

**WEAKNESSES**

<b>1. Please mark your top three choices</b>	<b>% of Respondents</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
1. There is still a lack of civic engagement and evidence of provincial thinking by some long term residents who reflect a strong self interest as opposed to a broader community interest. The Authorities, Boards, and Commissions must reach out more to all citizens.	5.64%	32
2. Traffic	8.99%	51
3. No clear vision for public safety in the future.	3.88%	22
4. The location of the library.	0.18%	1
5. Rapid growth complicates a general lack of a sense of community.	9.52%	54
6. The Township government has a poor reputation for regional cooperation.	1.94%	11
7. The Community Center is almost maxed out in terms of time and space availability.	0.88%	5
8. Some citizens are still holding the memory of the embezzlement scandal which is a distraction from the good things their government is doing.	3.35%	19
9. New citizens lack sensitivity to preservation of the community's culture.	4.59%	26
10. Lack of any real estate taxes.	0.53%	3
11. Not enough farmland has been preserved; too many warehouses.	9.35%	53
12. No clear statement of community needs and wants has been developed.	8.82%	50
13. The needs for the government to have good customer service and financial management are not being met.	2.65%	15
14. Individual Commissioners and Committees continue to micro manage the government which is the Manager's job.	2.47%	14
15. No local or regional police protection service is available.	10.41%	59
16. Need for more playing fields.	1.41%	8
17. Internal planning and development management systems do not exist and traffic planning is inadequate.	5.64%	32
18. The First Class Township form of government may not provide sufficient flexibility.	1.41%	8
19. Lack of walk ability due to unrelated, unconnected residential developments.	6.17%	35
20. Lack of funds for needed public facilities and services.	1.41%	8
21. Under staffing of Township in some areas.	0.88%	5
22. Maintenance of playing fields is poor.		

Fields are not properly or routinely dragged or lined; some buildings need painting; some bleachers are unsafe; and some water fountains do not work.	1.41%	8
23. The possible spread of crime into our area with drug trafficking, and blight to the suburbs.	8.47%	48

**Number of respondents 194**

**Number of respondents who skipped this question 76**

## 2. YOUR IDEA

- Failure to control development  
Put cameras up in local parks and put notices on the fences and or walls saying that anyone that is seen on video recorded or not that is caught destroying any of the parks facilities and or tennis courts will be subject to a fine. i have seen people skateboarding on the tennis courts. this will definitely destroy and wear down the tennis courts. please put notices stating that this is not allowed. and implement fines.
- This township has grown too fast. Set limits on further building,  
I live in Heritage Hts Development. There were a list of rules to be followed when buying a house in the development. I have lived here five years and cannot find out what they are and why one person can have a fence, another can't. One person can block a thoroughfare and someone else can't. Where do Lower Macungies new families find out about these rules and regulations when they move here - nothing is given when you register so how do you know what is and isn't permitted?
- Have neighborhood get together in park area with government officials present to discuss topics of concern  
Each community should have a 1-3 representatives. Graymoor, Pulte, Ryan, etc. These should be meet with township officials to address needs and concerns. Their input should be taken into consideration by the township's decision making body.
- Inconsistent vision / division in the community relating to the extent to which we should grow in the future, and what type of growth we should support, if any at all (i.e. residential vs. commercial vs. industrial). 2) No downtown / main street / "urban core" / focal point / main community destination. 3) Division of philosophy and view of the community between long term residents vs. newcomers. Generally, long term residents blame problems on anyone that moved here after them, and newcomers generally view the long term residents as closed minded. 4) Division within community about public safety (local police vs. state police service) 5) Non-business friendly environment created by governmental red tape and complex regulations.  
Educating New Citizens and Long Term residents on the need to understand one anothers viewpoints and positions
- regarding taxes, preserving history, traffic, etc. The impact of a large influx of newcomers on a long-established culture cannot be underestimated.
- There is a real need for public transportation to grocery stores, shopping centers, etc. When we are no longer able to drive, we will have to move out of our 55+ community.
- Water restrictions: Seems some of our new government got bought off by Allentown. Now we don't have enough water.  
The growth in the Township has hindered its integrity. Growth needs to be curbed. If it is not the stability if the township will dwindle until you has another Allentown or Reading. The quality of life will spiral downward. I am all for diversity, however, I do not wish to live in a low rent district either. If had wanted this I would have moved to that type of neighborhood.
- strict building codes that maintain the views and natural beauty of the area.  
In my opiinion, LM is the best kept secret in the country. It is the nicest area anywhere to live in. We recently pressed 911 button on our phone in erroe and the State Police were very, very, responsive and professional. The employees at the community center are very, very customer service orientated. I dealt with the Twp employees when we had an interim Twp Mgr and it was difficult dealing with them. I think since a Twp Mgr is in place that they should be more customer orientated. Our compliments to the 95% of the Twp staff for being professional and for the Twp in providing a great place to live.. As long as the crime does not spread here we're ok. .
- I'd like to see the Community Center, pool and parks connected by more walking paths. I know we woud ride our bikes to the pool or library if it was safe to do so, thereby decreasing car traffic.  
A sense of community needs to take hold via events to celebrate our township and neighboring communities that make up East Penn District. What do we "stand for?" What are the overall goals of the township and how can people help? For instance, organize "clean up day" where teams of citizens clean up a stream, help clean tennis courts, etc.  
Do not let the character of Lower Macungie Township change - we have had a vast influx of new comers to the area
- with ideas of wanting services that they were used to to prior to moving here - although we have become more urban we can still maintain our original quaintness along with our original heritage
- Avoid micro-managing and enable Staff to work independently. Mr. Fosselman and his staff and consultants should be given a chance to thrive.
- Regionalize services with Macungie and Albutis (maybe even Emmaus & Upper Milford Twp), particularly for police

