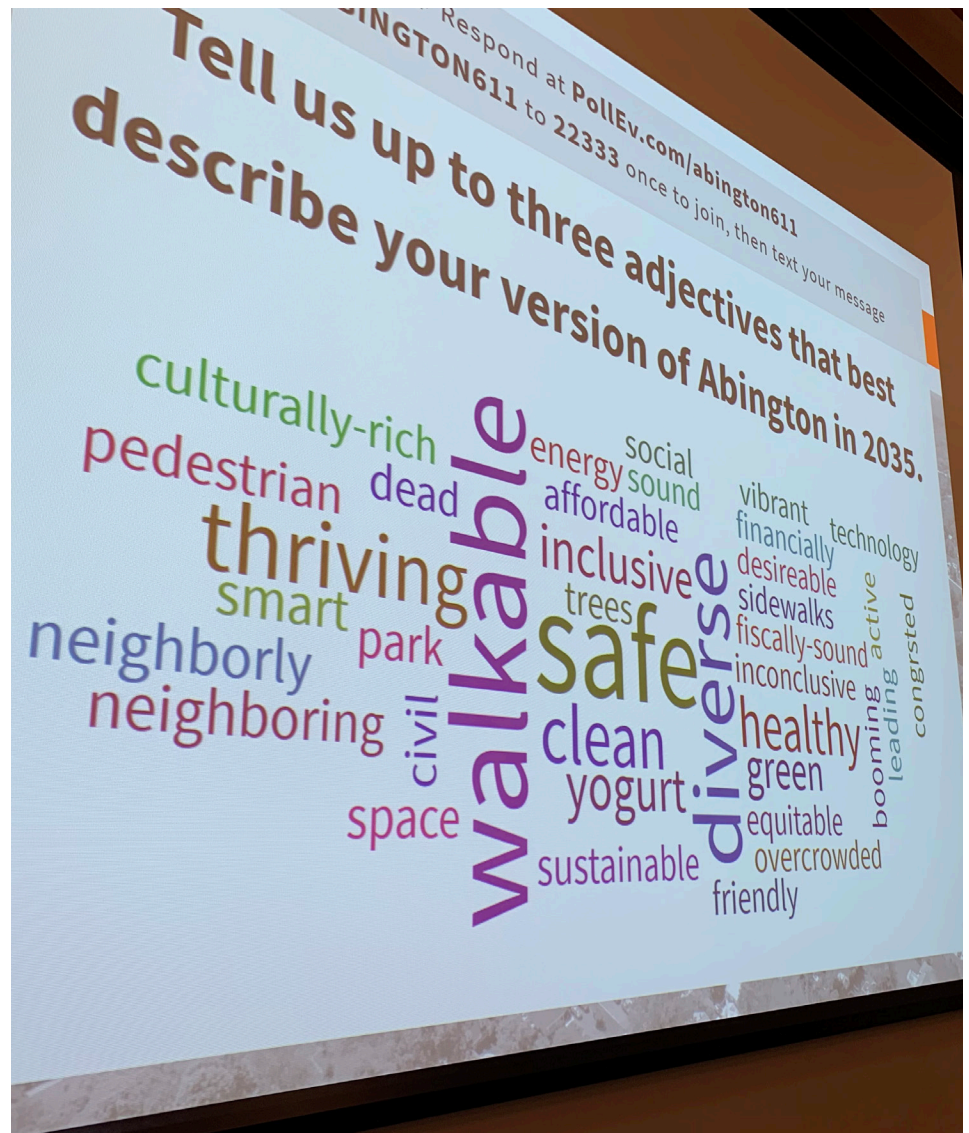




2.1 VISION2035: DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

Abington’s vision for 2035 is one in which all the members of community—residents, employees and visitors, experience a high, even enhanced, quality of life. This vision celebrates the township’s unique sense of place and emphasizes the cherished characteristics described below.



“Word Cloud”, from Vision 2035 Public Workshop, Crestmont Community Center.

VISION2035 THEMES

Desirable Residential Areas. A range of housing options will be available to a wide range of households of varying tastes and incomes, including homes that are affordable, of varying sizes and configurations, and historic homes that are well-preserved and demonstrate the well-maintained and historic nature of many of Abington's homes and residential neighborhoods. All neighborhoods will be safe, pedestrian- and bicyclist-friendly, will include generous shade tree canopy and will have good access to parks and open space.

