

October 14, 2015

CPV-1 District Draft

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DATE: October 14, 2015

SUBJECT: Center Point Village Zoning District

TO: Worcester Township

FROM: Brandon Rudd, Senior Planner, Community Planning
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The following document is a draft for the Center Point Village Zoning District 1 to be considered for adoption by the Worcester Township Board of Supervisors. The new zoning district is proposed as a mapped district and would replace the existing zoning. The district is intended to facilitate the development of a walkable village setting at the historic crossroads of Skippack Pike and Valley Forge Road in the geographic center of Montgomery County. The proposed district would further the goals of the plan entitled *A Vision for Center Point Village*, adopted by Worcester Township in October of 2014. The district includes density and dimensional standards, as well as design standards and open space regulations to ensure that future development is both high quality and consistent with the existing rural and historic character of Worcester Township.

Center Point Village Zoning District 1 (CPV-1)**§150-249.1 Intent.**

The primary purpose of the Center Point Village (CPV-1) District is to permit a mix of various housing types, commercial businesses, and institutional buildings in a walkable village with a sense of community and place as outlined in the goals and concepts illustrated in the document entitled, *A Vision for Center Point Village*—adopted by Worcester Township to guide the development in the area around the historic crossroads of Skippack Pike and Valley Forge Road, which serves as the geographic heart of both Worcester Township and Montgomery County. To those ends, the Center Point Village District 1 is intended to:

- A. Create a mixed use, village character.
- B. Allow a range of small scale commercial and institutional uses within easy walking distance of adjoining residential homes.
- C. Accommodate a variety of housing types.
- D. Ensure that commercial uses have a character that is compatible with the existing historic character of Worcester Township, as well as future residential within the development.
- E. Promote pedestrian orientation of streets and buildings to ensure a walkable village setting.
- F. Develop businesses, streets, parks, open spaces, and homes that promote social interaction as well as privacy.
- G. Give priority to pedestrian movement along sidewalks and trails and access to commercial areas, open spaces, and streets; and discourage design that gives priority to vehicular convenience only.
- H. Create a street circulation system with sidewalks and trails that provides safe and convenient access but discourages fast or heavy traffic that is incompatible with a residential neighborhood.
- I. Use scale, building orientation, and landscaping to establish community identity.
- J. Use open and recreational spaces as community focal points.
- K. Encourage the residential density necessary to support retail uses in Center Point Village so that residents of the village will have the option of walking or biking to nearby amenities.

- L. Preserve rural areas of the township by concentrating development in and around the existing Center Point Village.
- M. Provide an appropriate receiving zone for the transfer of development rights (TDR).

Section 150-249.2 Site Layout

The overall site plan for any new development within the CPV-1 District shall adhere to the final land use bubble plan on page 22 of the document entitled *A Vision for Center Point Village*, adopted on October 15, 2014 (included here as Appendix 1). An alternative site layout may be used in the event that the applicant and the Board of Supervisors agree that such a layout would be preferable in order to implement the overall vision of the aforementioned document.

Section 150-249.3 Permitted Uses.

The following uses are permitted in the CPV-1 District according to tract size:

- A. Tracts of Less Than 3 Acres at the time of the adoption of this ordinance.
 - (1) Anywhere in the district, the following residential uses, alone or in combination:
 - (a) Single-family detached dwellings.
 - (b) Village single dwellings.
 - (c) Twin homes
 - (d) Townhouse
 - (e) Carriage homes
 - (2) Park and open space uses, including neighborhood open space, passive open space, and active recreation uses.
 - (3) Municipal uses, including township administration buildings, fire stations, and other similar uses.
 - (4) On lots with frontage along Skippack Pike or Valley Forge Road, the following non-residential uses, individually or combined within a building, provided that such uses do not extend more than 300' from the centerline of Skippack Pike or Valley Forge Road:
 - (a) Retail commercial uses, personal service businesses, restaurants, and financial establishments, provided no drive-through facilities are provided for any of these uses.

