# OCINE DISTRICT ORDINANCE UPDATE

910 Stakeholder Meeting 8/20/2024



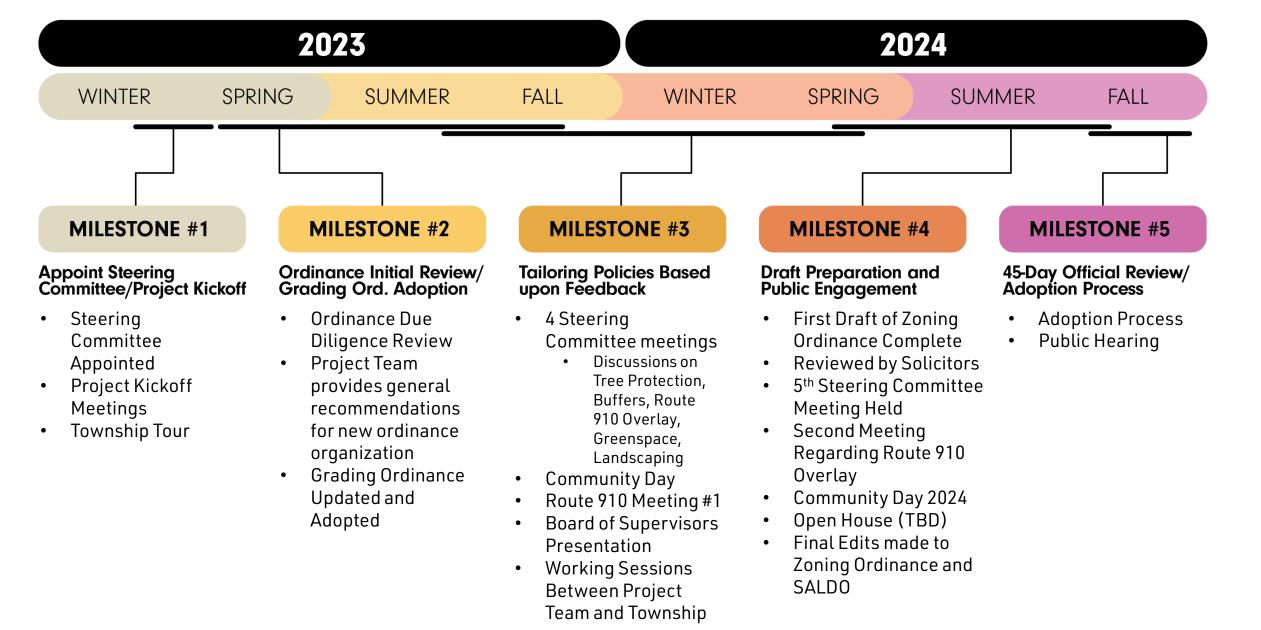


# Ground Rules For Tonight's Meeting

- We want to hear from *everybody*
- To achieve this, we will hold questions and discussion until after the presentation
- If you would like to speak tonight, please sign up
- Please be respectful to the person speaking
- Only the person called to the podium may speak
- Please, limit comments to 3 minutes
- If you would like to have a sidebar conversation, we kindly ask you to step outside

