

# Open House Public Meetings

Thank you for helping us create the new Lawrence Township 2024 Master Plan!

Lawrence Township, NJ - The Township of Lawrence is embarking on a comprehensive update to its Master Plan that will guide land use policies and development over the next decade. The municipal Master Plan sets forth the vision for how the community should approach development, redevelopment, conservation and preservation going forward.

The municipal Master Plan, adopted by the Planning Board, is intended to guide the decisions made by public officials and those of private interests involving the use of land. Through its various elements, the Master Plan sets forth a vision for the community in the coming years.

The Master Plan forms the legal foundation for zoning and New Jersey specifically ties the planning of a community as embodied in the Master Plan to the zoning ordinance and zoning map adopted by the Township Committee. Under New Jersey's Municipal Land Use Law N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq., a zoning ordinance must be substantially consistent with the land use plan.

The upcoming Master Plan will build upon previous planning documents and offer a comprehensive assessment of potential new or amended Township policies. The 2024 Master Plan will include the following elements:

- 1 Goals and Objectives
- 2 Land Use Plan
- 3 Circulation Plan
- 4 Conservation Plan
- 5 Economic Development Plan
- 6 Green Buildings & Sustainability Plan



Those that could not attend one of the Spring public meetings can complete a survey and share their thoughts. The survey will close June 30th



For more information about the master plan and to follow the process, visit the Township's website at: [www.lawrencetwp.com/MasterPlanUpdate2024](http://www.lawrencetwp.com/MasterPlanUpdate2024)

# FAQs

- 1 Do I have to arrive at the start of the meeting?**  
No, you may arrive anytime during the three hour meeting.
- 2 Do I have to stay the whole time?**  
We hope you will stay to provide input at each station, but you may leave as soon as you like.
- 3 Is there parking at each open house public meeting?**  
Yes, the Lawrence Township Senior Center has parking along Darrah Lane and the Bart Luedeke Center Cavalla Room at Rider University has parking in front of the building, accessed from the Route 206 South Entrance.
- 4 Do I need to bring anything to the engagement event?**  
No. Only your thoughts and ideas!
- 5 Can I bring my children?**  
Yes. Children are welcome, although childcare will not be provided.
- 6 Do I need to attend both open house public meetings in Spring 2024?**  
No, the meetings serve the same purpose. There are two meetings to encourage more people to share their thoughts and ideas.
- 7 What should I expect from the open house public meeting?**  
You can learn about the Township and will have an opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas about how to improve planning and land use in the Township.
- 8 When does the survey end?**  
June 30th.
- 9 Will there be more events to give feedback about the Master Plan?**  
Yes, another round of open house public meetings will occur in Fall and the Planning Board will hold public meetings in late fall / early winter.
- 10 What are the next steps?**  
After this round of open house public meetings, additional input will be gathered from community stakeholders (Township departments, community organizations and more). This information will be reviewed by the subcommittee to identify ideas, goals and policies for potential inclusion in the master plan.
- 11 Who adopts the Master Plan?**  
The Planning Board.
- 12 When did the Township last adopt a comprehensive Master Plan?**  
1995. The Township adopted Reexamination Reports of the Master Plan and some individual elements since then.
- 13 Why is the Master Plan important?**  
The master plan sets forth a vision for how the community should approach development, redevelopment, conservation and preservation in the coming years. It provides the foundation for the Township's zoning and is intended to guide the decisions made by public officials and those of private interests involving the use of land.