

Jamestown Community Plan 2001

*Prepared via a series of community planning meetings March through May 2001.
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Technical assistance provided by Mercer County Regional Planning Commission.*

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Introduction

This document is a “community plan” developed for Jamestown in the spring of 2001. It was prepared by community leaders and citizens working with the aid of the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission (MCRPC). The plan presents three things:

1. **A candid look at existing conditions** – population and housing data, plus the community’s strengths and weaknesses, its problems and needs, and the opportunities and threats it faces.
2. **A vision for the future** – the kind of community Jamestown should strive to be.
3. **An action plan of programs and projects** that could make real and valuable improvements for the Jamestown community.

Process

The Jamestown plan was prepared via an inclusive process that involved three open public meetings. About 40 individuals, ranging from officials to business people to citizens, participated in the meetings. Each meeting was facilitated by MCRPC. The discussion was open, frank, and positive.

In addition, many community and economic development organizations provided expert guidance in areas of economic development, housing, transportation, etc.

MCRPC compiled all the information and presented it in this document.

What next?

Jamestown presents many opportunities and challenges from a community-planning standpoint. It has the qualities that make small towns great. It sits at the gateway to the Pymatuning Reservoir and its recreation and tourism attractions. Jamestown also has many needs – long-term economic health, deteriorating condition of historic properties, and housing for seniors, to name a few. Yet Jamestown is a small community with precious limited resources to meet these opportunities and challenges.

It is, therefore, decision-making time. What issue should be tackled first, then next? What efforts should be the focus of the community’s time, energy, and dollars? These decisions are difficult to make, but are the backbone of long-term community improvement. Failure to reach a consensus will result in paralysis – key leaders working in too many different directions and resources diluted across too many projects.

This plan presents a “can do” approach. If Jamestown so chooses, it can do the projects outlined in the “Implementation Matrix” incrementally over a period of years.

The keys are:

- **Leadership** – Jamestown must build a team of leaders that includes and goes beyond borough council. There are good examples in other Pennsylvania communities of civic organizations that have spearheaded major community improvement programs.
- **Focus** – Jamestown’s leadership team must agree in clear consensus on a focused plan of action. This takes courage and sometimes self-sacrifice, but yields the clout necessary to successfully complete important projects.
- **Resources** – Jamestown’s leadership team must look in conventional and unconventional places for resources – people, effort, enthusiasm, and dollars. It must do the things necessary to build then sustain these resources.

Existing conditions

The section generally describes the Jamestown community and its physical setting, land use pattern, and population and economic characteristics. It also provides a candid look at the community's strengths and weaknesses, its problems and needs, and the opportunities and threats it faces.

Location

Jamestown is located in northwest Mercer County on the Crawford County border. Its location was most influenced originally (early 1800s) by the presence of the Shenango River. In the late 1800s, its location became economically prominent with the building of east-west and north-south railroads that intersected in Jamestown. In the 1930s, Pymatuning Reservoir was built and put Jamestown and the region on the recreation and tourism map.

Today, the location provides both strategic advantages and disadvantages. Pymatuning remains a popular tourist attraction providing economic opportunity and recreation amenities. The mostly rural surrounds have enabled Jamestown to remain a small town with a slower-paced and friendlier style.

On the other hand, the decline of the railroads and the rise of interstate highways as the primary transporter of the nation's commerce have hurt Jamestown economically. The closest interstate highways are 15-20 miles away.

Physical characteristics

The dominant physical feature in Jamestown is the Shenango River. It provides a broad, flat floodplain and gently-sloping hillsides on which the town is built. It also provides for flood hazard areas, wetlands, and poor-draining soils, particularly south of Liberty Street, on which building cannot practically occur.

Land use pattern

The present development pattern follows an east-west, north-south grid as originally plotted in 1832 on the higher and better soils east and north of the river. A well-defined commercial downtown exists near the river and near where the former railroads intersected along what is now the town's most prominent highway (US 322). Residential areas are located east and north of the downtown close enough for most residents to walk downtown. There is only one major industry, located adjacent to and east of downtown. Public land uses, such as schools, post office, borough building, and others are mixed conveniently within other land uses.

Population, economic, and housing characteristics

The following pages show a profile of statistical data on Jamestown Borough. Most of the data is from the new 2000 U. S. Census. Where 2000 data is not available, 1990 census data is shown.

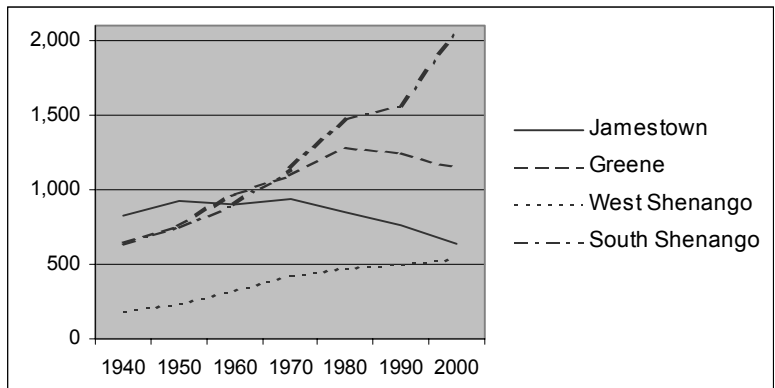
Several items of information or trends stand out:

- Despite a relatively stable population through the mid 1900s, Jamestown has steadily lost population since 1970. The three-decade 1970-2000 loss was 301 persons or 32%.
- Jamestown's population is evenly distributed between various age groups.
- In 1990 (2000 figures not yet released), Jamestown's educational attainment levels were below the county and state.
- In recent decades, Jamestown incomes have been typically lower than the county and state.
- In most other ways, Jamestown is statistically comparable to the county and state.

