

July 26, 2010



City of Sharon

Pennsylvania 16146
Municipal Building

Dear friends of Sharon,

As a follow up to your participation in the City of Sharon's Visioning Survey we are pleased to present you with the Vision Statement in its current draft form. Once finalized, this vision will serve as the foundation for future steps in the development of a plan for the operation of our community. The purpose of this notification is to share with you the results made possible through your participation and solicit your feedback, as well as to outline the next steps of the planning process.

VISION STATEMENT PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Please review the Vision Statement and provide any feedback, comments, or suggestions to Robin Gollner via email (rgollner@cityofsharon.net) by August 31st, 2010. Feedback may also be submitted via traditional mail to Sharon City Building, c/o Robin Gollner (address below). All feedback will be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Committee prior to finalizing the Vision Statement.

The format of the vision consists of 10 "Guiding Principles" that are reflective of the feedback of both the surveys (366 Respondents) and the May 22nd Focus Group at Penn State Shenango.

To organize efforts moving forward, the principles are broken down into 5 Quality Pillars that provide a foundation for setting goals and direction for operational excellence. They also provide consistency and focus over time that will allow us to better evaluate initiatives and resist potentially harmful, short-sited and/or self-serving interests.

Furthermore, the Pillar model:

- Helps our Council, Departments, Commissions, Committees, & Groups to understand both their current position with respect to those goals on a community-wide basis.
- Provides the framework for an evaluation process, since all leaders (City Managers, Council, Committee Chairs) are evaluated against established metrics under each pillar.
- Keeps our Councils, Departments, Commissions, Committees, & Groups balanced in their short and long-term objectives.
- Lays the framework for consistent evaluation, agendas, communications, and work planning.

NEXT STEPS IN STRATEGIC PLANNING

One of the next steps in the planning process will include a September 25th focus group session to set objective goals for the City of Sharon. This is where we will define goals that will then guide the formation of action steps and timelines to serve as the roadmap for our city's leaders, volunteers, and empowered citizens. This plan will also define Sharon's role in the Shenango Valley as defined in the Comprehensive Shenango Valley Plan.

If you would like to be part of the goal setting session, please send a written or email request to:

Robin Gollner, Confidential Clerk email: rgollner@cityofsharon.net
Sharon City Building
155 W. Connelly Blvd,
Sharon, PA 16146

Please respond by August 31st with an explanation of your interest in serving on this focus group. Please provide pertinent information regarding experience, background and expertise so we may place participants where they may best serve in this vital session. Between now and September 25th, a committee will be working to provide selected participants with tools and information that will best prepare participants for a meaningful and productive session.

Yours truly,



Nick Baron, Strategic Planning Chair,
On behalf of the City of Sharon Economic and Community Development Commission