The material in the appendix contains comments gathered during the public process and is not an official part of the Sustainability Plan. These comments were made by Sustainability Committee members throughout various stages of the planning process. Many of these comments were integrated into the Cheltenham Sustainability Plan, while some did not. Some of these comments were not able to be integrated into the plan due to the municipal focus of the plan and these comments would be more appropriate for a community-wide sustainability plan. But, the comments are interesting and will be valuable for later Cheltenham community planning efforts. Instead of losing these valuable ideas, we have included them in this appendix. The public is encouraged to use these ideas as a foundation for more sustainability work in the Township.

Responses to the Questionnaire Distributed at the June 29, 2011 Kick-Off Mtg.

Environment

Open Space & Recreation

- Integrate green spaces into fabric of community
- Green spaces for everyone – kids, adults, sports, walkers, dogs, bikers, wheelchair users
- Foster recreational uses on Township waterways; daylight creek where possible; allow for canoing, kayaking, swimming
- "Friends of" groups to maintain, clean up and raise funds for parks; involve community in improving and maintaining parks and open spaces (e.g. Wall Park community build project, riparian buffer plantings, native gardens, community gardens, etc.)

Growing Food, Trees, & other Living Things

- Residential farming/food production
- Community food production – use parks and open spaces for fruit and nut trees, gardens, bees, grazing
- Native gardening; replace turfgrass lawns with native meadows and gardens
- Education, workshops on sustainable gardening
- Gardening programs in schools
- Tree planting programs; require permit to remove trees
- Bee keeping, poultry raising, small livestock
- Allow for small-scale commercial farming in the township

Clean Air & Water

- Adopt policies that protect the natural environment in Cheltenham (support healthy watershed, clean water, stream buffers, soil protection, tree protection)
- Encourage or require use of porous pavement
- Streamside-living education
- Mark storm sewers "No Dumping - Drains to Stream!"
- Reduce use of fertilizers and pesticides
- Reduce use of harmful chemicals in homes and businesses
- Public spaces dedicated to stormwater management
- Improve sewer infrastructure
- Stream restoration, "daylighting," planting, reduce erosion
- Healthy habitats for all types of native species (frogs, fish, birds, turtles, mammals, etc.)
- (Adopt and) Enforce no litterbug and dog waste laws

Energy

Overall Goals

- Reduce Energy Consumption – Net Zero Emissions Aspiration
- Shift energy use to renewable sources
- Create energy independence
- Set aggressive energy reduction goals
- Create on-going group of local energy experts ("think-tank") to help Township and community evaluate and reach reduction targets

Renewable Energy

- Explore locally-sourced energy (bio-fuels, ethanol, etc.,) made in the Township
- Explore District energy for the Township
- Support innovation and new technologies; be a showcase community for pilot programs
- Promote Solar Thermal (not just Solar PV), for home hot water heating
- Incentives for solar panels, solar thermal, and micro wind turbines
- "get Cheltenham off dirty coal"
- Township take a stance against coal and natural gas (no fracking)

Energy Efficiency/Reduction

- Township buildings "set the bar" with use of alternative energies / energy use reductions; Energy-efficient township-owned buildings and vehicles
- Township partner to provide alternative energy and energy reduction incentives
- Promote Energy Star initiatives
- Home energy audit programs, low-interest loans for projects (ECA, e.g.)
- Reduce Energy Use by 15% across the Township
- Ban electronic billboard – huge energy wasters!
- Turn off streetlights when not needed
- Incentives for alternatives to gas-powered lawn mowers; green lawn services
- Green roofs to reduce heat island effect and reduce storm run-off

Economy

Overall Goals

- Support a culture of local businesses to make us a self-sustaining community
- Create jobs and income close to home
- Save tax dollars by using resources more efficiently
- Keep taxes low/competitive with surrounding communities

Local Business & Industry

- "Shop Local" as a way of life
- Local businesses practice sustainable consumption and energy use
- Increase availability of Farmers' Market goods (year-round, daily access to local, fresh foods); local groceries (walkable) in every neighborhood
- Program to evaluate and award achievement for businesses' sustainability efforts
- Foster sustainable/ green businesses and technologies
- Local currency; bartering programs
- Support BID development in downtowns
- Fill vacancies in downtowns before adding to commercial building stock

Tax Structure

- Decrease taxes to maintain property values, compete for homebuyers, and keep Cheltenham affordable
- Tax breaks/incentives for local businesses
- Conserve resources in all aspects of government

Community & Society

Overall Goals

- Work together as a unified Cheltenham, not just individual neighborhoods
- Engage the whole community in making changes
- Enhance the quality of life in Cheltenham
- Be a resilient community in the face of peak oil and climate change

Education

- Require environmental education component to graduate from high school
- Integrate sustainability into schools' curriculum and practices
- Teach kids to grow their own food; alternative to after-school sports
- Weekly outdoor education and more time outside, all grades K-12

Engagement & Equity

- Education, workshops on living sustainably
- Incentives, grants to make energy-efficient upgrades and sustainability affordable to all
- Strategic partnerships with companies to help people of all incomes
- Program to evaluate and award achievement for households' and neighborhoods sustainability efforts
- Community gardens & Agricultural co-ops
- Food-sharing programs, neighborhood potluck meals
- Support innovation, creativity, and new ideas
- More citizen involvement in all Township meetings and planning
- Support our libraries
- More community events

Healthy Living for All

- Continue to foster sports, recreation, community park & rec programs, healthy living programs, and other initiatives to keep Cheltenham citizens healthy
- Find ways to provide affordable health care and insurance for all
- Foster programs that allow residents to age in place (home health care, seniors housing, shuttle bus services, neighborhood access to food and services)
- Ensure access to fresh foods and healthy environments
- Neighborhood medical clinics – convenient access to medical care for all, including alternative health
- Make parks, trails, sidewalks, and recreation accessible to all

Mobility/ Transportation

Overall Goals

- Safe and convenient to walk and bike EVERYWHERE
- Integrate green spaces into fabric of community, as part of transportation system
- Reduce vehicle miles traveled, traffic on our roadways, and greenhouse gases

Biking & Walking

- More / better-designed crosswalks at key intersections
- Total integration of biking into the street network and off-road trail system
- Bike-sharing program
- Bike parking/racks in downtowns, at train stations, at schools, etc.
- Encourage bike commuting (provide lockers, showers)
- Urban Hike Program; Promote walking
- Safe Routes to School funding
- Connect to Regional trail system
- Programs to encourage car-pooling and walker-stops (like bus stops for walkers) for school families; encourage walking to school
- Build walking/biking bridges (and underpasses) at key crossings in the Township (e.g. across Church Rd. at Curtis Arboretum)

Transit (bus, shuttles, rail)

- More bus shelters (Cedarbrook Mall!)
- Lobby for more electric transit, more and better train/bus/trolley service, more connections in the region, not just the spokes to Center City
- Continue to provide and expand local shuttle bus services
- More commuter parking at train stations
- Support businesses around train stations

Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled & GHG Emissions

- Traffic-calming measures and "road diets"
- Electric car infrastructure
- Prefer people-power over motor-power (even electric)
- Community car-pooling, ride-sharing, hitch-hiking, "slugging"
- HOV incentives for commuters
- Car-share programs (zip-car)
- Electric car infrastructure

Land Use, Buildings, & Development

Overall Goals

- Revise codes to promote more walking (pedestrian-friendly development)
- Incentives to build green new construction (LEED, Energy Star, etc.)

