

STRENGTHS

1. Please mark your top three choices

	% of Respondents	Number of Respondents
1. Growth in the population has changed our demographics to a more diverse, complex, energetic citizenry more willing to volunteer.	3.14%	19
2. The Library.	6.93%	42
3. Citizens for Change served as a bridge to involve citizens in their Community.	4.79%	29
4. The quality of life.	11.39%	69
5. Open space, parks, farmland that has been preserved.	10.07%	61
6. The Youth Association and their recreation programs.	4.79%	29
7. The financial strength and stability of the Township government and decent budgeting and financial management systems in place.	10.07%	61
8. The Community Center.	4.46%	27
9. Commissioners and Manager who are willing to listen and try new recreation programs for varied age groups.	2.15%	13
10. Trained, certified, well equipped volunteer Fire Service.	4.79%	29
11. Conversion to First Class Township status.	6.60%	40
12. Good management team in Township government.	5.28%	32
13. East Penn School District.	13.37%	81
14. Relatively low density.	2.97%	18
15. Availability of an excellent interstate road system making New York City, Philadelphia, Pocono Mountains, and the Atlantic Ocean accessible.	5.94%	36
16. Good inventory of playfields (softball 4; baseball 7; soccer 14), participating families (5,000) and youth (2,200) for active sports programs.	2.31%	14
17. Quality of Lehigh County government.	0.99%	6

Number of respondents 200

Number of respondents who skipped this question 70

2. YOUR IDEA

1. -Cost of living- good value- affordable -more parks and open space
2. there are no real estate taxes The money is not wasted on unnecessary police force- conduct study to see if there will be a need for one in future
3. More moderation with respect to the School Boards vision in the needs of the school system and facilities.
4. Efficient spending of our tax dollars!!!!!!! NO WASTE and NO PET PROJECTS!!!!

- The Lower Macungie Park near the library is well maintained. I would just like to suggest an idea. May i suggest the cutting down of some trees nearby the tennis courts. only the ones near the entrance to the fence. the ones in the back are fine. It will help keep the park looking organized and cleaner. And i would like to ask a question or suggest something else. Would you be open to the idea of painting the tennis courts blue just like modern tennis courts we now see all over television. the outside of the actual courts can be a different color. can u give a poll and or ask the people to vote on the color of the courts. because today all professional hard outdoor tennis courts on tv are blue.
5. Limit over-development of area Route 100 near RR Xing needs a light due to increased traffic Each new development should be required to establish a quality of life committee to with authority to ensure residents comply with township regs. i.e. neighbors who refuse to clean up after their dogs; trespassers and noisy neighbors.
 6. Strength = No municipal property tax
 8. Would like to see walking trails linking all developments within the township Wanted also to see alternative enery promotion Township ownership of the utilities
I would like to see some funds directed at improving / enlarging our one community pool. We love using it in the summer but it hasn't kept pace with the increasing population and gets very crowded. Perhaps we could create a second pool at the old Camp Olympic.
 9. Permit grandparents to bring their grandchildren who might not live in our community to the Community Center or library for infrequent guest visits using the facilities. (example I always bring my grandchildren to our library, I read books with them at my home but they cannot take a book out from our library. I am also certain other grandparents would like to occasionally take their grandchildren to the community center and use their facilities - n.b. I did say occasionally
 10. Open Camp Olympic to residents for hiking, walking, relaxing, ballfields and maybe a.bandshell.
 12. Limit development to single family homes on existing sites with utility hook-up in place. No new development of open land.
There needs to be more communication between the LMT Commissioners and the East Penn School Board and Administration. We have a great school district, but I get the impression that they are not working together on numerous projects and opportunities.
 13. We live in a safe community. The State Police provide excellent coverage and service.
 15. Property taxes for those living in private communities that provide some of their own services should get a tax break.
 16. All without any excessive tax increase - knowing we have none now
 17. More Tennis Courts with quality programming available to residents.
Establish a Township Staff (including any necessary consultants) that is well equipped to handle matters on its own so that the Township can operate efficiently on a daily basis. The Staff should be permitted to work independently and not require the Commissioners to interfere in the daily workings of the Township. With a well equipped Staff, this can avoid any "pay to play" schemes and prevent the ulterior motives or hidden agendas of elected or appointed officials from taking over.
The township should consider an impact fee for education. As a 27 year resident, and now retired, it is an outrage that I must continue topay such high school taxes because we must build and teach all of the children that are moving into the township to escape the high taxes in New Jersey. At the very least, senior citizens tax rates should be frozen at the rate they paid when they retired.
 18. Over all operation of our township government is considered well managed and improving. It should be noted however, that Input from other residents and personal observations show that the Concerned Citizens for Change have become such a powerful and political Organization that they are interfering with efficient operation of the Township forcing their own own priorities and agendas. They have also catered to several special interest groups while overlooking other important resident organizations and needs, i.e. the senior citizens groups and traffic controls & illegal parking, etc.
The Lower Macungie Library has been a wonderful addition to the township. In todays economy the library is utilized more than in times of prosperity. An addition to the library is greatly needed. I hope this is addressed in the near future!
 21. State Police Protection
So far the Township is moving in the right directions. First was the ttransition to First Class Township. The transition has led to the continuous improvement of Township Management including the much needed movement toward processes and controls needed to strive for sound fiscal management along with aa more open and accountable government. Also heading in the right direction is the efforts to sustain tas much as possible, all the remaining available open space and existing Farmland. for farming.
 22. Attractive location within Lehigh Valley and proximity to highways.
Before starting a questionnaire, I think you should explain exactly what it is that you are asking. Are you asking "What strengths do we need"? Or are you asking "What strengths do we have"? I expect a low number of questionnaires to be submitted due to this fact.
 25. Keep LCA out of our aquifer for the benefit of the bottlers
I believe most of the open land available in the township is agricultural and successfully growing crops. Would it be worth our while to pass an ordinance that would prevent builders and developers from skimming off the top soil for other purposes. I was trying to plant a couple of flower plants yesterday and became very discouraged trying to dig into the very hard "tp[spo"/ clay around my house.
 - 27.

