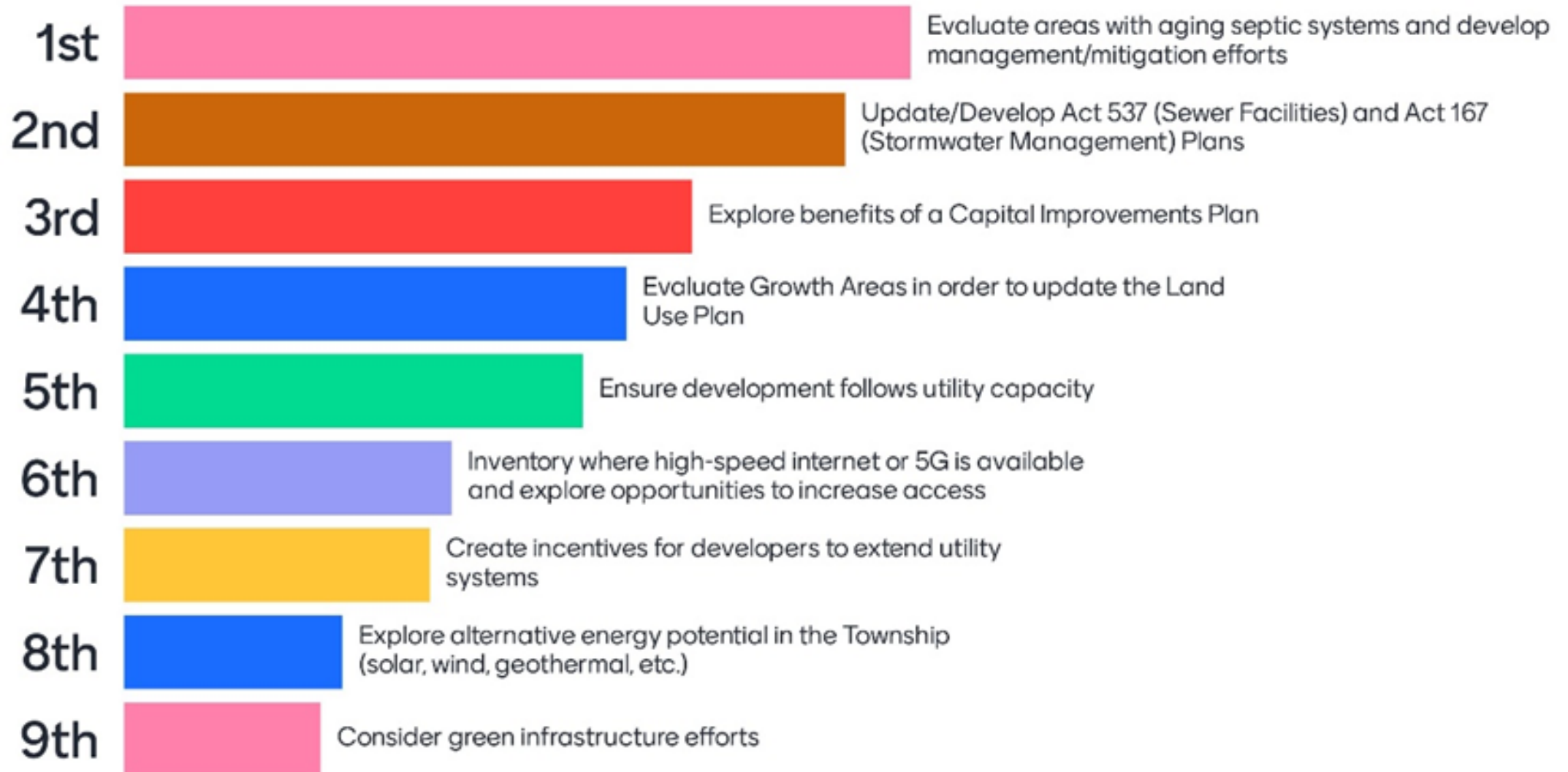


Community Utilities: Recommendation Brainstorm



Understanding interrelationships in order to create balance = Quality of Life

Community Utilities: Recommendation Ranking



Recommendation: Evaluate aging septic systems/mitigation

Key Goals:

- Build our infrastructure to avoid negative environmental impacts upon septic failures
- GIS inventory of permitted septic systems within the Township
- Clearly identifying aging systems and their locations, and educate the public on proper maintenance efforts regardless of age
- Explore requiring an inspection and documentation given to the township of every home sold with a septic system
- Encourage sewer expansion based on identified growth areas in the land use plan

Key Actions:

- Utilize permit process to help inventory septic systems
- Inspections of systems
- Survey of septic system users to determine where the problem areas are
- GIS plotting by age

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Public Works, Township GIS, Keystone Engineering

Who Partners?

