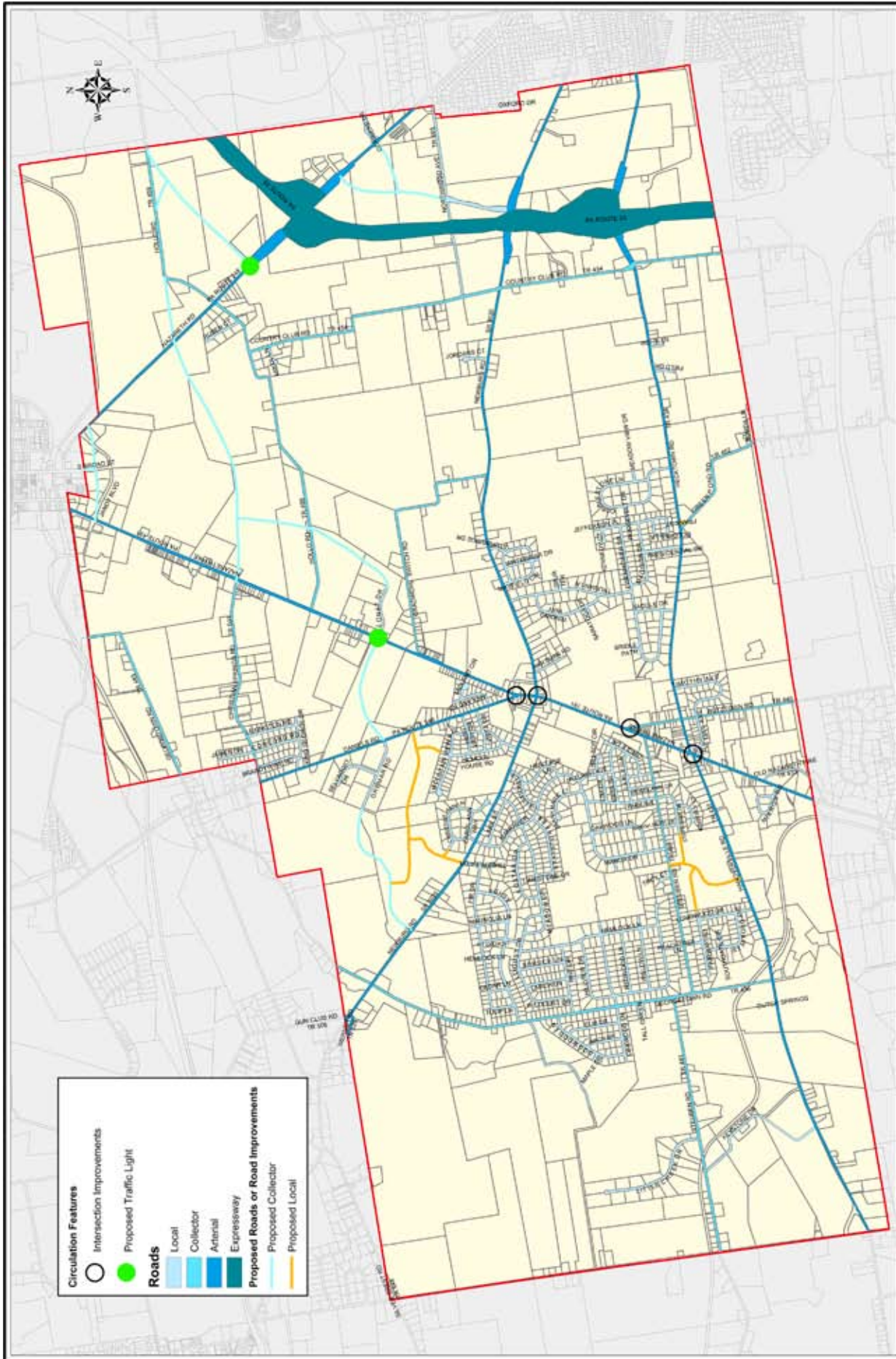


**LOWER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP
TRAFFIC CIRCULATION PLAN**

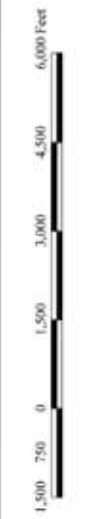


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Circulation Plan
Lower Nazareth Township
Northampton County



SSM
 Southampton County, PA
 Planning Department
 1000 Northampton County Courthouse

CIRCULATION PLAN

The development patterns in Lower Nazareth Township are very closely related to the traffic patterns. Not only does development generate traffic, but roads are very important factors in determining where different types of development choose to locate.

The objective is to develop a well-designed transportation system to efficiently circulate people and goods, while maintaining a high level of safety. The road pattern must balance the smooth movement of through-traffic with the need to provide access to land.

The Circulation Plan Map shows the major transportation recommendations of this Plan.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING MAJOR ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

Lower Nazareth has excellent regional access, especially by two limited-access expressways. The Route 191 interchange of Route 22 is only one-half mile south of the Township's border. Westbound Route 22 provides access to most of the major employment centers in the Lehigh Valley, and eastbound Route 22 provides access to the employment centers of western and central New Jersey. Two interchanges of Route 33 are within Lower Nazareth - at Route 248 and at Hecktown Road. Route 33 provides access to the north to I-80 and the Pocono's, and to the south to Route 22 and Interstate 78.

Several other major highways cross Lower Nazareth, including Routes 191, 248 and 946. Route 191 passes through Lower Nazareth as it connects Bethlehem to Nazareth. Route 248 connects Route 22 and the Easton area to Nazareth. Route 946 travels from Newburg to Moore and Lehigh Townships.

FUNCTIONS OF DIFFERENT ROADS

Different roads and highways in Lower Nazareth Township play different roles in carrying traffic. Some carry higher speed through-traffic, some carry traffic between neighborhoods and some provide access from individual residential driveways.

Classifying roads by their intended function is important for deciding how access onto a road should be allowed, including number of access points and how the access is designed. Also, these functional classifications can assist in prioritizing roads for future improvements. The functional classifications also are used in road design requirements of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.

The following describes the four major types of roads and provides examples of each type. The Circulation Plan Map illustrates the function of each road in the Township.

Expressways - Provide efficient, high-speed connections between regions and parts of a metropolitan area, for high volumes of traffic, with access only available at a limited number of interchanges.

- Route 33

Arterials - Provide connections for trips of moderate length at moderate speeds, with high volumes of traffic. Access is usually available along these roads, but should be carefully located and designed to allow through-traffic to flow safely and efficiently. Commercial and other driveways onto arterial streets deserve special attention to prevent safety conflicts between vehicles traveling at higher speeds and vehicles entering or exiting the arterial road at numerous locations.

- Route 191
- Route 946
- Route 248
- Hanoverville Road
- Hecktown Road
- Newburg Road

Collector Roads - Gather traffic from local roads and bring it to arterial roads. These roads are designed for moderate volumes of traffic at moderate speeds.

- Hollo Road
- Georgetown Road
- Steuben Road
- Butztown Road
- Christian Springs Road
- Green Pond Road
- Gradwohl Switch Road
- Country Club Road

Local Roads - Provide direct access to residential driveways, and channel local traffic to collector streets. Should be purposely designed for low speeds to reduce hazards to small children.

- Local roads in residential subdivisions

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

It is essential that Lower Nazareth Township, the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, and PennDOT work to prioritize needed road improvements and have those improvements included in the Transportation Improvement Program of the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study so funding can be secured. The only project in the Township currently on the program is County Bridge No. 102 on Georgetown Road.