

**Built Environment Project
PLANNING DOCUMENT**

My assigned ward: _____

My co-planners for this ward are: _____

STAGE 1: Explore your ward

BOUNDARIES	
<p>What are the boundaries of your ward?</p> <p>What defines the edges of your ward?</p> <p>Are your edges defined as streets or a natural feature such as a creek? What are these? Be specific. What are names of the streets or other features (for example, railroads, creeks) that define your north, south, east, and west boundaries? (Helpful Hint: Turn on and off the Allentown Wards – Boundary layer)</p> <p>Where is the center of your ward? Select a specific location on your map. Add a Stickpin location to your map. (Use: Add → Map Notes). Save your map.</p>	
GOVERNMENT SERVICES	

<p>City Schools</p> <p>How many schools are in my ward?</p> <p>Are there elementary, middle schools, high schools, or colleges?</p> <p>How many are public schools? How many are private schools?</p> <p>If there is not a school in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest school?</p>	
<p>Community Centers</p> <p>How many community centers are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a community center in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest community center?</p>	
<p>Fire Stations</p> <p>How many fire stations are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a fire station in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest fire station?</p>	
<p>Hospitals</p> <p>How many hospitals are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a hospital in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest hospital?</p>	
<p>Lehigh County Parks</p>	

<p>How many parks are in my ward?</p> <p>What sorts of parks are they? Do they have playground equipment? Walking trails? Basketball courts? Swimming pools?</p> <p>Are they smaller in size that fit within a city block? Or are they much bigger?</p> <p>If there is not a park in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest park?</p>	
<p>Libraries</p> <p>How many libraries are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a library in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest library?</p>	
<p>Police Stations</p> <p>How many police stations are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a police station in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest police station?</p>	
<p>BUSINESSES (Commercial locations)</p>	
<p>Child Daycare Services</p> <p>How many child day care centers are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a child day care center in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest child day care center?</p>	

<p>Drug Stores</p> <p>How many drug stores are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a drug store in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest drug store?</p>	
<p>Groceries and Food Stores</p> <p>How many grocery and food stores are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a grocery or food store in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest grocery or food store?</p>	
<p>Hair and Beauty</p> <p>How many places to get a haircut or other beauty services are in my ward?</p> <p>If these places are not in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest location?</p>	
<p>Laundries (laundromats and dry cleaners)</p> <p>How many laundry facilities (places) are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a laundry facility (place) my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest laundry facility?</p>	

<p>Medical Offices</p> <p>How many medical offices are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a medical office in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest medical office?</p>	
<p>Recreational and Fitness</p> <p>How many recreational and fitness locations are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a recreational and fitness location in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest recreational and fitness location?</p>	
<p>Restaurants</p> <p>How many restaurants are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a restaurant in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my zone to the nearest restaurant?</p>	
<p>Retail</p> <p>How many retail stores are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a retail store in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest retail store?</p>	
<p>MUNICIPAL ZONING</p>	

<p>Circle each type of zoning located in your ward</p>	<p>Residential</p> <p>Business and Commercial</p> <p>Industrial</p> <p>Institutional and Government</p> <p>Parks</p>
<p>Rank the zones present in your ward, from most area in your ward (1) to least area in your ward (5).</p> <p>If a zone type is not present, write "NONE"</p>	<p>_____ Residential</p> <p>_____ Business and Commercial</p> <p>_____ Industrial</p> <p>_____ Institutional and Government</p> <p>_____ Parks</p>
<p>Vacant sites and brownfields</p> <p>How many vacant sites or brownfields are in my ward?</p> <p>If there is not a vacant site or brownfield in my ward, how far (in km) is the center of my ward to the nearest vacant site or brownfield?</p>	
<p>PEOPLE</p>	
<p>Population Density</p> <p>Select two census blocks in your ward. Is the population density more dense or less dense than the average for the entire city of Allentown (3,771 persons/mi²)</p>	

<p>Median Age</p> <p>Select two census blocks in your ward. Is the median age older or younger than the median age for the city of Allentown (32.7 years old)?</p> <p>Helpful hint: Median refers to the middle. Half of the population will be above the median age and half will below this age.</p>	
<p>Median Household Income</p> <p>Select two census blocks in your ward.</p> <p>What is the median household income in two census blocks in your ward? How do these compare to the median household income in Allentown (\$36,930/year)?</p>	
<p>Crime Index</p> <p>Select two census blocks in your ward.</p> <p>What is the Total Crime Index in two census blocks in your ward? How does this compare to the national average (index value of 100)?</p>	
<p>Renter Occupied Housing</p> <p>Select two census blocks in your ward.</p> <p>What percent of the housing is renter-occupied?</p>	

Vacant Housing

Select two census blocks in your ward.

