

# Comprehensive Plan Committee/BOC Community Engagement Consultant Kick-off Meeting Summary

<b>Date:</b>	Monday, September 18, 2023
<b>Time:</b>	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
<b>Platform:</b>	In-Person
<b>Invitees:</b>	Comprehensive Plan Committee & Project Team
	Board of Commissioners
	Michael Baker

## Welcome and Introduction

### MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL

- Kathy Wyrosdick
- Janelle Lance
- Keri Oram

### TOWNSHIP COMMISSION

- Donna E. DiMeo, President (Absent)
- Barry Kaufman
- John Bear
- Mary Jo Huyard
- Stacy Morgan Brubaker
- Rick Kane (Township Manager)

### PROJECT TEAM

- Andy Bowman
- Anthony Vallone
- Lisa Douglas
- Sharyn Young

### CPC MEMBER

- Nathan Van Name
- Mark L. James
- Chris L. Savitz
- Paula G. Landis
- Hollis S. Butterworth
- Allon H. Lefever
- Mike S. Callahan
- Tressa F. Monkman
- Roy Baldwin
- Aaron Sherman (virtual)
- Moniqua Acosta (virtual)
- Dave Wood (virtual)

## Project Scope, Schedule, and Key Tasks

Kathy Wyrosdick reviewed the schedule for the project and the CPC over the next coming months.

## **CPC Expectations and Project Outcomes**

Participants were asked about their expectations for the project and what motivated them to volunteer to help the Township prepare the Comprehensive Plan. CPC members and Commissioners shared their motivations, hopes, and concerns about current issues such as traffic, pressure from development, preservation of farmland, and underutilization of commercial spaces. The impact of growth on schools, the need for affordable housing, and the potential for redevelopment of underutilized properties were also discussed.

## **ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### Key findings

- Participants expressed a desire for balanced growth that preserves farmland and the character of the township while accommodating new development.
- The comprehensive plan needs to be something that we are proud of and can be accomplished.
- The Township needs to understand the impact that development has on our schools.
- Traffic and overdevelopment were major concerns, with participants suggesting solutions such as smart transportation technology and roundabouts.
- There was a consensus on the need for affordable housing, with some suggesting increased building heights and density as potential solutions.
- Participants expressed a willingness to pay more taxes for improved services, such as additional police officers.
- The need for better communication between the township and residents was highlighted, particularly in relation to development projects.
- There is a strong desire that the comprehensive plan be informed through robust public engagement and that it is embraced by residents.
- Managing the fiscal impact of growth on the provision of services is important. There will be a need to monitor development long term impact on the Township's ability to maintain the expected level of services.
- Understanding and addressing the issue of vacant or underutilized commercial spaces as a way to focus growth over the next 10 years of the plan.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- The next meeting of the CPC will be October 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.
- Survey workshop to develop the Comprehensive Plan public survey strategy will be developed with guidance by the CPC.
- Public engagement events will be discussed with the CPC.