



Community Working Group Meeting #8 - Summary

Meetings Schedule

CWG meetings will be held at the Upper Merion Township Building and will begin at 7 p.m. Below is the schedule through October 2017. Future meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, September 20th – Valley Forge Room

Wednesday, October 18th – Valley Forge Room

Meeting #8 Summary

Location: Upper Merion Township Building, Valley Forge Room

Date: Wednesday, July 19th

Time: 7 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendees:

KOP Rail project team members-

Fritz Ohrenschall, SEPTA

Fran O'Brien, McCormick Taylor

Emily Watts, McCormick Taylor

CWG members-

Joan Grunwald

Martin Trumpler

Mark Vondra

Craig Greenwood

Ron Ginnona

Traci Ginnona

Vivian Peikin

Presenters-

Kyle Brown, UMT Associate Planner

Eric Jarrell, MCPC Planner

The CWG held its eighth meeting in July 2017. The meeting began with an update on the Draft Environmental Statement (Draft EIS). At this time, SEPTA is waiting to receive comments back from Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

The meeting continued with an introduction of Kyle Brown, Associate Planner for Upper Merion Township, and Eric Jarrell, Planner at the Montgomery County Planning Commission. Both are working on Upper Merion Township's Comprehensive Plan Update.

Kyle provided an introduction into the purpose of a comprehensive plan and why it is important to the township and community. Kyle also talked about past planning in the township, demographics, development trends and plan development, including different chapters the group has been working on.

Eric provided an update on the progress of the current Upper Merion Township Comprehensive Plan update, including community outreach efforts. There is a steering committee established by the Board of Supervisors made up of township residents and other representatives that guides the preparation of the plan, including the incorporation of public input. The purpose of the plan is to confirm and reestablish township policies, and priorities, and develop guidelines to achieve the community's vision. Elements of the plan include land use, housing needs, movement of people and goods, community



facilities and utilities, natural and historic resources, and water, and discusses implementation strategies.

A community survey was distributed, and the comprehensive plan team received 574 responses. Of those responses, 93% were Upper Merion Township residents. The planning team has compiled the top five Township priorities, with the top priority being “protect and enhance natural environment.” Of the top five neighborhood priorities, “personal safety and property security” is the top choice.

The next steps for the comprehensive plan update include summarizing the community survey, present the draft transportation chapter, develop draft goals, and hold another round of community outreach meetings sometime this fall or winter.

Other items for discussion:

- None