Green Building

- Incentives to build green new construction (LEED, Energy Star, etc.)
- Adopt International Green Construction Code
- Preserve large estates and undeveloped parcels for community open space uses
- Restore and re-purpose historical buildings

Sustainable Land Use

- Ensure land development ordinances are in line with sustainability goals
- Every neighborhood should have easy access (preferably walkable and/or bikable) to key services such as post office, banks, shops, libraries, schools
- Downtowns need more development, more businesses, need to be more of a "hub" and more pedestrian-friendly
- Encourage development around train stations
- Require sidewalks on every street
- Allow commercial and mixed-use throughout the township ("mini" Main Streets, corner stores, local food markets in every neighborhood)
- "Cheltenham will continue to be a vibrant suburban community."
- Redevelop or un-pave paved areas; reduce unused parking lots
- Require "green" parking lot design – lots of trees, planting islands, walkways, pervious paving when possible
- Require green stormwater infrastructure in new development
- Allow for smaller lot sizes, "granny flats," denser development
- Community involvement in development processes
- Require new developments to be integrated into the existing community, walkable, and developers must provide community services and infrastructure

Waste Management

Overall Goals

- Reduce Waste – Zero Waste Aspiration
- Re-use and Recycle more

Reduce Trash

- Composting services for homes and businesses
- Encourage home composting, school lunch composting
- Zero waste schools – particularly lunches, snacks
- Trash fees per use (monetary incentive to reduce waste)

Reduce Wastewater and Storm Run-off into Streams

- Rainwater harvesting incentives, education, and strategies
- Programs to use grey water
- Sewer fees / credits (monetary incentives) for lower water usage

Re-Use and Recycle

- Encourage community resource sharing and re-use (up-cycling, free-cycling,etc.)
- Recycling bins everywhere – parks, downtowns, train stations
- Enhanced recycling services
- Encourage greater percentage participation in recycling (incentives)
- Make it easier to recycle and safely dispose of common hazardous items such as batteries, electronics, cleaning supplies, pharmaceuticals, etc. (not just a few Saturdays); use as Township income source
- More public education about single-stream recycling

SWOT Analysis

Cheltenham Township Sustainability Plan

In small groups, based on your understanding and experience of living and/or working in Cheltenham, and on the Community Profile presented tonight, discuss and identify the community's STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, and THREATS to being sustainable. Take 30 minutes to discuss and record a group list. At 9:00, each group will send a scribe to write the group's list on the big sheets hanging on the walls. If you have an idea that is the same as another group's, place a check next to it on the big sheet of paper rather than re-stating it.

Strenghts

Unique community assets and strengths (e.g. extensive open space network)

Lots of active community groups

Five local train stations

Proximity to Philadelphia

Diversity (socio-economic, racial, religious, cultural)

Historic properties and preservation efforts

Extensive linear greenway system

Spaces for gardens

Educated populace

Good public schools

Lots of long-time residents

People willing to share expertise

Variety of housing; affordable housing options

Commitment to arts

Local climate is temperate, has four distinct seasons

Creeks

Traditional, walkable development patterns

Healthy old trees

Universities and colleges = incubators

Accessibility (good public transportation)

Active government, receives lots of grant funding for needed projects

Five local business districts

Regulations allow people to farm, raise fowl, etc.

Weaknesses

Things the Township and community need to work on improving

(e.g. sewer and stormwater management infrastructrue)

High taxes

Traffic

Sidewalk gaps

Lack of redevelopment/developable areas

Aging infrastructure

Sewer problems

Flooding and run-off problems

Major roads divide neighborhoods and cut off access for bikes, pedestrians

Lack of safe/usable bikeways

Perception of high crime in some areas

Not easily accessible to region by car

Lack of farmland

Lack of tax ratables

Tookany Creek

Too many tax-exempt properties

Older developments too close to water, built on steep slopes, etc.

Poor communication with residents (newspaper, email, website, etc.)

Lots of large old houses = obsolete

Transitional area between city and suburbs = lots of "pass through" traffic

Opportunities

Opportunities to take advantage of to help us achieve our sustainability goals (e.g. partnerships with established institutions and community groups)

Creative local funding ideas

"Pay as you throw," recycle bank, and other programs

Greater community involvement

Stock of large homes and historic properties = adaptive re-use/subdivide

Redevelopment opportunities

New technologies and innovations

Incubate green / new businesses

Grants and rebates available

Rising cost of gas = locational advantage for Cheltenham

Renewable energy becoming more available

Fertile land available for food production

Role models – learn from similar communities

Local currency, bartering, time-banking, gifting, co-ops, worksharing, all gaining acceptance

Proximity to local farms and food sources

Partnerships with farms in region

Composting

Involving students / school in efforts

Threats

Threats, constraints, and potential roadblocks that could stand in the way of achieving our goals (e.g. local funding issues)

"Nimby-ism"

Resistance to / fear of change

"Informed futility" (fear that actions will not matter)

Lack of SEPTA/County support for frequent train service

Lack of vision

Lack of understanding of the problems

Media downplay of major environmental problems

Lack of understanding of energy and climate realities

Expectations that don't match reality

High taxes

Dependence on fossil fuel

Climate CHAOS

Economy

Run-off (downstream effects)

Aging sewers

Regulation and de-regulation

Short-term thinking

Old electrical infrastructure

Competition for limited grants/loans

Pollution from pass-through traffic and other external forces

Corruption in politics and business

Ideas Suggested by the Committee from the Summer of 2011 to January 2012

1. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Engage and educate all Cheltenham citizens, students, and stakeholders to unite behind a shared set of goals to build a sustainable future.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

   - Hold regular educational workshops on living sustainably
   - Program to evaluate and award achievement for households' and neighborhoods' sustainability efforts
   - Require environmental education component at high school
   - Integrate sustainability into schools' curriculum and practices
   - More community involvement in improving our parks, open spaces (e.g. Wall Park playground project, riparian planting, etc.)
   - More citizen involvement in all Township meetings and planning
   - Increase communication, information, and transparency about municipal projects and actions – broadcast township meetings, publicize township activities in paper, on web
   - Engage and educate residents about government functions and living sustainably.
   - Align rules, regulations, policies, and incentive programs to support all of the community sustainability goals outlined herein.
   - Support the creation or existence of an organization that will promote the sustainability goals outlined above and holistically work toward their implementation.

