

**West Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan**  
**SUMMARY - Issue Identification Questionnaire for Task Force**

---

**SUMMARY - ISSUE IDENTIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE FOR TASK FORCE**

**TOPIC: TRANSPORTATION / CIRCULATION**

**Road system**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's road system?

Functional and OK; good access with 202, Rt 3, Rt 100, Paoli Pike, Pottstown Pike; roads well maintained and improved whenever possible using developer funds or grant funding to leverage liquid fuels funds; extensive network; most areas of twp have multiple flow paths;

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's road system?

Paoli Pk/Rt 3 merge; High St/Rt 3 merge; Wawa exit onto 5 Points Rd; 5 Points Rd link between Paoli Pk and Rt 3; lack of easy access to S New St; insufficient capacity of existing roads – excessive traffic volume results in significant delays in some areas; no access from southbound 202 onto 322 westbound

3. What should the Township do to improve its road system?

Southbound 202 should exit onto westbound 322 to serve northern part of twp – add a ramp from 202 S to 322 W; make Tigie Rd a through street to 202 from new St; paint road lines more often; many roads with insufficient capacity are state roads – identify roads with significant congestion, communicate to PennDOT and get them on the TIP (transportation improvements program); identify funding sources for road improvements; seek to alleviate congestion/capacity issues through intersection improvements, ramp connections, and other related improvements

**Public Transportation**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's public transportation access/services?

Bus service to 69<sup>th</sup> St, Exton, K of P, Coatesville; some protected bus stops; SEPTA bus routes on most major twp road arteries; Rover service; some taxi service

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's public transportation access/services?

Nearest train is Exton or Paoli; bus route from Exton to K of P not direct enough; need additional bus stops; need shelters at bus stops; some areas of twp poorly served by convenient public transit; buses are underutilized/empty; no commuter rail to Phila

3. What should the Township do to improve public transportation access/services?

Urge SEPTA to restore train service to West Chester; Rt 3 Coalition has some plans; encourage alternate means of public transportation whenever possible; make existing service more convenient, accessible, and efficient – one possibility is transit signal preemption

**West Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan Update**  
**SUMMARY - Issue Identification Questionnaire for Task Force**

---

**Pedestrian Access/Walkability (other than hiking trails, which are covered in the community facilities topic)**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's pedestrian system?

Trails in Hibernia Park (1 mi from Coatesville), Valley Forge, Stroud Preserve (4.2 mi outside West Chester), and West Valley Nature Preserve

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's pedestrian system?

Twp does not have a pedestrian system; lack of sidewalks and street lights; some business areas do not have sidewalks; lack of sidewalks along arterial rds, especially Rt 3

3. What should the Township do to improve its pedestrian access system?

Add sidewalks to High St from Rosedale to Parkway Shopping Ctr; add sidewalks along Paoli Pike; require sidewalks in high-use commercial areas; provide sidewalks wherever possible through redevelopment projects; provide alternate walking paths wherever possible through existing neighborhoods and commercial areas

**Bicycle Access**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's bicycle access system?

None...bike trails/paths are in parks only

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's bicycle access system?

Twp does not a bicycle access system; few bike lanes anywhere in W Goshen or the County; no designated bike trails; no connections to regional trail system

3. What should the Township do to improve its bicycle access system?

Work with Chester Co Planning Commission on a bicycle access plan; provide bike lanes or expand paved shoulders wherever possible within twp road system; improve and add bike lanes; talk to the bicycle clubs

**West Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan Update**  
**SUMMARY - Issue Identification Questionnaire for Task Force**

---

**TOPIC: NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION**

When answering the following questions, please think about woodlands, streams/watersheds, floodplains, wetlands, slopes, soils, and wildlife habitat (open space areas are included in the Land Use and Housing topic).

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township’s natural resources and efforts to protect them?

Seem to be ahead of other municipalities in stormwater remediation; green space requirements for new construction; significant efforts to preserve remaining open space; robust park system which will more than double in size with development of Woodlands at Greystone (160 acres of OS, woodlands, watersheds); aggressive stormwater management program – will improve water quality and reduce flooding; Goose Creek efforts; good zoning regulations

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township’s natural resources and efforts to protect them?

Quality of Goose Creek; insufficient funding and lack of support from PA DEP in implementing stormwater management program

3. **What should the Township do** to improve natural resource protection?

Continue Goose Creek efforts – clean up from 202 to WC Borough line; maintain position expressed in current Comprehensive Plan; don’t allow overbuilding; develop source of alternate funding to implement stormwater mgt program; continue implementation of Jerrehian plan; ban bamboo

**TOPIC: HISTORIC RESOURCE PROTECTION**

When answering the following questions, please think about historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts in the Township that are nationally or locally significant.

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township’s historic resources and efforts to protect them?

Historic/Preservation Committee; Dowser House; Joseph Collins House (633 Goshen Rd); have been identified in previous comprehensive plans – continue to ID them in this plan

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township’s historic resources and efforts to protect them?

