

THEMES

The Pine Grove Mills Small Area Plan will be thematic-based. This approach allows stronger links between related topics and will make it easier to establish and set priorities for implementation of the Plan.

1. Connectivity/Gateway (consider Mobility) – mobility examines transportation opportunities and choices in Pine Grove Mills. This includes interconnection between neighborhoods, alleyways, Rothrock State Park, and State College. It assesses if there is sufficient parking in Pine Grove, and vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle connectivity to jobs, services, schools, in and beyond Pine Grove Mills.
2. Community events – community events celebrate the history, sense of community, natural and cultural history of Pine Grove for those that live in Pine Grove, and those that visit. Community events should consider how to be educational, promote Pine Grove Mills, and also connect organizations with residents and visitors by actively encouraging and providing opportunities for volunteerism.
3. Streetscape – streetscape explores how the major roads through Pine Grove Mills (SR 26, SR 45, and Nixon Road) are designed now and could be reimaged to improve the wellbeing of the community. Streetscape is the area behind the curb that contains things like the sidewalk, lighting, street furniture, banners, and other items.
4. Traffic solutions/PennDOT/Vehicular – this theme specifically addresses safety and speeding concerns on SR 26 and SR 45 and how the Township can work with PennDOT on long term solutions that balance travel needs with the context of a small pedestrian-oriented village and areas adjacent to state routes that are residential in nature. This theme is primarily safety, but includes truck traffic, and overlaps with several other themes.
5. Small business (consider Vibrant Community) – this theme investigates how Pine Grove Mills can improve, attract and retain small businesses that are local, unique, and could meet basic needs of the local population and others that may travel through, or visit Pine Grove. This also includes strategies to address parking, encourage revitalization, adaptive reuse, infill development, new construction, and seeks to develop zoning and signage standards that respect that character of the community.
6. A place that embraces a diversity of neighborhoods – this theme acknowledges the uniqueness of Pine Grove neighborhoods and the value of the current growth pattern in the community. It seeks to utilize elements of current neighborhoods to shape future

growth into similar development patterns. Pine Grove Mills is a mix of older, established neighborhoods and newer neighborhoods with their own distinctive character. This theme will examine how to preserve and respect the fabric of older places while inviting new places into the community. This may include naming specific neighborhoods to identify, promote and celebrate their uniqueness.

7. Heritage and history – the heritage and history theme respects the history of Pine Grove and examines ways to preserve and promote natural and cultural assets of the community.

8. Recreation – Rothrock – Parks – Trails (consider Accessibility to the Outdoors) – this theme recognizes the nearly unlimited accessibility Pine Grove Mills has to natural resources, parks, and more urbanized areas of the region. How can these resources be more integrated to promote livability?