Planning Considerations

- Though agriculture has diminished in significance in Pataskala, it still represents the roots of Pataskala's heritage. The area should maintain a link with its past by preserving the elements of its rural atmosphere.

- Pataskala is fairly rural in nature. A large portion of the land is agricultural or vacant. Though several moderately dense residential subdivisions have been developed, much of the residential land use has occurred on lots of two acres or more. Clusters of these large lots exist along nearly every road in Pataskala. Some commercial and industrial development has occurred along Broad Street and Taylor Road, and in the Summit Station area. Given the amount of vacant land that exists, and the presence of a major arterial such as Broad Street, Pataskala will likely experience significant development pressure, particularly as central utilities become more widely available. Development of future utility expansion and development trends must be coordinated to maintain the general welfare of the community.

- Pataskala's rate of growth during the last decade has been fairly slow. Major changes in surrounding communities has already begun to cause the development pace to increase. The residential development occurring in surrounding communities such as New Albany and Jefferson Township in Franklin County will likely spillover into Pataskala during the next decade. The commercial, office, and light industrial development occurring in eastern Franklin County, and particularly in the Limited's facilities in Reynoldsburg will increase the demand for housing in western Licking County.

- In addition to increasing the demand for housing, growth in surrounding communities will also increase traffic in Pataskala. This could occur directly by people commuting from a home in the City to a job in another community, or indirectly through spillover development. Pace of development within Pataskala must be coordinated with the City's ability to provide a safe and timely transportation infrastructure.

Recent Pataskala Subdivisions	Zoning	Acreage	# of Lots/Units Approved	Dwelling Units per Acre
1. Amhurst Village	R-7		74	
2. Barrington Ridge	R-7	68.23	179	2.52
3. Barrington Ridge North	R-7	136.30	239	1.75
4. Bright Waters	R-7/R-15	73.94	168	2.27
5. Broadview Crossing	R-7		101	
6. Brooksedge	R-10/PUD		510	
7. Catalina Club Apartments	RM	15.62	360	9.99
8. Estates at Havens Corner	RR	77.60	14	0.18
9. Glenbrooke	R-10/PUD	59.00	133	2.25
10. Hazelwood	R-7/R-15		339	
11. Highland Estates	R-87/PUD		28	
12. Homestead of Border Place	R-10/PUD		318	
13. Jefferson Meadows Condo.	RM			
14. Kyle More	R-87		42	
15. Legacy Estates	R-10	93.74	227	2.42
16. Pataskala Ridge	R-10/PUD	45.00	126	2.82
17. Pataskala Village Square	R-20		20	
18. Ravines at Hazelwood	R-15		102	
19. Summit Ridge Heights	R-20		26	
20. Summit Ridge Manufactured Home Park	R-MH	40.69	222	5.45
21. Taylor Estates	R-10/PUD	15.07	34	2.26

22. Taylor Glen	R-10/PUD	85.78	214	2.49
23. The Settlement of Pataskala	R-10	79.67	203	2.55
24. Villas at Hazelwood Condo.	RM		36	

Subdivisions Continued	**Zoning**	**Acreage**	**# of Lots/Units Approved**	**Dwelling Units per Acre**
25. Village Gate Apartments	RM		200	
26. The Woods at Taylor Estates	RM	23.71	104	4.38

Pataskala Subdivisions in Progress Map

Pataskala School Districts Map

TABLE 1: AREA SCHOOLS AND THEIR LOCATIONS			
Southwest Licking School District		***Licking Heights School District***	
Kindergarten Center	*South Street*	Jersey Elementary	*Morse Road*
Kirkersville Elementary	*North Fifth St.*	Summit Elementary	*Summit Road*
Etna Elementary	*Columbia Road*	Licking Heights Middle School	*Summit Road*
Pataskala Elementary	*High Street*	Licking Heights High School	*Summit Road*
Watkins Middle School	*Watkins Rd. SW*		
Watkins Memorial High School	*Watkins Rd. SW*		

Figure12 gives historical school district enrollment for the two school districts. Both school districts declined in population from 1980 to 1990. Licking Heights' student population dropped almost 25% over the ten year period, falling from 1,426 students in 1980 to only 1,073 students in 1990. Southwest Licking's student population dropped 8.6% between 1980 and 1985, falling from 3,165 students to 2,892 students, but then rose again slightly in 1990 to 2,903 students.

