

Upper Darby Township Comprehensive Plan
Public Meeting Number Four – Westbrook Park Elementary School
June 11, 2002

Meeting participants were asked to list the strengths and weaknesses of Upper Darby Township, as well as comment on opportunities for change.

Strengths

- Highly accessible public transit
- Special needs programs for children
- Free services for children
- Strong neighborhoods
- Regional access
- Westbrook Park neighborhood well served with commercial
- No wage tax
- Excellent fire and police service

Weaknesses

- Limited number of community volunteers
- No places for legal private truck parking
- Traffic hazard at Delmar Rd. entrance to the Acme
- Broken driveways
- Parks are not well maintained
- Absentee landlords – properties not maintained
- High traffic speeds on Westbrook Park Drive
- Street trees destroyed by utility companies
- Westbrook Park retail center needs modernizing
- Westbrook Park Elementary school getting run down
- Vacant homes in Stonehurst area
- Declining community pride
- Code violations not enforced
- Speeding on Sycamore Ave.
- Border communities (i.e., Clifton Heights) have low regulatory standards and do not enforce regulations
- Driveways and sidewalks not maintained

- Need to maintain and address falling trees
- No access to playgrounds in Westbrook Park playground
- Limited on street parking – parking only allowed on one side of street
- Current street patterns encourage speeding
- Illegal parking on residential streets
- Poor communication of Township regulations to residents
- Fines are not discouraging illegal parking
- Management of Section 8 housing
- Upper Darby High School is overcrowded – may have nonresidents attending school
- Juvenile delinquency
- Diversity of shopping lost from 69th Street – now happening in Westbrook Park
- Motorcycles racing on streets
- People not cleaning up after dogs
- Increased traffic – need street maintenance program like Drexel Hill

Opportunities for Change

- Attract office development to 69th Street
- Encourage businesses to take advantage of no wage tax
- Help services / funds to maintain homes for elderly and low income
- Improved communication of emergency programs
- Better enforced citations
- More community pride
- Finish sidewalk improvements in Secane
- Use franchise tax to pay for sidewalk improvements
- Investigate programs, such as insurance, to stabilize property values
- Keep closer watch on school spending
- Recreation center
- Better utilization of Stevens tract on Providence Road – could be open space
- Expand youth programs – mentor programs
- Study zoning and parking codes
- More open space – less housing
- Market Upper Darby's locational asset
- Public relations
- Develop nice retirement homes
- Retirees should be exempt from school taxes
- More community events

- Reduce the crime rate
- More efficient recycling program
- Bring back the town watch
- Establish block captains