

SHELBY TOWNSHIP PRESS RELEASE

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Master plan update launches new online survey following successful open house

Following a highly successful and heavily trafficked open house for the 2015 master plan, Shelby Township and the Planning Commission are launching a new online survey using the mySidewalk portal.

Residents and all members of the Shelby Township community can participate in the new survey at <http://tinyurl.com/PlanShelby> and provide the commission with feedback on topics ranging from, "Where is your favorite place to ride your bike in Shelby Township," to "What community assets would you like to see improved or added in Shelby Township in the future?"

"I've been very impressed with the many avenue Glenn Wynn and the Planning Commission have taken to get participation in this year's master plan update," Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis said. "Even more impressive, though, is the level of participation we've had. I'm very grateful to everyone who has participated in the surveys and especially those that came out to the open house Oct. 28."

The new survey is unique in that it makes use of mySidewalk's software to create a "a bridge between private citizens and civic places, personal interests and public initiatives."

"The open house and the surveys are part of a larger process of engaging the public in the preparation of the master plan," Wynn said. "This five year plan update is intended to be more interactive than any of the past master plan updates."

The survey follows the open house that saw more than 70 residents participate in various displays and stations to obtain information on topics such as housing, shopping and transportation preferences. Like all information gleaned from the master plan update process the feedback from the open house will be important in shaping the future development policies of the master plan.

Along with gaining input for the master plan, the open house served as an opportunity for residents to submit their votes for the township's top 10 priorities for 2016.

"The setting was casual and informal allowing for meaningful interaction between residents and our planning commission, consultants and staff," Wynn said. "The open house also featured a station for residents to participate in the 2016 priorities/visioning process. This was the best participation that we ever had for this event."

The Planning Commission, with the assistance of LSL Planning, is updating the township's master plan seeking as much public input as possible throughout a process that is expected to last until mid-2016.

"We've been very pleased with the feedback we've received with the online tools, and we're very excited about the possibilities represented by the open house," Planning Director Glenn Wynn said. "Our goal is to make this an interactive process that engages the public through multiple techniques, and the open house may be the most personal opportunity our community has to take part in the process."

For additional information, please contact the Planning Department or Planning Director Glenn Wynn, at wynnng@shelbytwp.org or 586-726-7243

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