- Septic Pumping Companies, Developers

Funding Sources

- Be on lookout for grant opportunities
- Intern budgeting
- PA Infrastructure -- Community Septic Management Plan, programs for homeowners to repair or replace their on-lot septic system
- Survey budgeting
- Difficult due to private ownership

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Mid to Long
- No current areas of note with failures

Measures of Success:

- GIS Inventory
- Balance between updating existing septic and new growth -- there are limits on both sides
- Better public education, perhaps by using newsletters, other outreach methods

Recommendation: Act 537 (Sewer Facilities) and Act 167 (Stormwater Management Plan)

Key Goals:

- Understanding our systems capabilities and how much room we have left (currently 300k-400k left) (1700 houses)
- Regional 537 Plan, understand how this affects SWT

Key Actions:

- Act 537 Feasibility Study -- Last update in 1990s
- Explore cooperation with adjacent municipalities to conduct more accurate projections
- Consider incentives for developers to fund system expansions

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- DEP, Lehigh County Authority, Developers

Who Partners?

Funding Sources

- Is there allocation available?

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Mid-term (2-5)
- Aligns with where do want to grow
- Would need to budget and conduct studies

Measures of Success:

- Do we have capacity for projected appropriate growth?
- Decision on whether or not we need to update 537 Plan -- so the success measure will be the plan approval

Recommendation: Explore benefits of a Capital Improvements Plan

Key Goals:

- Currently exists for sewer systems and water operations
- Understand relations to roadway improvements and MS4 systems
- Explore equipment capabilities

Key Actions:

- Encourage developers to provide for new road/infrastructure
- Goal 9 -- 2009 Plan

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- UGI, PennDOT, Broadband Providers

Who Partners?

- Private Entities, Developers

Funding Sources

- PennDOT – State
- Water/Sewer grant opportunities
- Equipment Grants
- Developers

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near-term -- should be a continuing item

Measures of Success:

- Annual reviews
- GIS to increase public understanding of these projects and their timelines

Recommendation: Evaluate Growth Areas to ensure adherence to future land use plan

Key Goals:

Key Actions:

- Re-evaluate 2009 Growth Areas
- Evaluate area North of Huckleberry Ridge

Stakeholders

Funding Sources

Who Leads?

Who Partners?

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near

Measures of Success:

Recommendation: Inventory of high-speed internet/5G and its expansion

Key Goals:

- Inventory Efforts
- Evaluating return on investment for service expansions
- Understand what Township can offer under State/Federal Law and Guidelines
- Keep zoning and land development ordinances in compliance with legal offerings and partnerships with service providers
- Working with providers to better understand service capabilities and expansion opportunities

Key Actions:

- Is there a permit process for the Township in a legal sense? (Currently Electric permit)
- Ensure shorter review periods in order to keep up with technology advancements
- Examine state and federal law to see if there are incentives for providing these extensions
- Inventory service options

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- Service Providers, Cable and Fiber-Optic Options

Who Partners?

Funding Sources

- State and Federal Programs?

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, long-term):

- Near-term (Explosion of teleworking, cable-cutting, etc.) Need to make sure we can provide service and options

Measures of Success:

- Seeing 5G service widely available

Recommendation: Consider Green Infrastructure Efforts

Key Goals:

- Review current ordinances and guidelines for alternative energy
- Review current ordinances (code enforcements across the board)

Key Actions:

- Diversion of waste material from waste streams
- Keep in mind trash collection and composting efforts (providing bins)

Stakeholders

Funding Sources

Who Leads?

Who Partners?

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

Measures of Success:

Resource Protection Working Group

MPC Guidelines: Resource Protection

The PA Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Act of 1968, P.L.805, No. 247 as reenacted and amended states in Article III, Section 301, that in the Preparation of Comprehensive Plans, in relationship to Resource Protection, shall include:

(6) A plan for the protection of natural and historic resources to the extent not preempted by federal or state law. This clause includes, but is not limited to, wetlands and aquifer recharge zones, woodlands, steep slopes, prime agricultural land, flood plains, unique natural areas and historic sites.

