

**INTRODUCTION**

The adopted Conewago Township Comprehensive Plan represents a policy guide for decisions and for the orderly development and redevelopment of the region. Its primary mission is to promote and improve the quality of life, health, safety, and conveniences for residents of the township, but such improvements require that the township successfully implement its stated objectives.

The comprehensive plan is not at all a finished document. Rather, it represents a starting point, a handbook if you will, for the township to utilize as it moves forward and is faced with tough decisions. As changes occur in the township and surrounding region, the comprehensive plan should be modified to address changing conditions and verify its applicability to the situations in the region.

After collecting and analyzing data that describe past trends and current conditions, developing a vision that reflects the desires of the community, setting goals for the region, and forming a detailed plan for several components that comprise the community, the next step forward is implementation. It will be up to community leaders and volunteers to carry out and administer the planning program set forth for the region, in order to successfully realize its vision. This chapter has been developed to serve as a guide for the community as it moves into the implementation phase of the comprehensive plan.

**ORGANIZATION**

The implementation table included in this chapter contains several action items, organized by subject, and prioritized as being short, medium or long term. While these established time frames are meant to serve as a guide, it will be up to the township to determine the applicability of each action item to its current situation at a certain point in time, and to confirm or revise the level of priority. A list of potential funding sources is also provided for each action item.

Each of the action items is meant to support the objectives and overriding goals that are listed in this table, and are also presented in Chapter 1 and in each of the individual plan components. While each plan chapter discusses a variety of tools related to a specific topic that may be utilized in moving the region forward, the action items listed in this table represent very specific items that when carried out, will assist the township in achieving its objectives and goals.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

In addition to the specific actions that are listed in the implementation table, the township may consider developing a capital improvements program. The purpose of a capital improvements program is to present a budgeting technique for acquisition, major construction, community facility development/improvement and/or other improvements over a fixed period of time (usually five or six years). An effective capital improvement programming process will ensure that plans for community services are carried out. Such a program can also attain other, more specific purposes and/or accomplish the following:

- Allow various improvement proposals to be tested against a set of adopted policies and goals
- Provide better scheduling of public improvements that require more than one year to complete
- Provide the opportunity to purchase land before costs go up
- Provide for long range financial planning and management
- Help stabilize tax rates through proper debt management
- Achieve a capital improvement budget that is a compilation of projects together with the amounts and sources of revenue and/or funding for the coming fiscal or calendar year
- Offer an opportunity for citizens and public interest groups to participate in decision making
- Contribute to more effective and efficient management of municipal affairs

Two major components of the Capital Improvements Program are the capital improvements and the capital improvements budget. In general, a capital improvement is any valued asset that is expected to provide use or service to the community for a number of years. These improvements are normally considered nonrecurring expenditures for physical facilities associated with the governing body. Some examples of capital improvements are streets and highways, water/sewer system projects, maintenance equipment, landscaping, and other municipal facilities or equipment.

The capital improvements program itself is a multi-year schedule of projects and a planned budget of expenditures necessary for their financing. The program normally covers a five to six year period that includes the upcoming budget year and a five-year period beyond. It is generally proposed that the capital improvements budget and capital improvements program be prepared and amended annually, as part of the regular municipal operating budget.

As Conewago Township moves forward into implementation of the plan, the township should consider developing a capital improvements program to fund planned expenditures.

## ***REVIEWING AND UPDATING THE PLANNING PROGRAM***

As previously stated, the comprehensive plan does not represent a finished product; it will need to be reviewed periodically and updated as necessary to ensure that its policies and directives remain applicable. The following general points are meant to assist the municipalities in using the action table, implementing the plan, and making necessary updates.

- It is recommended that the comprehensive plan be formally reviewed at least once every two years.
- Data contained in the profile sections should be updated and analyzed as new data becomes available.
- Following adoption of the comprehensive plan, and any revisions or amendments to the comprehensive plan, the planning commission and governing body should annually formulate a schedule for the year's activities related to implementation of the plan.
- Amendments to the comprehensive plan should be processed in accordance with the Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247 as amended.
- Citizen participation should be promoted and encouraged during implementation and during the plan's review and amendment process. Many of the action items will be completed more readily if volunteers are notified and utilized.

