

HUNTINGDON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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2000 PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

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March 1, 2001

Huntingdon County Board of Commissioners:

The Planning Commission would like to thank the Board of Commissioners for their support during the past year, evidenced by your budget priorities and your adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, *Continuity Through Conservation II*. The year 2000 was another “banner year” for the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, and the adoption of the Plan marked an important milestone in local planning and community development activities.

We are, again, pleased to submit this *2000 Annual Report* to you and the citizens of Huntingdon County. Take a moment to review with us our accomplishments and our future vision.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Laurence Mutti
Chair

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HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT

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PURPOSE OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Huntingdon County Planning Commission to develop and implement a positive vision for Huntingdon County; one that reflects economic prosperity, a rural and small-town atmosphere, protection of natural resources, centers-focused development, greenway corridors, improved highway and

communication access and a high standard of excellence in both personal and community development.

The Planning Commission and the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department assist the County in meeting these important goals.

AGENCY ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Huntingdon County Commissioners created the Huntingdon County Planning Commission in 1962 and hired the first planning director in 1971. The County Commissioners have directed the Planning Commission to prepare and maintain a comprehensive plan to guide growth and development in the County and to promote public interest in and understanding of planning and the Comprehensive Plan. Volunteers, staff, money and equipment are the resources needed to achieve the objectives of the Huntingdon County Planning Commission.

STAFFING

Penny Flemming was hired as part-time Addressing Technician in August to assist Brian Young in completing the 911 Addressing Project. Penny had previously served as a Planning Intern with the Department in 1996, while a student at Juniata College.

Interns continued to fulfill an important role in the office. During the year, one paid intern,

two unpaid interns, and one Job Training Partnership Intern worked for the Planning and Development Department. Darren Quinn, a regional planning major from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, was hired to assist with the 911 Addressing Project. Kristi Heck (Spring 2000), an administrative/legal secretarial student from the South Hills Business School, provided clerical assistance while completing a mandatory internship for her course. Rawn Ayers, a JTPA participant, also provided clerical assistance during the Summer; and Krissy Lipuma, a public administration/political science major from Juniata College, wrote the Draft Comprehensive Plan Summary while receiving college course credit.

During the year, staff participated in numerous training workshops and conferences to enhance their skills. Major conferences included the Pennsylvania Planning Association Annual Conference and the CDBG Annual Conference.



Commissioners Recognize Director's Service

The County Commissioners recognized Planning Director, Richard Stahl for twenty years of service to Huntingdon County in July. Mr. Stahl moved to Huntingdon County from Canton, Ohio where he was serving as a Senior Planner with the Stark County Regional Planning Commission. During the year, Richard became a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) after meeting professional eligibility standards and passing a comprehensive examination. Pictured with Richard Stahl (holding plaque) are (front row left to right): Maureen Safko, Peggy Wilson, Sally States, Laurie Nearhood; (back row left to right) Brian Young and Darren Quinn.

FINANCIAL REPORT

During 2000 the operation of the Department was funded through the County General Fund (\$99,675.67) and through several state and federal government grant programs (\$120,770.03).

The 2001 General Fund budget increased by 8.05% from 2000; and the 2001 budget for Grants and Special Projects increased by 21.77%. This increase in Grants is because more money has been allocated for 911 and the Street Naming Project. Overall, the 2001 budget is 16.66% higher than it was in 2000.

General Fund Budget Report

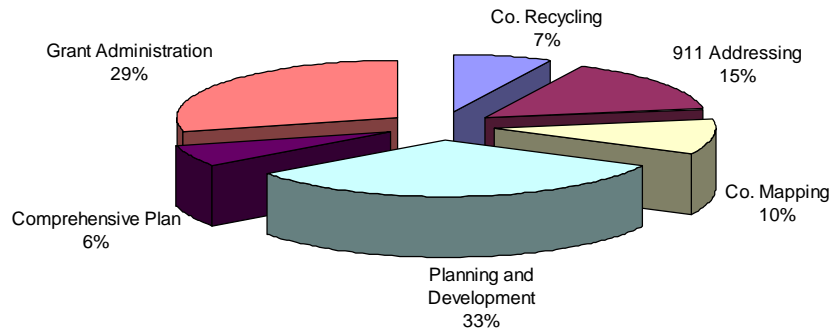
	2000 Budget	2000 Expenditures	2001 Budget
Personnel	\$67,579.00	\$68,726.81	\$71,730.00
Services	23,500.00	25,657.00	27,400.00
Materials/Supplies	2,088.79	2,088.79	3,000.00
Capital Outlay	3,203.07	3,203.17	2,000.00
	<u>\$96,370.86</u>	<u>\$99,675.67</u>	<u>\$104,130.00</u>