2. ENERGY: Strive to reduce energy demand, reduce emissions, and offset 100% of the community's energy consumption with equal investments in renewable energy sources within the community and the region.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

   - Reduce/eliminate dependence on fossil fuels
   - Reduce Energy Use by 15% across the Township by 2020
   - Shift energy use (away from coal and natural gas) to renewable sources (solar, geothermal, solar thermal, wind, etc).
   - Net zero green house gas emissions aspiration
   - Promote locally-sourced energy (bio-fuels, ethanol, solar, wind, geothermal, etc., made in the Township)
   - Promote Solar Thermal (not just Solar PV) for home hot water heating especially
   - Incentives for solar panels, solar thermal, and micro wind turbines
   - Township buildings use alternative energies / energy use reductions
   - Township partner to provide alternative energy and energy reduction incentives and clearinghouse of information for residents
   - Promote Energy Star initiatives
   - Home energy audit programs, low-interest loans for projects (ECA, Keystone HELP, e.g.)
   - Township take a stance against coal and natural gas (anti-fracking)

- Township government to be a leader in the region and provide incentives to residents, businesses and property owners.
- Reduce "heat island" effect by changing roof and paved area composition.
- Become energy producers rather than energy users

3. MOBILITY: Reduce vehicular travel and emissions, increase use of alternative modes of transportation, and make it desirable and convenient to walk and bike throughout the township and region.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

   - Safe and convenient to walk and bike EVERYWHERE.
   - Integrate green spaces into fabric of community and as part of transportation system, where feasible.
   - Reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulates.
   - Increase use of public transportation.
   - Alternate energy fleet development.
   - Increase modes of transportation.
   - Linear greenways/foot powered transport.
   - Electric car charging stations and car sharing
   - Revert parking areas back to greenspace.
   - More / better-designed crosswalks at key intersections
   - Total integration of biking into the street network and off-road trail system
   - Bike-sharing program
   - Bike parking in downtowns, at train stations, at schools
   - Encourage bike commuting
   - Urban Hike Program
   - Promote walking
   - Programs to encourage car-pooling and walker-stops (like bus stops for walkers) for school families
   - Safe Routes to School funding programs
   - Community car-pooling programs for commuters, HOV incentives
   - Car-sharing and commute-sharing
   - Electric car infrastructure; electric car-sharing
   - Connect to Regional trail system
   - More bus shelters (Cedarbrook Mall!!)
   - Lobby for more electric transit, more and better train/bus/trolley service
   - Decrease car miles traveled and car traffic on our roadways
   - Continue to provide and expand local shuttle bus services

4. WASTE REDUCTION: Aggressively reduce solid and hazardous waste and maximize the use of waste products as a resource.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

   - Reduce Waste – Zero Waste Aspiration
   - Pay-as-you-throw waste collection
   - Increase recycling rates, increase what can be recycled
   - Increase re-use and sharing of resources/consumer goods.
   - Increase home composting and community-wide composting.
   - Reduce wastewater flows and stormwater runoff.
   - Encourage "freecycling" programs
   - Make it easier to recycle and safely dispose of common hazardous items such as batteries, electronics, cleaning supplies, pharmaceuticals, etc. (not just a few Saturdays)
   - Recycling bins everywhere – parks, downtowns, train stations
   - Improve sewer infrastructure
   - (Adopt and) Enforce no litterbug and dog waste laws
   - Encourage community resource sharing and re-use (up-cycling, "free sales,"etc.)
   - Create a green purchasing policy to guide municipal procurement and operations

5. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: Reduce stormwater runoff and wastewater flows, and maximize the utility of rainwater as a resource.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

   - Rainwater harvesting incentives, education, and strategies

- Programs to use grey water
- Sewer fees / credits (monetary incentives) for lower water usage
- Build rainwater infiltration facilities into Township roadways
- Promote rain gardens and other BMPs on private property to keep rain out of storm sewer system
- Targeted tree planting program and education about importance of trees
- Sewer fees and credits for lower usage
- Public spaces dedicated to stormwater management
- Encourage use of porous pavement

6. ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP: Protect and improve the overall health and ecological diversity of the Township's habitats, waterways, and soils, both on public and private lands.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

   - Native species planting, removal of invasive species
   - Work to ensure clean air and water with monitoring, regulations, enforcement
   - Adopt policies that protect the natural environment in Cheltenham (support healthy watershed, clean water, stream buffers, soil protection, tree protection)
   - Reduce use of fertilizers and pesticides
   - Reduce use of harmful chemicals in homes and businesses
   - Promote clean indoor and outdoor air quality

7. HEALTHY LIVING FOR ALL: Promote healthy living in Cheltenham by ensuring equitable access to recreation, natural areas, car-free transportation, fresh local foods, health care services, clean air, and clean water.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

   - Township provide space for community gardens & agricultural co-ops
   - Food-sharing programs, neighborhood potluck meals
   - Neighborhood medical clinics – convenient access to medical care for all
   - Neighborhood parks and open space (both passive and active greenspaces) within easy walking distance of every neighborhood
   - Walkshare for school kids – encourage/promote walking & biking to school
   - Access to fresh foods in all neighborhoods
   - Green spaces for everyone – kids, adults, sports, walkers, dogs, bikers
   - Incentives, grants to make sustainability affordable for all
   - Education, workshops on sustainable gardening, permaculture
   - Gardening programs in schools
   - Promote use of, knowledge about, and access to alternative medicine and therapies
   - Every neighborhood should have easy access (preferably walkable and/or bikable) to key services such as post office, banks, shops, libraries, schools

8. LOCAL ECONOMY: Promote and support local and regional agriculture, artisans, institutions, industry, and business by strengthening connections to, and markets for, local goods and services.

   Potential Objectives/Action Items:

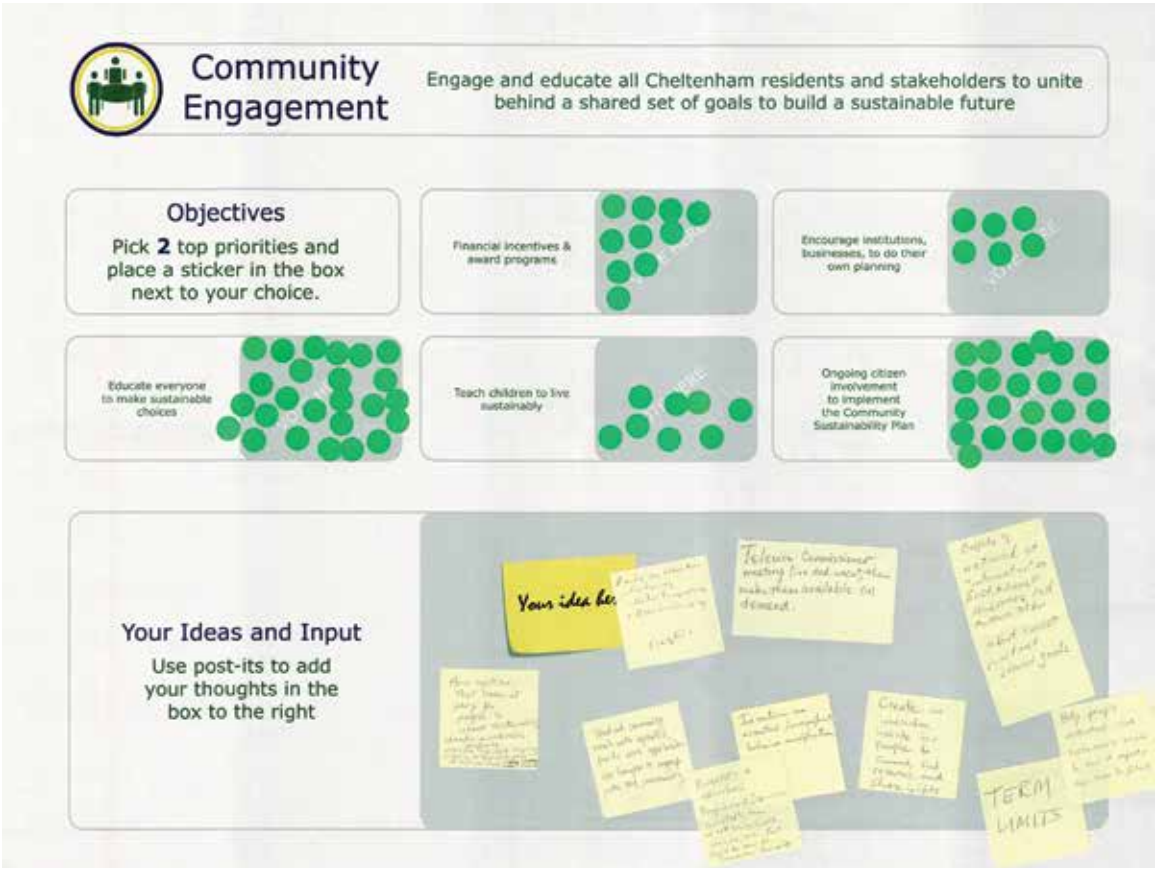
   - "Shop Local" as a way of life
   - Attract and maintain local businesses.
   - Support a culture of local businesses to make us a self-sustaining community.
   - Local businesses practice sustainable consumption and energy use
   - Increase availability of Farmers' Market goods (year-round, daily access to local, fresh foods)
   - Program to evaluate and award achievement for businesses' sustainability efforts
   - Walkable grocery stores in every neighborhood
   - Create jobs and income close to home.
   - Save tax dollars by using resources more efficiently.
   - Business district cooperatives to promote purchasing power.
   - Eliminate plastic bags in the Township.
   - Promote the township as a good place to purchase property – "living sustainably in Cheltenham"

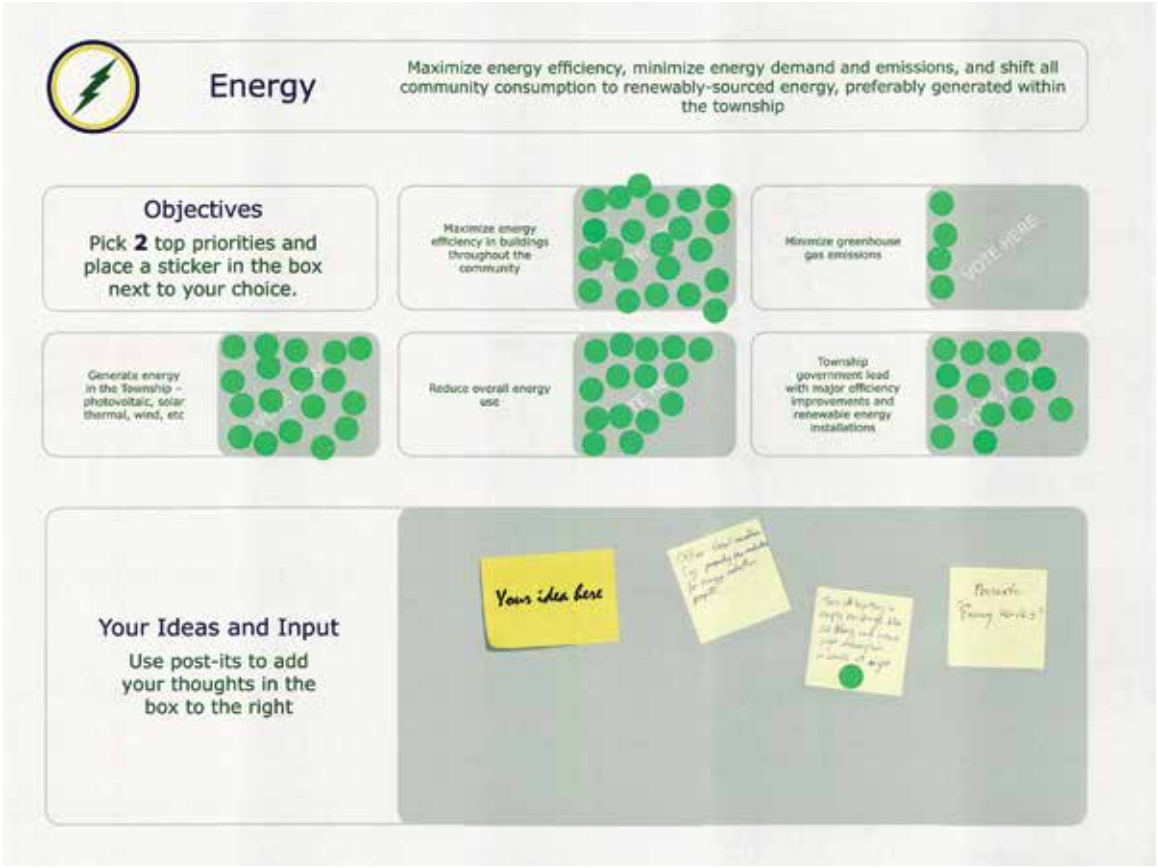
- Downtowns need more development, more businesses, need to be more of a "hub" and more pedestrian-friendly