## ***IMPLEMENTATION – LAND USE PLAN***

### **Goal:**

- **Preserve the agricultural heritage of the township that allows for coordinated community growth.**

<b>Objective 1: Preserve the rural and agricultural character of the township and ensure that agriculture remains a viable industry.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Utilize the tool box contained in the future land use plan to encourage agricultural preservation in the township and revise ordinances accordingly.	Planning Commission	Municipal budget	Medium
Consider allowing conservation by design style development to preserve large tracts of open space within developments.	Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission	Municipal budget, DCED LUPTAP	Medium
Review ordinances and consider making provisions that assist farmers with sustaining their businesses including allowing more than one dwelling on a farm, allowing roadside stands, allowing supplemental businesses that do not compromise the integrity of the farm, and allowing local farmers markets.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	Municipal budgets	Medium
Work with the Dauphin County Conservation District to increase awareness of and promote agricultural land preservation programs.	Board of Supervisors	Dauphin County Conservation District	Medium
<b>Objective 2: Incorporate natural resources protection initiatives into the future land use plan.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Update the zoning ordinance and map to incorporate the conservation overlay in sensitive natural areas. (also listed as a natural resources action item)	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	DCED LUPTAP	Short
<b>Objective 3: As a result of public input, planning commission reviews, and the subsequent direction of the Board of Supervisors, more closely align the future land use plan with the township's existing zoning.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Review and update the Conewago Township Zoning Ordinance and map to reflect the future land use plan and map.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	DCED Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program (LUPTAP)	Short
Develop an official map. (also included as a transportation action item)	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	DCED LUPTAP	Medium
Update the Conewago Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to reflect the revised local road classifications as listed in the transportation plan. (also listed as a transportation action item)	Planning Commission	Municipal budget	Short
<b>Objective 4: Encourage new development to be consistent with existing development types and densities.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Review and revise ordinances to ensure that lot configurations, including lot size, setbacks, and building heights, are compatible with existing development patterns. (also listed as a housing action item)	Planning Commission	Municipal budget	Medium
Meet with prospective developers to discuss desired design styles and densities.	Planning Commission	Municipal budget	Medium

## ***IMPLEMENTATION – NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES PLAN***

### **Goal:**

- Preserve and enhance the Conewago Creek, and other historic, cultural, and natural resources that exist in the township, and support initiatives that promote education and increased awareness of the value of these resources.

<b>Objective 1: Ensure that municipal ordinances and regulations adequately support the protection, preservation, and enhancement of natural resources.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Update the zoning ordinance and map to incorporate the conservation overlay in sensitive natural areas. (also listed as a future land use action.)	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	DCED LUPTAP	Short
Review and revise ordinances to ensure that adequate provisions are in place for the protection and preservation of natural resources.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	DCED Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program (LUPTAP)	Short
In land development projects, encourage minimal disturbance of the natural vegetation, and encourage the planting of native species.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	DCED LUPTAP	Ongoing
Encourage open space preservation and the preservation of sensitive natural features in new developments.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors		Ongoing
Create an Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) to review plans for compliance with natural resources and environmental conditions.	Board of Supervisors	Dauphin County Conservation District	Long
<b>Objective 2: Educate residents on the importance of conserving natural resources in their daily lives.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Utilize the township newsletter as an educational tool to explain the importance of conserving natural resources. Discuss water conservation, energy conservation, recycling, and air quality/air pollution.	Township administrator, Dauphin County Conservation District	Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)	Medium
Develop material that provides tips for residents and farmers on techniques to conserve natural resources in their daily lives. Publish the tips in the township newsletter and have this information available for residents at the township building.	Township administrator, Dauphin County Conservation District	DEP, Dauphin County Conservation District	Medium
Educate residents on utilizing concepts of Low Impact Development and stormwater Best Management Practices and integrate provisions for these in ordinances.	Township administrator	DEP, Chesapeake Bay Foundation	Long
Utilize the toolbox contained in the natural resources plan as necessary to manage and protect natural resources and water resources.	Board of Supervisors	DEP, Chesapeake Bay Foundation	Long
<b>Objective 3: Promote and manage the health of the Conewago Creek and streams in the township by limiting nutrient pollution, farm runoff, and development in areas prone to erosion and by improving operation and maintenance of on-lot disposal systems.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Encourage the preservation of floodplains for open space/greenway purposes and support programs that provide or preserve vegetative buffers in floodplains.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	Chesapeake Bay Foundation	Long
Encourage agricultural operations to limit the access of livestock to streams.	Board of Supervisors	USDA Farm Service Agency	Ongoing
Identify key locations that would benefit from natural resources enhancements and match appropriate resources with needs.	Planning Commission, non-profit groups	Dauphin County Conservation District, Tri-County Conewago Creek Association	Long