Profile – Jamestown population, economic & housing characteristics

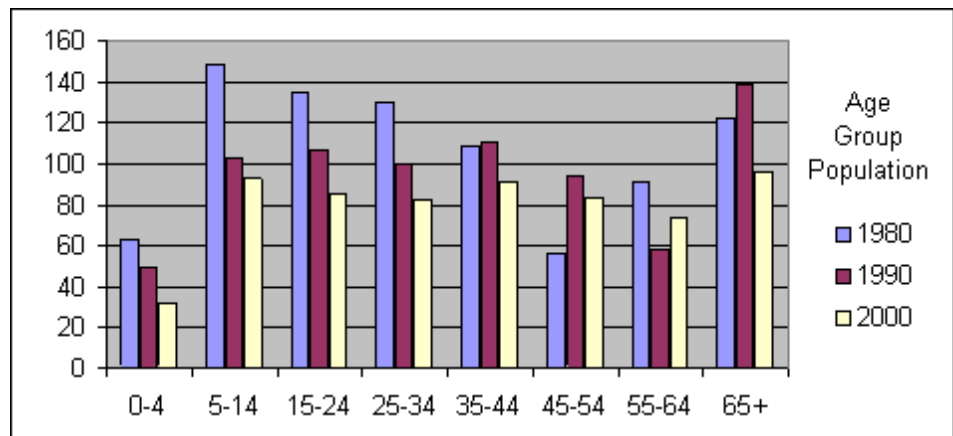
Population Trends

	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Jamestown	819	931	897	937	854	761	636
Greene	640	758	980	1,099	1,292	1,247	1,153
West Shenango	184	234	321	424	474	496	541
South Shenango	654	751	898	1,132	1,479	1,560	2,047
Region Total	2,297	2,674	3,096	3,592	4,099	4,064	4,377



Age Groups

Age	Population Count				% change 1980-2000	Age	Jamestown 2000%	Mercer County 2000%	PA 2000%
	1980	1990	2000						
0-4	63	49	32	-49%	0-4	5%	6%	6%	
5-14	148	103	93	-37%	5-14	15%	13%	14%	
15-24	135	107	85	-37%	15-24	13%	13%	13%	
25-34	130	100	82	-37%	25-34	13%	11%	13%	
35-44	109	111	91	-17%	35-44	14%	15%	16%	
45-54	56	94	83	48%	45-54	13%	14%	14%	
55-64	91	58	74	-19%	55-64	12%	10%	9%	
65+	122	139	96	-21%	65+	15%	18%	16%	



Households

	1990	% Total	2000	% Total	Mercer County 2000%	PA 2000%
Total Households	306		269			
Families	205	67.0%	172	63.9%	69.3%	67.2%
Single Persons	92	30.1%	80	29.7%	27.0%	27.7%
Non-Families	9	2.9%	17	6.3%	3.7%	5.1%

	1990	% Total	2000	% Total	Mercer County 2000%	PA 2000%
Total Families	205		172			
Married Couple	161	78.5%	137	79.7%	79.1%	76.9%
Male Head, No Wife	7	3.4%	9	5.2%	5.2%	5.8%
Female Head, No Husband	37	18.0%	26	15.1%	15.7%	17.3%

	1970	1980	1990	2000
Persons	937	854	761	636
Households	294	311	306	269
Average Household Size	3.19	2.75	2.49	2.36
Mercer County	3.20	2.77	2.54	2.44
PA	3.10	2.74	2.57	2.48
USA	3.14	2.76	2.63	2.59

Educational Attainment

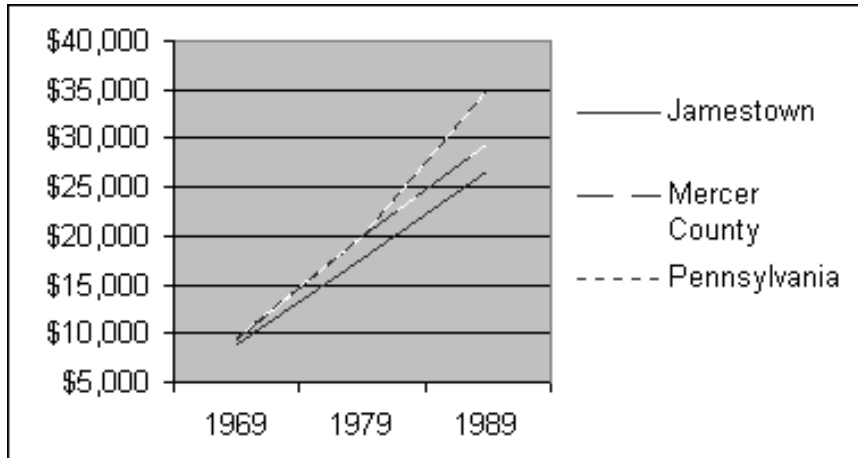
% Persons 25+ grad. high sch.	1990	% Persons 25+ grad. college	1990
Jamestown	68.8%	Jamestown	9.9%
Mercer County	75.1%	Mercer County	13.6%
Pennsylvania	74.7%	Pennsylvania	17.9%