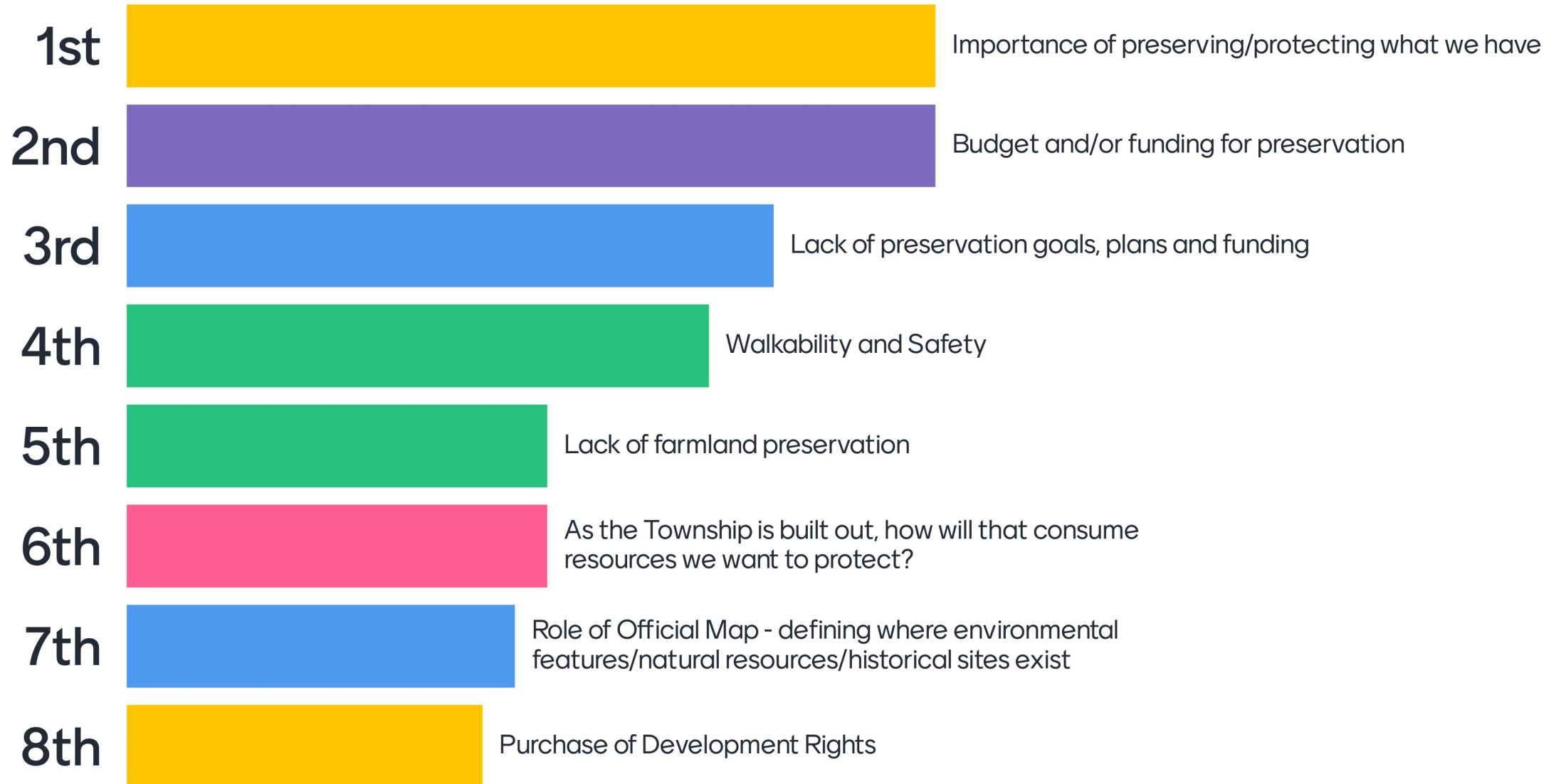
Key Takeaways: Resource Protection Meeting 1

**Lack of
preservation
goals, plans
and funding**

**Lack of
farmland
preservation**

**Preserving
what we have**

Resource Protection: Key Takeaways Prioritization



Resource Protection: Recommendation Brainstorm

Update Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space plan

Ag easement program - appraisal of property, county does have a cap - for higher value farms - could hinge in part of municipality to provide matching funds

Inventory sensitive areas, add them to Official Map and develop regulations to protect and preserve them

Form a historical society? Collaborate with Lehigh County historical society?

