

**Green Township Comprehensive Planning
Steering Committee Meeting Summary
May 22, 2007, 4-6 pm
Imhoff Construction**

Members Present: Mahlon Schmucker, Gwen Schmucker, Keith Workman, and Barb Mast

Planning Staff Present: Glenn Grisdale (Reveille), Katie M. Myers (Wayne County) and Robert L. Murray (Wayne County)

Officials Present: Homer Hostetler and Scott Imhoff

Each member was presented with the summary from the April meeting. One typographical error was noticed; Mirk Construction (misspelled originally), no other comments on the summary. Each member was asked to fill out another community survey to ensure the fact that the committee is a fair reflection of the township as a whole. Each member also received the updated Wayne County Resource Management Area (RMA) Map with the three-mile limit drawn on and an example goals and objectives worksheet.

Glenn Grisdale (Reveille) spoke about comprehensive planning and what is to be expected in future meetings. The group then combed over the goals and objectives, the committee member comments are in red.

**Township Master Plan Update
Example Plan Goals and Objectives**

Population and Demographics No comments

Goal: To ensure the utilization of accurate population, demographic, and socio-economic data in developing sound public policies by:

- Periodically updating this datum through federal, state, and local sources; and,
- Making population and demographic information available to public and private officials.

Economic Development No Comments

Goal: Promote the Township’s economic vitality through innovative methods, while remaining sensitive to agricultural and natural resources by:

- Nurturing the existing base of businesses and industries;
- Encouraging the rehabilitation and reuse of blighted or vacant commercial and industrial facilities and areas;
- Educating existing employers on financial and tax incentives available for business expansion and improvements;
- Encouraging small business development and supporting entrepreneurial activities;
- Promoting the Township’s agricultural sector through policies and strategies that assist farmers in making their farming operations more profitable;
- Pursuing the feasibility of utilizing cooperative economic development agreements with contiguous political subdivisions as a method to encourage economic development and revenue sharing;
- Nurturing sound relationships and open communication channels between the _____, _____, and private and public officials, and residents;
- Increasing the utilization of federal and state incentives that help to facilitate healthy economic development.

Housing

Goal: Promote a “sense of place” through attractive, safe and quality housing stock by:

- Pursuing the feasibility of establishing policies, incentives, and programs that promote the availability of a wide range of housing types, densities, and costs, both within existing neighborhoods and new developments; community reinvestment areas

- Encourage the “buffering” of residential land uses from industrial and other incompatible land uses;
- Promoting the restoration of historic homes or homes with unique historic or aesthetic worth;

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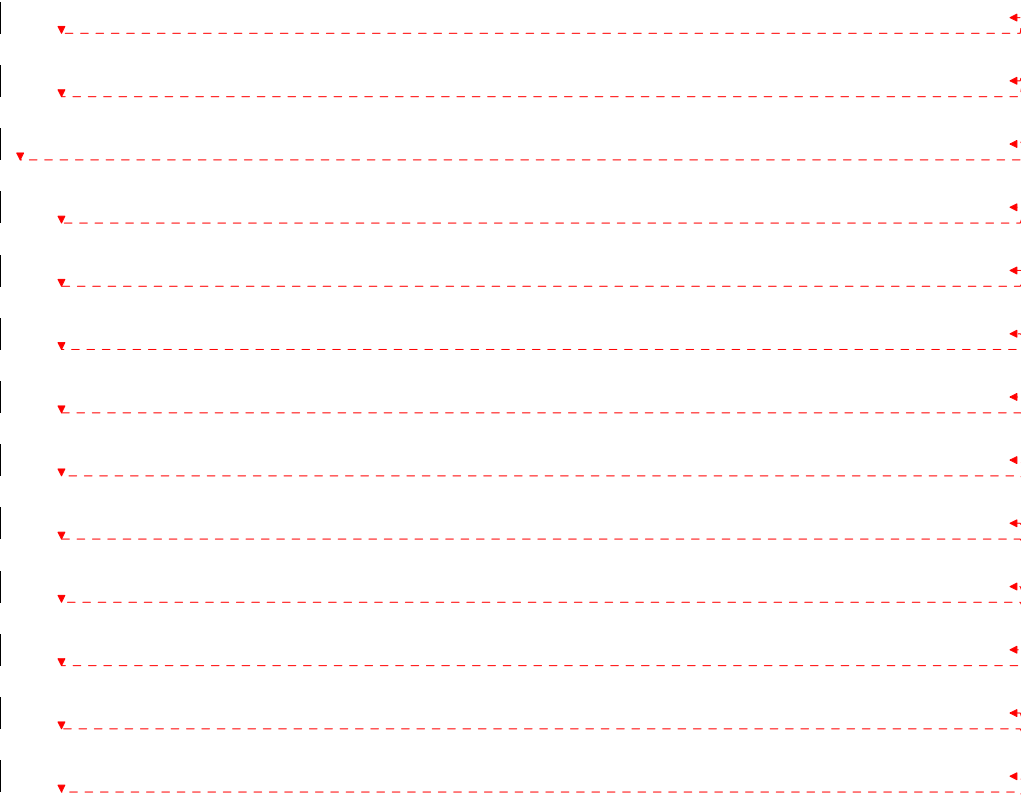
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- Developing a rapport with area and local developers in their pursuit to develop innovative housing projects;
- Assisting in the rehabilitating of distressed housing areas through a combination of infrastructure and housing-related improvement programs. CHIP

