

The background of the image is a blurred, close-up view of green grass, with individual blades of grass visible but out of focus. The overall color palette is various shades of green, from light to dark.

**LICKING TOWNSHIP
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
COMMUNITY MEETING**



AGENDA

- What is a Comprehensive Plan?
- What is the process we will be using to complete this plan?
- Community Survey
- SWOT Analysis
- Annexation & Economic Development Tools
- Next Steps

WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Guides the development and growth of a community. The planning process gathers input from residents, businesses and public officials to form **a vision for the community.**

GOALS AND ACTION STEPS

Are identified to implement the established vision.





WHAT DOES A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADDRESS?

- A comprehensive plan addresses all aspects of the community such as land use, housing, infrastructure, economics, and recreation/open space.
- A comprehensive plan should answer all questions regarding community needs and desires.

IT ACTS AS:

- A blueprint
 - Used by public officials when **making decisions regarding growth.**
- A tool
 - For **residents to help shape their neighborhood** and a way for the community to unite around **shared values.**

ZONING VS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- A Comprehensive Plan does not change zoning. A Plan will include a future land use plan that **may provide recommendations for zoning updates.**
- A Comprehensive Plan is a policy document that will guide the Township's decision making. A zoning ordinance is a legal document that must be adhered to.



THE PLANNING PROCESS

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE

Provides overall direction for the plan.

PUBLIC INPUT

The public gives feedback and sessions ensure a good understanding of the community vision.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

The plan is used to guide and inform future growth and development.

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

John Cormican – Township Trustee

Kyle Weekly – Assistant Fire Chief

Paul Matthews – Zoning Commission Chair

Christopher Powell – Zoning Commission Member, Business Owner

Rex Adkins – BZA Alternate


Phil Jones – Lakewood Local Schools Representative

Edna Latham – Township Resident

David Moraine – Zoning Commission Alternate

Brandon Carbaugh - Resident

Barbara Brown - Resident



COMMUNITY
SURVEY
RESULTS (TO
DATE)

159 Responses to date

Over 57 percent of respondents
are 55 years or older


Tenure in Township:

51 percent have lived in the
township for 20 plus years

14 percent have lived in the
township for less than 5 years

Majority of the respondents work
in Columbus, in Licking Township
(work from home), or Newark

- ✓ Buckeye Lake
- ✓ Rural living yet in close proximity to city; amenities
- ✓ Community feeling and friendly neighbors
- ✓ Natural beauty
- ✓ Lack of large development

An aerial photograph of a dense, green forest. A paved road winds through the trees, curving from the top left towards the bottom center. The trees are a mix of dark and light green, suggesting a healthy, mature forest. The lighting is soft, possibly from the late afternoon or early morning, creating a warm atmosphere.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY
ABOUT LIVING IN
LICKING TOWNSHIP?

COMMUNITY SURVEY
RESULTS
QUALITY OF
LIFE/SERVICES
(TO DATE)

Over 84 percent of the respondents believe the quality of life is good or excellent

Approximately 64 percent of the respondents want to drive to neighboring communities for groceries and other services

61 percent of residents believe annexation is a moderate or large threat; 28 percent need more information

Fire services are ranked as high quality and roads were largely rated as good quality.

Approximately 73 percent of respondents believe there could be improvement to roads. 38 percent indicated there could be improvements to multi-use paths.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS (TO DATE) OPEN SPACE/RECREATION

- Respondents who do visit parks indicated they visit:
 - a. Buckeye Lake
 - b. Dawes Arboretum
 - c. Harbor Hills neighborhood park
- Most respondents indicated that they prefer natural open space with multi-use trails, if new recreation opportunities were available in the future.





BUCKEYE LAKE AREA

53 percent of respondents would like to see restaurants in this area.

46 percent of respondents would like to see small retail in this area.

39 percent of respondents would like to see wineries or breweries in this area.

57 percent of respondents would like to see a bike path connecting the Township to the Lake

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS TYPES OF PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT (TO DATE)

74 percent of respondents prefer Agriculture

31 percent of respondents prefer Senior Housing

30 percent of respondents prefer Mixed Use

25 percent of the respondents prefer Clustered
Single Family

24 percent of respondents prefer Neighborhood
(small) Commercial



SWOT ANALYSIS

Identifies the **Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats** that Licking Township faces.



STRENGTHS

- Fire Department
- School District
- I-70 Interchange
- Sense of Safety
- Strong Community
- Roads
- Prime Real Estate
- Access to highways, Columbus
- Access to the Lake
- Dawes Arboretum
- Bike Paths
- Rural atmosphere

WEAKNESSES

- Surrounded by municipalities
- Annexation
- Lack of sewer and water infrastructure
- Lack of succession farmers
- Lack of defined downtown
- Funding
- Lack of commercial property
- Lack of understanding around zoning
- Lack of internet

OPPORTUNITIES

- Legend Valley
- New businesses to generate revenue
- Methods to prevent annexation
- Stronger zoning
- Greenspace program
- Plan for growth and guide it
- Buckeye Lake area
- Resident engagement, community gathering place
- Full time fire department
- Review of services and zoning
- County water and sewer

THREATS

- Legend valley - a threat to way of life to locals
- Development
- Annexation
- Growth
- Land cost, property taxes
- Energy fields
- Municipal water/sewer
- Short term rentals (Airbnb)
- Growth outpacing schools
- BIA – elimination of TWP zoning

WHY PLAN?



WHAT IS AFFECTING
THE TOWNSHIP?