What percent of the housing is vacant?

STAGE 2: Analyze your ward

1. Use the information you gathered about your ward (government services, businesses and zoning) to analyze your community.

What are the people in your ward like? Describe them by filling in the table below.

Is this a densely populated area or not?	
Are the people old or young?	
Are the people rich or poor?	
Do they rent or do they own their homes?	
Do they own a car or do they rely on public transportation? (Helpful hint: Change Basemap to Imagery and look for driveways and parked cars outside of homes).	

2. The goal of any community is to meet the needs of the people who live in that community. You will analyze how well the people in your ward are served by the resources available to them. Analyze the data layers that you have examined. What do people in my ward need? Do they need more of something? Less of something? A different distribution of something?

COMMUNITY NEEDS	COMMUNITY RESOURCE layers to view	Do they need more resources?	EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER: If yes, what's needed? Where is it needed? Why? If not--why not? What layers did you use to decide: Population Density, Household Income, Age (etc.)?
<i>Food</i> (Compare with: Population Density, Household Income)	Groceries and Food Stores (Businesses)		
	Restaurants (Businesses)		
<i>Housing</i> (Compare with: Population Density, Household Income, Crime)	Percentage of Renter Occupied Housing		
	Percentage of Vacant Housing		
<i>Education</i> (Compare with: Population Density, Median Age)	City Schools (Government Services)		
	Libraries (Government Services)		
	Child Daycare Services (Businesses)		

COMMUNITY NEEDS	COMMUNITY RESOURCE layers to view	Do they need more resources?	EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER: If yes, what's needed? Where is it needed? Why? If not--why not? What layers did you use to decide: Population Density, Household Income, Age (etc.)?
<i>Recreation & leisure</i> (Compare with: Population Density, Household Income, Median Age)	Lehigh County Parks (Government Services)		
	Community Centers (Government Services)		
	Recreational and Fitness (Businesses)		
	Libraries (Government Services)		
<i>Safety</i> (Compare with: Population Density, Crime)	Police Stations (Government Services)		
	Fire Stations (Government Services)		
<i>Medical care</i> (Compare with: Population Density)	Hospitals (Government Services)		
	Medical Offices (Businesses)		
	Drug Stores (Businesses)		

COMMUNITY NEEDS	COMMUNITY RESOURCE layers to view	Do they need more resources?	EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER: If yes, what's needed? Where is it needed? Why? If not--why not? What layers did you use to decide: Population Density, Household Income, Age (etc.)?
<i>Sanitation & hygiene, aesthetic care</i>	Laundries (Businesses)		
(Compare with: Population Density)	Hair and Beauty (Businesses)		
<i>(Other)</i>	Retail (Businesses)		

STAGE 3: Synthesize your observations

You have carefully thought about the people in your ward, the needs they have, and the resources available versus the resources needed. Make some broad observations about the strengths and weaknesses of your ward in these three thematic areas: **environment**, **society**, and **economy**.

What are the main **environmental strengths** of your ward? (Think about the parks and green spaces in your ward).

What are the main **environmental weaknesses** of your ward?

What are the main **social strengths** of your ward? (Think about the government services in your ward).

What are the main **social weaknesses** of your ward?

What are the main **economic strengths** of your ward? (Think about the businesses in your ward).

What are the main **economic weaknesses** of your ward?

STAGE 4: Propose changes to improve your ward

Now you are ready to **propose changes to improve conditions** for the people living in your ward.

Propose four improvements that are needed to better meet the social, environmental, and / or economic needs of the people in your ward. Provide two ideas for how to accomplish each improvement. Write one sentence for each idea.