Land Use

Goal: Promote orderly development and redevelopment throughout the Township in a manner that creates a sense of place and is sensitive to both private property rights and the public good by:

- Pursue the feasibility of enacting township zoning to promote private property values, minimize incompatible land uses, and to maximize agricultural land resources. (**Green and Baughman Township only)



- Deleted:** neighborhoods and
- Deleted:** Concentrating development patterns that maximizes land resources and minimizes sprawl and encroachment of natural and pristine resources;
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- Deleted:** Encouraging compact and infill development in areas best suited to accommodate various land uses through the extension and/or upgrading of utilities and infrastructure.
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- Deleted:** Require landscape plan and site plan review as part of the development approval process in residential planned districts. Developing design guidelines or standards, and reviewing subdivision site plans and landscape plans, will ensure better aesthetics.
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- Deleted:** Clustering new land uses near or contiguous to similar land uses in situations where mixed uses are not feasible;
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- Deleted:** Minimizing incompatible land uses through proper zoning and modifying it to comply with the future land use plan;
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- Deleted:** Utilizing mixed-use development principles near areas with better traffic flow;
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- Deleted:** Encouraging a variety of design techniques to buffer residential land uses from dissimilar land uses;
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- Deleted:** Open storage areas, exposed machinery, refuse and waste removal areas, service yards and exterior w... [1]
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- Deleted:** Require landscape plan... [2]
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- Investigate the feasibility of adopting and enforcing property maintenance regulations. Enforcing property maintenance regulations helps maintain residential property values; (**Green and Baughman Township) nuisance abatements

- Sponsoring annual meetings that focus on issues pertaining to land usage and other planning-related issues; (**Green and Baughman Township)
- Raising the importance of land use planning to new levels throughout the Township through technical and other methods of assistance. (**Green and Baughman Township) using the County Planning Department as a resource

Natural Resources and Environment

Goal: Promote the preservation of the Township’s environmental quality and vast array of natural resources by:

- Preparing desired development guidelines to minimize the impact development may have on existing woodlands, wetlands, floodplains, other significant natural areas, and the Township’s overall environmental quality;
- Promote use of the Current Agricultural Use Value and Agricultural District programs, and other programs that promote the conservation of natural resources;
- Discouraging development in the 100-year base floodplain, as well as minimizing the alteration of existing floodplain boundaries;
- Utilizing existing federal and state programs and incentives to conserve and promote significant natural resource areas; AEPP, CRP, WRP
- Encouraging the use of natural and man-made buffers along waterways and tributaries;

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Transportation

Goal: Ensure safe and adequate traffic flow throughout the Township by:

- Improving the quality of township roads,
- Studying the existing traffic flows and patterns, and developing mechanisms to alleviate traffic concerns in these problematic areas; ?? Is this necessary??
- Pursuing the feasibility of requiring traffic impact studies for selective land use developments and projects; ?? Is this necessary??
- Continue to monitor and correct (if economically feasible) unsafe township roads and bridges; (County Engineers info on bridges in Green township)

Deleted: and availability of collector streets;

- Encouraging pedestrian mobility through the development of bicycle networks, enhancement of existing trails, or other options; Super-burm for all the bicycle traffic, address the 4-wheeler issues, issue of Wayne County's NON FUNDED park district
- Promoting traffic calming mechanisms within existing and future neighborhoods to promote safety and heighten housing property values and overall neighborhood attractiveness;

Community Services and Facilities

Goal: To provide an optimal level of services (LOS) to residents, senior citizens, businesses and visitors, by:

- Ensuring the effectiveness of police, fire, and EMS through effective staffing and placement of substations, if and when necessary;
- Promoting the health and fitness of residents through a diverse array of active and passive recreational facilities and opportunities;
- Identifying land areas of special natural qualities and pursue the feasibility of retaining these areas as open space, nature preserves, or recreational areas;
- Assisting school officials in developing policies and facilities that promote an excellent learning environment;
- Pursuing the feasibility of encouraging senior citizens' facilities and programs to correlate with the Township's growing senior population;
- Ensuring existing water, sewer, and storm water facilities can accommodate future growth of varied types in a cost effective manner;
- Encouraging open levels of communication between public officials and the public to assist in the facilitation of identifying, prioritizing, and the funding of capital projects and community facilities;
- Maintaining the existing level of services during times of economic and residential growth;

- Encourage legislative change to allow impact fees on new development to offset the growing infrastructure costs.

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Plan Implementation

Goal: To ensure the proper utilization and update of the Township's Comprehensive Plan by:

- Monitoring the applicability and optimal utilization of the Comprehensive Plan.

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Open storage areas, exposed machinery, refuse and waste removal areas, service yards and exterior work areas and parking lots shall be visually screened from roads and adjacent residential areas;		
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Require landscape plans for special developments. The plans should address buffering/screening, drainage, erosion prevention, glare/lighting, and sound and other nuisances;		
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Ensure that all new development provides adequate landscaped buffers in order to limit adverse visual impacts on the surrounding area. When new development is proposed adjacent to special and scenic natural areas and roadways, landscaped buffers shall be provided in order to limit visual impacts on these resources from the new development;		
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Create planned residential districts to encourage open space design development that preserves greenway corridors and other critical environmental resources.		
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Pursuing the feasibility of developing new incentives and innovative methods that assist in streamlining the development approval process for unique and special projects;		
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Pursue the feasibility of impact fees for new residential development to provide for associated infrastructure needs;		