This comprehensive planning process can assist the Township in the creation of a game plan for the Township when facing **development pressures** and **threats of annexation**.

Central Ohio is facing unprecedented growth: Intel, Google, Amazon, & Honda to name just a few.

This process can help the Township decide what areas should be developed, what areas should be preserved, what partnerships should be established, and what tools should be utilized.



WHAT IS ANNEXATION?

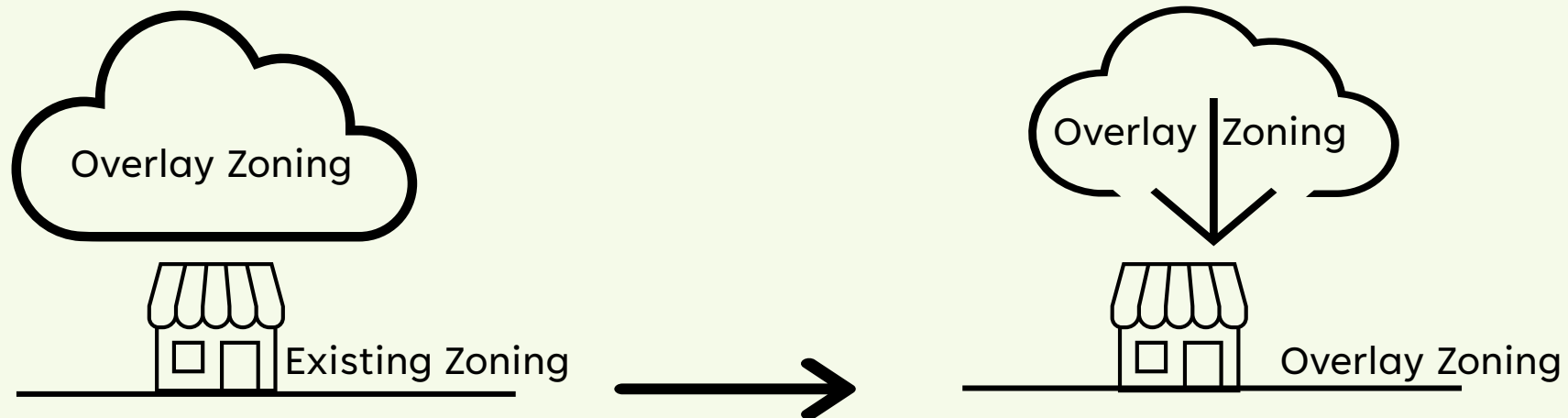
- A property owner driven process
- Erodes the Township's borders and reduces tax base to provide services
- There are 5 types:
 - The most common being the Expedited Type 2 Annexation
 - Not a decision of the Township Trustees, occurs without Township consent
- Occurs mainly for 2 reasons
 - Zoning
 - Infrastructure

Licking Township has experienced limited annexation on Northern border by Heath – opportunity to prepare and prevent future annexations.

ZONING TOOLS

OVERLAY DISTRICTS

Overlay Districts provide additional permitted uses and allow the Township to retain control of development standards, setbacks, open space requirements, landscaping, and more while disincentivizing annexation. The advantage of overlay districts is that they preserve the underlying zoning but provide an option that the landowner can select if they desire to develop their land. Overlay districts contain different uses and design standards, typically more stringent, than the underlying zoning to ensure development is in line with the Township's character.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOLS



JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (JEDD)

A JEDD is meant to create a partnership between a township and a municipality and provide economic development to both parties in the form of revenue sharing. The JEDD splits income tax at an agreed upon percentage between the Township and the city, while also including anti-annexation covenants so the Township maintains its autonomy.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT (TIF)

TIFs allows counties, municipalities, and townships to use real property taxes created from the increase in the assessed value of land, new structures, and remodeled structures to pay for the provision of public improvements. Counties, municipalities, and townships may establish a TIF district for a period not to exceed 10 years and for exemption of not more than 75%.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOLS CONT.



NEW COMMUNITY AUTHORITY (NCA)

An NCA is a separate public body governed by a board of trustees that may oversee, coordinate, construct and finance public infrastructure improvements and community facilities.

COOPERATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CEDA)

A CEDA is an agreement between a township and a municipality that can provide for the provision of services and improvements to the township. It also facilitates an agreement between the parties regarding which area may be annexed and which areas must not be annexed.

BALANCING GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH PRESERVATION OF RURAL LIFESTYLE

- Growth pressures and threats of annexation can be clearly seen within the Township. However, the Township wants to retain the rural quality of life...
- The key will be to balance growth and development with preservation. The plan must identify **key areas for agricultural preservation** and **key areas to target growth** to specific locations within the Township to avoid sprawl and further annexation and to mitigate existing development pressures.
 - Growth areas could be supported through an overlay and a combination of economic development tools to specifically target growth and prevent it from occurring elsewhere in the Township.





NEXT STEPS

1. CREATE A VISION STATEMENT BASED UPON SURVEY RESULTS
2. FINALIZE STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS
3. COMPLETE EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT
4. FORMULATE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS
5. 2ND PUBLIC MEETING
6. REVISED FINAL PLAN AND PREPARE FOR ADOPTION PROCESS

A landscape photograph showing rolling hills. In the foreground, there is a field of tall, green grass. A path or road winds through the middle ground, leading towards a golden field. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The text "QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?" is overlaid in the center in a bright green font, enclosed in a thin green rectangular border.

**QUESTIONS OR
COMMENTS?**