# Agenda

7:00-7:05	Intro
7:05-7:35	Presentation
7:35-9:00	Discussion
9:00-9:05	Conclusion

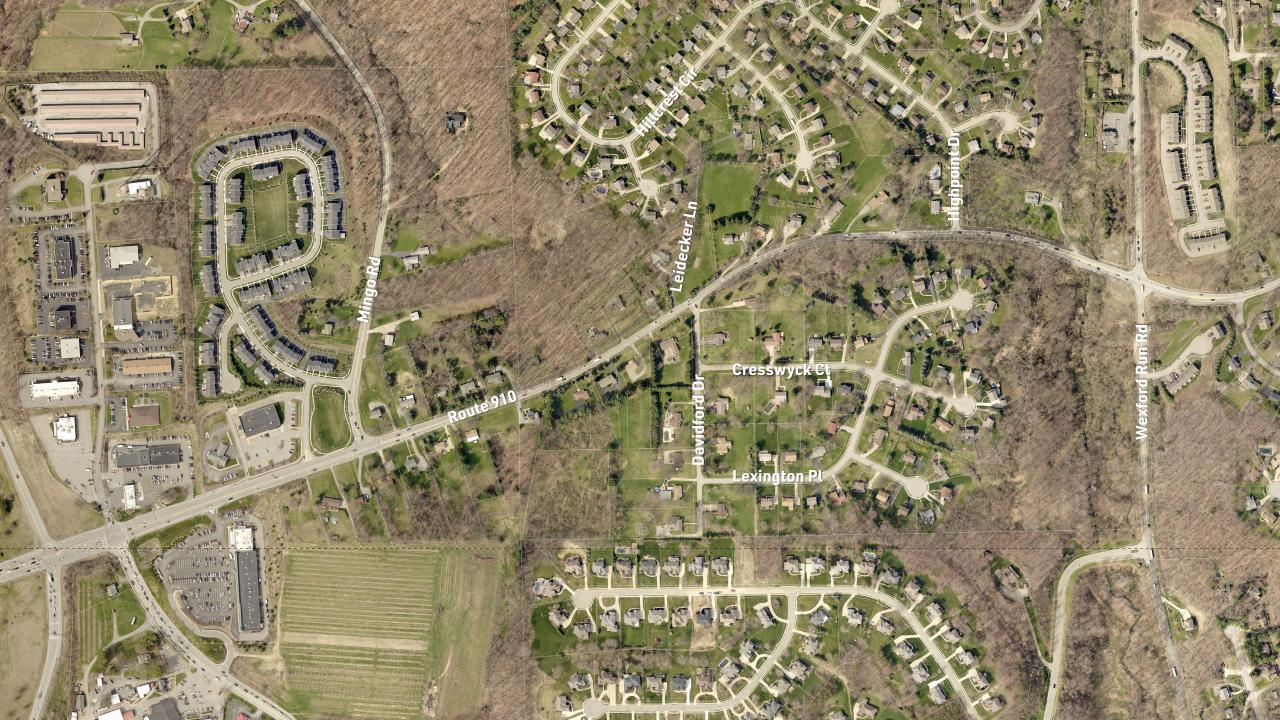


# Planning Jargon Definitions

- Base Zoning District A set of land use regulations that apply to an area and determine the type of uses allowed and various other requirements (density, setbacks, etc.). Typically residential, commercial, industrial.
- **Suburban Residential** The base zoning district for the area in question. The only allowable use permitted by right is residential.
- **Uses** An activity, operation, occupation, or business which can be conducted on a parcel of land. They can be permitted by right, conditional, or not permitted.
  - Examples include single-family detached buildings, townhouses, child day care center, restaurant, school, etc.

# Planning Jargon Definitions (con't)

- Conditional Use a use that is permitted only if certain conditions are met.
- **Zoning Overlay** a set of more specific guidelines for development that apply on top of base zoning regulations. Usually more stringent and localized.
- Trip Generation Total number of trips a land use generates.
- Pass-by Trips A portion of the total number of trips generated in which the driver makes a stop along their path and then continues to their destination.





### The backstory: This issue is not new.

- Traffic volume along Route 910 has dramatically increased in past decades due to accelerating development in neighbor communities. This is *the* east/west route from I-79 Wexford.
- Both the 2006 and 2022 Comprehensive Plans identified this as a key issue.
- Past discussions concluded that traffic volume had not yet reached the tipping point of requiring intervention.