Grants and Special Projects Budget Report*

	2000 Budget	2000 Expenditures	2001 Budget
Personnel	\$82,332.00	\$84,407.67	\$95,265.00
Services	18,950.00	21,772.06	56,300.00
Materials/Supplies	7,854.00	5,179.96	3,600.00
Other	53,100.00	9,410.34	42,400.00
	<u>\$162,236.00</u>	<u>\$120,770.03</u>	<u>\$197,565.00</u>
Grant & General Fund Totals	\$258,606.86	\$220,445.70	\$301,695.00

* Grants and Special Projects include Community Development Block Grant and PA Housing and Community Development Grant funds used for administration purposes, State Planning Assistance Program Grant funds, PA Shared Municipal Services Grant funds, and county funds budgeted for mapping and recycling.

Projected 2001 Expenditures



2001 WORK PROGRAM

- **Comprehensive Plan**

The Planning Commission plans to complete Phase III of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan during 2001. This phase involves adoption and publication of the Plan, provision of several planning workshops, development of a model subdivision and land development ordinance and development of other Plan implementation tools.

- **Comprehensive Economic Analysis**

The Department has applied for \$15,000 in Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance (LUPTAP) funds to develop an economic analysis of the County. This project is a direct result of the recently completed county comprehensive plan and of the efforts of the Huntingdon County Economic Development Task Force. The Planning Director expects a successful grant application and completion of the project by the end of the year.

- **Geographic Information System**

Development of GIS information for Huntingdon County will focus on development of a pilot project for conversion of County Tax Maps to digital basis, creation of coverages for water and

sewer systems and updating existing data. The Spatial Sciences Research Center at Indiana University of Pennsylvania will continue to assist the County.

- **911 and Rural Addressing**

It is expected that new addresses will be issued for Regions 1 and 2 of the addressing project, consisting of the Spruce Creek/Warriors Mark Area and the Juniata Valley Area, during 2001. Field work will be completed for Region 2 and begun for Region 3, the Huntingdon Area. Full implementation of the Huntingdon County Street Naming and Addressing Policy is expected to take an additional two years. Addressing will continue to use "heads-up digitizing" from digital orthophotos to collect location data for every "addressable" structure, supplemented with GPS and field data.

- **Community Development**

Planning and Development staff will continue to administer the Huntingdon County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program on behalf of the Huntingdon County Commissioners. Work expected during the year includes development of the entitlement grant application, development of various competitive grants, development of a Three

Year Community Development Plan and administration of numerous funded activities.

- **Municipal Waste Management Plan**
A new “Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon Municipal Waste Management Plan” will be initiated in 2001. Pennsylvania Act 101 requires counties to revise their plans every ten years. Funding will be sought from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Bedford, Fulton and Huntingdon Counties will share work on the plan, with Bedford County as the lead county.
- **Huntingdoncounty.net**
The Planning and Development Department will continue to coordinate maintenance of the county web site. Locally funded efforts will focus on enhancement of County Commissioner and Planning and Development portions of the site.
- **Airport Master Plan**
AirTech and Gwin Engineers will complete the Airport Master Plan before June 2001. Funded through a \$76,000 grant from the PA DOT Bureau of Aviation and \$4,000 in matching funds, this project will develop an airport layout plan and master plan for the privately owned Huntingdon County Airport located in Shirley Township. The master plan is a prerequisite for Federal funding of the possible purchase and improvement of this site, one of the recommendations of the Business Airport Study completed in 1995.

COORDINATION

Coordinating the implementation of the "Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan," with public and private organizations, is achieved through the following four processes:

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS

Section 502 of the PA Municipalities Planning Code gives the Planning Commission authority to review and comment on subdivision and land development proposals submitted to local municipalities. The Commission also comments on consistency with Act 537, the PA Sewage Facilities Act.