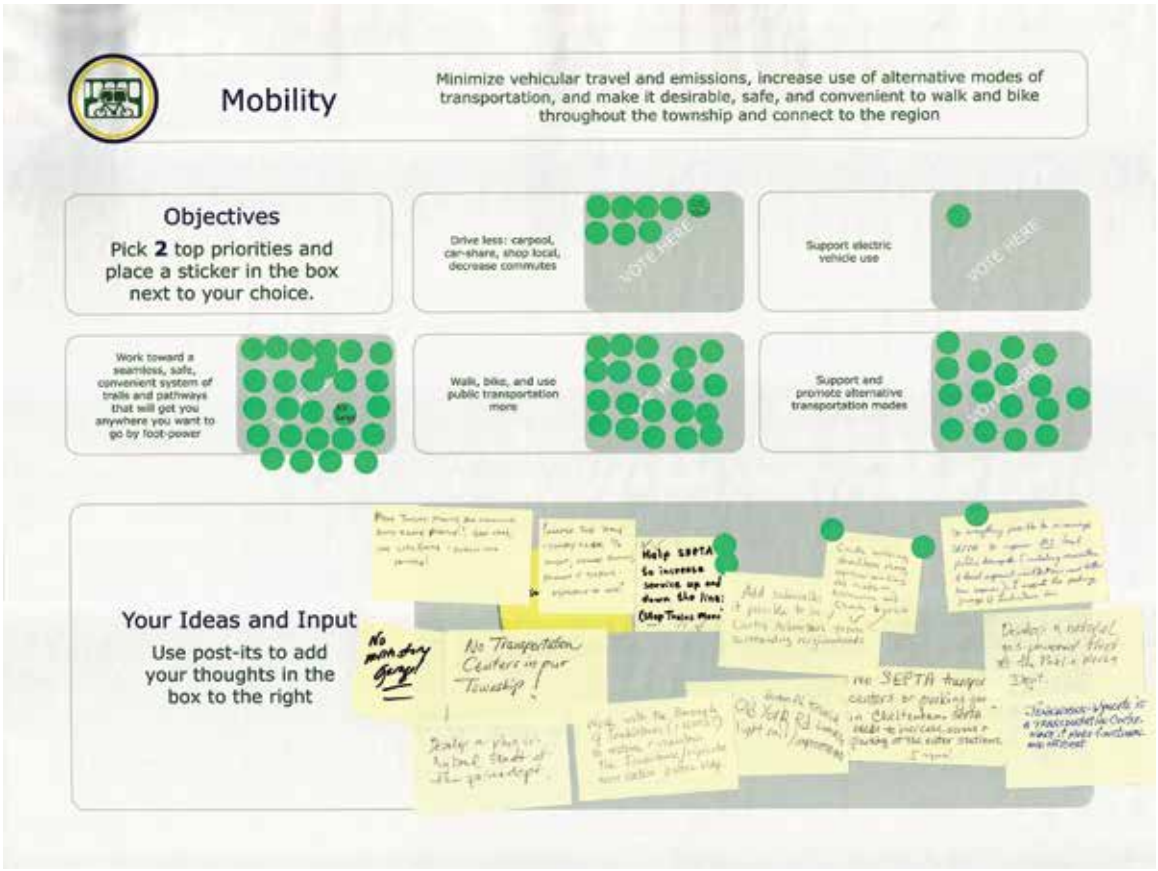
9. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: Ensure that all land use, zoning, and development policies and regulations support the community's sustainability goals.

Potential Objectives/Action Items:

- Provide incentives for clean, renewable, sustainable construction that maximizes energy efficiency and reduces environmental impacts.
- Align codes with goals that promote walking, support transit, reduce environmental impacts of development, promote healthy living and support aging in place.
- Reduce paving and reduce stormwater and runoff throughout the Township.
- Ensure that land development ordinances are aligned with these sustainability goals including local food production when crafting ordinances.
- Reclamation of floodplain areas
- No variances to allow for construction in 50 year floodplain.
- Adopt ICC Codes (if not already adopted)
- Zone for solar access and orientation (for active and passive solar gain)
- Increase use of permeable pavements vs. impervious and other stormwater BMP's
- Encourage large residential and mixed-use developments around train stations and transit lines.
- Preserve large estates and undeveloped parcels for community open space uses
- Revise codes to promote more walking (pedestrian-friendly development)
- Require sidewalks on every street
- Incentives to build green new construction (LEED, Energy Star, etc.)
- Community building programs

