

## Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

The Sidewalks and Walkways Committee ("Walkable Wallingford") was established by the Nether Providence Township Supervisors in June 2007. Our purpose was to review the need for and the benefits and feasibility of improved sidewalks and walking routes and to make recommendations for action. In the past year, this volunteer committee inventoried all existing routes; collected information from key stakeholders such as the township police, the schools, PennDOT, and others; researched opportunities and solutions used by other municipalities; and developed a website and updated it frequently.

Perhaps most important, we conducted a survey of township residents to identify where they felt there were issues about and opportunities for walkability. We held a public workshop on April 2, 2008 to present the information we had gathered to that point and to hear more about the thoughts of township residents. In June, we held a second workshop to present our preliminary recommendations for discussion. Participation by township residents in the survey and workshops was very valuable in helping us to understand the issues more clearly and to make precise recommendations.

The result of this work is a *Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes*. It synthesizes the needs demonstrated in the survey to establish key destinations. The area of our community cited by most respondents as their key destination is the triangle formed by the Wawa and Library on one corner, Wallingford Elementary School on the second, and the Wallingford Train Station on the third. The Strath Haven High School-Middle School complex is a key community destination for both school children and the community at large when taking part in the recreational and cultural activities of our schools.

The Media borough area - including the Acme, the Media business district, and transportation nodes such as the trolley stop - is the third most cited destination. Swarthmore, including the Swarthmore Woods shopping area, is the fourth.

Using these logical and well-defined destinations, the committee established priorities to create sidewalks and safe routes for our community. We found that other highly favored destinations are also well served by the sidewalks and interventions needed to link the primary destinations. Schools, swim clubs, parks, and places of worship all become more accessible with the infrastructure we propose.

In addition to sidewalks, we propose other steps including refuge islands at dangerous intersections and traffic calming. Some problems will require more dramatic assessment and interventions, requiring expertise beyond the talents of the Committee. Others may be addressed through education and enforcement of existing laws and codes.

While specific funding opportunities may be more applicable to some items than others, the priorities summarized below provide a blueprint for a safer, more accessible community. This is a plan that the Board of Commissioners may use to explore and set funding priorities, many of which will require that a plan be in place before the Township may apply for the funding.

The committee unanimously recommends adoption of this Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes by the Board of Commissioners.

# Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

## Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

3A	Moore Road from Brookhaven Road to Media Parkway to Devon Lane	Existing sidewalks are in poor condition and change sides at the middle of the street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NPE</li> <li>- Creekside and Wallingford Swim Clubs</li> <li>- Field of Dreams</li> <li>- St. John's church</li> </ul>	Enhanced crossing needed at Brookhaven Road
3B	East Rose Valley Road from Providence Road to the Leiper-Smedley Trail	Connects with the Trail for recreation and connects to Swarthmore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Swarthmore</li> <li>- Wallingford Swim Club</li> <li>- St. John's church</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> </ul>	The East Rose Valley Road - Providence Road - Meadow Road intersection needs refuge islands.
3C	South Chester Road from Providence Road to Blue Route Bridge	High automobile traffic volume and speed. No way to safely cross South Chester Road on foot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Swarthmore &amp; Shopping</li> <li>- NPE</li> <li>- St. Johns</li> <li>- Field of Dreams</li> <li>- Wallingford and Creekside Swim Clubs</li> <li>- Springhaven Club</li> <li>- Media borough</li> <li>- Access to Providence Road</li> </ul>	Sprout Estates needs a safe pedestrian crossing on South Chester Road
3D	Beatty Road from Baltimore Pike to Penn Valley Road	Not safe for pedestrians High automobile traffic volume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Providence Road</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> </ul>	Brookhaven Road - Providence Road intersection needs refuge islands and pedestrian activated signals
3E	Brookhaven Road from West Rose Valley Road to Avondale Road	High automobile traffic volume and speed West of Providence Road the shoulders are adequate for pedestrian traffic, making this a lower-priority item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wallingford train Station</li> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- WES</li> </ul>	The intersection at Turner Road - Possum Hollow Road - Rogers Lane needs a safe crossing for pedestrians
Planned/in process	Turner Road from Knoll Road to Possum Hollow Road; Possum Hollow Road to the Wallingford train station	Heavy pedestrian use with poor pedestrian safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- Wallingford train station</li> <li>- WES</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> </ul>	The intersection at Turner Road - Possum Hollow Road - Rogers Lane needs a safe crossing for pedestrians
Planned/in process	Rogers Lane completion from Dicks Run to Turner Road	Unsafe for pedestrians due to the narrowness of the road, and high automobile traffic volume and speed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- Wallingford train station</li> <li>- WES</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> </ul>	The intersection at Turner Road - Possum Hollow Road - Rogers Lane needs a safe crossing for pedestrians

## Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

Sidewalk Priority	Sidewalks/Location	Rationale	Destinations Served	Comments
1A	Providence Road from Wallingford Ave to Cattles Lane	Backbone of the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- Wallingford elementary school (WES)</li> <li>- Strath Haven high school (SHHS)</li> <li>- Strath Haven middle school (SHMS)</li> </ul>	Safe crossings are needed at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wallingford Ave</li> <li>- Possum Hollow Road</li> <li>- Brookhaven Road</li> </ul>
1B	Cattles Lane	This has been designated a hazardous route by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)	This is a key access route to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> </ul>	
1C	Possum Hollow Road from the Wallingford train station to Woodward Ave	Highly unsafe with heavy foot traffic but no safe refuges for pedestrians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wallingford train station</li> <li>- WES</li> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> </ul>	Inadequate lighting is an issue
1D	Wallingford Avenue	Designated a hazardous route by the DVRPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- WES</li> <li>- Wallingford train station</li> <li>- Key link to Media borough</li> </ul>	The Wawa Intersection is a major challenge
1F	Providence Road from Cattles Lane to South Chester Road	Backbone of the community High automobile traffic area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nether Providence elementary school (NPE)</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> <li>- St. John's church and school</li> <li>- Wallingford Swim Club</li> </ul>	Safe crossings are needed at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rose Valley road</li> <li>- Between St. Johns church and Waterford Way</li> </ul>
2A	Manchester Road from Pennsylvania Institute of Technology to the Wawa Triangle	Dangerous for pedestrians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media borough</li> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- Wallingford train station</li> <li>- WES</li> </ul>	
2B	West Rose Valley Road from Brookhaven Road to Providence Road	Dangerous for pedestrians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> <li>- NPE</li> <li>- Wallingford Swim Club</li> </ul>	Refuge islands and crosswalk support are needed at the Engle Drive - Bickmore Drive area. Safe crossings are needed at Brookhaven Road

## Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

Traffic Calming	Location	Rationale	Destinations Served	Comments
Traffic Calming A	Woodward Road and Manchester Road	High automobile traffic volume and speed with no safe pedestrian refuge. This route is a cut through with high automobile traffic volume and speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- WES</li> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Moylan train station</li> <li>- Providence Road</li> </ul>	Sidewalks needed for a brief distance near each end of Woodward Road. Calming techniques are needed on Manchester Road.
Traffic Calming B	Meadow Lane from Providence Road to Morris Road	High automobile traffic volume and speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wallingford Swim Club</li> <li>- St. John's church</li> <li>- NPE</li> <li>- Providence Road</li> </ul>	Sidewalks as refuge islands near Providence Road Intersection
Traffic Calming C	Grandview Road	High automobile traffic volume This route is used as a cut through to make a left turn onto Baltimore Pike		Grandview cut-through might be reduced with a traffic light at Turner Road and Baltimore Pike.
Traffic Calming D	Pleasant Hill Road	High automobile traffic speed This route is used as a cut through between Providence and Harvey Roads		Added after community feedback to Board of Commissioners

## Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

Lines and Signs - Priority	Location	Rationale	Destinations Served	Comments
Lines and signs	<p>"Stop for Pedestrians" signs in Crosswalks.</p> <p>"Share the road" signs after major intersections on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Providence Road</li> <li>- Wallingford Avenue</li> <li>- Brookhaven Road</li> <li>- Chester Road</li> <li>- East and West Rose Valley Road</li> <li>- Moore Road</li> <li>- Turner Road</li> <li>- Avondale Road</li> <li>- Copples Lane</li> </ul>	Create safe pedestrian routes Increase bicycle-friendly awareness	All	Education of drivers, some traffic calming effect due to sign in road.
Lines and Signs	Route-finding support for various destinations, including maps, "blazes" for route finding, and education via Web sites.	Define "safe" routes for key destinations for pedestrians and bicycles	All	Second phase of committee work
Lines and signs	Upgrade in-road sensors at all currently served intersection to levels that are sensitive to bicycles (including the Grandview Road - Baltimore Pike intersection)	Create bicycle friendly environment	All	Relatively low-cost intervention
Lines and signs	<p>Pedestrian-activated crossing lights at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possum Hollow Road and Providence Road</li> <li>- Rose Valley Road - Meadow Lane - Providence Road Intersection</li> </ul> <p>Create a safe pedestrian crossing at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The southern end of Providence Road between Waterford Way and St. John's church</li> <li>- Governors Lane across South Chester Road.</li> </ul>	Create safe walking environment at major crossing zones on high-traffic, high-speed streets.	All	Allow pedestrians to cross major roads safely

## Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

Refuge Islands Priority	Location	Rationale	Destinations Served	Comments
Refuge Islands	Meadow Lane - Rose Valley Road - Providence Road intersection	This is a major crosswalk connecting neighborhoods, and providing access to important destinations. There are no safe places for pedestrians to stand while waiting to cross these streets. Rose Valley Road west of Providence Road has no good pedestrian access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Swim Clubs</li> <li>- NPE</li> <li>- St. John's church</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> <li>- Swarthmore.</li> </ul>	
Refuge Islands A	Possum Hollow Road at Providence Road	This is a major crosswalk connecting neighborhoods and providing access to important destinations. There are no safe places for pedestrians to stand while waiting to cross these streets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wallingford train station</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- Swarthmore</li> <li>- Media borough</li> <li>- WES</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> </ul>	
Refuge Islands B	Brookhaven Road at Providence Road	The width of the intersection and the prevalence of cars turning onto and from Brookhaven Road create an unsafe condition for pedestrians trying to cross here.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> <li>- Access to Providence Road and Rose Valley.</li> </ul>	
Refuge Islands C	Bickmore Drive - Rose Valley Road - Engle Drive	This route connects the NPE-area neighborhoods to SHHS and SHMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> <li>- NPE</li> <li>- Creekside Swim Club</li> <li>- Rose Valley</li> </ul>	
Refuge Islands D	Brookhaven Road and Rose Valley Road	The width of the intersection and the prevalence of cars turning onto and from Brookhaven Road create an unsafe condition for pedestrians trying to cross here.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> <li>- Access to Providence Road and Rose Valley.</li> </ul>	
Refuge Islands E	Penn Valley Road - Beatty Road intersection	This is an unsafe place for children to stand while waiting for the school bus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media borough</li> <li>- WES</li> <li>- SHHS</li> <li>- SHMS</li> </ul>	

## Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes

Engineering Priority	Location	Rationale	Destinations Served	Comments
Engineering and major revisions needed A	Providence Road - Wallingford Ave intersection	The aggregate effect of high automobile traffic, lack of sidewalks, odd angle of the intersection, and confluence of parking lots creates a major challenge that may need substantial renovation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wawa</li> <li>- WES</li> <li>- Library</li> <li>- Wallingford train station</li> <li>- Media borough</li> </ul>	
Engineering and major revisions needed B	Penn Valley Road - Beatty Road intersection	Cited as the most dangerous intersection for a school bus stop by Wallingford-Swarthmore school district transportation department.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media borough</li> <li>- Providence Road</li> </ul>	
Engineering and major revisions needed C	Manchester Road - Woodward Ave intersection	Despite the recent addition of stop signs, the traffic patterns need major revision, perhaps by creating a single 90 degree intersection rather than multiple acute-angle intersections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media borough</li> <li>- Moylan train station</li> </ul>	



