November 20, 2018

Trails Workshop South Mountain Partnership













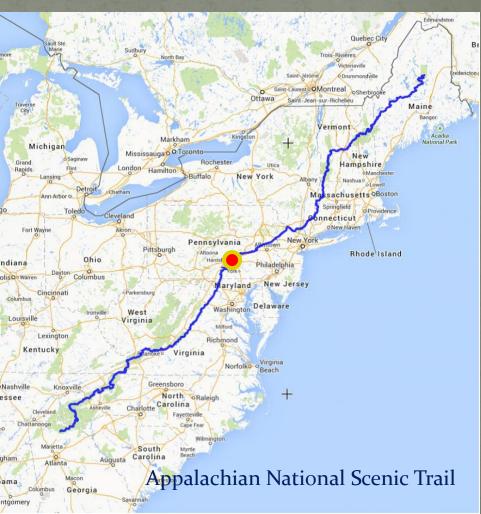




South Middleton Township







Township Overview Facts & Statistics

SOUTH MIDOLETON TOWNSHIP 1810

South Middleton Township

- Population: 15,352 (2016 est.)
- Area: 49.5 square miles
- Parkland: 340 acres of parks and approximately ten miles of trails
 - Over 200 acres of expansion/ improvements over past five years





SOUTH MODILETON

Trails...

- Increase the value of nearby properties
- Boost spending at area businesses
- Make communities more attractive
- Reduce medical costs due to healthier living
- Revitalize depressed areas
- Provide additional transportation options
- Offer no-cost recreational opportunities



Challenges

- Construction and maintenance costs
 - Bidding, Prevailing Wage (increases overall cost of public projects 25% - 50%)
- Negotiating access easements
 - Pricing, contract terms/length
- Regulatory approvals
 - DEP (NPDES, stream crossings), US Army Corps of
 - Engineers (wetland impacts), PennDOT (trail crossings, HOPs), regulations protecting endangered species, etc.
- Resistance of abutting property owners
 - NIMBYs





Keys to a Successful Trail System

- Community Support/Buy-In
- Planning
- Partnerships
- Diversification
- Promotion
- Investment





Community Support/Buy-In

Key Stakeholders

- Impacted property owners
- Nearby and outdoor-oriented businesses and interest groups



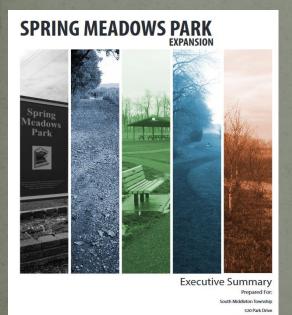




Community Support and Buy-In

"Where planning and public meet"

• Involve the public in all studies and development plans, especially during the design phase





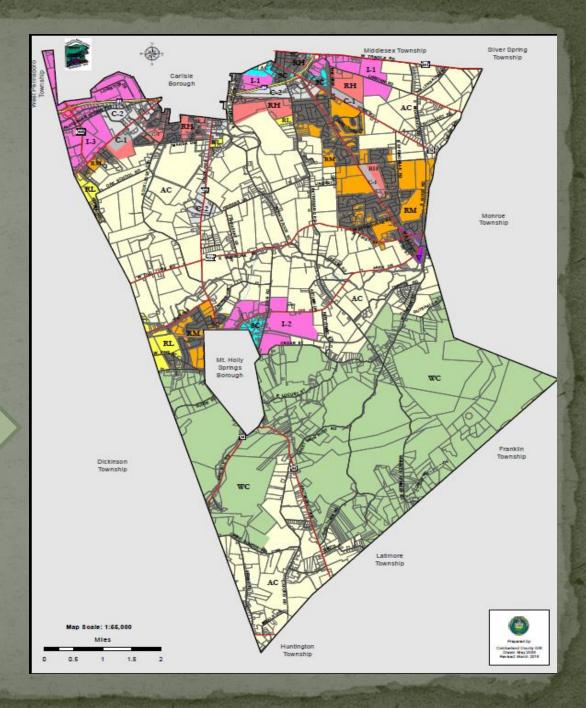
Planning Official Map



- Planning tool authorized under the MPC (Section 401)
 - Adopted by ordinance
- Shows the locations of planned future public lands and facilities such as streets, trails, parks, and open space
- Helps focus limited financial resources on projects that meet and advance community goals
- Saves time and money by informing property owners and developers of municipal goals and intentions in advance of development
- An effective negotiation tool for municipalities, helping to ensure that development is compatible with and supportive of public goals
- Gives municipalities a competitive advantage in securing grants

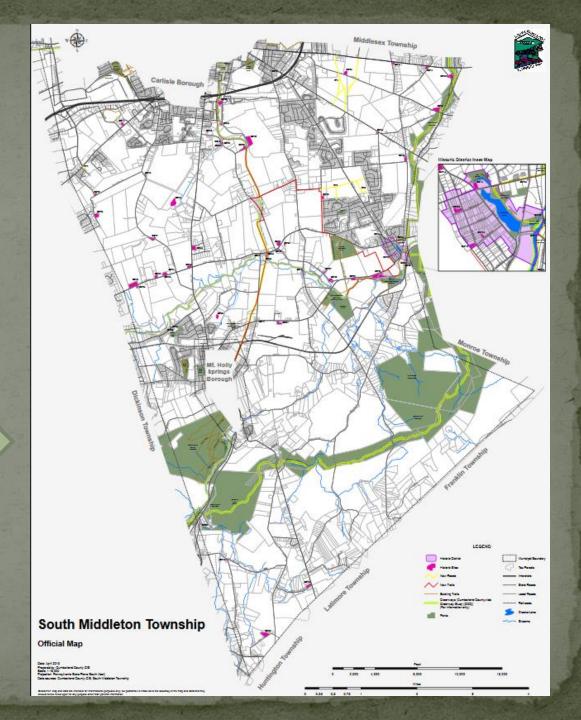
Planning
Zoning Map
Vs.
Official Map

South Middleton Township Zoning Map



Planning
Zoning Map
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South Middleton Official Map