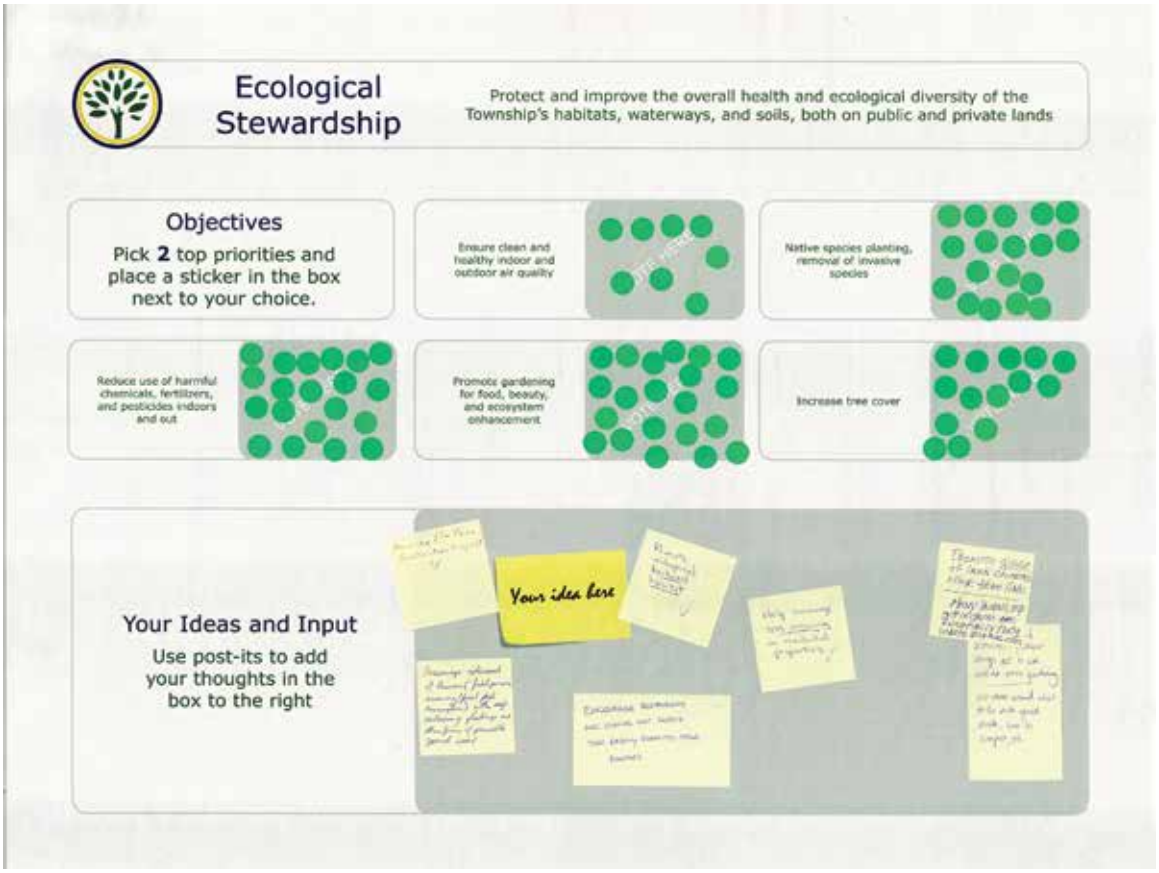


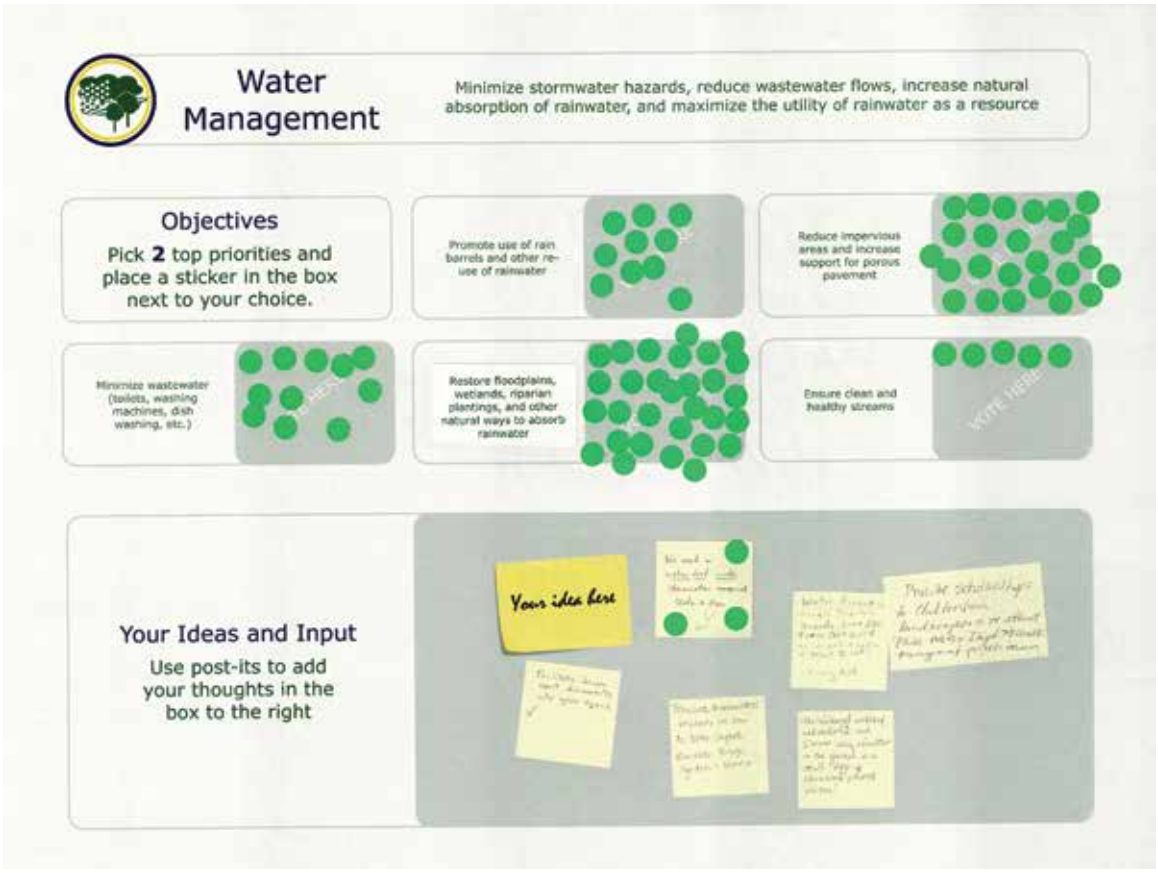

Energy
Maximize energy efficiency, minimize energy demand and emissions, and shift all community consumption to renewably-sourced energy, preferably generated within the township
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Maximize energy efficiency in buildings throughout the community
Minimize greenhouse gas emissions
VOTE HERE
Generate energy in the Township – photovoltaic, solar thermal, wind, etc
Reduce overall energy use
Township government lead with major efficiency improvements and renewable energy installations
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right
Your idea here

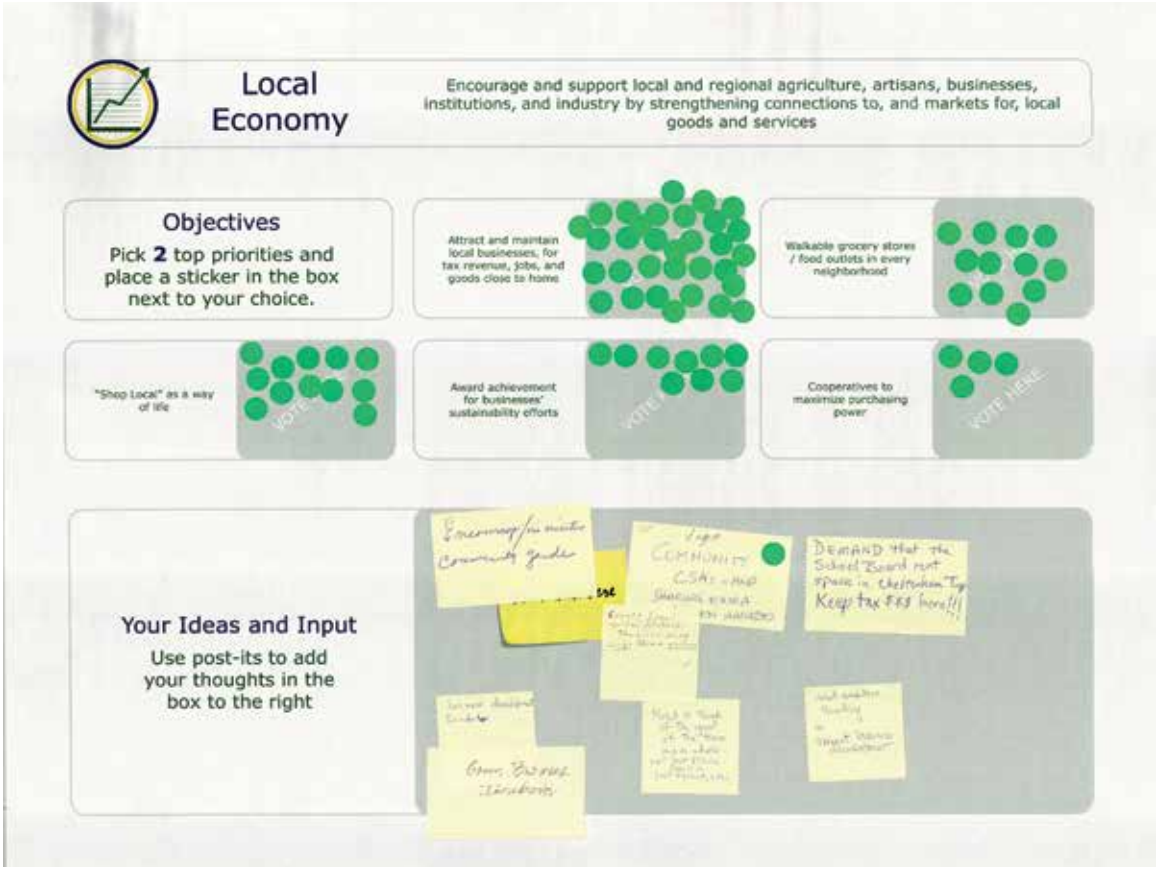

Mobility
Minimize vehicular travel and emissions, increase use of alternative modes of transportation, and make it desirable, safe, and convenient to walk and bike throughout the township and connect to the region
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Drive less: carpool, car-share, shop local, decrease commutes
VOTE HERE
Support electric vehicle use
Work toward a seamless, safe, convenient system of trails and pathways that will get you anywhere you want to go by foot-power
Walk, bike, and use public transportation more
Support and promote alternative transportation modes
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right
No Transportation Centers in our Township!

