

TWO-YEAR ACTION AGENDA

Implementation of the recommendations outlined in this plan is expected to occur incrementally over the next ten years. The Two-Year Action Agenda identifies recommendations from throughout the plan that should be implemented in the first two years following adoption. The recommendations are grouped into four action areas to create an organized, strategic approach to implementation:

- Establish Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Partnerships
- Update Ordinances
- Stabilize Residential Neighborhoods
- Revitalize Commercial Areas
- Other Priorities

The short-term actions identified in this section are essentially stepping stones that will lay the foundation for effective and successful implementation of the comprehensive plan. The Boroughs should annually track their progress and develop a revised agenda every two years as implementation moves forward.

Establish Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Partnerships

- 4-8 Consider the creation of an official historic preservation advisory body such as a Historical Commission.

Funding Programs: PHMC grants

Technical Assistance: DCPD

- 4-9 Consider establishing an Act 167 District, using the boundaries of existing National Register Historic Districts for example, and form accompanying Historic Architectural Review Board to maintain the consistency of the historic buildings and landscape (Lansdowne).

Funding Programs: PHMC grants

Technical Assistance: DCPD

- 5-10 Establish separate individual or a joint Environmental Advisory Council (EACs) to advise the Boroughs on various environmental problems and issues. Such a group or groups could spearhead both a storm drain stenciling project and an accompanying public education program for residents and businesses. This program should highlight how activities such as over-fertilization of lawns, dumping of motor oil, and failure to clean up after pets contribute to the level of water pollution.

Technical Assistance: Delaware County Conservation District
Pennsylvania Environmental Council
Darby-Cobbs Partnership

- 7-2 Appoint a citizen housing committee made up of homeowners and renters to develop a program with the Boroughs to address the housing rehabilitation needs.

Update Ordinances

- 4-10 Consider establishing historic preservation ordinances or historic overlay districts and amending preservation language into the Borough's zoning ordinance (see Appendix C for specific examples).

Funding Programs: PHMC grants

Technical Assistance: DCPD

- 5-4 Revise and/or adopt zoning ordinances and require other protective measures such as buffers to protect stream corridors and wetland areas from paving, channelization or fill, and provide strong enforcement for these ordinances.

Technical Assistance: Delaware County Planning Department

- 5-5 Regulate development in floodplains through strict enforcement of local floodplain ordinances, including prohibition of structures such as sheds or storage of loose or floatable items, and enact any amendments necessary as new Flood Insurance Rate Maps become available or regulations change.

Funding Program: Floodplain Land Use Assistance Program

Technical Assistance: Delaware County Planning Department
Delaware County Conservation District
Floodplain Land Use Assistance Program

- 5-6 Consider adoption of consistent floodplain ordinances that might contain slightly more stringent management standards that entirely prohibit certain types of development in flood fringe and floodway areas.

Funding Program: Floodplain Land Use Assistance Program

Technical Assistance: Delaware County Planning Department
Delaware County Conservation District
Floodplain Land Use Assistance Program

- 7-19 Review existing ordinances relating to conversions to determine applicability to current conditions.

- Technical Assistance: DCPD
- 7-31 Revise the zoning ordinance to assure that the regulations provide for the changes and allowances necessary for the construction of compact and sustainable infill residential development.
- Funding Program: Pennsylvania State Planning Assistance Grant (DCED)
CDBG (where applicable)
- Technical Assistance: DCPD
- 9-6 Update ordinances to include provisions for signs. The provisions should consider sign material, color, and shape and should discourage signs that are larger than, or out of proportion with, those on adjacent or nearby properties.
- 9-16 Develop design standards to preserve and enhance community character.
- 9-17 Create a historic zoning overlay district to protect significant historic resources.
- Funding: PHMC
- Technical Assistance: DCPD Preservation Section
PHMC
- 9-18 Work with the participants of the EDCCOG to create design guidelines for new development and alteration to existing development that address such things as architectural features, building design, construction materials, parking location and design, and streetscaping.
- Funding: Renaissance Program
LUPTAP
TCDI

Stabilize Residential Neighborhoods

- 4-1 Identify (or continue to identify) significant neighborhoods that are successful examples of both early and later suburban development patterns. Develop significant design criteria for each neighborhood, including elements such as set back, bulk, height, rooflines, architectural styles, building types, and other streetscape features such as well-designed sidewalks, curbs, and street trees.

