

PLANNING GOALS

The following goal statements are the result of a workshop conducted by the County on November 19, 1991 and reviewed at a second workshop on February 12, 1992. A total of approximately 70 City and Township representatives attended each session. These goals were then re-examined during the 2002 Plan update based on input elicited from the community at four issues workshops held throughout the County as well as input from the Comprehensive Plan Task Force.

1. Conservation of prime agricultural lands for long-term agricultural use.
2. Conservation and enhancement of the County's rich natural resource base (air, water, soils and woodlands) to maintain a high standard of environmental quality and sustain commercial agriculture.
3. Preservation of the rural/small town/agrarian lifestyle in harmony with the urban lifestyle.
4. Accommodation of responsible urban expansion in areas that do not conflict with or appreciably diminish the supply of prime agricultural land or interfere with the rural lifestyle and where the full range of urban services can be provided.
5. Creation of expanded employment opportunities in concert with all units and levels of government as a means to retain young people.
6. Maintenance of healthful living environments and compatible land use relationships.
7. Maintenance of quality educational standards, which adequately prepare young people for future educational and employment, endeavors.
8. Cooperation and improvement in working relationships between all units of government (Cities, Townships, County and State) to realize common goals and objectives.
9. Preservation of the County's investment in publicly owned facilities including roads, buildings and equipment.
10. Delivery of an appropriate and efficient level of public services, which recognizes, and is capable of adapting to changing circumstances (an aging population, etc.).