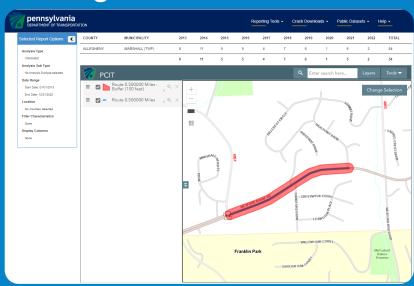


# 910 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT: Takeaways

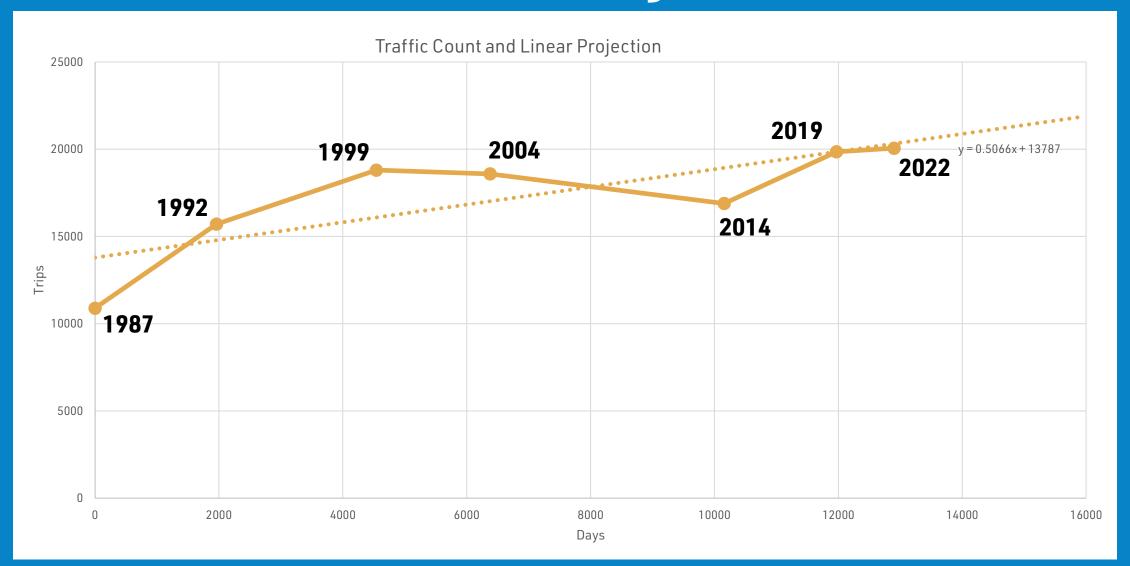
- Safety, traffic, and noise remain the top concerns of this area
- Several property owners (and people from adjacent neighborhoods) **prefer to leave the zoning as is.**
- Other property owners feel strongly that the **zoning should** allow for commercial, which would enable them to maximize their return on investment.

#### Route 910 Research

- Current PennDOT projects do not address safety concerns along this stretch of 910.
  - PennDOT is resurfacing 910 from I-79 to Gibsonia for \$8.4M
  - I-79 Interchange Project does not extend beyond Mingo
- Traffic Increasing Due to Growth of Surrounding Areas
  - 2022 AADT: 17,350
  - 2024 ADT: 18,648
- 54 Crashes from 2013-2022; 0 fatalities



# **Traffic Count Linear Projection**



# Streetlight Data: East of Mingo, West of Highpoint Corridor

- 2019 Daily Volume: 23,099
- 2021 Daily Volume: 20,352\*
  - Decrease likely due to COVID Pandemic\*
- Average Trip Time: ~45 minutes
- Average Trip Distance: 20 miles

#### 910 CONCLUSIONS

- The completion of the I-79 Wexford interchange redesign represents the arrival of the tipping point
  - Continued development across borders has increased traffic for many years
  - Conditions have worsened noise and safety concerns
  - Traffic changes associated with the new interchange, along with the lack of planned improvements to Route 910 beyond Mingo, will exacerbate existing safety and access problems
- The Township must prioritize the **public good** 
  - Solve for safety of this area

### HERE'S WHAT WE'RE PROPOSING

# ROUTE 910 TRANSITIONAL OVERLAY (RTO)

#### Use overlay districting

- An overlay district is applied *over one or more* base districts to establish additional or stricter standards and criteria
- Here, it's a way to add development options ONLY in conformance with a specific higher set of standards
- Base zoning doesn't change existing uses may continue

#### RTO POLICY DIRECTION

- **Purpose**. The purpose of the Route 910 Transitional Overlay District is to provide flexibility for lot consolidation and redevelopment according to standards intended to:
  - Foster improved traffic circulation and safety for all users through access control.
  - Enable transition to limited multifamily and non-residential uses.
  - Limit the impact of development on residences through controlling the scale and orientation of buildings and parking lots and requiring buffer landscaping.
  - Maintain a high level of scenic and aesthetic quality along the Route 910 corridor.