- (b) Bed and breakfast establishments.
 - (c) Small-scale Offices in converted residential structures.
 - (d) Mixed use buildings with non-residential on the first floor of the building and residential dwelling unit(s) on upper floor(s). These buildings shall comply with all standards for non-residential buildings.
- (5) Transferred development rights in accordance with Article XXIX – Transferable Development Rights of the Worcester Township Zoning Code.
- B. Tracts of 3 or more Acres at the time of the adoption of this ordinance shall choose one of the following options.
- (1) Mixed Residential Development, which shall include a mix of residential uses listed above in Section 150-249.3.A(1), provided the development meets the residential mixing requirements in Section 150-249.6.A.
 - (2) On tracts with frontage on Skippack Pike or Valley Forge Road, Mixed Use Development, which shall include a mix of uses listed above in Section 150-249.3.A, provided the development meets the mixed use requirements in Section 150-249.6.B.
 - (a) When utilizing the Mixed Use Development option, non-residential lots shall not extend more than 300 feet from the center line of Valley Forge Road or Skippack Pike. All other lots shall have a residential use listed above in Section 150-249.3.A(1) or open space use listed above in Section 150-249.3.A(2).
 - (3) Transferred development rights in accordance with Article XXIX – Transferable Development Rights of the Worcester Township Zoning Code.

Section 150-249.4 Density.

- A. Residential Density.
- (1) The base density for residential portions of all developments shall be one (1) dwelling unit per acre if no bonuses are utilized. Residential portions of developments shall have a maximum overall density of two and a half (2.5) dwelling units per acre when utilizing all bonuses, as outlined in Section 150-249.5.
 - (2) The residential portion of developments shall include the entire tract area minus the area of any non-residential lots and existing legal right-of-ways. The residential acreage may include

residential lots, proposed streets, and open space areas. Mixed use buildings containing non-residential uses and apartment dwellings shall be considered residential for the purposes of calculating residential density.

Section 150-249.5 Bonuses.

Developments within the CPV-1 District shall qualify for an increase in density as follows. The applicant shall be required to provide additional information in order to demonstrate that the bonus feature standards will be met.

- A. Adherence to all of the following bonus standards qualifies the applicant for an increase in density to one and a half (1.5) dwelling units per acre.
- (1) Additional Street and Landscape Amenities. Gazebos, public art, water features, and other amenities above and beyond those required elsewhere in this ordinance shall be provided. At least three such amenities shall be provided to demonstrate compliance with this standard.
 - (2) Preservation of Existing Historic Buildings. All principal buildings on the property that were constructed before 1940 shall be retained and used. Additionally, such buildings shall not be altered in a manner that is incompatible with their historic character. Preservation of such historic buildings shall not count toward the overall density of the development. Adherence to this provision is unnecessary to receive the density bonus if there are no existing historic buildings on the property.
 - (3) Trail Improvements. Trail improvements that further the goals of *A Vision for Center Point Village* by providing linkages depicted within that plan shall be provided.
- B. Adherence to all bonus standards in Section 150-249.5.A above, in addition to all of the following bonus standards qualifies the applicant for an increase in density to two (2) dwelling units per acre.
- (1) Open Space. An additional 10% open space shall be provided above and beyond the basic requirement, bringing the total open space in a development to 45%.
 - (2) Preserved Woodland Areas or Mature Trees. At least 50% of mature trees or woodland areas on a site shall be preserved. Compliance with this provision shall be determined by the Township Engineer. Adherence to this provision is unnecessary to receive the density bonus if there are no mature trees or woodland areas located on the property, as determined by the Township Engineer.
 - (3) Combining Parcels. Existing parcels of less than three acres are combined to create a new tract of land that is three acres or more in size. Adherence to this standard is unnecessary to receive the density bonus if the existing tract of land is greater than three acres in size.

- C. Adherence to all bonus standards in Section 150-249.5.A and Section 150-249.5.B above, in conjunction with the use of transferable development rights (outlined in Article XXIX of the Worcester Township Zoning Code) qualifies the applicant for an increase in density of up to two and a half (2.5) dwelling units per acre. If the applicant transfers at least two (2) TDRs into the CPV-1 District, the applicant shall also be exempt from the residential mix requirements in Section 150-249.6.A and Section 150-249.6.B(2) below.

Section 150-249.6 Mix Requirements.