The Commission reviewed 63 subdivisions in 19 municipalities in 2000, down by one since last year. These included 4 major subdivisions, 52 minor subdivisions, 5 major land developments, and 2 minor land developments encompassing 124 lots and 3,508 acres. Maps illustrating distribution of these proposals are located on pages 7 and 8.

The largest projects reviewed in 2000 were The Highlands Phase IV with 7.254 acres and 24 lots in Huntingdon Borough; and the Louis and Kenneth Brenneman Subdivision with 71.07 acres and 11 lots in Morris Township.

The major land development reviews conducted in 2000 included:

1. Juniata College, Huntingdon Borough, construction of 88,230 square foot Von Liebig Center for Laboratory Science and extension of 17th Street;
2. Alfarata Place, Huntingdon Borough, conversion of vacant Alfarata Elementary School into a multi-family dwelling consisting of 28 new apartments;
3. Eugene N. Hurst, Shirley Township, new 20 site campground;

4. Hemlock Hideaway Campground, Todd Township, addition of 8 new campsites to existing 28 site campground known as Robinson's Hideaway Campground;
5. Hemlock Hideaway Campground, Todd Township, addition of 30 campsites, new on-lot sewage system, comfort station and dump station to existing 36 site campground.

AGENCY LIAISON

The Planning Commission and its staff coordinate the implementation of planning recommendations with many agencies and units of government. This includes staff participation in many committees and attendance at numerous meetings.

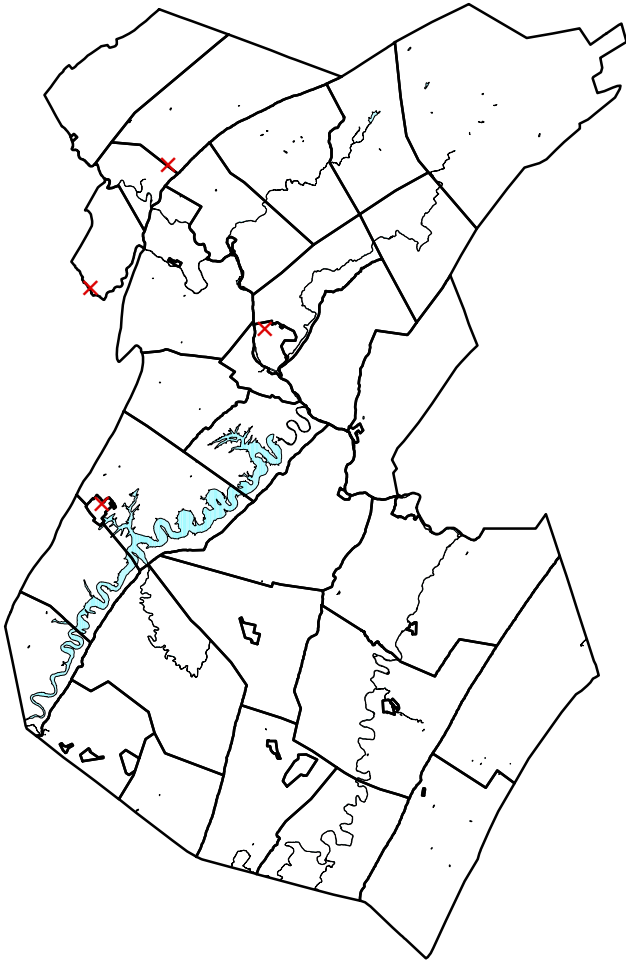
The Planning and Development staff continued to work closely with the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission and the new Juniata Clean Water Partnership.