Minority Population

	2000
Minority Population	% of total
Jamestown	0.5%
Mercer County	7.3%
Pennsylvania	15.9%

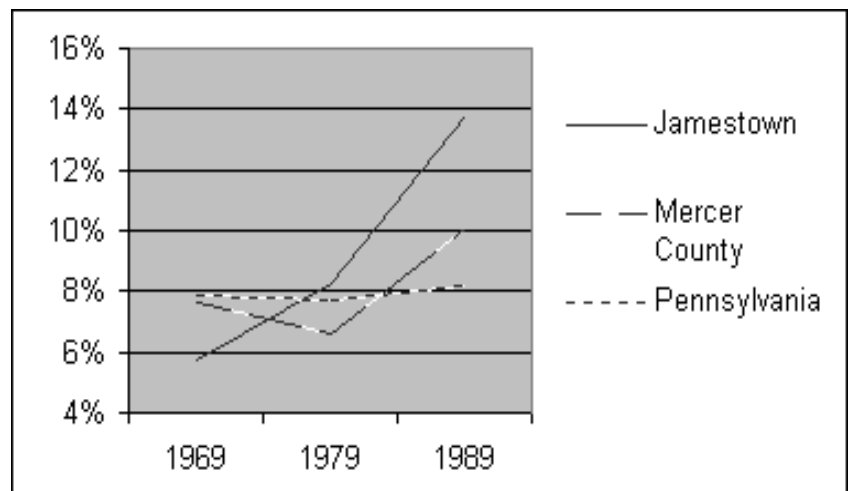
Income

	1969	1979	1989	% change 1969-89
Median Family Income				
Jamestown	\$8,943	\$17,721	\$26,563	197%
Mercer County	\$9,287	\$19,975	\$29,347	216%
Pennsylvania	\$9,558	\$19,995	\$34,856	265%



Poverty

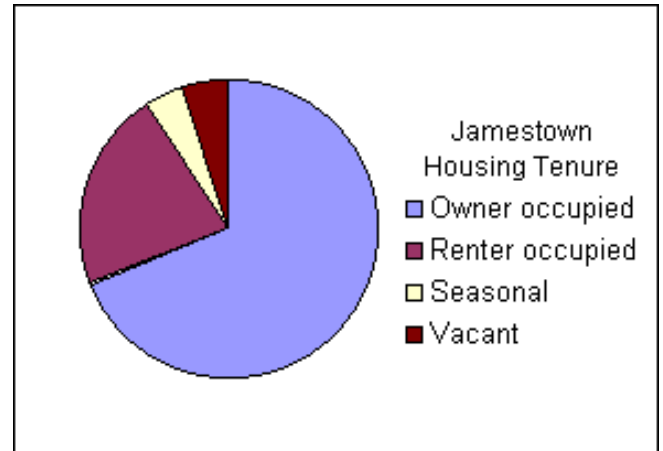
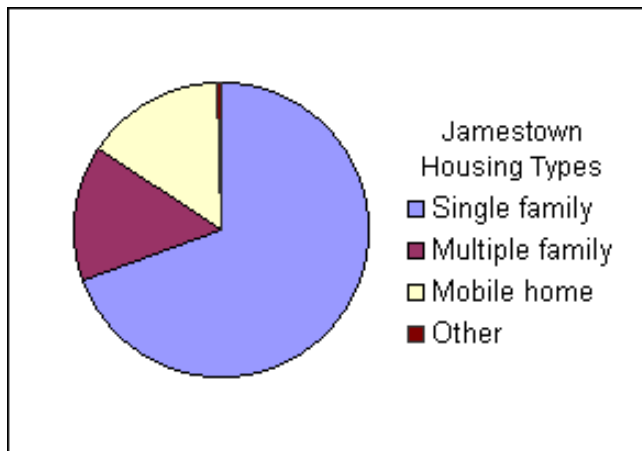
% Families Below Poverty	1969	1979	1989
Jamestown	5.7%	8.3%	13.8%
Mercer County	7.6%	6.6%	10.1%
Pennsylvania	7.9%	7.7%	8.2%



Housing

# Units by Type of Housing	Jamestown		Mercer	PA
	1990	% Total	County 1990%	1990%
Single family	236	69.4%	72.4%	53.4%
Multiple family	51	15.0%	15.9%	21.7%
Mobile home	51	15.0%	9.5%	5.2%
Other	2	0.6%	2.1%	19.7%
Total housing units	340			

# Units by Tenure	Jamestown		Mercer	PA
	2000	% Total	County 2000%	2000%
Owner occupied	205	69.0%	71.5%	64.9%
Renter occupied	64	18.8%	22.2%	26.1%
Seasonal	13	3.8%	0.9%	2.8%
Vacant	15	4.4%	5.3%	6.2%
Total housing units	297			



	Jamestown 1990	Mercer County 1990	PA 1990
Median value single family homes	\$31,700	\$41,900	\$69,700
% Housing built prior to 1940	61.9%	33.4%	35.1%

S.W.O.T. exercise

At the first public meeting held for the Jamestown plan (March 8, 2001), officials, citizens, and business people were asked to speak candidly about the community. This was done by means of a S.W.O.T. exercise. S.W.O.T. stands for *Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats*.

