

## Anderson Township Implementation Plan Committee

Wednesday April 24, 2024 at 4:30 PM

Members Present: Viki Beck, Michael Doenges, Brian Gay, Andrea Granieri, Lindsey Griffis, John Halpin, Joe Hice, Phillip Kiley, Elizabeth Maier, Katie Buchmann, Dan O'Rourke, Zach Peterson, Jeff Rosa, Karen Schwamberger, Paul Sheckels, Paul Sian, Cynthia Sieber, Karl Sieber, Susan Wheatley

Others Present: Dee Stone (Township Trustee), Brian Johnson (Fiscal Officer), Steve Sievers (Assistant Township Administrator for Operations), Paul Drury (Director of Planning and Zoning), Sarah Donovan (Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning), Stephen Springsteen (Planner I), John Wettengel (UC Co-op)

Members Absent: Amy Broghamer, Kevin Comerford, Matt Chaffin, Duane Donohoo, Stephen Feagins, Peg Fenner, Nicole Hunter, Jay Lewis, Anne Miller, Jim Willis

### Welcome & Introductions:

- Mrs. Stone provided an introduction and thanked all for taking the time to join staff for our second meeting of the Anderson Township Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee.
- Everyone went around and introduced themselves and what committee they were previously on.

### Meeting Summary:

- Ms. Donovan provided an overview of the meeting summary from 2.5.24 for the group.

### Review of Implementation Matrix Activity and Result:

- Mr. Drury stated that based on the results of the Implementation Matrix Activity at our last meeting, we asked committee members to email staff with their top picks. From those top picks, he stated that the committee was going to break into small groups with staff members for groups A and B. He noted that the top 6 initiatives were selected for these. He stated that the initiative numbers correspond to the Comprehensive Plan.
- Mr. Drury added that in these small group discussions, staff will go over what is currently being done and then the sub-group will discuss potential opportunities.

### Group A:

#### **3.1.3- "Continue to work with business owners, developers, brokers and realtors to enhance and maintain relationships."**

- Ms. Donovan provided an overview of the work that staff currently does to present quarterly to real estate agents and brokers in the community through presentations, creating articles for Anderson Insights and overall communication with the business community.
- Sub-group ideas:

- Give the staff Township update presentation to groups outside of the Township, expand to developers or commercial real estate groups, continue to promote that presentation to the chamber, but also the regional chamber or other local groups.
- Potential to do quick videos for updates of things going on in the Township, projects, etc.
- Continue to highlight areas for potential development- including Ancor and the Riverfront area
  - Ancor has the potential if the utility situation is figured out, to be a connection between Newtown, Milford, Fairfax, Mariemont, Madisonville in an industrial type area for a development similar to Factory 52 with restaurants, entertainment, etc.
  - The growth at the Riverfront could bring potential new restaurants, hotel, different demographics of people to Anderson

**2.3.1- “Maintain, monitor and plan for Township streets and overall road network (including sidewalks, trails and bike lanes).”**

- Mr. Sievers presented the work of the Township in this area, namely related to development and implementation of Township transportation-related plans (Anderson Trails, Beechmont Avenue, Clough Pike, Clough Historic District, Salem Road, Kellogg Gateway, Eastern Corridor, etc.).
- Mr. Gay offered some additional background on the Trails Plan and recent additions to that plan related to not just traditional trails and sidewalks.
- Mr. Sievers outlined the Township’s work with 3-year assessments of Township roadway pavements and working with the County Engineer’s Office and ODOT on roadway upgrades and resurfacings.
- Other discussion points centered on:
  - METRO changes and efforts to continue to work with public transit.
  - Continuing to implement and update Township plans.
  - Finalization of guidelines for an assessment process for sidewalks on Township roadways.
  - Understanding and preparation for possible public maintenance of private roadways.
  - Financial forecasting for continued transportation-related maintenance of public infrastructure.