Lansdowne and East Lansdowne
Comprehensive Plan

- Funding Programs: CDBG
PHMC
- Technical Assistance: DCPD
- 4-2 Develop voluntary design guidelines using the design criteria established for each neighborhood. The information may include preferred rehabilitation and maintenance alternatives and can be made available to residents and developers as they apply for construction permits, in order to preserve the historic nature of the housing stock. The process and results provide awareness to residents.
- Funding Programs: CDBG
PHMC
- Technical Assistance: DCPD
- 4-5 Create a complete and official survey of historic resources from the inventory provided in this plan, where more specific information concerning the most significant places would be collected, and further preservation planning could be based. The Plan should be amended to include this survey when completed.
- Funding Programs: CDBG
PHMC grants
- Technical Assistance: DCPD
- 7-6 Investigate the feasibility of establishing a regional Community Development Corporation that would acquire vacant or blighted properties, rehabilitate them, and then re-sell them to interested homebuyers. Steps to form a CDC are listed in Appendix D.
- 7-21 Investigate the possibility of instituting a multi-family housing conversion program to convert previously converted multi-family units back to single-family homes.
- Technical Assistance: DCPD
OHCD
- 7-26 Encourage residents to form neighborhood associations that address neighborhood scale issues, such as maintenance, and neighborhood beautification.
- Funding Source: Municipal Funds
- Technical Assistance: Housing Association of the Delaware Valley

Revitalize Key Commercial Areas

8-12 Increase decorative and welcome signs throughout the Boroughs to encourage and define the sense of place. These signs serve the dual function of increasing civic pride for residents and increasing awareness of the Borough by those who visit.

Funding Programs: State Liquid Fuels tax reimbursement
 Surface Transportation Program
 Transportation Enhancements Program
 National Highway System funds
 CDBG (where eligible)
 SEPTA
 Municipal funds

Technical Assistance: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation District
 6-0 Traffic Unit
 Delaware County Planning Department

8-21 Work together with Upper Darby to create a Baltimore Avenue Corridor district. Create a single design standard for construction and marketing, helping to make the area more competitive commercially, industrially, and residentially. Focus on creating transit-oriented and pedestrian-oriented guidelines for redevelopment and consolidating access points into new and current developments. Capitalize on the need to reduce cartway width through use of medians, bike lanes, angled parking, curb bump outs, raised crosswalks, etc. Provide all of these options to the community and allow them to shape the future development of the corridor.

8-29 Work with Upper Darby Township to create a pedestrian-friendly streetscape along Baltimore Avenue, and consider improvements such as street trees, benches, pedestrian-scale lighting, corner bump-outs, bicycle lanes, crosswalks with different materials such as bricks, and more attractive street and store signs.

9-1 Lansdowne should work with the Delaware County Redevelopment Authority to implement the completed Redevelopment Area Plan.

Funding: Delaware County Redevelopment Authority

Technical Assistance: Delaware County Redevelopment Authority

9-4 East Lansdowne should consider preparing a Redevelopment Area Plan for Baltimore Avenue between Hirst Avenue and Long Lane.

Funding: Renaissance Program

Technical Assistance: Delaware County Redevelopment Authority
 DCPD Policy Section

- 9-15 Work with the participants of the EDCCOG to create a unified vision for the future of the Baltimore Avenue corridor.

Other Priorities

- 3-5 Conduct a GIS needs assessment to establish which departments would use GIS and what they would use it for.

- 3-21 East Lansdowne should consider performing an I/I study to identify areas in their collection system in need of repair.

Funding: Community Development Block Grant
Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority
(PENNVEST)

Technical Assistance: PA Department of Environmental Protection,
Wastewater Operator Outreach Program

- 5-20 Adopt the River Conservation Plan prepared for Darby Creek when it is completed. Adoption of this plan will enable the Boroughs to access state funding for stream corridor-related activities and programs cited in the plan.

Technical Assistance: Darby-Cobbs Partnership
Darby Creek Valley Association

- 6-14 Lansdowne Borough should work with the County to connect open land area along Darby Creek and Scottdale Road, joining Shrigley Park with Pennock Woods and Hoffman Park using easements, bike lanes, and walking trails. Both of Lansdowne's County owned parks are optimal places for making greenway connections. These County parks are both valuable pieces of pass  open space parks and should remain as such.

- 6-18 Continue and complete current efforts to produce a Multi-municipal Comprehensive Recreation, Park, and Open Space Plan that will determine the adequacy of the existing facilities with potential for public recreational use and investigate opportunities for riparian restoration. Properties with identified flooding problems should be considered for acquisition and inclusion in any greenway plans.

- 8-18 Conduct a parking study to identify underutilized parking areas and target these areas for increased promotion or development in conjunction with a Baltimore Avenue Corridor District. Long-term parking spaces could be promoted to SEPTA commuters, thus encouraging them to walk by and patronize businesses.

- 9-11 Continue to work with other RPA 5 municipalities, the EDCCOG and the Economic Development Specialist for Baltimore Avenue to revitalize the Baltimore Avenue corridor.