Meeting participants brainstormed in small groups to examine what is good or bad about their community, and to look to the future and envision what good things could happen if the right steps were taken or what problems could arise if the community was not prepared. The profile below highlights the results. The priority of ideas was weighted by use of sticker dots. The number to the right of the idea represents the number of dots placed by meeting participants.

Strengths		Weaknesses	
Rated highest		Rated highest	
Historic buildings	12	Lack of police	13
Schools	7	Lack of pride in property	10
		Gibson house run down & vacant	10
		No senior housing	10
		Tourism facilities out-of-date	10
Rated high		Rated high	
Local fair	3	Lack of zoning/development regs	7
Local organizations	3	Highway safety/traffic	6
Variety of businesses	3	Enforcement of current ordinances	5
		Topping trees	2
		Sidewalks in poor condition	2
		Lack of youth activities	2
Other		Other	
Safe – low crime	1	Community working together	1
Churches	1	Lack of recreation	1
Location	1	Paper streets not developed	1
Emergency services	1	Fire protection	1
Volunteerism		Quality of housing	
People		Rubbish on highways	
Good size (small)		Water system	
One traffic light		Phone system	
Small-town convenience		Mentoring for business	
Basic business services		No public library	
Near the spillway		Animal control	
Transportation system		Lack of available land	
Tourism			
Sense of community			
Housing			

Opportunities

Rated highest

Marketing/tourism 26

Rated high

Gibson house 6
Business variety 6
Senior housing 5
Beautify the town 5
Tourism 3
Take down the arch 3
Capitalize on the arch 2

Other

Recreation 1
Newspaper coverage 1
Community activities
Water system
Attract residents to town

Threats

Rated highest

Rated high

Other

Loss of businesses 1
Adult entertainment businesses 1
Downfall in tourism
Vacant, torn down housing
Types of housing
Rental upkeep
Loss of tax base
Loss of small town character
Excessive growth
Sidewalks needing repair
Speeding traffic
Stray animals
An industrial fire (JAPCO)
Decrease in volunteers
Lack of zoning
Crime
Loss of youth & seniors

Community vision

Visioning is an exercise designed to get people to focus on the potential of their community. Instead of thinking only about what a place is like now, a vision allows one to think long term about the viability and vitality of their hometown and about what it could become. A vision is meant to be a guiding theme for the community. It requires imagination and thought. Visioning is used in planning because any actions pursued should have an overarching, long-term goal in mind. Otherwise, actions may be disjointed, ad-hoc and may not have the desired result of improving the health of the community.

At the second public meeting (April 19, 2001), officials, citizens, and business people of Jamestown were asked to develop a vision for their community. It is a challenging request, and it can be intimidating as well. However, keeping in mind the work that was done at meeting #1, participants identified several ideals for their community to achieve or maintain. They included the scenic and historic atmosphere, retaining a rural, small-town character, and marketing the town for tourism and business development. The following vision statement was developed and approved by the meeting participants:

Jamestown vision

“Jamestown is a scenic and historic community that should retain its rural, small-town & historic character, build on strong educational and civic organizations, maintain a variety of businesses, market itself as a gateway to the Pymatuning, and plan for quality development and community improvement.”

Community development objectives

Objectives are future-oriented statements that single out particular items needing to be done to make this vision a reality. Objectives are broad, general statements about what should be done, but they do not state how, when, or where to do it. They narrow the vision down to doable goals. Because of this, they are important to the planning process.

At the second public meeting (April 19, 2001), officials, citizens, and business people worked in small groups to write community development objectives in three important topical areas:

Tourism & business development

- Market Jamestown via a flyer & map, Mercer County Convention & Visitors Bureau, PennDOT & other signs, media & other PR, and web site promotions.
- Revitalize the Gibson House (a whole block in the center of town) by restoring its historic character, creating a viable business (& museum), and attracting a "community-minded" owner.
- Promote cleaning of streets & sidewalks (cleaning of dirt, anti-skid, leaves, litter) starting downtown.
- Slow the traffic, to look & stop at businesses, promote walkability & protect pedestrians in crosswalks.
- Promote a "theme" for the downtown that capitalizes on historic buildings and "old-style" businesses and assists building owners with façade upgrades.
- Attract industry that is compatible with Jamestown's small-town character (small, clean, etc.).
- Upgrade the quality of restaurants.
- Provide business tax incentives.
- Ensure parking is provided to facilitate business growth.

Historic structures, housing, property/building conditions & beautification

- Preserve the stone arch.

- Promote community beautification by preserving shade trees and considering underground utilities.
- Encourage development of new housing for senior citizens, preferably close to downtown, to meet an identified need and provide positive development of unused land.
- Improve the quality of signage and remove useless & out-of-date signs.
- Preserve & promote the Gibson House.
- Preserve & promote the historic, small-town atmosphere and encourage beautification of downtown, especially streetscape & lighting.
- Encourage citizens to take pride in and maintain properties.
- Encourage productive use of unused, vacant properties.
- Improve the condition of sidewalks.
- Close paper streets.