## Summary:

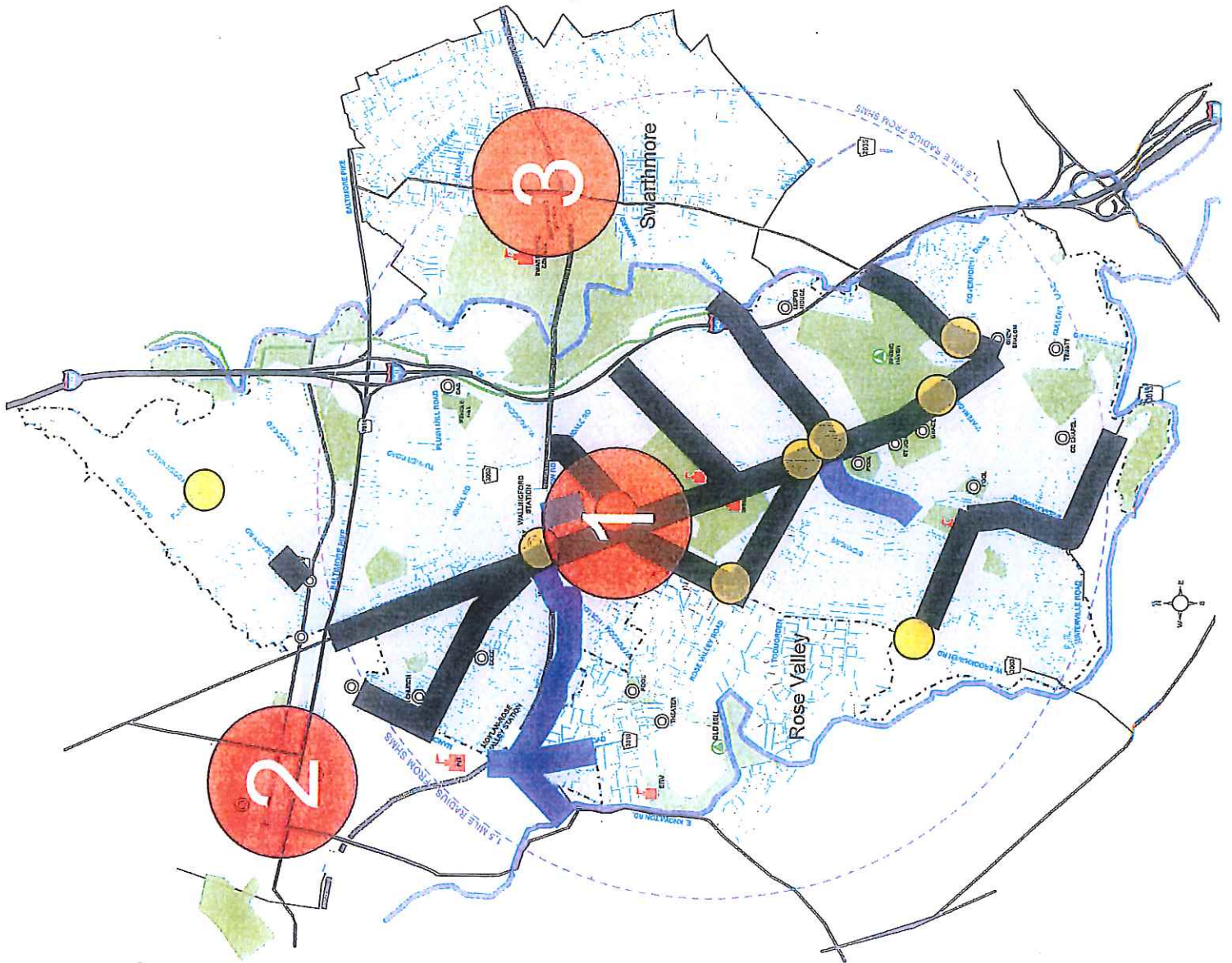
Recommended Sidewalks: 6 Miles

### Traffic Calming:

- Woodward Road
- Rose Valley Road
- Manchester Road
- Manchester Avenue
- Kershaw

### Crossable Intersections:

- Penn Valley/ Beatty
- Providence/ Possom Hollow
- Providence/ Brook Haven
- Providence/ W. Rose Valley
- Providence/ E. Rose Valley
- Providence/ Waterford
- Chester Road/ Governors
- Brookhaven/ Moore
- Brookhaven/ W. Rose Valley





NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-21

Whereas the Nether Providence Township Sidewalk and Walkways Committee has studied walkability in Nether Providence Township, including a review of current infrastructure, a survey of community attitudes, and input gathered through Community Planning Workshops, and

Whereas there is a clear community need and desire to improve walkability through enhanced infrastructure serving key destination in the Township and adjoining communities, and

Whereas the Committee has drafted a Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes that was presented to the Board of Commissioners and the community at large at the public meeting on October 2, 2008 (a copy of which is attached), and

Whereas the Township's adoption of the Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes can serve as a guideline for future development and acquisition of funding, therefore

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township accepts and adopts the Proposal for Sidewalks and Safe Routes as presented to the Board of Commissioners on October 2, 2008 proposing a priority list of locations to improve walkability as follows:

- Providence Road from Wallingford Avenue to Copples Lane
- Possum Hollow Road from the Wallingford Train Station to Woodward Road
- Wallingford Avenue
- Providence Road from Copples Lane to Chester Road
- Manchester Avenue from the Pennsylvania Institute of Technology to Radnor Street
- West Rose Valley Road from Brookhaven Road to Providence Road
- Moore Road from Brookhaven Road to Media Parkway to Devon Lane
- Chester Road from Providence Road to the bridge over the Blue Route
- Beatty Road from Baltimore Pike to Penn Valley Road
- Brookhaven Road from West Rose Valley Road to Avondale Road

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RESOLVED THIS 11<sup>TH</sup> Day of December, 2008

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By Liri Axiamethy Floyd  
Liri Axiamethy Floyd, President

ATTEST:

GTD  
Gary Cummings, Township Manager