## service

19. Connect bike trails throughout LM, Macungie, Alburtis and Emmaus as soon as possible.
20. lacking of planning or improvements to reduce flooding intownship.
21. As population grows so does traffic. I believe further development should be minimized to minimize further substantial increases in population which leads to more traffic congestion.
22. Can you get the water problem fixed already? I pay a zillion dollars in taxes and now ai cant water my lawn?  
Stop all the develment, I can not afford all the school taxes. The developers do not pay for the schools, all they do is
23. take the profits and let all the existing taxpayers pay for the schools. If they want to build here let them build a school, this is being done elsewhere.
24. Growth should stop. We've grown to the point where we can barely move which in turns wastes fuel and pollutes the environment... now have to conserve water. Growth restrictions should be put in place.
25. "Citizens for change" is doing a good job of communicating with residents in my area.
26. LMT police force would be inefficient use of funds and likely another bureaucracy.  
Poor zoning of residential developments: homes ok'ed right on top of 476, utility companies allowed to negotiate with
27. developers so only certain utilities exist in certain developments, improper planning for population growth (LCA water restrictions), no township funded support for street lamps within developments.
28. No transparency regarding additional DCs (warehouses).....Who approved? What impact on traffic? God awful to look at (especially in winter)
29. Why would you put number 10 on.....????? We are paying too much taxes, why would this be a weakness ????
30. East Penn School District is spending too much money and teaching our kids how to be Anti Christian Progressive Liberal Socialist.  
Since the township has and continues to grow so fast, we need to focus on the community... strengthening it and
31. giving it focus... so we're not just trying to put bandaids on things and run after them, trying to catch up, as it continues to develop so fast.  
There are tons of cyclists because of the Cycling center, yet most of the roads here are unsafe to bike or walk on because they have no shoulders. I don't feel safe crossing Spring Creek to go to a park, let alone walk along it. That
32. means cars are necessary for all travel. Maybe a plan to look at widening shoulders along key routes to allow for bike travel across the township.
33. I live in Lower Macungie, but I attend events in Macungie because they have a park where they come together.
34. Local government especially needs to be customer/resident friendly. Especially the ones who daily interact with the township residents. Cheerful and helpful sets a good tone for everyone.  
Location of the Library is not the problem-- the library needs more space! In a community that wants to keep up with
35. current events and interests the library should be better funded, and not have to worry about cutbacks and spending freezes!  
No planning! Too many housing developments sprawl to get anywhere, you have to drive, cant walk to grocery store
36. ect.. No public transportation & biking and walking not possible Township communications w/ residents. Would be great to receive regular emails regarding township initiatives, township BOC meetings, agendas, family events ect.
37. The change in form of government was a boondoggue, and a distraction from real improvement in the township.
38. A regional police force with two or three adjacent communitites would be ideal.
39. We do not need a library. Close it now! We do not need the Leister farm. Sell it now! That government which governs least governs best.
40. There is no group with sufficient support to counter the "citizens for change" group, which has created a lobbying monopoly.
41. Recind LCA's charter that allows them to access any subdivision with burdensome and onerous mandatory spread of public water and sewer, which guarantees unregulated sprawl.
42. We are not changing. Study after study is completed and yet no action is taken. The Township offices continue to run under the status quo...poor service to residents, little accountability, and no progress on the big issues.  
If you wish to create a cohesive community, the way this survey has been presented enforces factions in itself, as opposed to encouraging unity with an unbiased approach. Question #1 can be interpreted as very accusatory toward long term and "from here" residents. And #8 makes a general assumption that may put some people in an automatic
43. defense mode and thus does not promote the unity for which you are striving. Aganin, #9 automatically states that ALL new citizens lack sensitivity and thus puts the new citizens on the defensive for being labled as insensitive towards the existing culture. Weaknesses: From Hear against Come Hear issues continue to be emphasized instead of Unity Playing fields considered as open space Promotion of commercial Development instead of Farming
44. Too many housing developments - growth needs to be better controlled.
45. Better water supply for drinking and safety  
I see some of the presented weaknesses unfounded. example, Overall maintenance and availability of playing fields and
46. parks is above average when compared to other communities. Many residents do not not believe there is a need to connect various developments with walking pathes, etc. The reason they moved into these reisentiao developments is for security and some separation from other neighborhoods.

47. including the walking paths it would be nice to be able to ride a bike to places in the township.
48. No vision/plan for how we can become a premier township in terms of parks, facilities, and services. Extend availability of services (library, yard waste, etc.)
49. Address the water supply issues with Lehigh Authority without either side playing one upmanship  
Time is on the side of the politician, when a member of the community expresses a need for action, it becomes a long term review by various committee's that will over time make the problem seem less important and without a quick resolution, maybe it will go away. You have two solutions, if the first one is wrong, then you have another two, if the first is correct then DO IT>
- 50.
51. #19???
52. Please connect the walking paths to the community center! The paths are useless and go nowhere....
53. Schools: a) overcrowded b) stop talking and build a second high school that is not land-locked c) high teacher to student ratio

***Number of Respondents 53***

***Number or respondents who skipped this question 217***