Continue to monitor on-lot disposal systems and mandate the correction of any deficiencies.	Sewage Enforcement Officer, Board of Supervisors	DEP	Ongoing
<b>Objective 4: Encourage environmental education initiatives that raise awareness of the natural resources that are assets to the township and encourage conservation of these resources.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Work with schools and local groups and organizations to apply environmental education initiatives to real world situations	Planning Commission, Township administrator	Tri-County Conewago Creek Association, Lower Dauphin School District, other organizations	Short
<b>Objective 5: Support the preservation of agriculture and viability of farming in the township.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Work with the Dauphin County Conservation District to educate farmers on the opportunities available at the county and state levels to encourage farmland preservation including Agricultural Security Areas, Agricultural Easements, and protection from nuisance suits.	Township administrator	Dauphin County Conservation District	Short
Work with the Dauphin County Conservation District to target key agricultural areas for preservation.	Planning Commission,	Dauphin County Conservation District	Medium
Create a farming advisory committee that serves as an advisory board to the Township Board of Supervisors to discuss the needs and concerns of farmers in the township.	Board of Supervisors	Dauphin County Conservation District	Long
Educate residents on farming practices and their importance in the community. Utilize various resources including farm tours, information included in a newsletter, or school presentations to explain the importance of agriculture and its contribution to the food supply.	Township administrator	Farmers	Medium
<b>Objective 6: Establish a network of greenways and open space to protect important ecological resources, preserve sensitive wildlife habitats, and provide for passive recreational opportunities.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
As described in the Conewago Township Parks and Recreation Plan, designate the Conewago Creek as the primary greenway in the township, and develop a connected system of greenways in the township.	Parks and Recreation Board, Planning Commission	Tri-County Conewago Creek Association	Medium
Make a connection to the Conewago Recreation Trail located just across the Conewago Creek in Lancaster County.	Parks and Recreation Board	Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation	Long
Coordinate with surrounding municipalities to determine if there are opportunities to link other trails or greenways to locations in Conewago Township.	Parks and Recreation Board, Planning Commission	Surrounding municipalities	Long
<b>Objective 7: Encourage the identification, documentation, and preservation of historic resources in the township.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Consider developing a detailed historic resources plan to identify, document, promote, and preserve historic resources in the township.	Board of Supervisors	Local or county historical societies	Long
Educate the community through tours of historic sites, historic barns, or through published material of the history of Conewago Township and the villages of Deodate and Bachmanville.	Board of Supervisors	Local or county historical societies.	Long

## ***IMPLEMENTATION – HOUSING PLAN***

### **Goal:**

- Provide a desirable mix of safe and well maintained housing that meets the needs of current and future township residents of all incomes and family sizes.

<b>Objective 1: Guide new residential housing growth to locations in the township where necessary infrastructure exists or is planned.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Review and update the Conewago Township Zoning Ordinance and map to reflect the future land use plan and map.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	DCED Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program (LUPTAP)	Short
<b>Objective 2: Support the viability of farming and the prevalence of agriculture in the township, and assure that potential new residents are aware of the rural, agriculture character of the township.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Educate potential new residents that are considering locating near agricultural development of the impacts associated with living in an agricultural area and the potential for conflicts with residential development.	Township administrator	Farmers, Realtors, Dauphin County Conservation District.	Ongoing
Consider publishing information about noise, dust, and fumes associated with normal agricultural operations in the township newsletter or as a pamphlet available at the township building.	Township administrator, Board of Supervisors	Farmers, Dauphin County Conservation District	Medium
<b>Objective 3: Evaluate alternative housing options to promote affordability and minimize the loss of land available for agricultural production.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Utilize the items contained in the toolboxes in the housing plan as deemed necessary and appropriate.	Board of Supervisors	Planning Commission,	Long
<b>Objective 4: Encourage new residential development to be consistent with existing rural style development.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Review and revise ordinances to ensure that lot configurations, including lot size, setbacks, and building heights, are compatible with existing development patterns. (also listed as a future land use action item)	Planning Commission	Municipal budget	Medium
<b>Objective 5: Encourage new residential development to be constructed in a manner that ensures the value of the home is consistent with a price that current and future residents are able to afford.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Allow for a mix of housing sizes and values within new developments.	Planning Commission	Municipal budget	Medium
<b>Objective 6: Inform school district and community service providers of planned residential development.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Communicate with the school district and community service providers on a quarterly or semi-annual basis to inform them of approved plans and the number of dwellings.	Township administrator, Board of Supervisors	School district, emergency service providers	Ongoing

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**Objective 7: Review, revise, and/or more systematically enforce township codes that pertain to the quality of life in residential areas.**

Action	Lead Party Responsible	Potential Funding Sources / Partners	Time Frame
Consider developing an ordinance that regulates property maintenance including yard and landscaping maintenance.	Board of Supervisors	Zoning Officer	Short

## ***IMPLEMENTATION – COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN***

### **Goal:**

- Support appropriate community facilities and utilities that adequately serve residents and businesses in the township, in a systematic manner that supports current and future development.