Furthermore, the student population statistics go only through 1990 for both districts, giving a very misleading picture. Both Southwest Licking and Licking Heights are back, or near, their historic highs. This can be seen by the up-to-date statistics from the School Districts. For the Southwest Licking Local School District,1997-1998 school year, the enrollment was over 3099 students. The Licking Heights Local School District, 1997-1998 school year, the enrollment was over 1112 students.

Figure 12

Due to population increases, both school districts expect to grow over the next decade. Southwest Licking has dealt with the anticipated growth through the year 2005 by building a new Etna Elementary School, and by expanding Pataskala Elementary, Kirkersville Elementary, Watkins Middle School, and Watkins Memorial High School. Future growth will be accommodated by modest additions to some of these schools, and by building new buildings, most likely along the Route 16 corridor. The Licking Heights School District has dealt with anticipated growth by building a new High School/Middle School, and by expanding the existing Elementary School in Summit Station. Future growth will be accommodated by modest additions to some of these schools, and by building new buildings, one of which may be located in Franklin County, Jefferson Township.

Libraries

The Pataskala Public Library, in existence since 1937, is located on South Vine Street in the old village area. Funding for the library comes solely from state income tax. The facility is a school district library. Decisions regarding board members and levies are determined by the Southwest Licking School District.

Like most libraries, the Pataskala Public Library lends books, and provides reference services and information referrals. The library also operates several special programs. Children may participate in story hour or in reading programs. The library hires area

teachers part-time to assist students with reference assignments. Past programs for adults included basket-weaving classes, and a Son of Heaven preview. Staff travel to Pine-Kirk and Conine Village senior centers to provide programs and to drop off large print materials.

Emergency Services

Pataskala is part of the West Licking Fire District. In addition to Pataskala, the Fire District includes the Village of Kirkersville, Etna and Harrison Townships, and the southern third of Jersey Township. Service is provided to the 109 mile district by 17 full-time firemen: a chief, captain, three lieutenants, and 12 career firefighters. The district also includes volunteer officers and firefighters. The district has five pumper trucks, a grass truck, a tanker, an air truck, a rescuer, a save-a-life truck, and staff vehicles. The department is supported by 6.5 mills, three of which are continuing mills.

There are four fire stations in the district that are located as follows: on the east side of Jefferson Street in the old Village of Pataskala, on the east side of 4th Street in Kirkersville, a half-mile south of SR 16 on Mink Street, and the Broad Street Station, just west of Watkins Road. The West Licking Fire District achieves a response time of three minutes or less to the furthest point of the district. Fire Chief Jim Weber indicated that the district has a Class 3 rating where water is available, and a Class 9 rating where water is not available.

~~Police protection is provided to Pataskala by the Pataskala Police Department as well as the Licking County Sheriff. Pataskala is part of the southwest district, the portion of the county that is west of SR 661 and south of SR 37. Also included in this district are Harrison, Etna, Union, St. Albans, Jersey, and Granville Townships. Because this part of the county has the highest population and crime rate, the sheriff allocates one-third to one-half of the county's patrol staff to this area. This translates to one or two of the county's three or four patrol officers during each eight-hour period. During this time, the officers are patrolling the area unless called out for a particular problem. One sergeant provides back-up for the district during each eight-hour period. The county-wide average response time is about 16 minutes.~~

Police protection is provided to Pataskala by the Pataskala Police Department. The Division of Police has 19 full-time police officers and an auxiliary force allocated for 12 volunteer officers. The Division has a fully staffed Detective Bureau with a Crime Scene Unit trained in the most modern investigative techniques available today. Additionally, the Division is trained and equipped to deal with a variety of situations that may develop in today's violent (tumultuous) atmosphere. Although small in numbers, the Division's highly trained and motivated personnel provide excellent police services to the rapidly growing City of Pataskala.

Wastewater Treatment and Water Supply

Most of the former Village of Pataskala was served by central water and sewer, while most of old Lima Township used private wells for water supply and on-site leaching or aeration systems for wastewater disposal. The City of Pataskala today is served by the old village's facilities as well as by the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District.

The Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District (SWLCWSD) was formed in 1989 for the purpose of providing central sewer and water service in Lima, Harrison, and Etna Townships. The District has since expanded service throughout the area. Map 1 shows the planned and completed sewer projects in the District, while Map 2 shows the planned and completed water projects in the area.

A Utility Study which addresses the future planning and growth for the City of Pataskala has been prepared by Dodson Stilson. Maps taken from this study for the Pataskala Utility Department have been incorporated into this document and show planned, completed and anticipated projects in the area for sewer projects on Map 3, and show planned, completed and anticipated projects in the area for water projects on Map 4.

In order to provide a structured approach, Pataskala should develop a baseline analysis at the current transportation infrastructure including, at a minimum, pavement type, capacity, cost figures for maintenance, and percent of current utilization. Additionally, Pataskala should adopt procedures for review of relative impact for proposed subdivisions/changes in zoning unless the requested change in zoning is to a less intense zoning classification. Pataskala should develop a mechanism for requiring off-site impact accountability for all land use/zoning changes that will result in a reduction of utilization capacity from baseline levels.

Sewer Projects Map - S.W.L. (Map 1)

Water Projects Map - S.W.L. (Map 2)

Sewer Projects Map - Pataskala Utility Department (Map 3)

Water Projects Map - Pataskala Utility Department (Map 4)

Transportation/Thoroughfare Map & Text

Streets are used for different purposes. Some streets are local in nature, providing immediate access to residences. Local streets generally discourage through traffic. While limited commercial or higher-intensity residential development may be acceptable on these streets, local streets primarily serve lower-density residential areas. Parking may be permitted on these streets, and intersections should be a minimum of 150' apart.

Collector streets collect traffic from local streets and provide through access. Collectors are needed to handle traffic from higher intensity uses such as apartments, institutions, and local retail areas. A minimum distance of 800' between intersections is recommended, and on-street parking is discouraged. Examples of minor collectors in Pataskala are Summit Road, Cable Road, and Headleys Mill Road. A major collector in Pataskala is Mink Road.

The collectors usually lead to arterial streets. These streets are high speed and carry a large number of cars each day. Intensive uses such as shopping centers and industrial parks usually abut arterials. Minimum suggested distance for traffic flow interruptions from connecting streets is 1,300 feet. A minor arterial in Pataskala is SR 310 south of SR 16, while SR 16 itself is a major arterial.

RECOMMENDED RIGHT-OF-WAY WIDTHS

Roadway Classification	Road	Min. R.O.W.
Major Arterial	State Route 16/Broad Street	120 feet
Minor Arterial	State Route 310 North	100 feet
	State Route 310 South	100 feet
Major Collector	Mink Street	100 feet
	Havens Corner Road	100 feet
	Taylor Road	100 feet
Minor Collector	Summit Road	80 feet
	Cable Road	80 feet
	Clark State Road	80 feet
	Refugee Road	80 feet
	Headleys Mill Road	80 feet
	Watkins Road	80 feet
Local Collector	Graham Road	72 feet
	Columbia Road	72 feet
	Mill Street	72 feet
	Cleveland Road	72 feet
	McIntosh Road	72 feet
	Hollow Road	72 feet
	Alward Road	72 feet
	Old Maids Lane	72 feet
	Dixon Road	72 feet
	Creek Road	72 feet

Roadway Classification	Road	Min. R.O.W.
	South Township Road	72 feet
	Blacks Road	72 feet
	Courter Road	72 feet
Local/Residential	All	50 feet min.; 60 feet max.
Marginal Access	All	50 feet min.; 60 feet max.

