

CIRCULATION PLAN

Transportation refers to the ways people travel, such as by car, by public transit and by foot. The transportation network in Bally and Bechtelsville should permit safe, efficient movement of both people and goods over roads, alleys and sidewalks.

ROADWAY CLASSIFICATIONS

The area road network should be accessible and convenient. Roads have various functions; some roads are designed to expedite through traffic, while others mainly provide access to local residential areas. Roads can be classified by function according to the following categories:

Arterials - Roads that provide a rapid connection between densely populated areas, such as between Bally and Boyertown.

Collectors - Roads that collect traffic from local residential areas and funnel it onto arterials.

Locals - Roads that provide direct access to residential areas.

This functional classification of roads has important implications. Rights-of-way should be wider and front yard setbacks greater on roads that carry higher traffic volumes. High volume roads should have more lanes and higher speed limits than secondary streets. Roads in Bally and Bechtelsville should be classified as follows:

	Bally	Bechtelsville
Arterials	Main Street (Route 100)	None
Collectors	Barto Road (Old Route 100) North Church Street Second Street Seventh Street	Main Street (Old Route 100) Chestnut Street Franklin Street Limekiln Road Mill Street Race Street
Local	All Others	

The Berks County Comprehensive Plan contains the following guidelines concerning design features and the functional classification of roads. These guidelines are generally applicable to both Bally and Bechtelsville.

HIGHWAY FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS
AND RECOMMENDED DESIGN FEATURES

<u>Classification</u>	<u>General Provisions</u>	<u>Right-of-Way Width (Feet)</u>	<u>Cartway Width</u>
<u>Arterial</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 35-55 MPH* - Some access controls to and from adjacent development - Encourage use of reverse and side street frontage and parallel access roads - No Parking 	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 48-52 feet - 12' wide travel lanes with shoulders in rural area and curbing in urban areas
<u>Collector</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25-35 MPH - Some access controls to and from adjacent development - Parking permitted on one or both sides 	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 34-40 feet - 12' wide travel lanes with stabilized shoulders or curbing - 8' wide lanes provided for parking
<u>Local</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15-35 MPH - No access control to and from adjacent development - Parking permitted on one or both sides 	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 28-34 feet with stabilized shoulders or curbing - Cartway widths can be reduced based on interior traffic patterns

*35 MPH in Bally.

SOURCE: Berks County Planning Commission.

RECOMMENDED STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Recommended improvements to the street systems in Bally and Bechtelsville are described below and shown on the accompanying Circulation Plan.

Bally

- Bally should consider design alternatives for realigning the intersection of Main Street, Barto Road and South Second Street.
- Bally should work with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) to establish traffic signals at the two following intersections:
 - North Main Street (Route 100) and Seventh Street; and
 - South Main Street (Route 100) and Second Street.
- Bally should try to minimize future driveway curb cuts on Main Street (Route 100) in view of traffic volumes on this road. Driveway curb cuts should also be minimized along collector streets such as South 7th Street.

Bechtelsville

- Bechtelsville should work with PennDOT to complete its Main Street reconstruction project between Chestnut Street and Limekiln Road.
- Bechtelsville should consider design alternatives for realigning the intersection of Race Street and Main Street.
- Bechtelsville should try to minimize future curb cuts on North and South Main Street.
- Bechtelsville should consider improving Cherry Lane to Borough standards.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

No fixed route bus or passenger rail service exists in Bally or Bechtelsville. Nor is there any realistic prospect of gaining these services in the foreseeable future. The Berks Area Reading Transportation Authority (BARTA) provides door-to-door van service to anyone physically unable to use regular bus service. The two boroughs should encourage para-transit or special bus service to employment centers and popular shopping areas.

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACCESS

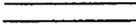
Each borough should prepare a prioritized program to complete its sidewalk system in stages, especially along roads with heavy pedestrian traffic such as Main Street and North Church Street in Bally and North Main Street in Bechtelsville. Areas in need of sidewalks or sidewalk reconstruction are shown on the Circulation Plan Map on the following page.

Neither borough currently is pursuing dedication of bikeways on existing roads. However, opportunities exist for multi-purpose greenways in each community. Greenways are linear parks and open space corridors of all kinds, such as walkways, bikeways, hiking trails, jogging paths, nature trails and wildlife habitats.

Bechtelsville should continue efforts to create a greenway along its abandoned railroad right-of-way. Bechtelsville's potential greenway corridor is shown on the Circulation Plan Map. A trail could be constructed for walking, jogging and bicycling along Bechtelsville's greenway. See Chapter XVII for a description of greenway design principles.