28. The reputation of the East Penn School District has been very important in the growth of Lower Macungie Township. Therefore close cooperation with the School District would be helpful now and in the future.
29. More parks and land set aside for walking trails, and family recreation,
30. County, East Penn taxes MUST be dropped. Getting too expensive to live here.
31. elect new commissioners
32. Please do not micro manage the township manager!
33. Cut property Taxes Now
34. Buiding has overloaded our roads! Builders should have to pay for new infrastructure if they want to build here.
35. Private communities that provide their own services should be given a tax break.
Need to encourage a better mix of tax rateables favoring commercial and industrial development. The recent action to implement a traffic impact fee will kill off any hope of diversifying our tax base, making us even more dependent on residential to support our schools. The Commissioners who approved that reg have no concept of the destructive forces that they have set in motion.
36. I feel the results of this questionnaire would be more sound/fair if you allowed the participants to, instead, choose from one combined list of all the statements in the four categories- strength, weakness, opportunity, threat. And then let the survey participants choose (check off) what they think is a strength weakness, etc. then they can rate thier top three choices in each of thier chosen 4 categories. I feel the survey that is being presented is biased by providing a predetermined list of what the community leaders categorize as strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats; and thus, lead/persuade the survey participants to answer the survey according to the mind -set of the existing community leaders, instead of answering the survey based on thier own mind-set. Strengths: Existing open space Proximity to small towns for shopping, restuarants- Emmaus, Macungie Volunteer Fire Service
37. Consider private communities which provide services such as trash and maintain their own street, etc for a different and lower tax rate.
38. Good variety of quality local businesses.
39. Provide an the residents with an up to date, forward looking master plan for commerical, residential, farm, recreational useage of the available acreage within the township borders.
40. Why does the list of Strengths include Citizens for Change and so many references to recreation?

Number of Respondents 41

Number or respondents who skipped this question 229