

TEN YEAR STRATEGIC WORK PLAN

Recreation

- Request municipal governments to submit an application to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a Recreation Director.
- Task Force members will contact area municipal governments on the activities of the Tamaqua Area 2004 Partnership Recreation Task Force.
- Assist fire companies in organizing a Community Olympic Day.
- Develop recreational survey for residents of all ages.
- With the help of the YMCA, develop summer basketball league.
- Establish winter recreational facilities to include ice-skating.
- With the help of local governments, submit a circuit rider application to the state.
- With the help of local governments and the school district, hire a full-time Recreation Director for the area.
- Develop rail-trail plan with the Schuylkill River Heritage Park to highlight linkages with the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor.
- With the help of local residents, implement a Leathers Playground project.
- Encourage and develop recreational activities at the Tamaqua reservoirs.
- Assisting the Recreation Commission in becoming an independent entity.

Historic Preservation/Tourism

- Publish a brochure on historic sites in Tamaqua.
- Develop and install a series of historic markers throughout the area.
- Develop plans for a miner's memorial at the former Newkirk Tunnel.
- Work with local churches to develop church tours.
- With the help of the Schuylkill County Visitors Bureau, develop a Molly Maguire Tour.
- With the help of the Tamaqua Historical Society begin a comprehensive interpretive profile of the Burkhardt Moser Home.
- Perform a volunteer clean-up and register of St. Jerome's Cemetery.
- Develop the Newkirk Tunnel Site.
- Develop a historical and genealogical research facility for the area.
- Assisting in the completion of the Tamaqua Train Station.
- Developing Tamaqua as a receptor site for the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor.
- Develop a trolley tour of the area.

Downtown Revitalization

- Work with the Tamaqua Borough to promote facade improvement program.
- Review laws regarding vacant property.
- Encourage stricter enforcement of building codes.
- Improve pedestrian environment in Tamaqua.
- Study feasibility of creating a downtown improvement or "Main Street" program.
- Meet with PennDOT to review traffic concerns in the Borough.
- Work with Penn State to develop greenspace along the Little Schuylkill River.
- Contact absentee landowners through a volunteer newsletter.
- Develop greenspace along the Little Schuylkill River.
- In cooperation with the Tamaqua Beautification Association, enhance the gateways into the borough.
- Work with the Pennsylvania Downtown Center to develop a plan to improve vacant buildings.
- Complete a retail market study for downtown Tamaqua.
- With the assistance of Borough Council, apply for the Main Street Program.
- Develop a self-sufficient Main Street Program to attract new businesses and beautify the downtown.

Economic Development

- With the Tamaqua Area School District and Strategic Planning committee to improve business/education environment to better prepare students for future careers.
- Develop more cooperative ties between municipal officials.
- Conduct a hotel/motel feasibility study for the area.
- Work with TIDE/SEDCO to attract more jobs to the Tamaqua area.
- Through aggressive public relations, increase local awareness of community assets.
- Work with Tamaqua High School to develop community career day.
- Develop a community bulletin board to list events and activities.
- Review census tracts for future Community Development Block Grant eligibility.
- Review Borough signage ordinance.
- Cooperate with TIDE/SEDCO to attract retail businesses and industry to the area. Work with TIDE/SEDCO to fill remaining sites in the Tidewood East Industrial Park and to attract more jobs to the area.