- A. Mixing Requirements for Mixed Residential Developments. All Mixed Residential Developments shall meet the following mixing requirements:

- (1) The development shall include at least two of the following housing types: single-family detached, village house, twin homes, townhouse, or apartment house. To qualify as one of the three required housing types, a housing type must comprise at least fifteen percent (15%) of the total housing units in the development. No housing type may exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total housing units in the development.
- (2) At least thirty-five percent (35%) of the net tract area shall consist of open space, in accordance with the requirements of Section 150-249.249.11. Applicants may earn a density bonus as outlined in 150-249.5 for providing additional open space. The maximum open space shall be eighty percent (80%) of the net tract area.

- B. Mixing Requirements for Mixed Use Developments. When the Mixed Use Development option is chosen, the mix of uses shall adhere to the following requirements:

- (1) All Mixed Use Developments shall meet the following mix requirements:

<u>Type of Use</u>	<u>Min. % of Land Area</u>	<u>Max. % of Land Area</u>
Open Space	35%	80%
Residential	20%	65%
Non-Residential	5%	50%

- (2) The development shall include at least two of the following housing types: single-family detached, village house, twin homes, townhouse, or carriage homes. To qualify as one of the two required housing types, a housing type must comprise at least twenty percent (20%) of the total housing units in the development.
- C. When existing historic buildings are preserved, those buildings shall be exempt from all mix requirements of this section.

Section 150-249.7 Residential Dimensional Requirements.

Residential development shall meet the following dimensional criteria. In the case that a development is unlotted, compliance with equivalent lot standards shall be demonstrated.

	Single-Family Detached	Village Single	Twin Home	Townhouse	Carriage Home
Min. Net Lot Area	8,500 sq. ft. per du	5,000 sq. ft. per du	3,600 sq. ft. per du	2,400 sq. ft. per du	3,200 sq. ft. per du
Max. Net Lot Area	10,000 sq. ft. per du	6,500 sq. ft. per du	5,000 sq. ft. per du	N/A	N/A
Min. Lot Width	80 feet	60 feet	36 feet	24 feet	28 feet
Required front façade location when not facing a principal arterial (When facing a principal arterial, add 10 feet to each requirement)	Not less than 15 or more than 25 feet from the outer edge of the sidewalk or R.O.W.	Not less than 10 or more than 25 feet from the outer edge of the sidewalk or R.O.W.	Not less than 15 or more than 25 feet from the outer edge of the sidewalk or R.O.W.	Not less than 5 or more than 25 feet from the outer edge of the sidewalk or R.O.W.	Not less than 15 or more than 25 feet from the outer edge of the sidewalk or R.O.W.
Min. Side Yard	10 feet min, 25 aggregate	5 feet min, 15 aggregate	12 feet	12 feet per end unit	14 feet per end unit
Min. Rear Yard	25 feet	25 feet	25 feet	25 feet	25 feet
Max Building Coverage on a lot	25%	30%	35%	50%	60%
Max. Impervious Coverage on a lot*	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%
Max Building Height	35 feet	35 feet	35 feet	35 feet	35 feet
Max. Dwelling Units per Building	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	4

*The Maximum Impervious Coverage at the time of development shall be 5% less than the total listed in the table above. The additional allowable impervious coverage, up to the amount listed in the table above, shall be reserved for the use of the home owner.

Section 150-249.8 Non-Residential Dimensional Requirements.

	Non-Residential Buildings
Min. Net Lot Area	10,000 sq. ft.
Min. Lot Width	70 feet
Required front façade location when not facing a principal arterial (When facing a principal arterial, add 10 feet to each requirement)	Not less than 0 or more than 20 feet from the outer edge of the sidewalk. An additional 15 feet may be added if improved open space in accordance with §150-249.11.B(2)(c)[2] is placed between the outer edge of the sidewalk and the front façade of the building. Additional buildings may be placed on a lot without meeting this requirement when the additional building is smaller than and behind a building meeting this requirement
Min. Side Yard	15 feet
Min. Rear Yard	30 feet
Max Building Coverage on a lot	40%
Max. Impervious Coverage on a lot	85%
Max Building Height	35 feet
Max. Dwelling Units per Building (Mixed Use Buildings)	8
Min. Distance Between Buildings on Same Lot	20 feet
Max. Building Length	100 feet for facades facing a street

Section 150-249.9. General Requirements.

