

# Williamsburg Township Special Communication - Updated 20 Year Plan

Williamsburg Township, in collaboration with Clermont County Economic Development, has been preparing the Williamsburg Township 20 Year Land Use Plan. Over the last 18 months, significant work has taken place to respect our past and forge our future, in envisioning growth. As the economy travels east on SR 32, we endeavor to be pro-active not reactive.

From 2013 to 2023, Clermont County's population grew by roughly 5.8%, adding over 11,000 new residents. Much of this growth has occurred in central and eastern parts of the county - including Williamsburg Township. Not only are there more residents, but business activity is also booming. Nestlé Purina invested in building a large pet food plant on a 193-acre site at the South Afton Industrial Park, bringing 300 new jobs to the community. Design Within Reach is expanding. This development has already spurred additional growth on nearby land, and we will see additional growth in the near future in the Innovation Park, located on the north side of SR 32 and Half Acre.

These trends put pressure on local infrastructure and land use, making it critical to plan for future development in a pragmatic, sustainable way. Good planning and coordination have proven benefits – in fact, advance planning by Clermont County helped attract the Purina facility by preparing the site ahead of time. Clermont County has used the same skillset to prepare the Innovation Park.

Updating Williamsburg Township's Land Use Plan is not just a legal formality, it is a critical step to balance growth, protect rural character, and secure the township's future prosperity. An updated plan is essential to: **Manage Growth:** Williamsburg Township must plan proactively for new residents, businesses, and schools to avoid sprawl, congestion, and overburdened services. **Support Economic Development:** By identifying appropriate sites for business and industry - particularly along the SR 32 corridor, Williamsburg Township can attract jobs and strengthen its tax base. **Guide Infrastructure Investments:** Updated planning will help prioritize road upgrades, utility extensions, and broadband expansion, ensuring growth that aligns with capacity. **Address Housing Needs:** The township must balance the demand for diverse, affordable housing with the desire to protect rural character and charm, using zoning tools to direct higher-density development to appropriate areas. **Enhance Transportation and Safety:** Coordinated land use and traffic planning will reduce congestion, improve safety, and secure funding for road projects. **Preserve Farmland and Green Space:** Protecting agricultural land, parks, and environmentally sensitive areas will maintain Williamsburg's rural identity, charm, and natural assets. **Align Zoning with Modern Needs:** Updating the plan will allow zoning regulations to reflect today's realities, providing legal defensibility and consistency in development decisions.

**There will be three phases to the process.**

**Phase 1:** Community visioning, demographic/housing analysis.

**Phase 2:** Infrastructure and environmental elements, and map drafting.

**Phase 3:** Final document with goals, recommendations, zoning update and economic development tools.

We have prepared a survey for community input. **Your involvement is extremely valuable in shaping how our township grows.** By sharing your opinions on this survey, you will help decide where and how future development should happen, ensuring that we preserve what we value about our community, while welcoming beneficial growth.

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You can view a brief summary of existing conditions at: <https://arcg.is/1HPv0C0> and complete a brief survey on line, or you can get a paper copy at Williamsburg Emergency Services, complete the survey and return it to the Williamsburg Emergency Services located at 915 West Main Street, Williamsburg, Ohio 45176 or mail the survey to Williamsburg Township, P.O. Box 499, Williamsburg, Ohio 45176. **The survey goes live immediately, and the last day surveys will be accepted will be May 22, 2026.**

There will also be a Williamsburg Township Community workshop on Monday April 20, 2026, at Williamsburg High School Auditorium at 6pm. This is another opportunity for the community to provide input.

Please keep in mind that there are two parts to Williamsburg Township; the unincorporated portion (outside the village), and the incorporated portion of the township, which is the Village of Williamsburg. The unincorporated area is the portion of the township, **not annexed into the village.** The Village of Williamsburg has their own zoning and planning commission. All residents of Williamsburg Township are invited to participate in the survey and/or the workshop; it is our intension to be very inclusive and transparent. You may reach the survey by using the QR Code below.

Respectfully,

Guy Bainum  
Trustee

Gary Jordan  
Trustee

Charlie Makem  
Trustee

Doug Lefferson  
Fiscal Officer

Brian Tatman  
Zoning Administrator

Chief Jason McCarthy  
Emergency Services