Improvement #1: New park, green space, and/or open space areas. (For example: *I propose converting the vacant lot on 2nd Ave into a skateboard park. I could also make a greenway connecting two existing parks together.*)

Improvement #2: New commercial (business) areas with restaurants, groceries, and other service businesses

Improvement #3: New development to better meet community resource needs (choice #1)

Improvement #4: New development to better meet community resource needs (choice #2)

STAGE 5: Explain four proposed improvements in your ward

<p>Improvement #1: New park, green space, and/or open space areas</p> <p>Refer back to Stage 4 Proposed change:</p>	
<p>What location did you pick?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Describe it specifically, using geographic terms.</p>	
<p>What are your goals for this location? What community needs will you meet here?</p>	
<p>What changes are you proposing?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> What will you add and/or take away?</p>	
<p>Does your change fit with the existing zoning or does it require re-zoning?</p>	
<p>What will be the social benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Who will benefit? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for social strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	

<p>What will be the economic benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Who will benefit financially? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for economic strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>What will be the environmental benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> How will this grow or shrink greenspaces? Look what you wrote for environmental strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>Make a map screenshot. Provide a description to support your answer. Make sure your screenshot is very detailed and includes labels, legends, and important features of your area to support your improvement. Include a caption.</p>	

Improvement #2: New commercial (business) areas with restaurants, groceries, and other service businesses

Refer back to Stage 4

Proposed change:

What location did you pick?

Hint: Describe it specifically, using geographic terms.

What are your goals for this location?
What community needs will you meet here?

What changes are you proposing?

Hint: What will you **add** and/or **take away**?

Does your change fit with the existing zoning or does it require re-zoning?

What will be the **social** benefits / costs of your change?

Hint: Who will benefit? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for **social strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.**

<p>What will be the economic benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Who will benefit financially? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for economic strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>What will be the environmental benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> How will this grow or shrink greenspaces? Look what you wrote for environmental strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>Make a map screenshot. Provide a description to support your answer. Make sure your screenshot is very detailed and includes labels, legends, and important features of your area to support your improvement. Include a caption.</p>	

Improvement #3: New development to better meet community resource needs (choice #1)

Refer back to Stage 4

Proposed change:

<p>What location did you pick?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Describe it specifically, using geographic terms.</p>	
<p>What are your goals for this location? What community needs will you meet here?</p>	
<p>What changes are you proposing?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> What will you add and/or take away?</p>	
<p>Does your change fit with the existing zoning or does it require re-zoning?</p>	
<p>What will be the social benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Who will benefit? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for social strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	

<p>What will be the economic benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Who will benefit financially? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for economic strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>What will be the environmental benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> How will this grow or shrink greenspaces? Look what you wrote for environmental strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>Make a map screenshot. Provide a description to support your answer. Make sure your screenshot is very detailed and includes labels, legends, and important features of your area to support your improvement. Include a caption.</p>	

Improvement #4: New development to better meet community resource needs (choice #2)

Refer back to Stage 4

Proposed change:

What location did you pick?

Hint: Describe it specifically, using geographic terms.

What are your goals for this location?
What community needs will you meet here?

What changes are you proposing?

Hint: What will you **add** and/or **take away**?

Does your change fit with the existing zoning or does it require re-zoning?

What will be the **social** benefits / costs of your change?

Hint: Who will benefit? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for **social strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.**

<p>What will be the economic benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> Who will benefit financially? Who will lose out? Look what you wrote for economic strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>What will be the environmental benefits / costs of your change?</p> <p><i>Hint:</i> How will this grow or shrink greenspaces? Look what you wrote for environmental strengths and weaknesses in Stage 3.</p>	
<p>Make a map screenshot. Provide a description to support your answer. Make sure your screenshot is very detailed and includes labels, legends, and important features of your area to support your improvement. Include a caption.</p>	

STAGE 6: Locations & changes NOT selected

<p>What locations did you consider but not select?</p> <p>Why did you not select these locations?</p>	
<p>What improvements did you consider but not select?</p> <p>Why did you not choose these options?</p>	

STAGE 7: Begin drafting your proposal!