- A. All developments must provide open space in compliance with Section 150-249.11, herein.
- B. Utilities. All developments shall be served by public sewer and public water.
- C. Ownership. Any land area proposed for development shall be in one ownership or shall be subject to a joint application filed by every owner of the land area proposed for development, under single direction, using one overall plan and complying with all requirements of the CPV-1 District.
- D. Ownership and Maintenance of Common Open Space and Facilities. Ownership and maintenance of common open space and other common facilities shall be provided in accordance with the regulations in Section 150-249.110.12 of the Worcester Township Code. All open space shall be permanently deed restricted from future subdivision and development.

Section 150-249.10. Design Standards.

All development in the CPV-1 District shall comply with the Worcester Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO), except in the case that the requirements herein conflict with those requirements, whereby the standards in this ordinance shall apply. All development shall meet the following design standards:

- A. General Layout of Mixed Use Developments and Mixed Residential Developments

- (1) Mixed Use Development shall be laid out so that all non-residential uses, including mixed-use buildings, shall have frontage along Skippack Pike or Valley Forge Road.
- (2) Non-residential buildings shall be placed to make walking to open space and residential areas easily accessible to pedestrians by providing an interconnected system of sidewalks and trails.

(3) Streets

- (a) Streets shall be interconnected with each other and with streets on abutting properties in an interconnected modified grid pattern.
- (b) Cul-de-sacs shall not be permitted in the CPV-1 District unless no other options are practical. The use of cul-de-sacs must be recommended by the Worcester Township Planning Commission.

[1] When allowed, cul-de-sacs shall not serve more than eight dwelling units and shall not exceed 320 feet in length.

- (c) Street trees shall be required along all streets in accordance with Section 130-28.G(4) of the Worcester Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) with the exception of the following requirement, which shall supersede the requirements of the SALDO:

[1] Street trees shall be placed in a grass buffer strip between the curb and sidewalk that is eight (8) feet wide.

- (d) Between any two intersections on a residential street, the setbacks of all buildings shall be the same along the entire segment of street and on both sides of the street. This is in addition to the front façade location requirements of Section 150-249.7.

(4) Alleys

- (a) Alleys should be one way when feasible. One-way alleys shall be 14 feet wide, and two-way alleys shall be 18 feet wide. Traffic calming devices such as speed humps shall be incorporated into the alleys when feasible.

B. Pedestrian Design Standards

- (1) Sidewalks are required along all interior streets of residential developments and along existing streets where indicated on the final land use bubble plan on page 22 of *A Vision for Center Point*

Village (Appendix 1 of this ordinance), or other locations recommended by the Worcester Township Planning Commission.

- (2) Sidewalks are required to connect the road frontage sidewalks to all front building entrances, parking areas, neighborhood open space, and any other destination that generates pedestrian traffic.
- (3) Sidewalks shall connect to existing sidewalks on abutting tracts and other nearby pedestrian destination points.
- (4) Sidewalks shall be no less than five (5) feet wide on residential streets, and no less than eight (8) feet wide on non-residential and mixed-use streets.
- (5) Multi-use trails shall run throughout the open space system and connect to sidewalks and nearby pedestrian destination points. The trails shall be generally laid out in the manner represented by the final land use bubble map on page 22 of *A Vision for Center Point Village*.

C. Building Design Standards

- (1) Non-Residential and Mixed-Use Buildings shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Building Footprint. The maximum building footprint of non-residential buildings shall not exceed seven thousand (7,000) square feet
 - (b) Building Orientation and Entrance. Front facades of non-residential buildings shall be oriented towards commercial/main streets with the mixed use tract, with a public entrance in this front façade. When abutting Skippack Pike or Valley Forge Road front facades shall face one of those streets. When buildings are located on corners, the entrance may be located on the corner with an appropriate building articulation, such as a chamfered corner, turret, canopy, or other similar architectural feature.
 - (c) Walls and Windows. Blank walls shall not be permitted along any exterior wall facing a street. Exterior walls in these locations shall meet the following criteria:
 - [1] Such walls shall have architectural treatments that are the same as the front façade, including consistent, style, materials, colors, and details.
 - [2] Windows. The ground floor of any wall facing a street shall contain windows in accordance with the following requirements:

[a] The ground floor front facades of retail commercial uses, personal service businesses, and restaurants shall consist of at least 35% window area, but not more than 75% window area.