RECOMMENDED PAVEMENT WIDTHS

Roadway Classification	Pavement Width
Major Arterial	5-12 foot lanes with right turn deceleration lane, center left turn left lane, curb & gutter, no parking
Minor Arterial	Same as Major Arterial, or 3-12 foot lanes with right turn deceleration lane and center left turn lane, curb & gutter, no parking
Major Collector	3-12 foot lanes with right turn deceleration lane, center left turn lane, curb & gutter, no parking
Minor Collector	3-12 foot lanes with center left turn lane, curb & gutter, no parking; or 2-12 foot lanes and 8 foot parking on one side, curb & gutter
Local Collector	Same as Minor Collector
Local/Residential	60 foot R.O.W.: 3-12 foot lanes, curb & gutter, no parking; or 2-12 foot lanes with 11 foot parking, curb & gutter 50 foot R.O.W.: 2-13.5 foot lanes, curb & gutter, no parking
Marginal Access	60 foot R.O.W.: 3-12 foot lanes, curb & gutter, no parking 50 foot R.O.W.: 2-13.5 foot lanes, curb & gutter, no parking

Traffic Counts

Traffic counts show the annual average daily traffic on a road, and represent traffic going in both directions unless otherwise indicated. These numbers demonstrate which roads in the area are most heavily traveled, and can be good indicators of where future improvements may be needed.

Figure 13 shows annual average daily traffic (AADT) counts that have recently been done in the Pataskala vicinity. According to the figures below, SR 16 west of Watkins Rd is by far the most heavily traveled arterial in the area; this data supports the fact that SR 16 is the only road classified as a major arterial in the City of Pataskala. Other area roads carrying heavy traffic include Mink Road north of Refugee Rd, SR 310 north of both Refugee Road and Headley's Mill Road, and Summit Road north of SR 16.

FIGURE 13: TRAFFIC COUNTS IN PATASKALA VICINITY

Road	***Location***	***Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)***	***Year Counted***	***Political Jurisdiction***
Blacks Road	West of Watkins Rd	1264	1997	City of Pataskala
Havens Corners Rd	East of Taylor Rd	1907	1995	City of Pataskala
Havens Corners Rd	West of Mink Rd	940	1995	City of Pataskala
Mill Street Rd	East of Columbia Rd	900	1988	City of Pataskala
Mink Road	North of Refugee Rd	2422	1995	City of Pataskala
Mink Road	North of SR 16	2130	1995	City of Pataskala
Morse Road	West of Summit Rd	3675	1995	City of Pataskala
Refugee Rd	West of Mink Rd	198	1995	City of Pataskala

Refugee Rd	East of Mink Rd	447	1995	City of Pataskala
Refugee Rd	West of SR 310	206	1995	City of Pataskala
SR 16	West of Watkins Rd	12771	1997	City of Pataskala
SR 16	West of Taylor Rd	19019	1995	City of Pataskala
SR 16	East of Columbia	11600	1994	City of Pataskala
SR 16	East of Franklin County Line	12140	1996	City of Pataskala
SR 16	West of SR 310/Main Street	12140	1996	City of Pataskala
SR 16	West of SR 310/ Willow Street	16965	1996	City of Pataskala
SR 310	South of SR 310/ Willow Street	16965	1996	City of Pataskala
SR 310	North of Headley's Mill Road	4190	1996	City of Pataskala
SR 310	North of Pataskala Corp Line	12020	1996	City of Pataskala
Summit Rd	North of SR 16	1073	1995	City of Pataskala
Summit Rd	South of SR 16	1073	1995	City of Pataskala
Morse Road	Between Alward Rd and SR 310	2150	1997	Jersey Township
Mink Road	South of US 40	2283	1995	Etna Township
Mink Road	South of Refugee Rd	2587	1995	Etna Township
Palmer	West of Mink Road	802	1995	Etna Township

Road				
York Road	North of US 40	1625	1995	Etna Township
US 40 *Eastbound**	West of Mink Road	4475	1995	Etna Township
US 40 *Westbound**	West of Mink Road	4163	1995	Etna Township
US 40 *Eastbound**	West of York Road	3209	1995	Etna Township
US 40 *Westbound**	West of York Road	2694	1995	Etna Township

**These figures are one-way traffic only; all other table figures include traffic going both ways*

Physical Constraints to Development

Physical constraints to development were determined from several different site inspections and various drafts of the Pataskala Comprehensive Plan compiled by the Licking County Planning Commission. Mapped information was obtained from a GIS database compiled by the Licking County Commissioner's Office. Slope (or lack thereof), poor drainage, unsuitability of the soil for dwellings with basements, and on-site sanitary systems were identified as development constraints throughout the planning area. Wetlands, floodplains, remnant woodlands, agricultural lands and large natural and man-made open areas were identified as potential wildlife and recreation areas.