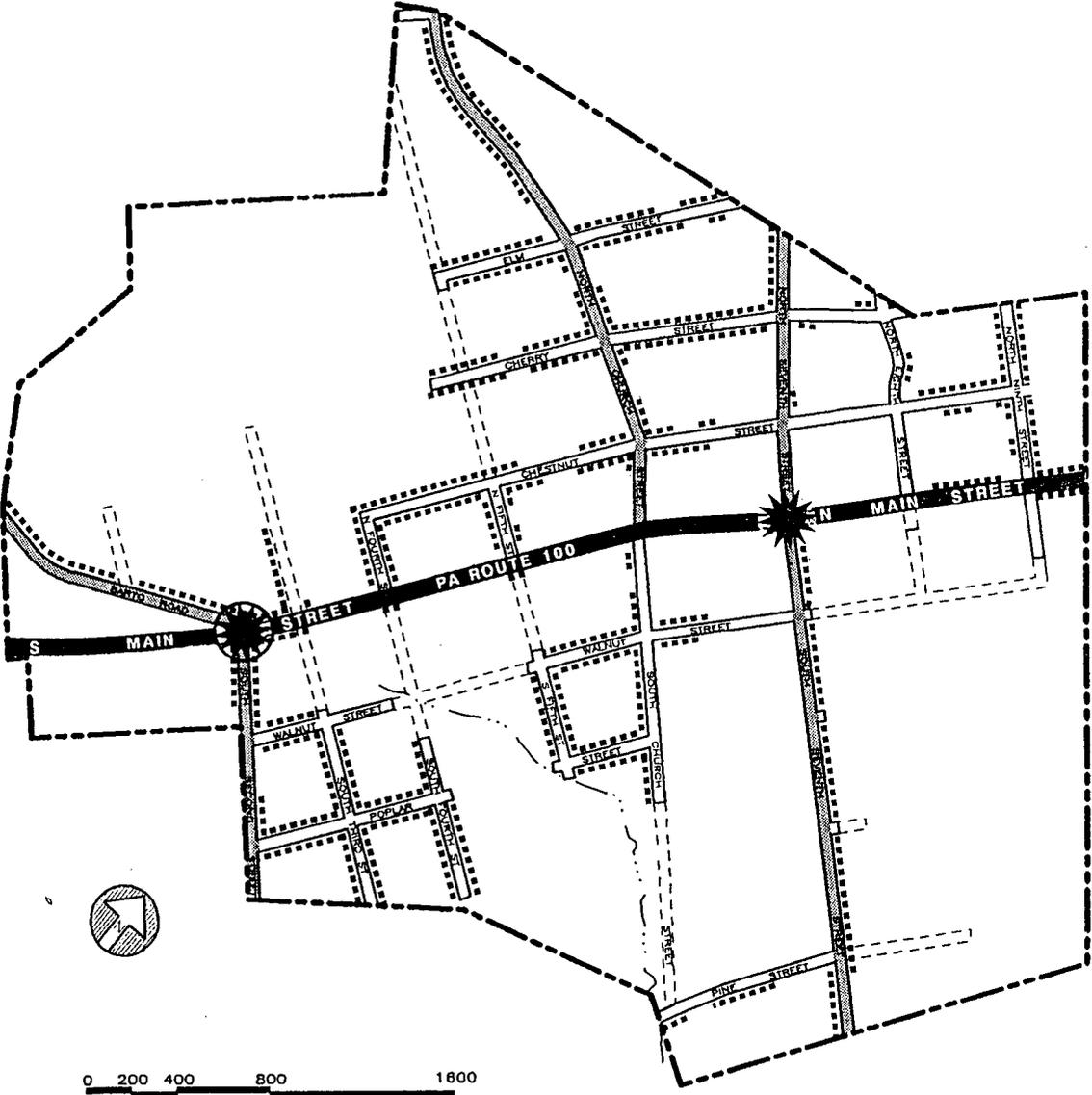
CIRCULATION PLAN

STREET CLASSIFICATIONS

-  ARTERIAL STREET
-  COLLECTOR STREET
-  LOCAL STREET

CIRCULATION IMPROVEMENTS

-  TRAFFIC SIGNAL INSTALLATION
-  INTERSECTION REALIGNMENT
-  SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION



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SCALE IN FEET

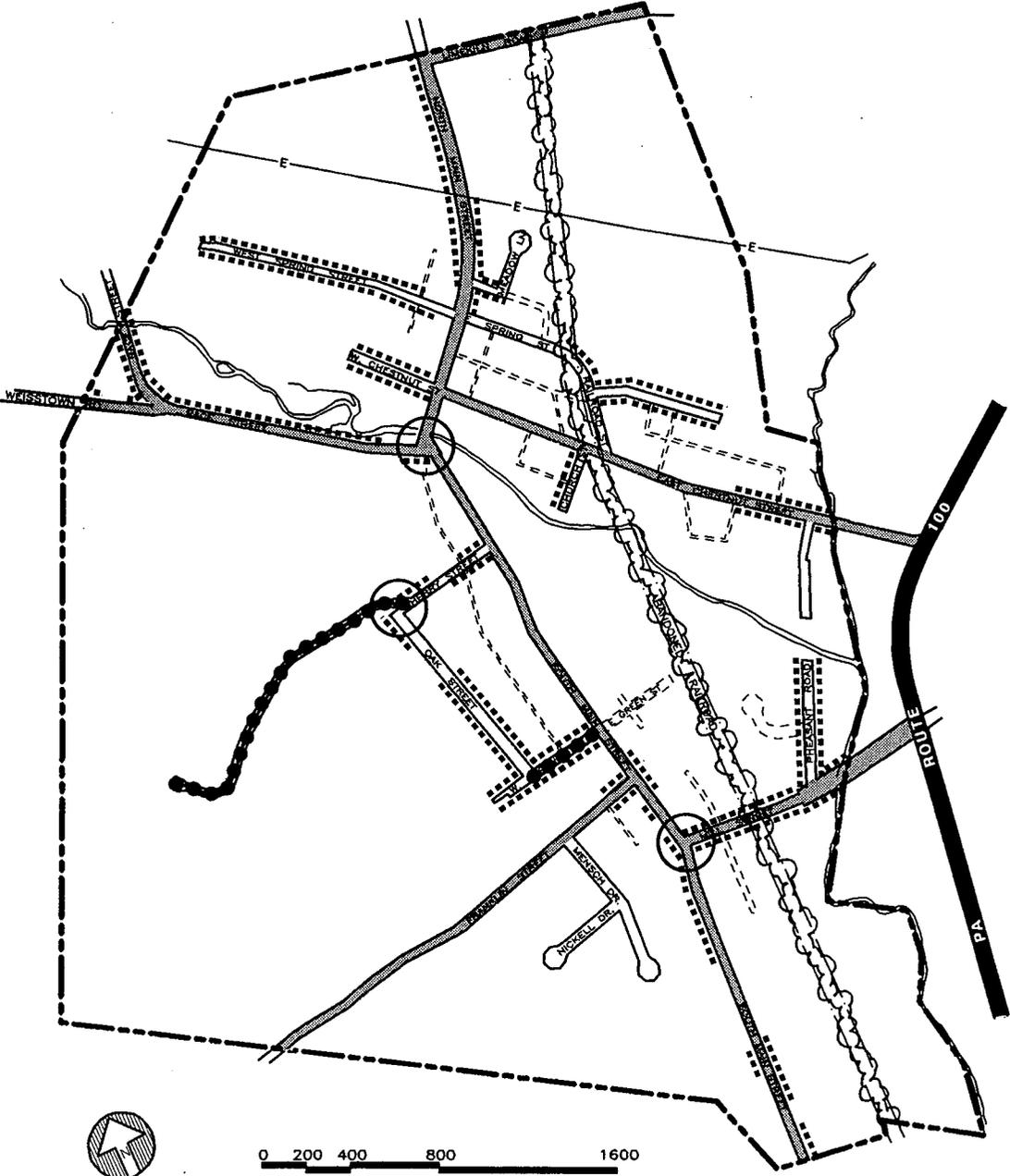
CIRCULATION PLAN

STREET CLASSIFICATIONS

-  ARTERIAL STREET
-  COLLECTOR STREET
-  LOCAL STREET

CIRCULATION IMPROVEMENTS

-  INTERSECTION REALIGNMENT
-  STREET RECONSTRUCTION
-  SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION
-  GREENWAY TRAIL CONSTRUCTION



0 200 400 800 1600

SCALE IN FEET

BALLY/BECHTELSVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Borough of Bechtelsville— Berks County, Pennsylvania

XV-5



Landscape Architects . Engineers . Planning Consultants
 Urban Research & Development Corporation

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