**8.1.3- “Preserve and protect the natural and environmental resources found throughout the community...”**

- Mr. Drury and Mr. Springsteen presented the work of the Township in this area which includes the Township’s Greenspace program which is now over 30 years old and includes 700+ acres of Greenspace. The Township’s tree program offers trees to residents in conjunction with sidewalk construction / repair and road rehabilitation. Also, the Township has inspected all detention basins in the Township and followed up with owners to ensure they are working properly and maintained.
- Other ideas and discussion points offered the following:
  - Education and outreach through multiple lines of communication (email blasts, social media, website, Twitter, and Insights).
  - More use of recently acquired street sweeper.

- Connect green corridors (parks, Greenspace properties, and open space) with trails.
- Map trail connections and provide online.
- Great American Cleanup – improve outreach, coordinate events with parks.
- Removal of invasive species on Township Greenspace properties, and encourage removal on private property. Offer program where the Township will pick up brush from invasive species removal.
- Offer compost days in the fall for leaves.

Group B:

**3.2.5- “Promote and support the development of a skilled workforce within the community.”**

- Mr. Sievers discussed the Township’s work in this area, in conjunction with the Economic Development Committee, which began around 2016, wound down during COVID, and then was reinitiated in 2022.
- Mr. Halpin and Mr. Rosa, who were part of this effort with the EDC, discussed partnerships and outreach activity in this area, including work with Great Oaks, Forest Hills Schools, the Chamber and businesses in the community, among other groups.
- Mr. Sievers commented about the benefit of the business survey for this this and other areas, and the outreach that had begun with county and regional employment service agencies.
- Sub-group ideas:
  - Review the prior work of the EDC to determine which efforts should be pursued.
  - Study of the last business survey to identify potential opportunities.
  - Re-initiating connections with FHSD, Great Oaks, the Anderson Chamber and other groups to determine what initiatives are underway and how we can best support/grow those efforts.
- Finding a connection

**3.2.6- “Make Anderson Township a destination by looking for opportunities to enhance social interaction.”**

- Ms. Donovan discussed the events that the Township hosts including the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and Fun Run, Great American Cleanup and the Garden Tour, as well as events that we support including Fall Fest, Winter Fest, Summer Fest, and Anderson Day.
- Sub-group ideas:
  - The need for free and fun, as well as opportunities for cross generational events, like the old party on the plaza events
  - Finding a connection between Parks, Schools and Township events, how to support and grow all three
  - Towne Center events and DORA opportunity
  - Block Party in a box- Township Public Works Department offers cones, but expanding that idea to include additional resources. Everything from porta potties to potential vendors who are reliable. This could also include a list of regulations regarding tents, permitting, etc. Potential to promote in the Anderson Insights to encourage folks to hold block parties in their neighborhoods and connect with neighbors.

### **8.3.1- “Encourage recycling and the safe use of appropriate disposal of solid waste and hazardous materials by all generators in the Township.”**

- Mr. Drury discussed the current recycling efforts at the Operations Center (and its challenges) as well as curbside recycling that is now offered. Many Township residents take advantage of the curbside recycling now. Other county resources were discussed such as the R3Source website.
- Ms. Wheatley discussed that we start shifting toward “Reuse and Refuse” vs “Reuse and Recycle.”
- Sub-group ideas:
  - o Better education on the health concerns of using plastics to avoid them all together.
  - o Partner with R3Source, however the website is lacking in certain information such as paint drop-off and recycling information.
  - o Partner with Reuse Hub.

#### Next Steps:

- Meeting schedule:
  - o Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 4:30PM
  - o Monday, December 2, 2024 at 4:30PM
- Mr. Sievers stated that staff is going to review the discussion points from the group and will be in touch with potential subgroup meetings before September in order to keep the ball rolling on our action items.
- Mr. Sievers also asked that committee members continue to think about the topics that were discussed today, and if anyone would be interested in chairing the subgroups.
- Ms. Donovan highlighted the beautification awards and asked for any nominations of residential or commercial properties to be sent to her.