Schools, local organizations, ordinances, policing issues & recreation

- Enforce current regulations & ordinances dealing with four-wheelers, housing issues & animals.
- Promote consideration of a zoning ordinance or other regulations for land use & development.
- Promote & support local businesses.
- Promote recreational school activities for children.
- Promote & support the Jamestown Fair.
- Provide continued support to maintain a local police department.
- Promote safety and traffic control on Liberty & Depot Streets.
- Establish a shade tree commission.
- Promote community use of the school library.
- Continue to support local civic organizations

Action plan

This section is the meat of the Jamestown Community Plan – real programs and projects that Jamestown can undertake to help achieve its vision and address its stated objectives, i.e. *improve the community!*

At the third public meeting (May 14, 2001), officials, citizens, and business people considered a variety of program and project opportunities – “tools” that can be used to improve the community. MCRPC staff provided suggestions of known programs that provide funding or technical assistance. MCRPC staff also identified project opportunities that can improve housing, street safety, community beauty, etc. Much of the information was obtained by networking with organizations with expertise in obtaining funding and undertaking successful community projects.

Meeting participants rated the tools in terms of importance and likelihood for success. MCRPC staff then assembled the information in this report, outlining a workable step-by-step, year-by-year action plan for consideration by the Jamestown community.

Toolbox

The following section is a detailed description of the potential tools that residents were presented with at meeting #3. This section includes all of the tools including the ones that were not given high priority by residents. Each tool has a title followed by an explanation of what it is, why it is proposed (the objective it addresses), how it works, and who is responsible for making it happen. The tools are listed under the relevant topic area heading.

Objectives: Tourism and business development

Tool: Downtown marketing strategy

- What** Development of and agreement over key initiatives that should be undertaken to make physical improvements to, design a theme for, and promote Jamestown’s downtown.
- Why** A strategy agreed by the community will be a selling point for attracting funding sources.
- How** Undertake a strategic planning process.
- Who** The borough or JADA (or, better yet, both together) can do much of this work, though valuable input can be received from MCRPC, Mercer County Convention & Visitors Bureau, PA Downtown Center, representatives of other successful downtowns.

Tool: Pennsylvania Downtown Center

What PDC is a membership organization that provides planning and marketing help through its own staff and a network of representatives of other successful communities.

Why Objectives: Market Jamestown, promote a downtown theme

How Become a member of PDC – \$150/year for organization. Request services.

Who The borough or JADA.

Tool: Mercer County Convention & Visitors Bureau

What MCCVB is both a countywide tourism promotion agency and a membership organization that provides promotion services through its own staff, via published maps & flyers, and via regional tourism groups.

Why Objectives: Market Jamestown for tourism

How Become a member of MCCVB – \$95 to \$200/year for individual businesses, depending on size. Participate in development of promo materials. Get greater listings and exposure for Jamestown businesses. Get financial assistance from MCCVB for cooperative tourism promotions.

Who Any individual business or organization.

Tool: Economic development via Keystone Regional Industrial Park

What Jamestown can benefit from a major industrial park facility close to home without having major industrial facilities in town. The Keystone Regional Industrial Park is a 3,600-acre park, 1,300 of which are Keystone Opportunity Zone, within a 15-20 minute drive of Jamestown.

Why Jamestown properties have poor access to major highway routes, are close to residential and downtown properties, and have a history of little demand from industrial prospects.

How Network with the Meadville Area Industrial Commission and Penn-Northwest Development Corporation and promote job availabilities with local residents.

Who The borough in cooperation with MAIC & Penn-Northwest.

Tool: Transportation Enhancements Program

What This program provides funding for projects that “enhance” existing transportation routes. It can be used for landscaping & beautification, streetscaping, community gateways, pedestrian and bike facilities, and more.

Why Objectives: Provide downtown walkability, promote a downtown theme

How Applications are accepted every two years. The next cycle will be fall of 2001. The county MPO (through MCRPC) controls about \$350,000. An additional \$8 million is available through a statewide competitive program. Grants pay 100% of construction, the community matches the grant by paying for design.

Who The borough would apply to both MCRPC and PennDOT.

Tool: Neighborhood improvement district

What NID is a new program authorized by Pennsylvania last year that allows municipalities to create, at the voluntary request of property owners, a “district” with defined boundaries within which property owners agreed to pay additional mills of real estate taxes which will be used for the exclusive benefit of the district. A governing board is established to control the NID fund.

Why Raise local funds for promotional activities, for other downtown strategic initiatives, and to match other grants.

How Organize interested property owners and petition borough council to form the district. Take necessary legal actions in accord with the NID law.

Who Property owners and borough council.

Tool: PA DCED funding programs

What The Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development provides funding programs for business development and community revitalization. Specific programs at this time include Communities of Opportunity, Community Revitalization, and more.

Why Objectives: Market Jamestown, promote a downtown theme

How Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. It is important to demonstrate a community improvement strategy or downtown strategy in order to access the funds. MCRPC can assist in funding applications.

Who The borough in cooperation with JADA and with assistance from MCRPC.

Tool: Traffic calming measures

What Physical alterations can be made to roads, curbs, sidewalks, etc. to slow traffic speeds and make streets safer and more suitable for non-motorized traffic such as pedestrians. Measures include bulb-outs, gateways, pedestrian islands, etc.

Why Objectives: Slow the traffic and promote pedestrian safety and walkability

How A transportation engineering professional should study the street system and design appropriate traffic calming measures. Funding can be obtained via PennDOT’s Transportation Enhancements Program and/or PA DCED programs.

Who The borough or JADA could sponsor the design work and help apply for funding.

Tool: Adopt-a-Highway Program

- What** This program allows persons or groups to adopt 2 mile sections of PA highways for purposes of regular litter removal. A volunteer group can sign up for 2 years and is asked to do litter removal 4 times a year. PennDOT provides an acknowledgement sign, training, bags, and collection.
- Why** Objectives: Clean the main streets
- How** Contact the PennDOT Mercer Maintenance Office.
- Who** The borough or JADA.