4th of July celebration, Glenside.



Residential neighborhood, Meadowbrook.



Abington Township vista (over Old York Road). Photo credit: Abington Township.

A Thriving, Equitable Community.

The people who comprise the Abington community will be diverse, inclusive, friendly, welcoming, engaged and interconnected. Newcomers will be embraced and empowered by the community. Strong transportation networks, including rail and bus transit, that serve diverse user groups will provide a range of travel choices. Neighbors will look out for one another and foster a strong sense of civic engagement and pride, enhanced by volunteerism. The employment base, fiscal health, public health, and education system of the community will be sound, include innovative schools, and be supported by the township’s land use, public and fiscal policy.

Municipal government will be open and transparent, allowing all township residents to easily participate in and inform themselves about the processes and actions of the township’s elected and appointed officials. Municipal



Tree City USA volunteer event.

services will be efficient, inclusive, innovative, responsive and service-oriented. Communications resources will effectively and comprehensively communicate with the community, while simultaneously facilitating

and encouraging public input and engagement by all the township’s residents. Government will collaborate extensively with the private sector and nongovernmental organizations to maximize the impact of policy initiatives.

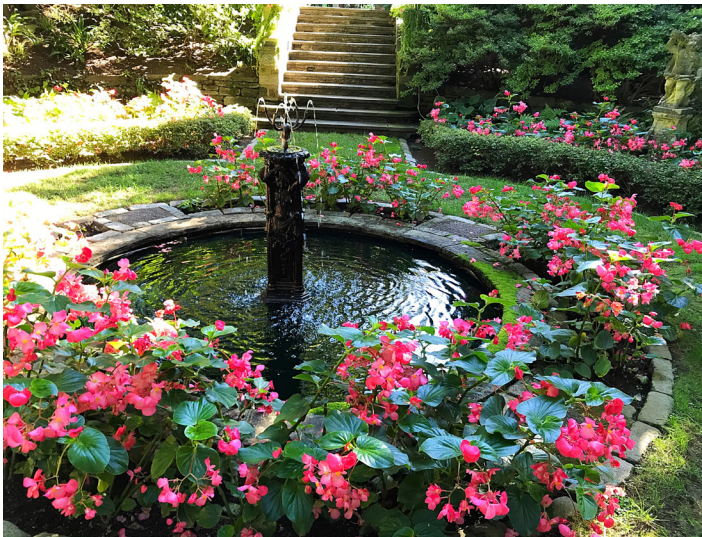
Vibrant Destinations. Thriving businesses with abundant entertainment, arts & leisure, and dining options will beckon residents and visitors. Mixed uses and transit-oriented, pedestrian-oriented development will strengthen activity near the township’s train stations and main streets, and will support activity during the day, evening and weekends. The township’s ample parks and recreation system will undergo further accessibility and functional enhancements, with greater stewardship of its natural areas. The system will continue to host a variety of sports, hobbies, exercise opportunities, and social events and will flexibly adapt to the needs and desires of the community’s ever-changing population. The township’s and community’s formal

and informal networks will foster a business-friendly environment that promotes economic development.

Healthy People and Environment (think green, clean and healthy!)

The health of the natural environment, from the township’s urban forests and tree canopy to its watersheds, and the health of the general public is intrinsically linked, and will be highly valued and protected. The community will have access to abundant and fresh, healthy food options with a continued strong presence of major healthcare systems providing first-rate medical services. The township will monitor public health data to identify areas of need and promote equity in health outcomes. Walking, bicycling,

carpooling, ridesharing and use of electric and renewable energy vehicles will be easy, practical and safe. Transportation choices will serve as viable alternatives to the personal automobile, and will make it even easier for residents, employees and visitors to travel around Abington, and from Abington to Philadelphia and other destinations in the metropolitan area. Sustainability and environmental resilience will feature prominently in the township’s programs and policies, helping Abington adapt to a changing climate while serving as a sustainability and resilience leader, setting an example which other communities can learn from. Enhanced landscaping, greenery and aesthetic standards will reinforce Abington’s visual attraction and sense of place.



Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s Meadowbrook Farm.



Sandy Run Creek cleanup, Roslyn Park.



Keswick Village and Theater.



Pennypack Creek, Lorimer Park.