No funding available to assist with preservation of historic resources

3. **What should the Township do** improve historic resources protection?

ID and preserve significant buildings; protect historic buildings and areas with ordinances; seek preservation funding for prioritized historic resources

## **TOPIC: COMMUNITY FACILITIES & UTILITIES**

### **Emergency Services (Police, Fire, Ambulance)**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's emergency services?

All services are excellent; police and fire are excellent

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's emergency services?

A lack of diversity, perhaps; fire dept has trouble getting volunteers

3. What should the Township do to improve its emergency services?

Find more volunteers; continue to provide resources to maintain current level of service

### **Parks and Recreation**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's park and recreation facilities?

Four parks (Barker, Coopersmith, Lambert, WC Community Park); very good parks; well maintained; excellent mix of park and rec facilities; W Goshen Park and programs are excellent

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's park and recreation facilities?

Not publicized much; not enough restrooms; limited access to playground equipment for disabled children; not enough pocket parks

3. What should the Township do to improve its park and recreation facilities?

More restrooms at some parks; more pocket parks; put trail in "Basin Rd Park – Boy Scouts clean (?); continue to work toward acquisition of open space at Woodlands at Greystone

### **Trails**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's trail system?

Excellent trails at E and W Goshen Parks

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's trail system?

No trail system in twp

3. What should the Township do to improve its trail system?

Implement Woodlands at Greystone plan...will provide approx. 6 miles of hiking and biking trails...once established, seek connections to expand twp trail network

**West Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan Update**  
**SUMMARY - Issue Identification Questionnaire for Task Force**

---

**Library**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's library services?

Two accessible libraries – WC Library and Chester Co Library

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's library services?

No library in W Goshen

3. What should the Township do to improve its library offerings or access to library services?

Contribute more to County library system, Continue to support the WC Library; no need for a twp library

**Schools**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the local schools?

WC Area School District is well run; robust public school system; private and parochial schools available

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the local schools?

[no comments received]

3. What should the Township do with regard to schools?

Continue to support the school district

**Wastewater Disposal (Public Sewer/Septic)**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of wastewater disposal systems in the Township?

Covers the entire twp (?); sufficient capacity to accommodate full build out of twp; system functions fine; taxes are okay

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of wastewater disposal systems in the Township?

Poor repair and maintenance record resulting in extreme repair costs; treatment plant needs updating; some of conveyance infrastructure in need of replacement or repair

3. What should the Township do to improve wastewater disposal?

Continue ownership of the sewage treatment plant; implement a maintenance schedule that prevents huge overhauls; Sewer Authority has issued bonds to make sig improvements to plant and conveyance system and is in the process of implementing a number of improvement projects

**West Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan Update**  
**SUMMARY - Issue Identification Questionnaire for Task Force**

---

**Water (Public Water/Private Wells)**

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of potable water systems in Township?

Aqua serves most of twp and does a good job of repair and replacement of services/mains; system seems adequate; function fine; taxes okay

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of potable water systems in Township?

Increased cost compared to previous provider; some areas of twp still on private wells and some have water quality issues

3. What should the Township do to with regard to supply and quality of potable water?

Encourage Aqua to expand public water service wherever feasible

**TOPIC: HOUSING**

When answering the following questions, please think about the condition, types, supply and affordability of housing.

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township's housing?

Good housing available in almost all value categories; wide variety of housing options and significant inventory in the area; stability of long term residents; good zoning in place

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township's housing?

Availability of affordable housing is very limited

3. **What should the Township to do** with regard to housing?

Enforce zoning and building codes

**TOPIC: LAND USE**

This topic relates to development and preservation of land. Land uses include residential, retail, office, industrial, institutional, agriculture, and open space.

1. What are the **strengths** or positive aspects of the Township in terms of land use?

Required green space; diverse mix of uses with reasonable amount of preserved open space

2. What are the **weaknesses** or negative aspects of the Township in terms of land use?

By-right uses should be appropriate for the areas in which they are permitted

3. **What would you like the Township to do** with regard to land use?

Continue to enforce green space regs; strictly limit/regulate where certain uses are allowed – retail stores, offices, auto sales, beverage stores, marijuana dispensaries; continue to revise zoning ordinance to reflect needs of a mostly redeveloping area; redevelop Goshen Center as a high density mixed-use town center...multi-level

**West Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan Update**  
**SUMMARY - Issue Identification Questionnaire for Task Force**

---

**PRIORITIZE THE MAJOR ISSUES**

Please list in order of priority what you feel are the five most important issues facing the Township.

Most important issues:

1. Traffic/Roads
  - New construction without improvements to road system
  - Traffic congestion
  
2. Preserve open space without infringing on rights of property owners
  - Inadequate funding for stormwater management program
  - Goshen Center redevelopment
  
3. Inadequate pedestrian and bicycle facilities
  - No easily solvable traffic problems
  
4. Lack of affordable housing and over 55 housing
  
- 5.