Objectives: Historic structures, housing, property/building conditions, and beautification

Tool: Housing Rehabilitation

- What** The rehabilitation of older and deteriorating homes particularly of low to moderate-income persons and the elderly. Also, a housing rehabilitation would be helpful in improving the quality of some homes in the community and bringing the properties up to standards.
- Why** To address the following policy objectives: 1) Promote community beautification; 2) Encourage citizens to take pride in and maintain properties
- How** This type of program would require the identification of homes and property owners that would like to participate. The program would be focused towards low to moderate-income homeowners. It would take a limited amount of administration and significant funding is available. Community Development Block Grant funding through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is made available for this type of program. This is competitive program with a \$250,000 max. Also, HOME funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development PA Department of Community & Economic Development funding is available.
- Who** Jamestown Borough Council, the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission, PA Department of Community and Economic Development, Mercer County Housing Authority and the Community Action Agency could all be involved in implementing this tool.

Tool: Senior Housing Development

- What** Providing affordable senior housing to senior citizens in the community. This tool will allow Jamestown to provide senior housing in the community to meet an identified need for this type of housing. Types of housing will vary dependent on site location. Also, senior housing in the community could promote positive development of unused land while meeting an identified housing need in the community.

Why To address the following policy objective: Encourage development of new housing for senior citizens, preferable close to downtown, to meet an identified need and provide positive development of unused land.

How Providing senior housing opportunities in the community would require developing partnerships with other agencies in the County while securing funding to meet the needs and develop the housing. The Section 202 (Supportive Housing for the Elderly) Program through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provides funding for senior housing. The Pennsylvania Housing & Finance Agency also has programs available including tax credit programs for multi-family rental housing programs. The Mercer County Housing Authority and Mercer County Community Action Agency would be possible partners in this project.

Who Jamestown Borough Council, Mercer County Housing Authority, Mercer County Community Action Agency and the Mercer County Area Agency on Aging.

Tool: Infill Housing Development (Homeownership Program)

What A new homeownership program in the Borough designed as infill development for working, low to moderate income families.

Why To address the following policy objectives: 1) Encourage productive use of unused, vacant properties; 2) Provide quality housing

How Develop a partnership with Community Homebuyers, Inc., an affiliate of the Mercer County Housing Authority (MCHA). Approach the community with the help of the MCHA and do a market study. The MCHA then work with the community on funding and site acquisition. Community Homebuyers, Inc. has a project goal of 7 houses per year countywide. This program is funded through a variety of sources and is keyed to working families that are low to moderate-income status.

Who Jamestown Borough Council, Mercer County Housing Authority, Community Homebuyers, Inc.

Tool: Borough Recycling Program / Solid Waste Management

What The Borough can continue to support and expand the recycling program at the Jamestown Fairgrounds, which occurs the second Saturday of each month and encourage use of the Borough recycling drop-off bin. Also, the Borough can continue to encourage the proper disposal of all types of waste by its citizens

Why To address the following policy objectives: 1) Promote community beautification; 2) Promote cleaning of street and sidewalks (preventing litter)

How Encourage community support for the Borough recycling program including recruiting volunteers. Encourage households to properly dispose of their waste through the licensed waste hauler designated by the Borough. Contact the Mercer County Solid Waste Authority (MCSWA) for information on a variety of grant programs available. Programs include Act 101 Section 902 and Section 904 Recycling Grants through the PA Department of Environmental Protection. Also, the

MCSWA has funding available for municipalities to help with solid waste and recycling issues.

Who Jamestown Borough, Mercer County Solid Waste Authority, local solid waste / recycling haulers.

Tool: Tree Planting/Streetscape Program

What Establish a Streetscape / Tree Planting program in the community in order to preserve shade trees and promote community beautification. Establish a shade tree commission in the Borough to oversee and plan for activities. This activity is connected to an overall "theme" for the downtown and community as a whole.

Why To address the following policy objective: 1) Promote community beautification by preserving shade trees and considering underground utilities; 2) Preserve & promote the historic, small-town atmosphere and encourage beautification of downtown, especially streetscape & lighting; 3) Establish a shade tree commission.

How Establish a Shade Tree Commission in the Borough involving Borough Council and interested citizens to plan for an overall program of tree planting in the community. Consult with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the Crawford County Cooperative Extension on activities and plans for the Borough. Encourage the County to start a chapter of PA Cleanways in Mercer County and become involved in its programs. PA Cleanways provides a resource for some funding, planting trees and volunteers. DCNR has grant programs available through their Urban Forestry Unit that assist communities in tree planting and landscaping activities on public grounds. The Municipal Challenge Grant, the Community Improvement Grant and the Tree Maintenance Grant as are available resources to take advantage of. These programs offer small amount of funds for shade tree plantings. There are also other programs available through PennDOT and DEP.

Who Jamestown Borough Council, interested citizens, PA Cleanways, DCNR, Mercer County and Crawford County Cooperative Extension.

Tool: Historic Preservation

What Encourage the preservation of historic resources throughout the community including the Gibson House, the Stone Arch other historic structures and properties.