Utilities Infrastructure

The City should take into consideration the natural physical constraints when reviewing zoning and/or development applications. For example, where outside sanitary systems are inadequate, then either lot sizes must be adjusted upward or utilities may be extended into the area.

Water environment related facilities and infrastructure improvements will become increasingly important as growth in the City of Pataskala imposes higher demands on the current level of available services and revenue. Drinking water, wastewater and storm water facilities enhancements will require planning and capital expenditures set within a time frame in step with available revenue and growth. Establishing priorities and planning a strategy for implementing water related improvements will be an important goal in the long term planning required to assure adequate service and management of residential, commercial and industrial growth in the City. The following items should be part of the planning considerations included in current and future development and fiscal management efforts.

- The City of Pataskala's current water resources will support growth only on a limited overall planning time frame. Future growth and the need to entice industrial development in designated planning areas will require planning based on development of reliable water resources, expansion of the distribution system and treatment facilities. In order to assure an adequate water supply to support orderly planned growth, Pataskala should adopt a water resource and distribution plan that includes, but is not limited to the following:

  a) water source/development
  b) water treatment facilities expansion strategy
  c) water demand deficiency accounting (GAP)
  d) distribution system development model
  e) anticipated service area priority plan

Adequate water availability and distribution will provide a means to encourage development in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan and provide Pataskala with capacity to serve areas that could otherwise deviate from the vision of the City's planners.

- Wastewater treatment and collection as part of the City's overall development plan will require an analysis of planned growth areas, current facilities and future service areas and types. Treatment facility expansion/location options should be developed to manage the expansion of services to developing areas to minimize the number of pumping stations and associated maintenance/operations costs as well as the potential for pollution and associated environmental concerns. Pataskala should develop an overall service development plan that includes strategies for service area growth and facilities expansion that follows the water service growth pattern.

- Storm water management will become increasingly important as growth and development continues and runoff rates increase and qualities decrease. Storm water retention/detention basins at development sites are adequate for local control but will not provide the runoff quality, collection and control necessary for long-term growth and compliance with environmental regulations. Storm water runoff quality will become increasingly important to long range planning for the City. Pataskala should develop a storm water management plan to reflect the current policies, growth and potential future runoff quality regulations and incorporate the plan as part of the overall strategy for planned development and growth.

- In addition to a storm water management plan for developing areas, the rural agricultural and residential areas should be included in an overall plan to improve the current surface water drainage ditches, culverts, swales and creeks as part of a flooding and over running water prevention program. The City should develop and adopt a maintenance program based on an inventory of the current rural drainage problems.

Geology

The effects of widespread Pleistocene glaciation are evident as two major depositional features in Pataskala. The northeast quarter of the City contains glacial till in the form of end moraines left behind by the Wisconsin glacier. These end moraines are visible as long, curvy hills. The presence of this build-up of till results in the higher elevations that are present in this portion of the city. The northeast section is the steepest part of the area, with slopes frequently exceeding 12%.

Most of the remaining area of the city also consists of glacial till. In these sections, however, the till is in the form of lower, flatter ground moraine. Slopes in these areas

are generally less than 6%.

In more recent times, the South and Muddy forks of the Licking River including their tributaries have deposited alluvium along their banks. This alluvium represents the final geologic feature present in Pataskala. These stream areas account for a number of the scattered locations of slopes of 6 to 12%.

The till covers bedrock consisting of shale and sandstone. In this portion of Licking County, as much as 400 feet of till may cover the bedrock.

Floodplains

The focus of the National Flood Insurance Program established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency is the 100-year flood. Each year there is a one percent chance that the 100-year flood will occur. The Existing Land Use Map shows the areas adjacent to the Muddy Fork and the South Fork of the Licking River that are expected to be flooded during a 100-year storm.

The floodplain is actually composed of two areas. The center is the stream channel. Outside of the stream channel are the areas that are typically flooded during storms. This outside area or fringe is important because it provides a storage area for flood waters, thereby reducing the amount of water reaching higher ground. When the fringe is filled or developed, the area available to hold flood waters is reduced, increasing the likelihood of more severe downstream flooding and property damage.