[b] All other ground floor walls facing a street shall contain at least 25% window area but not more than 75% window area.

[3] Dark tinted glass or reflective glass in windows is prohibited

[4] Walls or portions of walls where windows are not provided shall have architectural treatments designed to break up the bulk of the wall, including at least three of the following treatments: masonry, masonry water table, belt courses of contrasting color or texture, metal roof accents, decorative tile work, medallions, quoins, decorative glass, trellis with plants, artwork, vertical or horizontal visual articulation, lighting fixtures, or similar architectural elements not listed above, as approved by the Board of Supervisors. Concrete block shall not be acceptable as masonry unless decorative split face block is utilized.

(d) Roofs.

[1] All non-residential buildings shall have pitched roofs covering at least 80 percent of the building with a pitch of at least 6 vertical inches to every 12 horizontal.

[2] Pitched roofs shall provide overhanging eaves that extend a minimum of one foot beyond the building wall.

(e) Non-residential buildings must have at least a 3-foot off-set in all facades for every 40 feet of continuous facade. Such off-sets may be met through the use of bay windows, porches, porticos, building extensions, towers, bays, gables, and other architectural treatments.

(f) Non-residential buildings shall contain materials, windows, doors, architectural details, massing, floor heights, and roofs that are compatible with proposed residential buildings within the development and with the existing historical character of Worcester Township.

(2) Residential Building Design Standards

(a) All dwelling units must have at least one primary entrance in the front facade. For twin homes, this requirement may be met if at least one of the units has its primary entrance in the front facade.

(b) Townhouse buildings may contain no more than six (6) attached dwelling units.

- (c) Carriage homes buildings may contain no more than four (4) attached dwelling units.
- (d) All residential buildings shall have pitched roofs covering at least eighty percent (80%) of the building with a pitch of at least six (6) vertical inches to every twelve (12) horizontal inches.
- (e) Village houses must meet all of the following criteria:
 - [1] A sidewalk through the front yard, leading from the street sidewalk or curblineline to the front door or front porch of the Village House.
 - [2] The garage must be located at least ten (10) feet behind the building's front façade and the garage door shall include architectural features that are similar to the ones used on the main house. The garage door shall also have windows.
 - [3] All village houses shall contain at least two of the following features. Whichever two options are chosen shall apply to all village houses within a development to create a sense of architectural unity:
 - [a] An unenclosed porch, extending across at least one-third of the front of the house, excluding the garage, being at least six (6) feet in depth.
 - [b] A front yard enclosed by a picket fence at least 30 inches but no more than 36 inches in height.
 - [c] A rear-facing garage that is accessed by a rear alley, with no access taken from the primary street in front of the Village House.

D. Parking Standards

- (1) Residential garages, parking lots, and/or driveways should not be the dominant aspect of the building design, if visible from the street, parking lots shall be buffered and garage doors shall have decorative elements such as windows, decorative hardware and shall not be white.
- (2) Non-Residential Parking Design Standards. Off-street parking for non-residential buildings shall comply with the following requirements.
 - (a) Off-street parking shall be visually screened from existing and proposed streets by hedges, walls, buffer plantings, or similar site elements. Such screens shall be between two (2) feet and four (4) feet high.
 - (b) Parking areas on abutting non-residential lots shall be interconnected by access driveways.

