

Bethlehem Vision

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The projects I'm working on in and around Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and how they fit together.

They share one hope: helping people enjoy life, waste less, share resources and find new opportunities, in communities where people cooperate and have more freedom to learn and explore. It starts small in Bethlehem; I want to share what works so any community can adapt it.

Unless a project says otherwise: Planning phase. An independent plan; nothing is funded or built yet.

PLAY AND RECREATION

Bethlehem Commons • Planning phase

A public recreation and community campus in South Bethlehem, starting with two street hockey rinks.

Lehigh Leagues • In development

A recreational sports league for students and the community at Lehigh. The first season depends on things not confirmed yet, like policies, facilities and university agreements. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, Lehigh University.

Bethlehem Discovery Park • Planning phase

A family park with inclusive play, gardens, nature and local-history learning, in the Saucon Park area. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, the City of Bethlehem.

Bethlehem Sports & Entertainment District

• Planning phase

A large, solar-powered sports and entertainment campus with stadiums, a farm and creamery, animal and dog parks, and playgrounds. No professional teams or leagues are involved.

GETTING AROUND

Bethlehem Connect • Planning phase

A transit plan for Bethlehem and the Saucon Valley: a main line of fast electric buses, with underground stations and links across the valley later.

Bethlehem E-Bike Network • Planning phase

Solar-charged stations at parks and transit, with bikes (mostly electric) and a few e-scooters, for station-to-station rides across Bethlehem and later across Pennsylvania. Part of Bethlehem Connect and Bethlehem Public Improvements.

Airport & Seaport Modernization • Long-term idea

Ideas from Bethlehem Connect and Project OS for making existing airports and seaports more efficient, accessible and better connected, instead of building new ones. Airports and seaports belong to the people who run them, and none of them are partners.

PARKS, FITNESS AND PUBLIC SPACES

Bethlehem Public Improvements • Planning phase

Upgrades to existing parks, courts, water stations and public spaces, plus two new public restrooms. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, the City of Bethlehem.

Bethlehem Fitness Network • Planning phase

More places to stay active: indoor fitness in South Bethlehem, outdoor exercise around Sand Island on the north side, and possible partnerships with or upgrades to north-side gyms, if their owners want them. Sand Island is a City of Bethlehem park. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, the City of Bethlehem or any gym. Part of Bethlehem Public Improvements, Bethlehem Commons and Bethlehem Sports & Entertainment District.

Mountaintop Discovery Gardens • Planning phase

A student-led native-plant, food and learning garden. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, Lehigh University.

HOMES AND EVERYDAY NEEDS

Bethlehem Living • Planning phase

A sustainable community built around wellbeing, with shared food and water hubs and green space, starting with a pilot of about 60 homes in Bethlehem, then larger areas in Pennsylvania.

Bethlehem Community & Care Center • Planning phase

A planned community and care center on a half-outdoor campus, where anyone could get food, water, clothing, tools, learning and referrals, with dignity and privacy.

SHARED RESOURCES AND ENERGY

Lehigh Valley Energy & Logistics Hub • Planning phase

A hub for solar power and storage, shipping, shared resources, and repair and reuse, supplying natural energy to the other projects.

LEARNING, CREATIVITY AND EXPLORATION

Bethlehem Creative & Media Network • Planning phase

Shared spaces, skills and learning for music, DJing, recording, photography, video, broadcasting and other creative work, looking first to existing places, like ArtsQuest's Creative Factory on West Third Street. ArtsQuest owns and runs the Creative Factory. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, ArtsQuest. Part of Bethlehem Public Improvements, Bethlehem Commons and Bethlehem Sports & Entertainment District.

Ocean Discovery Center • Planning phase

A place to explore the ocean, the seafloor, marine life and underwater technology, with an ocean-themed play area on the South Bethlehem Greenway and Aethon as its data and mapping partner. Aethon doesn't fund, own or run it. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, the City of Bethlehem.

Bethlehem Nature & Science Center • Planning phase

A hands-on nature and science center next to the Ocean Discovery Center, with small reptiles and amphibians, a native pollinator garden and labs.

Bethlehem Space & Exploration Center • Planning phase

A space science, engineering and education center, with a space-themed playground on the South Bethlehem Greenway. Aethon hasn't set up, funded or committed to it. Not an official project of, or endorsed by, the City of Bethlehem.

THE SOFTWARE THAT TIES IT TOGETHER

Project OS • In development

Software for coordinating people, places, schedules, food and water, supplies and equipment for real-world projects. Being built and tested. Not launched yet.

These are projects at different stages, not final plans. Nothing here is funded or built unless it says so, timelines aren't promises, and naming a place, school or group doesn't mean they're involved.