Floodplains provide other benefits besides flood control. First, flood plains are recharge areas, or areas where ground water supplies are replenished. Because ground water resources are often significant along flood plains, it is important that the water that enters the underlying aquifers be of high quality. Second, watercourses and the adjacent fringe areas are important because they are home to a variety of fish and wildlife. Finally, floodplains are significant for their scenic and recreational value. Many communities have used land adjacent to rivers for biking or walking trails.

In Pataskala, zoning controls development in the 100-year flood plain by limiting permitted uses to agriculture, recreation, and similar non-intensive activities. This plan encourages flood plain management through land acquisition by the City, incorporation of flood plain maintenance via path and bike ways connecting all parts of the city.

Wetlands

While there are numerous kinds of wetlands, all wetlands have one common characteristic — they are covered with water all or part of the time. In Pataskala, the water would be surface runoff or ground water and some high water table as well. The definition of “wetland” is defined in Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and is defined

by three criteria: hydrology, vegetation, and hydric soils.

Like floodplains, wetlands serve a number of purposes. They are the breeding, nesting, and feeding grounds for a variety of waterfowl, fish and mammals. Wetlands also help to improve water quality by collecting and removing sediment and pollutants and recharging groundwater. Finally, wetlands have a roll in flood control by containing and slowly releasing floodwaters, and, as a result, lowering flood peaks.

Until recently, little thought was given to preserving wetlands. Historically, wetlands have been viewed as a nuisance; the typical response was to drain and fill them so they could be farmed or developed. Now, wetlands are preserved through the Federal law administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal and state agencies. This law requires either that there be no new cultivation, fill, or no net loss of wetlands. Permits are required to fill and mitigate the loss of wetland habitat.

Because Pataskala sits astride two watersheds, the prevalence of wetlands is high in certain portions of the city. Pataskala should formalize a process of ensuring U.S. Army Corps of Engineers review of any sites slated for development within the city boundaries. At a minimum, this could include a requirement that applicants for zoning changes provide the City with written proof that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined there are no jurisdictional wetlands on the subject site or the City may establish routine contact with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers when reviewing a zoning change or development plans.

Watersheds

Pataskala lies within four watersheds (see Map 5). The majority of the area is drained by the South Fork of the Licking River. The western third of the township belongs in the drainage basin of Blacklick Creek. Sycamore Creek drains a part of southern Pataskala and Raccoon Creek drains a small section in the northeast corner of the city.

Soils

There are four soil associations in the planning area. The majority of the area consists of the Centerburg-Bennington-Pewamo Association and the Bennington-Pewamo-Centerburg Association. These soils are nearly level to sloping, and range from very poorly drained to well drained. North of Headleys Mill Road, the soils belong to the Centerburg-Amanda Association. These soils are considered to be moderately well drained to well drained. Slopes are gentle to very steep. Finally, soils of the Ockley-Stonelick Association are located just south of Headleys Mill Road. This classification is described as nearly level to sloping, but well drained.

The above soil characteristics are the basis for limitation ratings for various kinds of development. Some of the major soil features considered when developing the

limitation ratings include natural drainage, hazard of flooding, slope, depth to bedrock, bearing capacity, depth to seasonal high water table, and the potential for the soil to shrink and swell.

Poor soils in nearly all of the planning area result in severe limitations for dwellings with basements (see Map 6). The soils are very wet and create problems for dwellings with basements. The principal problems are soil wetness and ponding. Most of the planning area is moderately constrained for this kind of development due to soil wetness and shrink-swell potential. Overall, the soils in the western portion of Pataskala pose more severe constraints for the development of dwellings with basements than those on the eastern side.

Watersheds Map 5

Soils Map 6

Map 6 shows generalized soil limitations for small commercial buildings. About 85% of the City faces severe constraints for construction of small commercial buildings. Much of the lessened development potential (when compared to residential uses) is due to slope. Higher slopes are more suitable for residential uses than commercial uses. Many areas are also constrained due to soil wetness and ponding. Again, the soils in the western portion of the planning area pose more severe constraints for development of commercial buildings than those in the eastern portion.