Funding tools for township - increasing EIT, .25%, municipalities use that to raise funds related to natural resource or farmland protection, requirement is open space plan in place

Confirm if can use for first class townships

develop more flexible regulations to allow adaptive re-use and preservation of historic structures

where sidewalk networks connect - good way to talk about and think about parks, rec, open space connections

Consider a Transfer of Development Rights program if density receiving areas can be determined

Municipality preserve properties on own (w/o) going through county program, easements for preservation (Bushkill Twp)

Official map updates

education before goes on the ballot is critical

Maybe a different sidewalk or mosaic on Cedar Crest and Hamilton to denote that it is historic Dorneyville Settlement and King George Inn

Township has local funding for agricultural preservation, match with county money, then county can receive additional state money for preservation

Honor the story/record what has happened - how could that inform the plan?

How do we preserve the story? How does SWT want to preserve their history and their story?

How pull together resources and tell a story (where we were, where at now, and where we are going in the future)?

How do we connect the dots?

Resource Protection: Recommendation Ranking

Final Working Group Recommendation Prioritization

1. Preservation ToolBox
2. Funding structures and resources
3. Official Map Updates
4. Flexible regulations for adaptive reuse and historic preservation
5. Connectivity/Close Gaps
6. Pull together resources to tell SWT's Story

Recommendation: Preservation Toolbox (Historic, Natural Resources, Agricultural

Key Goals:

- Clear
- A written document that can refer to understand and distribute to landowners with options
- KNOW what your options are
- Implementable
- Serves as a springboard for action
- Appealing and build buy-in from property owners
- Useable

Key Actions:

- Education program is KEY
- Serve as a community resource
- Create a three chapter document (historic; natural resources; agricultural preservation)
- Get it to be used in a way beneficial to both TWP and landowners = a win-win
- Build resource; Communicate its purpose; educate potential users, beneficiaries
- Provide background information
- Transfer of Development Rights

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- CED w/ support of planning experts, Executive Administration; Elected Leaders

Who Partners?

- Lehigh County Ag; Historical societies; LVPC; Wildlands; landowners; residents

Funding Sources

- Look at Recommendation #2 - Funding Sources

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- First thing that needs to happen, it is the CORE
- Near-term

Measures of Success:

- Gain landowners interest
- Preservation (of all kinds) increases

Recommendation: Funding Sources

Key Goals:

- Get 'skin in the game'
- Generate/categorize list of funding sources

Key Actions:

- Help inform Toolbox development?
- If have budget surplus, way to allocate
- Increasing EIT (Earned Income Tax) by .25% to raise funds related to natural resource protection
- Identify where funds can be used (i.e. historic; natural resource; agricultural)
- Understanding funding options
- EIT; Grants; Match Programs; Private Foundations

Stakeholders

Funding Sources

Who Leads?

- Executive Admin., CED, Finance

Who Partners?

- Legislators, Foundations, County/State/Federal Agencies

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Ongoing
- Near term - identify current sources
- Mid-term: Better define funding/resources in budget; dedicate resources in budget

Measures of Success:

- Funding

Recommendation: Official Map Updates

Key Goals:

- Create the vision
- Set the priorities

Key Actions:

- Barn inventory
- Sensitive areas
- Jordan Creek Greenway District?
- Connectivity: sidewalks, trails, greenways, open space
- Add Jordan Creek Greenway
- Important connections

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- CED, Planning Commission, BOC

Who Partners?

- Public

Funding Sources

- Township Budget

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Near

Measures of Success:

- Jordan Creek Greenway Cultural District

Recommendation: Flexible regulations for adaptive re-use and preservation of historic structures

Key Goals:

- Incentivize preservation of historic structures
- Preservation of historic structures
- Reuse of historic structures

Key Actions:

- Incentives
- Cluster development
- Reuse - help tell the story of SWT
- Pull together resources to tell a story
- Financing for maintenance
- Potentially rezone to support uses that can help preserve?
- Form a historical society?

Stakeholders

Who Leads?

- CED, Administration, Planning Commission

Who Partners?

- Lehigh County

Funding Sources

- Private Donors
- Grant program to facilitate/fast track
- Help keep structures long-term

Implementation Timeline (near-term, mid-term, or long-term):

- Mid-term
- Ongoing

Measures of Success:

- Preserve a barn

THANK YOU!

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