Waste Reduction
Minimize solid and hazardous waste disposal, and maximize the re-use of waste products as a resource
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Safely recycle hazardous waste (batteries, electronics, chemicals, etc.)
Increase composting at home and throughout the community
Minimize waste from households, schools, etc. and maximize recycling
Promote community resource sharing and re-use (up-cycling, "free sales,"etc.)
Promote "green" purchasing practices
VOTE HERE
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right

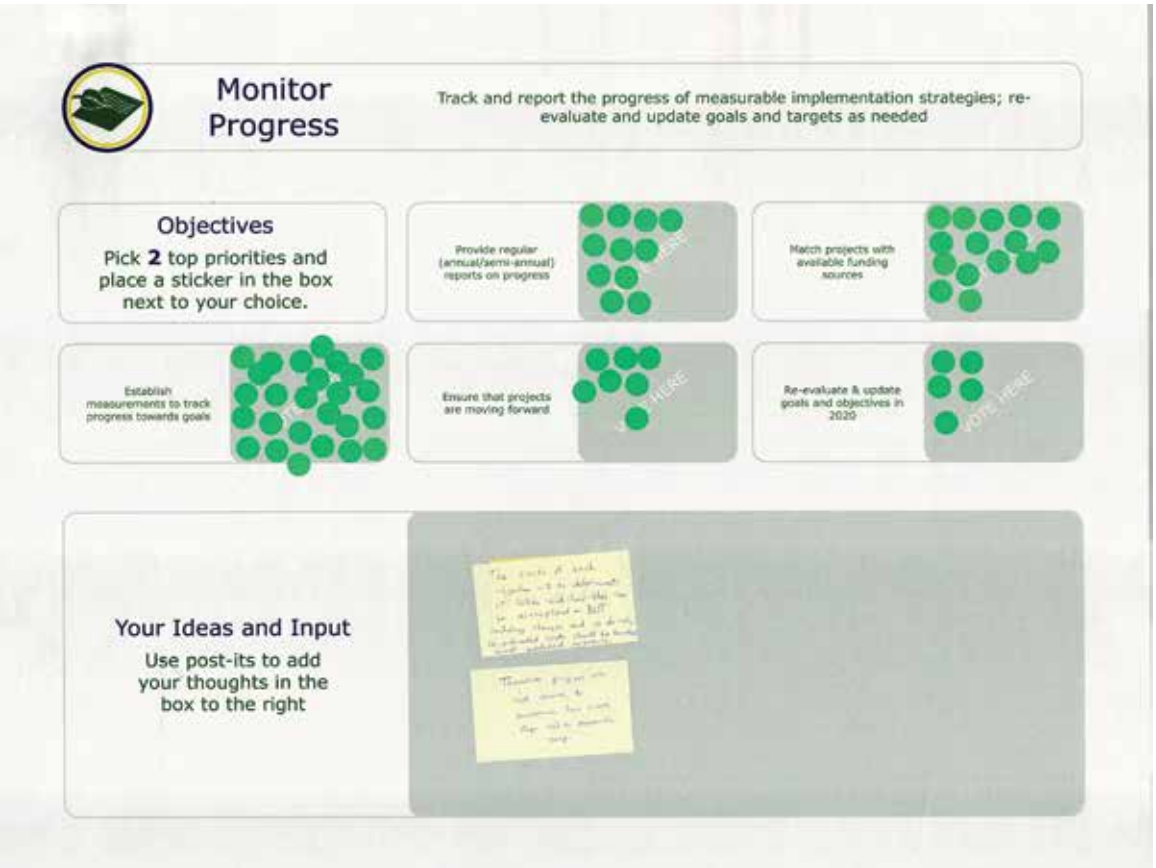
Sustainable Development
Promote building, site development, and landscaping that respects the natural environment and maximizes clean and efficient use of resources, and ensure that all permitting, codes, and regulations support the community's sustainability goals
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Incentives for clean, renewable, sustainable development that maximizes energy efficiency and reduces environmental impacts
Encourage low-impact development practices
Promote energy-efficient, renewable, and clean remodeling
Align Township codes and policies with sustainability goals
Promote walkable and transit-oriented development
VOTE HERE
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right


Ecological Stewardship
Protect and improve the overall health and ecological diversity of the Township's habitats, waterways, and soils, both on public and private lands
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Ensure clean and healthy indoor and outdoor air quality
Native species planting, removal of invasive species
Reduce use of harmful chemicals, fertilizers, and pesticides indoors and out
Promote gardening for food, beauty, and ecosystem enhancement
Increase tree cover
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right
Your idea here


Water Management
Minimize stormwater hazards, reduce wastewater flows, increase natural absorption of rainwater, and maximize the utility of rainwater as a resource
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Promote use of rain barrels and other re-use of rainwater
Reduce impervious areas and increase support for porous pavement
Minimize wastewater (toilets, washing machines, dish washing, etc.)
Restore floodplains, wetlands, riparian plantings, and other natural ways to absorb rainwater
Ensure clean and healthy streams
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right
Your idea here


Local Economy
Encourage and support local and regional agriculture, artisans, businesses, institutions, and industry by strengthening connections to, and markets for, local goods and services
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Attract and maintain local businesses, for tax revenue, jobs, and goods close to home
Walkable grocery stores / food outlets in every neighborhood
"Shop Local" as a way of life
Award achievement for businesses' sustainability efforts
Cooperatives to maximize purchasing power
VOTE HERE
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right
DEMAND that the School Board not

Healthy Living For All
Promote healthy living in Cheltenham through equitable, affordable, and safe access to information, education, recreation, natural areas, car-free transportation, fresh local foods, health care services, clean air, and clean water
Objectives
Pick 2 top priorities and place a sticker in the box next to your choice.
Convenient, affordable access to medical care for all
Ensure clean air and water
Access to fresh and healthy foods through home-growing, farmers, markets, schools, & community gardens
Encourage kids to walk & bike to schools, parks, libraries
Green spaces for everyone - kids, adults, sports, walkers, dogs, bikers
VOTE HERE
Your Ideas and Input
Use post-its to add your thoughts in the box to the right
Your idea here
From recreation
NO SEPTA garage!