The limitation ratings for dwellings and commercial buildings do not take into account sewage disposal feasibility. Since much of Pataskala is dependent upon on-lot wastewater disposal systems, sewage disposal feasibility is a critical issue.

In 1986, the Licking County Board of Health and the Soil and Water Conservation District published a report describing soil potential ratings for home sewage treatment and disposal systems. The soil potential ratings indicate an area's relative suitability for home sewage treatment and disposal when compared to other areas in Licking County. The ratings are divided into a five point scale ranging from high potential to not permitted.

The soil potential ratings for the majority of Pataskala are low, very low, or not permitted. This classification indicates that methods of correcting soil problems are either expensive or not successful. In many areas, suitability depends on the presence of an adequate drainage outlet. If the outlet is not present, the soil would be rated lower.

Agricultural Land

In determining what areas are prime for agriculture, soil scientists consider soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply. Less than a fifth of Pataskala is regarded as prime agricultural land –(See Map 7). Most of the remainder of the planning area is regarded as prime farmland if drained or protected from flooding.

Groundwater

Groundwater yields in the planning area are moderate, with most of the area yielding up to 15 gallons per minute (gpm) (See Map 8). The most productive groundwater resources are located along Mink Street and south of the old Village of Pataskala. Here, yields of up to 200 gpm are expected. The aquifers located along much of the Muddy Fork and South Fork are also productive, yielding 25 to 100 gpm. Lowest ground water yields are expected north of the old village, where yields of five gpm or less are likely.

Agricultural Land Map 7

Groundwater Map 8

Woodlands

The Open Space and Leisure Path Plan shows the location of woodlands in Pataskala. Less than 20% of the City is covered by deciduous forest land. Trees are beneficial in numerous ways; they are scenic, they shelter us from the sun's rays, they help clean the air, they reduce soil erosion, and they provide a home for birds and other wildlife. Woods along rivers and streams absorb flood waters and reduce stream sedimentation.

Wooded areas can interfere with agriculture and development. The solution in the past has been to remove the trees before development. This practice can cause serious negative consequences such as increased erosion and storm water run-off, loss of wildlife habitat, and visual deterioration. This plan encourages the preservation of wooded areas as a prime resource contributing to the general welfare of the community. Development should occur in a manner harmonious to the existing forested areas.

Commercial Resources

Sand and gravel are important mineral resources in Licking County. These deposits are usually found within out-wash terraces and stream alluvium. Of these two sources, out-wash terraces are the most accessible. Excavation within stream channels must be closely monitored to insure that stream flow is not significantly altered. Within the planning area, out-wash terraces are located in southeast Pataskala along Creek Road.

Oil and gas wells are another important commercial resource. Information on known well locations was collected from ODNR's Division of Geological Survey. There are ten identified well sites in the planning area, located principally near Columbia Center and south of Creek Road. To the city's knowledge, none of the sites are currently productive.

Archaeological Resources

The Ohio Historical Society (OHS) and the Licking County Center for Archaeological Research and Education provided information on archaeological resources in Pataskala. OHS files include two types of archaeological sites: ones that have been formally studied, categorized, and identified, and sites that are less precisely described and uncategorized. The latter group is generally the result of citizens contacting OHS about accidental findings. While there are not any OHS categorized sites, local residents have notified OHS
of some findings in the northeast quarter of the study area. Further, both categorized and uncategorized sites have been identified south and east of Pataskala.

LAND USE

The following pages contain the Existing Land Use Map, the Zoning Map, Master Land Use Plan, Open Space & Leisure Path Plan, and Transportation & Activity Nodes Plan. The Master Land Use Plan is the most important factor in the City of Pataskala's Comprehensive Plan. This map indicates the primary, but not necessarily the predominant or exclusive anticipated land use(s). How we use the land, whether for homes, recreation, farming or for businesses can impact both the natural resources and adjoining land owners. Managing the public and private use of land can help to prevent misuse of the land, while maintaining the rural character of a community. The intent is not to control a person's rights relative to land, but to promote the general welfare of the public.

Managing land use has been a practice since before the advent of zoning. Local officials have the powers, including zoning, which provides them with the tools to manage land while protecting the health, safety, and general welfare of the public. Zoning is the primary means of implementing plans and affecting change in a community.