

1 INTRODUCTION



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Vision 2035, Abington's Comprehensive Plan, serves as the township's long-range community vision and establishes the guidelines, policies and priorities to achieve this desired vision. According to the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC, Act 247), a municipality's zoning ordinance, subdivision and land development ordinance (SALDO), and capital improvements program must all be generally consistent with, and work to implement the vision set forth in the comprehensive plan. In essence, Vision 2035 forms the blueprint for land use planning policy that is implemented using the codes and programs mentioned.



The MPC identifies the required elements of a comprehensive plan. These include many of the physical components of a municipality, such as infrastructure, housing, land use, and the protection of natural and historic resources. The plan needs to analyze existing conditions of these specified areas and determine how the municipality will accommodate future needs. Additionally, the plan also needs to demonstrate the interrelationships among the plan's components, consistency between the plan and the planning of adjacent municipalities, and consistency



Stormwater management is one of the important subjects addressed by Vision 2035.

Photo: Lion's Gate Dormitory, Penn State-Abington.

with the County comprehensive plan, *MONTCO 2040, A Shared Vision* [<https://www.montcopa.org/1666/Montco-2040-A-Shared-Vision>].

Vision 2035 addresses the follow major subjects, devoting a chapter to each:

- Demographics
- Housing
- Community services
- Infrastructure and stormwater management
- Environmental management, including environmental sustainability
- Historic Preservation
- Parks, trails and open space*
- Transportation
- Economic development and revitalization*
- Existing land use
- Future land use
- Implementation

*Note: Parks, Trails and Open Space and Economic Development and Revitalization will be addressed by separate planning processes and incorporated into Vision2035 by reference.

Vision 2035 was prepared by the Comprehensive Plan Development Team, in coordination with Montgomery County Planning Commission. The Team consisted of nine appointed citizens, meeting in consultation with township staff and the township's planning consultant, Montgomery County Planning Commission. Citizen members of the Team brought a range of backgrounds and planning experience, and hold a variety of civic interests. The Team deeply values the importance of public participation. For this reason, public outreach was conducted at key points in the planning process using a variety of techniques, including a survey and public workshops held at multiple sites. Vision 2035 serves to update the township's last comprehensive plan, adopted in 2007.



The comprehensive planning process for Vision 2035 began with four public workshops in neighborhoods around the township.

Photo: Edge Hill Fire Company.