Scoping for the East Pennsboro Township Comprehensive Plan Update

Purpose, Methodology and Results

The 2015 survey was developed for citizens to rank the most important issues and opportunities that should be guided by our 10-year comprehensive plan update. The list of **26 issues and opportunities** was generated by local residents, business owners, and Township staff. The survey was open October 14 to October 31, 2015 (**18 days**). The survey notice and link were distributed directly to the **35 citizens** who participated in the summer 2015 outreach sessions and posted on the township website. 327 viewers accessed the survey. **145 surveys** were completed.

To	o 10 Priorities for the Township's Future	Response Percent
1.	Develop a facility for indoor, yearround recreation activities, sports leagues, sports training, etc.	41%
2.	Build a community pool and community gardens	32%
3.	Improve perception of school district's value/reputation	25%
4.	Encourage commercial growth and reuse/redevelopment for quality jobs and services	23%
5.	Interconnect communities with walking/biking trails	19%
6.	Improve streetscapes in communities: sidewalks, crosswalks, street trees, lighting, etc.	17%
7.	Improve maintenance of local infrastructure: sewer collection system, streets, bridges, drainage features	16%
8.	Develop strategy for long-term public safety service, including facilities, equipment and personnel	12%
9.	Address traffic bottlenecks	11%
10.	Rehabilitate (renew) parks and improve park maintenance	11%

Findings

- There is no 1 single issue/opportunity of priority concern. Only 2 issues received more than 25% of the priority vote; both were new recreation facilities.
- 2. While **100** survey respondents value some aspect of recreation, they have a balanced view of other priorities. Only **8** respondents (5.5%) selected only recreation priorities.
- 3. **1** in **4** respondents equate Township quality of life, at least in part, with the reputation of the local school district.
- 23 percent of respondents expressed support for commercial growth and re-use/redevelopment; in addition, comments reflected property tax benefits of higher commercial occupancy and commercial growth.

What's Next?

Township officials and staff will develop an outline of the plan update, including the top 5-7 issues and opportunities. Related priorities, such as parks and recreation items or trails and sidewalks/streetscapes, may be combined for coordinated strategy and planning. The outline will be prepared by the end of 2015.