#### RTO POLICY DIRECTION

#### Expand uses

- Conditional use: Townhouse or limited commercial (emphasis on local business), only when **all** of the following can be achieved:
  - **5 ac minimum lot size** (likely achieved through parcel assembly), add on to existing (future) RTO development or eliminate/consolidate at least four driveways onto Route 910 existing at the time of enactment
  - Meet access management standards (dedicated light, turn lane, access road)

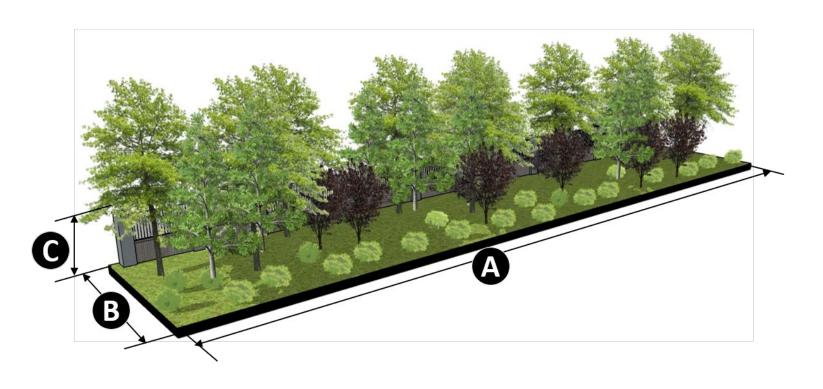
### Design and performance standards

- Pedestrian network (interconnected sidewalks)
- Enhance quality architectural character, aesthetic
- Mitigate externalities (noise, glare)
- Landscaping/environmental features

# **Buffer and Screening**

#### Buffer Planting Strip D

- Must screen adjacent residential neighborhoods
- Designed to block 100% of the view at six-foot height.
  - Fence or masonry wall AND 20' deep dense vegetation.
- Plants located to produce greatest reduction of light, noise, and views.
- Buffer must contain per 20' deep, 100' wide, at least:
  - 2 shade trees
  - 8 evergreen trees
  - 24 shrubs





# Access Management

- Internal access road
- Elimination of individual curb cuts in this area
- Ingress/Egress at Mingo Road light
- Potentially providing one-way access for Davidford residents

#### Rationale

- Doing nothing is an option, but not one without consequences.
- The interchange project will reduce gaps in future traffic, which we expect to continue increasing.
- Reducing potential conflict points (driveways) along this stretch is critical for improving traffic safety.
- Traffic conditions have rendered the single-family home use along Route 910 increasingly untenable, sapped home values.
- Adding the overlay opens compatible new development options in exchange for high development standards that increase safety and protect nearby neighborhoods.