- (c) Each non-residential lot shall provide easements for its parking areas and access driveways guaranteeing access and use to all other non-residential lots within the tract.
 - (d) Non-residential parking lots shall be set back at least ten (10) feet from residential lots.
- (3) Single-Family Detached Parking Design Standards. Garages for single-family detached units shall meet one of the following design options:
- (a) The garage is side entry, so garage doors are perpendicular or radial to the street which the front facade faces.
 - (b) The garage is located behind the rear facade of the house. This garage may be detached from or attached to the house, and the garage doors may face any direction.
 - (c) The garage is located at least ten (10) feet behind the front façade, or covered front porch, of the house. The garage may face the street subject to §150-249.10.D.(1).
 - (d) The garage is rear entry, so garage doors are on the opposite side of the house from the front façade and are accessed by a system of alleys.
- (4) Townhouse and Carriage Home Parking Design Standards. Garages for townhouse and carriage house units shall meet one of the following design options.
- (a) On end units the garage is side entry, so garage doors are perpendicular or radial to the street which the front facade faces.
 - (b) The garage may face the street subject to §150-249.10.D.(1).
 - (c) The garage is rear entry, so garage doors are on the opposite side of the house from the front façade and are accessed by a system of alleys.
- E. Driveway Design Standards
- (1) Each lot shall have not more than one driveway access point per existing street on which the lot fronts. When feasible, abutting non-residential lots must share a common driveway.
 - (2) Residential driveways shall not be asphalt. Decorative paving using another material such as brick or concrete shall be used instead. Driveways shall be either one continuous surface or a ribbon driveway, which has two strips of concrete or brick with grass or pea gravel in between.
- F. Non-Residential Off-Street Loading Areas, Outdoor Storage, and Trash Disposal Areas.

- (1) All loading areas and loading docks shall be located to the sides and rears of buildings. Loading docks shall not be visible from public streets. All loading areas and loading docks shall be set back at least twenty-five (25) feet from residential property lines.
 - (2) Outdoor storage or display of merchandise shall not be permitted overnight.
 - (3) Trash disposal areas shall be located within buildings or within an opaque screened area that completely hides the trash and is located to the side or rear of a building. All outdoor trash disposal areas shall be set back at least twenty-five (25) feet from residential property lines.
- G. Landscaping. Street trees, buffers, parking lot landscaping, detention basin landscaping, and landscaping around non-residential buildings shall be provided, in accordance with the Worcester Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.
- H. Signs. All signs shall comply with the requirements of Article XXI of the Worcester Township zoning ordinance.

Section 150-249.11. Open Space Standards.

A. Total Open Space

- (1) Minimum required open space for Residential Developments, Mixed Residential Developments, and Mixed Use Developments shall be 35%, with bonuses awarded for additional open space as outlined in Section 150-249.5 Bonuses.
 - (a) In addition to the applicable minimum required open space, 10% of the required open space shall meet the requirements of Section 150-249.8.B Neighborhood Open Space Requirements, below.
- (2) Open space may consist of neighborhood open space, a primary park, active recreation facilities, passive open space, and other similar types of open space.
- (3) The required open space shall have a layout that is generally consistent with the final land use bubble plan on page 22 of A Vision for Center Point Village (included as Appendix 1 herein) unless a more preferable layout is identified by the Board of Supervisors.
- (4) Sensitive natural areas, as identified by the Board of Supervisors, shall be protected as a part of the required open space.
- (5) No portion of any building lot may be used for meeting the minimum required amount of total open space. If a development is unlotted, no area within 25 feet of any building shall count towards the minimum required amount of total open space.

B. Neighborhood Open Space Requirements.

(1) Neighborhood Open Space Design Alternatives. All neighborhood open space shall meet one of the following design alternatives and shall include at least one village green meeting the primary park requirements.

(a) Village Green. Each village green shall:

[1] Be at least ten thousand (10,000) square feet in size

[2] Be configured so that a circle with a radius of thirty (30) feet can fit within the confines of the green; and,

[3] Be surrounded along at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its perimeter by roads. All sides of village greens shall be surrounded by either roads or the front facades of buildings.

(b) Landscaped Median. Each landscaped median shall have a minimum average width of ten (10) feet and a length of at least one-hundred fifty (150) feet, and shall be surrounded by streets on all sides.

(c) Eyebrow. Each eyebrow shall contain an island, generally configured as a semi-circle, and configured so that a circle with a radius of fifteen (15) feet can fit within the confines of the green space.

(2) Additional Neighborhood Open Space Standards

(a) All dwelling units within a CPV-1 District development shall be located within 800 feet of some type of open space.

(b) Detention basins and other stormwater impounding areas, except for landscaped permanent wet ponds, may not be located in neighborhood open space areas used to meet the minimum amount of required neighborhood open space.

Appendix 1

