COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

A comprehensive plan is a public, long-range planning document for the growth and development of a community. It establishes a vision and outlook for the future, develops goals and objectives related to that vision, and provides recommendations for their achievement. The comprehensive plan addresses a community's land use, housing, transportation, community facilities and the protection of natural and historic resources. An adopted comprehensive plan is a powerful tool that provides a guide for local government decision making, municipal management, and is an important factor in securing federal and state grant funding.

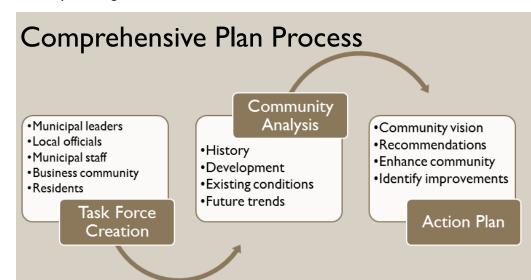
Comprehensive plans are developed at the county and municipal level in Pennsylvania. Delaware County recently adopted a new comprehensive plan, **Delaware County 2035**, and all municipalities in the County, from the largest townships to smaller boroughs have adopted comprehensive plans. The State of Pennsylvania requires comprehensive plans be created or reviewed every ten years.



Why Update Your Comprehensive Plan?

- · Coordinate municipal efforts
- Guide development
- Support applications for grant funding

The Delaware County Planning Department is ready and able to prepare a municipal comprehensive plan for your community. The Department utilizes innovative planning techniques such as "issue-oriented" comprehensive plans and multi-municipal planning. When preparing a comprehensive plan, the Department's professional planners work closely with your community to identify a common vision for the future and develop strategies to achieve that vision.



A stakeholder task force develops recommendations to retain and enhance communities' positive features and identify where and how improvements could be made. The entire process, from formation of a task force or steering committee to the adoption of the final plan document typically takes 18-24 months.

Delaware County Project Examples:

- Edgmont Township (2015)
- Ridley Park Borough (2014)
- Chester Heights Township (2013)
- Glenolden Borough and Prospect Park Borough Multi-municipal Plan (2012)