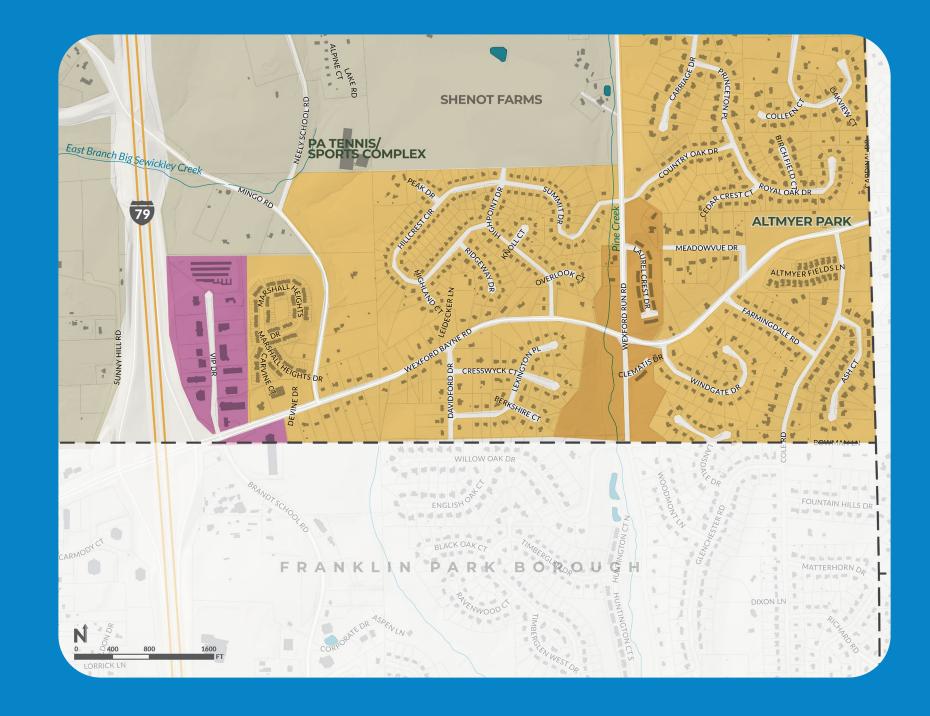
# **EXISTING ZONING**

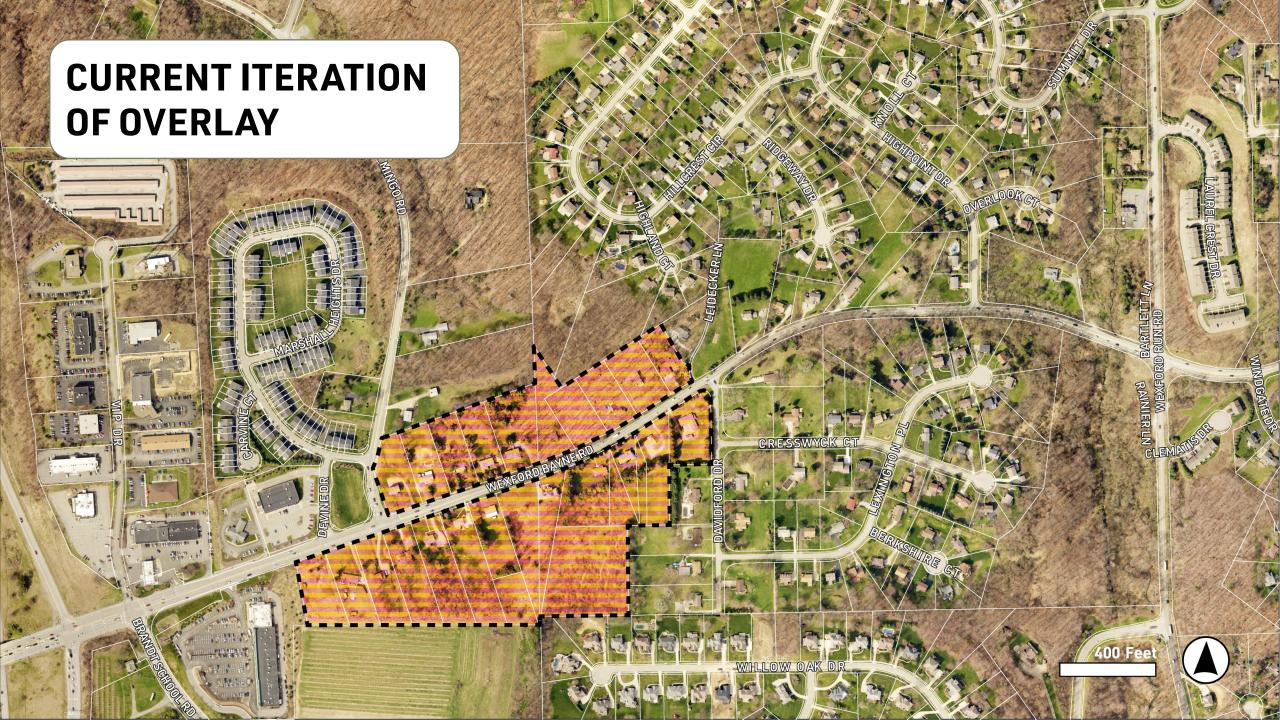
CONSERVATION RESIDENTIAL

SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL

> MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

PLANNED OFFICE, RESEARCH AND BUSINESS PARK





# Tell us what you think... We want to hear from you!

## Speaking Ground Rules

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## **DISCUSSION**