Why To address the following policy objectives: 1) Revitalize the Gibson House (a whole block in the center of town) by restoring its historic character, creating a viable business (& museum), and attracting a "community-minded" owner; 2) Preserve & promote the Gibson House; 3) Preserve the stone arch; 4) Preserve & promote the historic, small-town atmosphere and encourage beautification of downtown, especially streetscape & lighting.

How The Gibson House is currently on the National Register of Historic Place. The Borough can apply to nominate the Stone Arch to be placed on the National Register if it is eligible. Jamestown Borough can investigate into becoming a Certified Local

Government to be eligible for certain types of grant funding through the PA Historical & Museum Commission (PHMC). There are several grant programs and low-interest loans through PHMC and Preservation PA that the Borough can pursue to fund restoration projects and historic surveys. Most grants are only available to government agencies or non-profits and historical sites listed on the National Register. There are technical assistance grants, historical marker grants, local history grants and acquisition grants available to local governments as well. Work closely with the local and county historical societies.

Who Jamestown Borough Council, Jamestown Historical Society, Mercer County Historical Society, PA Historical & Museum Commission, Preservation Pennsylvania.

Objectives: Schools, local organizations, ordinances, policing issues, and recreation

Tool: Development of Zoning Ordinance

What Creation of a new zoning ordinance for the Borough

Why To address the following policy objective: 1) Promote consideration of a zoning ordinance or other regulations for land use & development; 2) Enforce current regulations & ordinances dealing with four-wheelers, housing issues & animals.

How The Borough Council would decide to go forward with the development of the ordinance. The local planning commission would be responsible for creating the document. The MCRPC or a private consultant would assist in the development and give guidance in a professional manner. A series of meetings would be held to discuss what would be contained within the document, with the current local community plan giving guidance to the objectives to be achieved by the zoning ordinance.

Who Jamestown Borough Council would be responsible for starting the process. The local Planning Commission would be responsible for the development and maintenance of the ordinance. The MCRPC or private consultant would assist in the development and implementation of the zoning ordinance.

Tool: Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance

What The development of local Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance

Why To address the following policy objective: Promote consideration of a zoning ordinance or other regulations for land use & development.

How The local planning commission along with help from a private consultant or the MCRPC could help in the development of regulations for the community. The land development regulations would be identified by the community and built to meet the needs of the community.

Who Jamestown Council and Planning Commission. Help would be provided by either the MCRPC or a private consultant.

Tool: Uniform Building Code

What Use of New Statewide Building Code

Why To address the following policy objective: Enforce current regulations & ordinances dealing with four-wheelers, housing issues & animals.

How Municipalities will be required to adopt the new code or have one of their own in place already. The Borough would be required to provide and inspector or hire a third party inspector to conduct inspections. By using the new building code the Borough will be able to in the upkeep of residences and commercial properties.

Who Borough Council and Inspector

Tool: Update/Codify Existing Ordinances

What Update all local ordinances that are outdated and remove those that are no longer used. Codification of those still used will provide easy access to those ordinances in effect.

Why To address the following policy objectives: 1) Enforce current regulations & ordinances dealing with four-wheelers, housing issues & animals; 2) Promote consideration of a zoning ordinance or other regulations for land use & development.

How The Borough should encourage citizen participation through good advertising in the planning and adoption of all ordinances. The Borough could also publicly post these ordinances at various places throughout the Borough and at different times of the year to remind citizens of their obligations under local law.

Who Borough Council would be responsible for adoption and administration of any ordinance. The updating process could be facilitated by the MCRPC or private consultant.

Tool: Recreational Grants (Small Communities/Small Projects)

What Apply for DCNR Community Grant Program to build new facilities that could be used by all age groups

Why To address the following policy objective: Promote recreational school activities for children.

How The Borough would be responsible for apply for the grant. The community could apply for up to \$20,000 to purchase recreation equipment (Construction costs are not allowed) with no match required. This program has been used before in the community with good success.

Who The Borough Council would be responsible party for the application. The application is small and could be completed by a civic group or the Borough, with help from the MCRPC. Volunteer work would be used to construct the project.

Tool: Recreational Grants (Rails to Trails)

What Apply for DCNR Rails to Trails program to facilitate use of abandoned railroad grades.

Why To address the following policy objectives: 1) Promote recreational school activities for children; 2) Promote & support local businesses.

How The Borough or an appropriate organization could apply for the funds to study and design railroad rights of way into recreational trails. A 50% match is required for this grant program.

Who Borough or Appropriate Organization

Tool: Civic Organizations

What Provide support for the local fair, and continued support for local organizations.

Why To address the following policy objectives: 1) Promote & support the Jamestown Fair; 2) Continue to support local civic organizations.

How The Civic Organizations already existing in the community are vital to several of the objectives stated in the plan. These groups can support the annual fair, and promote and support additional community oriented functions.

Who Community residents and Civic Organizations.

Tool: Civic Organization Recognition Award

What Program to recognize and support local organizations

Why To address the following policy objective: Continue to support local civic organizations.

How The Borough could develop some type of recognition award that would be based on criteria that the Council would develop. This award could then be given to those groups on an annual basis and would recognized groups for participation in events that add to the community's spirit and pride.

Who Borough Council

Toolbox implementation potential

The following table is a quick reference on the implementation potential of each tool. Under “public recommendation”, the number shown is the number of participants at the third public planning meeting who identified the associated tool as a priority for implementation.