<b>Objective 1: Work with the Lower Dauphin School District to ensure that area youth are receiving a high quality education in a safe, supportive atmosphere.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Communicate population projections with the school district and involve district administrators in discussions pertaining to proposed residential development.	Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Township administrator	Lower Dauphin School District	Ongoing
Communicate with the school district on a frequent basis to gain a firm understanding about their plans for expansion or redistricting that impact Conewago Elementary School and/or Conewago students.	Township administrator, Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission	Lower Dauphin School District	Ongoing
<b>Objective 2: Work with utility providers to ensure that township residents have continuous access to high quality services.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Communicate problems with power outages to power companies and/or file a complaint with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission if deemed necessary.	Board of Supervisors, Township administrator	Power companies	Medium
Educate residents on key practices that will assist them during times of power outages, such as the purchase of a personal generator or having an emergency supply kit nearby. Consider putting this information in the newsletter.	Township administrator	Power companies	Medium
Communicate with cable and high speed internet service providers to make sure that the population centers of the township have access to the latest advancements in technology.	Board of Supervisors, Township administrator	Cable and telephone companies	Medium
<b>Objective 3: Monitor and maintain existing and planned water and sewer infrastructure to ensure that cost effective, high quality services are provided for township residents in the service area.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Continue to implement the Act 537 plan for the township and review and update as necessary.	Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission	Sewage Enforcement Officer	Long
<b>Objective 4: Work with the Dauphin County Emergency Management Agency to coordinate emergency responders in the township.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Develop a map of emergency service providers responding jurisdictions.	Township administrator	Dauphin County Emergency Management Agency	Medium
Work with the Dauphin, Lebanon, and Lancaster County Emergency Management Agencies to ensure that effective communications are maintained between the three counties so that residents of Conewago Township continue to receive adequate emergency and fire protection services.	Planning Commission	Municipal budget	Medium
<b>Objective 5: Evaluate the need for local police service in the township and explore cooperation with surrounding police departments.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>

		<b>Sources / Partners</b>	
Monitor response times and effectiveness of the state police and determine if the township needs a local police force.	Board of Supervisors	Pennsylvania State Police	Long
Consider a regional police study with surrounding municipalities to determine the feasibility of partnering for police services.	Board of Supervisors	Surrounding municipalities, DCED	Long
<b>Objective 6: Encourage increased recycling.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Utilize the township newsletter to increase awareness of the recycling services available at the township building.	Township Administrator, Board of Supervisors	Dauphin County Department of Solid Waste Management and Recycling	Short
Consider a negotiated township-wide contract for waste removal that incorporates curbside recycling.	Board of Supervisors	Dauphin County Department of Solid Waste Management and Recycling	Long
<b>Objective 7: Implement the goals and objectives established in the Conewago Township Parks and Recreation Plan.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Continue to implement the adopted parks and recreation plan.	Parks and Recreation Board, Board of Supervisors	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Ongoing
Annually review the parks and recreation plan and update as necessary.	Parks and Recreation Board, Board of Supervisors	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Ongoing

## ***IMPLEMENTATION – TRANSPORTATION PLAN***

### **Goal:**

- Encourage a safe, coordinated network of roadways that provide increased mobility for residents, agricultural and farm equipment, and goods movement in the township.

<b>Objective 1: Review and revise local road classifications in the Conewago Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Update the Conewago Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance with the revised local road classifications as contained in this plan.	Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission		Short
<b>Objective 2: Improve safety for automobiles, bicycles, pedestrians, and farm equipment operators through streetscape improvements, designated pedestrian corridors, and traffic calming measures..</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Utilize the toolbox contained in the transportation plan as deemed necessary and appropriate.	Board of Supervisors, Township administrator	DCED	Long
<b>Objective 3: Work with the Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS) to communicate and coordinate necessary transportation improvements in the township.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Annually review and prioritize transportation issues and communicate priority needs to HATS.	Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission	HATS, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	Ongoing
<b>Objective 4: Develop an official map for Conewago Township.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Include priority transportation projects on an official map that is reviewed and updated as necessary.	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	Dauphin County Emergency Management Agency	Medium
<b>Objective 5: Work with the Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging (DCAAA) to establish transit or van service for senior citizens in the township.</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead Party Responsible</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources / Partners</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Communicate needs with the DCAAA to encourage the establishment of public transportation for seniors or disabled residents in the township.	Board of Supervisors	DCAAA	Short
Consider partnering with surrounding municipalities to determine if there is an opportunity to pursue joint transit service for seniors and disabled residents.	Board of Supervisors	Surrounding municipalities, DCAAA	Long