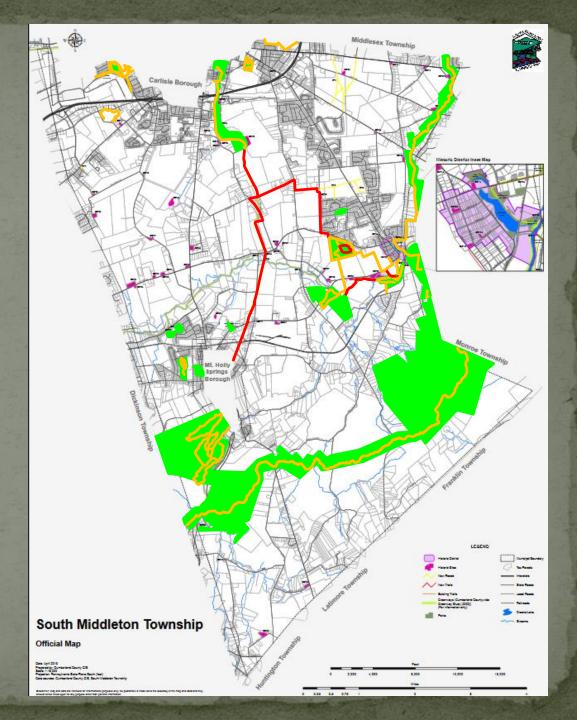


Planning

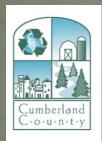
South Middleton Official Map

Parkland

Current Trails
Proposed Trails



Partnerships











































South Middleton Township Municipal Authority



























AD ALLEN DISTRIBUTION









Partnerships Government Agencies



- Look to government agencies as partners not as adversaries
 - Federal, State, and County
- Establish relationships with your legislators
- Work with neighboring municipalities





Partnerships Nonprofits



• Identify and work with the many nonprofit and charitable trusts dedicated to preserving and enhancing open space





Partnerships Colleges and Universities



 Work with nearby institutions of higher learning to leverage their research capacity or land for rec. facilities





Partnerships Real Estate Developers



 Require real estate developers dedicate open space or funding to provide for trails





Forbes Trail

Partnerships Businesses



• Commercial properties can construct public trails as part of a wellness program





Carlisle Regional Medical Center Walking Trail

Partnerships Farmers



- Trails can be placed on the periphery of the field, or used as a buffer
 - Easements, lease agreements, rental arrangements, etc.



Partnerships Farmers







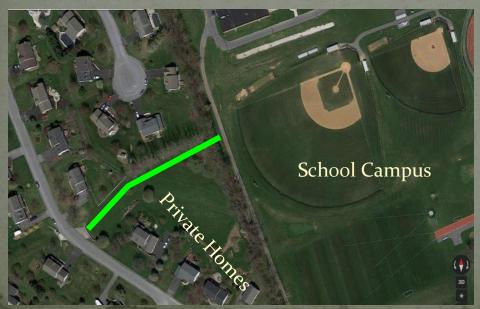




Partnerships Private Landowners



- Abutting trails can be installed with minimal negative impact
- RULWA Law (68 P.S. §477(2)(1))
 - Limits landowners' liability for personal injury or property damage if they make their land available to the public for recreation





Diversification of Use



- Keep your trails open year-round to accommodate a variety of uses
 - Example: cross-country skiing, horseback riding, snowmobiling, bicycling, rollerblading, etc.
- Use the trails to educate and protect nature
 - Example: Install birdhouses, boardwalks over wetlands, etc.
- Ensure access to everyone
 - ADA compliance (paving trails, grade changes, etc.)









Promotion

Signs and Wayfaring



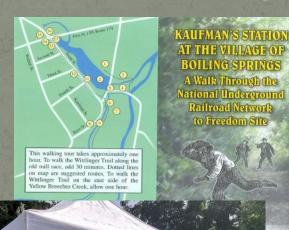


Promotion

 Hold annual events and promote history that encourages walking and outdoor activity



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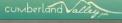






A Walk Through the Historic District of Boiling Springs

Published by the





LINE UP:

Wheel Gang





Reinvestment

SOUTH MODILETON

- Fund properly
 - Earmark dedicated funds annually
 - Have a vigorous and well-developed capital plan
 - Correlate revenues to expenditures (i.e. developers' contributions, cable franchise fees, rentals, rec. fees, amusement tax revenue, special tax levies, etc.)
 - Grants
- Continually educate staff and volunteers
- Periodically review and update community's recreational vision
 - Commission master plans reviews
 - County plans
 - Statewide Comprehensive Recreation Plan







- June 12, 2016: Sinkhole opens under Bucher Hill Road, necessitating water levels be lowered
- August 8, 2016: PA Fish & Boat Comm. discover extensive structural issues with dam wall

• April 13, 2017: Fish & Boat announce that \$1.8

million in repairs is necessary to make repairs to the dam and lake wall





- May 10, 2017: "Save the Lake" campaign launched to raise funds to meet goal
- Summer 2017:
 - Citizens raise \$10,000 in three months
 - Township donates \$200,000 and Fish & Boat donates \$200,000 apiece
 - Local businesses donate \$50,000
- March 8, 2018: State awards \$2.4 million towards Children's Lake project
 - Includes dam replacement and lake repairs, ADA work, environmental improvements, and trail enhancements







Thank You!

