

## Our Vision for East Stroudsburg in 2025

*Underlined text indicates ideas and priorities expressed by local residents during public outreach.*

East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, is thriving. Good jobs anchor investments in well-kept homes and distinctive public spaces, and the town is alive with activity and a fresh wave of community pride. East Stroudsburg attracts college students, job-seekers, employers, shoppers, and outdoor enthusiasts. The community is characterized by:

**Daily, destination, and drop-in businesses in downtown.** Downtown East Stroudsburg appeals to a variety of tastes with diners, cafes, coffee shops, and upscale restaurants offering quick bites and brews as well as leisurely dining; distinctive retail stores carrying books, jewelry, furniture, and gifts; outfitters meeting demand for outdoor recreation gear and guides; and independent and franchise operators providing personal/household and business services. Many establishments feature locally-themed merchandise or specialty dishes. Signs make it easy to find parking, and walking around downtown is pleasant, convenient, and safe.

**A diverse economy of service and manufacturing.** Commerce thrives at major intersections throughout town. Long-time manufacturers are a stable presence at the nexus of North Courtland and the railroad. A regional health care hub is growing along Prospect and East Brown Streets. Additional retail and auto-oriented services are readily available at the junction of US 209 and PA 447, and along Lincoln Avenue off Brown Street. East Stroudsburg University anchors the intersection of Prospect and Ridgeway Street; its Innovation Center helps transform entrepreneurial spirit into economic success.

**Downtown living and distinctive residential neighborhoods.** East Stroudsburg offers affordable housing options to suit residents in all stages of life, and distinctive neighborhoods are geared toward the specific needs of professionals, families, and students. Apartments and condominiums in downtown and other mixed-use settings offer opportunities to live near jobs, shops, and restaurants for a convenient, walkable urban lifestyle. Residential neighborhoods feature a range of single-family and two-family houses. Owners and renters are motivated to keep properties well maintained.

**Everyday and adventure recreation for residents and visitors.** Living in East Stroudsburg makes it easy to weave walking, bicycling, or group exercise into daily life. Local parks encourage both active and passive recreation, and the nearby Delaware Water Gap National Park and Appalachian Trail invite weekend adventures. Outdoor enthusiasts visiting the region seek out East Stroudsburg for supplies and services.

**Festive celebrations of place and culture.** Community events and activities draw residents, workers, students, and faculty of all ages. Downtown, Borough parks, and school and University grounds are venues for holiday festivities, educational and safety events, seasonal concerts, and student and professional performances. Public spaces are clean and safe.

**A complete, multimodal transportation network.** Downtown, business centers, neighborhoods, schools, and parks are all interconnected in East Stroudsburg. Sidewalks and bike routes encourage safe travel on foot or by bicycle. Interconnected trails loop around the town along Brodhead Creek and nearby woodlands. The street network, centered on Courtland and Brown/Ridgeway Streets, is easy to navigate. The Pocono Pony provides bus connections to regional shopping destinations. East Stroudsburg is efficiently connected to distant markets and destinations by highways and freight rail.

*This vision can be realized through the coordinated work of community and regional stakeholders, including leaders from the private, public, and non-profit sectors, supported by residents who are committed to building a strong future for East Stroudsburg. We invite you join us in our upcoming projects and initiatives!*