Draft Comments that were not directly incorporated into the Final Draft

Community Engagement

"For discussion: reduce local income taxes, and institute local taxes on: car ownership/leasing, powered lawn equipment, impervious surfaces, waste by weight

Tax relief for: local food production, local sustainable business & cottage industries, using 100% clean renewable energy for electricity, energy conservation measures for homes & businesses, walking, biking and transit."

"Suggestion: Lawn/Landscape services must register with township and only use earth-friendly substances on Cheltenham properties—qualified green landscape/garden services can be recommended by the township."

Energy

"I found that the "most competitive" (economically) electricity supplier gave out air miles too and within the season had increased their rates to be one the most expensive: Energy Plus. I recommend Energy Coop because the customers are the owners of the company, one can get 100% clean renewable energy (wind, solar, small hydro) and it is locally/regionally sourced. The cost is about 2 cents more per kWh compared to PECO's conventional energy: coal, nuclear. Of course, municipalities are in a different fee structure than households."

Mobility

"All liquid fuels including "alternative fuels" emit greenhouse gases and they vie with food for land. Liquid fuels are not a sustainable alternative they pit the 2 billion poor who need food against the 800,000 car owners who want fuel. We need to promote and produce solar energy to re-charge electric vehicles."

"Can more of the Police Force use bikes?

Can police have neighborhood beats and be out and about by foot and bike within neighborhood for the day?

Can cruising be reduced? Do police idle their cars for A/C, communications, hanging out?

Will energy consumption be reduced with the automatic recycling/refuse trucks?

Why is the "Highway" category so high in energy consumption?

Would road repair be more efficient if it were subcontracted?"

"It may be possible to connect the greenways by offering private property owners a property tax break for allowing public access and an ecologically valid trail through their property…similar to the public walking trails through fields in the UK"

"It is good to see that we have all those bus stops in Cheltenham. If we had four more roads covered: New 2nd St., Washington Ln. & Waverly at the far end of the township, and the whole length of Church Rd. every household would be within ¼ mile of a bus stop. [A local advocate] rightfully advocates for bus shelters so people can get out of the elements while waiting for the bus."

"The citizens along and to either side of New 2nd St., Washington Ln., Waverly and Church Rd. have no transit options. At the very least, we need bike lanes and safe pedestrian walkways on: New 2nd St., Washington Ln. and Waverly and safe crossings of Church Rd. every ¼ mile or so."

"The few roads in Cheltenham Township that are wide enough to have HOV lanes (e.g. Limekiln Pike, Easton in places, Washington Ln.) would far better serve the township if they had bike lanes instead—we're depending on it for the safety of cyclists and pedestrians. Rte 309 might be a good candidate for a HOV lane."

Waste Management

"Imagine if a family grew and bought mostly local food, composted and purchased mostly local goods avoiding disposables & packaging, they might use the proposed smallest trashcan size (35 gallons) only once a season! (no food scraps or pet waste). If a family like that could get a significant break on trash tax, there would be more families that would follow suit."

"Recycle Bank is not so highly evolved. The idea is to reduce trash to almost nothing and then reduce your recycling because of reuse, repurposing and upcycling and wise local infrequent purchasing. Points for more stuff so you can do more and more recycling encourages materialism and the "thing-glut"."

Water Management

"Tie impervious surfaces to property tax: if earth and water absorbing plantings are gained, property tax goes down. If impervious surfaces are added property tax goes up. On properties that are already optimizing best water management practices, the property tax goes down. On properties with excessive impervious surfaces and bad water management practices, (e.g. Jenkintown Train Station) property tax or penalties go up. Water "sheets" off of lawns—convert to gardens."

"Convert the old school bus lot at the corner of Glenside Ave & Rices Mill Road to a wetland so that it can absorb floodwaters from upstream."

Ecological Stewardship

"Suggestion: Lawn/Landscape services must register with township and only use earth-friendly substances on Cheltenham properties—qualified green landscape/garden services can be recommended by the township."

"Tax incentives for citizen households & businesses particularly along our creeks & throughout the township who take a workshop and naturalize their properties."

"In some cases, the removal & replacement of an old large tree makes sense.

If the huge tree endangers the house in high winds (which are on the increase) the owner would be well advised to replace the tree with a smaller tree with a low canopy. If the replacement resulted in one or all three: 1. a productive fruit or nut tree 2. an opened-up sunny area for a vegetable garden 3. an opened-up south facing roof for solar panels, then the property tax could be reduced."

"The households who have food gardens and compost bins could get a reduction in trash removal tax because mulching/composting recycles all organic matter (yard waste, food scraps, leaves, even dryer lint) except milk & meat products. The more home-grown produce the less packaging, chemicals, disposables and other smag that's thrown into the trash."

Healthy Living For All

"Neighborhood Health Care/First Aid Clinics model, Virginia Beach, VA www.patientfirst.com Providing BOTH services and information.

Covering Cheltenham Twp with Neighborhood Health Care/First Aid Clinics:

There are five SEPTA train stations each with ½ mile radius around them depicted on the "Possible Bike & Mobility Plans Map". A Neighborhood Health Clinic could be placed in each train station and we could serve the rest of the township neighborhoods by putting clinics in other public buildings, going from right to left on the rectangle that is our township, each location with ½ mile radius drawn around them:

Cheltenham Train Station

Elkins Park School

The Township Municipal Building

La Mott Community Center

Cheltenham School District Administration Building

Wyncote Elementary School

Arcadia University

North Hills Train Station

Westminster Theological Seminary"

Local Economy

"local economy in "cottage industries" in our township. On our street alone there is a masonry contractor, general contractor, book & manuscript seller, handyman, on-line apparel accessories sales, storyteller & watercolor & oils painter/teacher. The Turtle Artisans Tour in Cheltenham revealed 20 different working studios in our township. In an oil crisis, some of these folks could manufacture house wares locally. Perhaps this map ("Work from Home" map) should show the cottage industries in our township—it may inspire more and even greater variety."

"Creating a local currency ($95 can buy 100 chelts), chelts are accepted by local merchants and citizen exchanges ($1=1chelt). This encourages local merchant patronage and cottage industry exchanges and the money stays within the community and stimulates our local economy. Mt. Airy is working on a local currency."

"A time bank can help facilitate goods and services exchanges among citizens who have skills to share and more time than money. This makes for satisfying provision and a happy alternative for our townspeople particularly in tough economic times. Good model: www.timebankmedia.org"

"Gift Economy: Skills and time and goodwill are exchanged among neighbors in a tight neighborhood. e.g. cooperative gardens & projects, tool lending, pot lucks & recipe swapping, meal sharing and shared bereavement & celebration."

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Montgomery County Planning Commission
P.0. Box 311, Norristown, PA 19404-0311

www.planning.montcopa.org

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