Tool Name	Public Recommendation	Ease of Implementation	Funding Availability	Overall Implementation Potential
<i>Zoning Ordinance</i>	12 Strong	Moderate	Strong	Strong
<i>Uniform Building Code</i>	1 Weak	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Civic Organizations</i>	2 Weak	Strong	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Downtown Market Strategy</i>	12 Strong	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate/Strong
<i>Pennsylvania Downtown Center</i>		Strong	Strong	Strong
<i>Mercer Co. Convention & Visitors Bureau</i>	3 Weak	Strong	Strong	Moderate/Strong
<i>Senior Housing Development</i>	8 Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Economic Development via Keystone Regional Industrial Park</i>	1 Weak	Moderate	Strong	Moderate
<i>Recycling/Solid Waste Management Program</i>	0 Weak	Strong	Strong	Strong
<i>Historic Preservation</i>	13 Strong	Moderate/Weak	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Civic Organizations</i>	2 Weak	Strong	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Recreational Grants – Small Comm.</i>	2 Weak	Moderate	Moderate/Strong	Moderate
<i>Recreational Grants – Rails to Trails</i>	3 Weak	Weak	Moderate	Weak
<i>Update/Codify Ordinances</i>	8 Moderate	Weak	Weak	Weak
<i>Transportation Enhancements</i>	4 Moderate	Weak	Moderate	Moderate/Weak
<i>Traffic Calming Measures</i>	11 Strong	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Adopt-a-Highway Program</i>	0 Weak	Strong	Strong	Strong
<i>Housing Rehabilitation</i>	1 Weak	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Infill Housing Development</i>	0 Weak	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate/Weak
<i>Tree Planting/Streetscape Program</i>	10 Strong	Moderate	Moderate/Strong	Strong/Moderate
<i>Neighborhood Improvement District</i>	1 Weak	Weak	Moderate	Weak
<i>PA DCED Funding Programs</i>	0 Weak	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance</i>	2 Weak	Moderate	Strong	Moderate

Conceptual schedule of actions

The following table is a conceptual schedule of actions that Jamestown can pursue. It reflects the interests of the community as expressed at the public planning meetings. It also reflects the realistic ability of the borough, its active citizens and businesses, and various partners to implement the tools outlined in this plan.

Year 1 (2002)

What	Who
Zoning ordinance – Prepare draft ordinance for consideration	Borough council, borough planning commission, MCRPC & citizens
Uniform building code – Decide whether or not to adopt & administer statewide code	Borough council (with possible assistance from Mercer County Regional COG)
Civic organizations – Continued active participation & support	Citizens
PA Downtown Center – Become a member, petition for help	Borough council, JADA
Downtown improvement plan & marketing strategy – Outline a work program, search for funds, employ a consultant, prepare plan	Borough council, JADA, PA Downtown Center, MCRPC
Senior housing – Establish a partnership with an experienced organization, initiate project planning & development	Borough council, Mercer County Community Action Agency, Mercer County Housing Authority, Mercer County Area Agency on Aging
Mercer County Convention & Visitors Bureau – Join and become involved in tourism marketing efforts	Businesses or organizations
Economic development via Keystone Regional Industrial Park – Initiate networking with Penn-Northwest & MAIC	Borough council, Penn-Northwest Development Corporation, Meadville Area Industrial Commission
Recycling/solid waste management – Contact the Mercer County Solid Waste Authority for help to expand recycling & promotion	Borough council, civic organizations, citizen volunteers, Mercer County Solid Waste Authority

Years 2-3 (2003-2004)

What	Who
Historic preservation – Explore state & private programs & funding opportunities	Jamestown & Mercer County Historical Societies, borough council
Civic recognition award – Develop, establish criteria for, and give first “Jamestownner” award(s) for outstanding civic contributions	Unified effort by all Jamestown civic organizations
Recreation grants for park improvements – Prepare assessment of rec needs and initiate work to seek PA DCNR funding	Borough council, MCRPC, civic organizations (also, Mercer County Regional COG)
Recreational grants for rail-trail – Explore feasibility for rail-trail and initiate work to seek PA DCNR or Enhancement Program funding	Borough council, MCRPC, civic organizations (also, Mercer County Regional COG)
Adopt-a-Highway Program – Seek participation in PennDOT program for Liberty & Depot Streets	JADA, civic organizations, citizen volunteers, borough council
Catalog/codify/update borough ordinances – Initiate work to identify existing ordinances, catalog or codify them, and explore updating where necessary	Borough council, citizen volunteers, MCRPC

Years 4+ (2005 & beyond)

What	Who
Housing rehab program – Prepare PA DCED grant application and implement program if awarded	Borough council, MCRPC
Infill housing – Establish partnership with Community Homebuyers, Inc. (MCHA) and explore plan to build new homes	Borough council, Community Homebuyers, Inc. (Mercer County Housing Authority)
Subdivision & land development ordinance – Explore & consider	Borough council, MCRPC

Follow-up to Downtown Improvement Plan (as per schedule in plan)

What	Who
<i>PA DCED Programs and/or Enhancement Program</i> – To fund building, streetscape, and/or tree planting improvements	JADA, borough council, MCRPC, Mercer County MPO, PennDOT, PA DCED
<i>Traffic calming measures</i> – Could be funded by PA DCED or the Enhancement Program	JADA, borough council, MCRPC, Mercer County MPO, PennDOT, PA DCED
<i>Promotions & business improvement programs</i> – Develop & seek funding	JADA, borough council, MCRPC, PA DCED