

The Comprehensive Plan of
EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP

Chester County, Pennsylvania

Adopted
June 21, 2005

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EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Comprehensive Plan
Adopted June 21, 2005

Board of Supervisors

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Donald R. McConathy
Mary L. Powell
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Comprehensive Plan Task Force

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E. Martin Shane, Board of Supervisors
Jacqueline Weber, Historical Commission

PREPARATION AND FUNDING

This Comprehensive Plan was prepared by East Goshen Township with technical assistance provided by the Chester County Planning Commission. Funding was provided, in part, through a grant from the Vision Partnership Program sponsored by the Chester County Board of Commissioners. The Plan has been prepared in conjunction with the principles of the County's policy plan, **Landscapes**, as a means of achieving greater consistency between local and county planning programs.

RESOLUTION 05-28

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, as amended, the Board of Supervisors of East Goshen Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, was required to update the East Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors created a Comprehensive Plan Task Force consisting of the members of the Township Planning Commission and a representative from each of the other Township Authorities, Boards and Commissions, that was charged with updating the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2002, the East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors entered into an agreement with the Chester County Planning Commission to provide technical assistance to the Comprehensive Plan Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan Task Force working in conjunction with the Chester County Planning Commission developed an updated Comprehensive Plan for East Goshen Township, the final draft of which was dated April 2005.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that at their meeting June 21, 2005, the East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors approved a motion to adopt the East Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan dated April 2005, consisting of Chapters 1 through 10 and Appendices A through H, with the changes listed in Errata Sheet V4.1, dated June 17, 2005.

ADOPTED this 21st day of June 2005.

ATTEST:

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
CHAIRMAN

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Introduction

Need for Plan Update

East Goshen Township last updated its Comprehensive Plan in 1992. Additional development since 1992 has resulted in the Township approaching total build-out and has raised questions about how the Township should respond from a planning perspective that is different from the approach established in the 1992 Comprehensive Plan. The Board of Supervisors recognized this situation and a need to re-evaluate current planning policies in the Township. In 2000, the Board of Supervisors created a Comprehensive Plan Task Force to undertake the plan update. In addition, recent changes to the MPC also require municipalities to update their Comprehensive Plans every ten years.

Increasing growth and development in East Goshen and surrounding municipalities have been accompanied by increases in traffic, higher demand for public services, and further desire to define East Goshen as a unique suburban community within the West Chester region and Chester County. Some other factors which may affect the future planning of the Township include the increasing number of residents retiring in the Township, the limited commercial tax base, the increasing desire for recreation activities, the redevelopment of older structures and areas, the increasing emphasis on historical aspects of the Township, the subdivision of parcels into smaller sizes, and so forth. This Plan update is designed to address these and other issues and provide a planning roadmap for the next ten to twenty years for the Township.

Update Process

This planning effort was lead by a Comprehensive Plan Task Force consisting of the Planning Commission and representatives of the Conservancy Board, Historical Commission, Municipal Authority, the Parks and Recreation Board, the Board of Supervisors, and the Township Manager. Input from the full membership of the Township's Advisory Boards and Commissions, as identified above, was provided in the initial development of analyses and recommendations. The Task Force met on a monthly basis over a 5-year period and, with the assistance of a professional planning consultant, reviewed and analyzed a wide range of information pertinent to planning for the future of the Township.

Plan Organization

The plan is organized into four main sections, reflecting the order in which the planning process took place. Each section built on the information and analysis of the previous step, as follows:

- ❑ **Inventory and Analysis** - An understanding of the existing conditions and issues in the Township is essential to the development of plan policies and recommendations. Appendices A through H provide a thorough documentation and analysis of existing land use, population, housing, transportation, community facilities, historic and natural resources, and other conditions and trends that could affect the future of the Township.
- ❑ **Planning Policies** - Based on the findings of the inventory appendices planning policy goals and objectives were developed and are presented in Chapter 1. The goals and objectives serve as the guidelines for directing future growth and development in the Township and provide the framework for Plan recommendations that follow.

- ❑ **Plan Recommendations** - There are eight plan recommendation chapters covering the subjects of land use, housing, natural resources, historic resources, recreational resources and activities, community facilities and services, transportation, and communications. These chapters provide recommended actions addressing the issues identified in the inventory and analysis appendices and for achieving the goals and objectives outlined in Chapter 1.
- ❑ **Action Plan** - This chapter serves as a reference and summary of the eight previous recommendation chapters. The tables in Chapter 10 indicate a timeframe for completion, priorities, responsibilities, and the primary method of implementation for each recommendation discussed in the plan. In addition, a cross-reference is provided to the plan chapter and page number where each recommendation is described in detail.