Juniata Clean Water Partnership

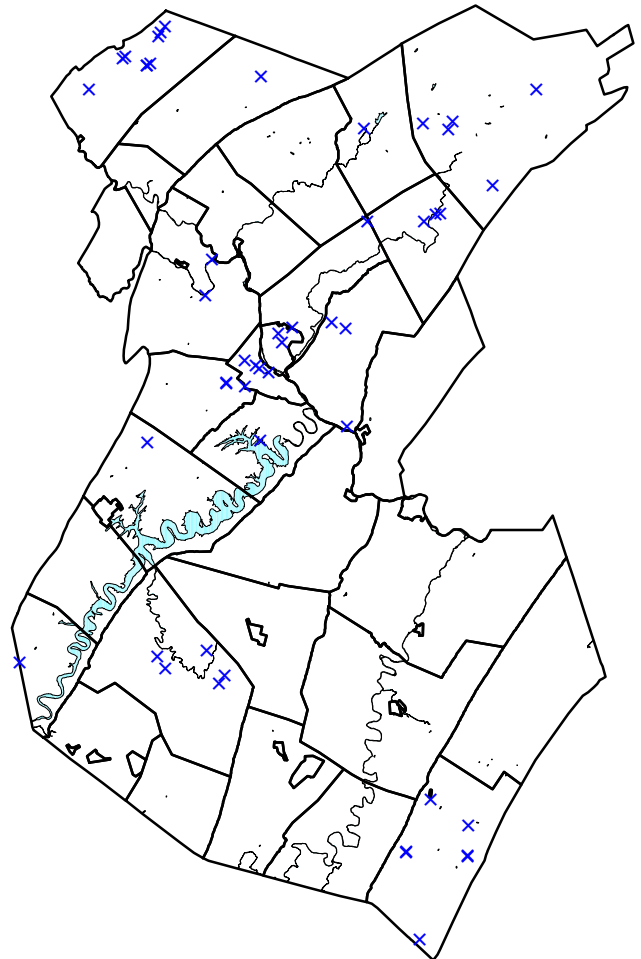
Planning and Development staff was heavily involved in the development of the "Juniata Watershed Management Plan," which was completed and submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) during the year.

The staff of the Planning and Development Department sits on the Partnership Board and several committees. A portion of the local matching funds for the DCNR grant comes from in-kind services of county planning and conservation district staff. The seven counties that participate in the Partnership are: Bedford, Blair, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata,

Major Subdivision Activity



Minor Subdivision Activity



Subdivisions Reviewed in 2000

- x Major Subdivision
- x Minor Subdivision

2000 Subdivision Activity

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

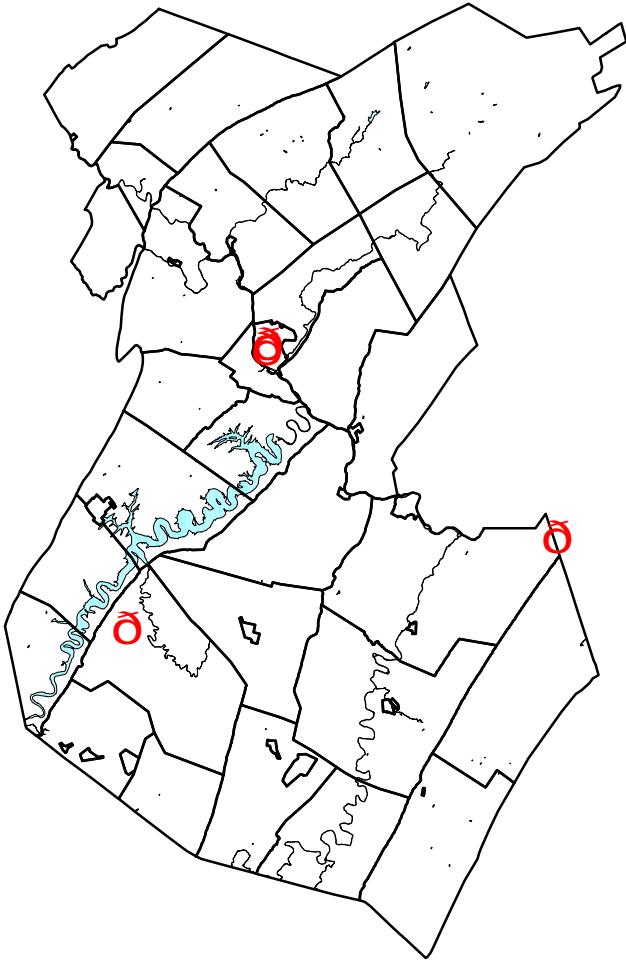
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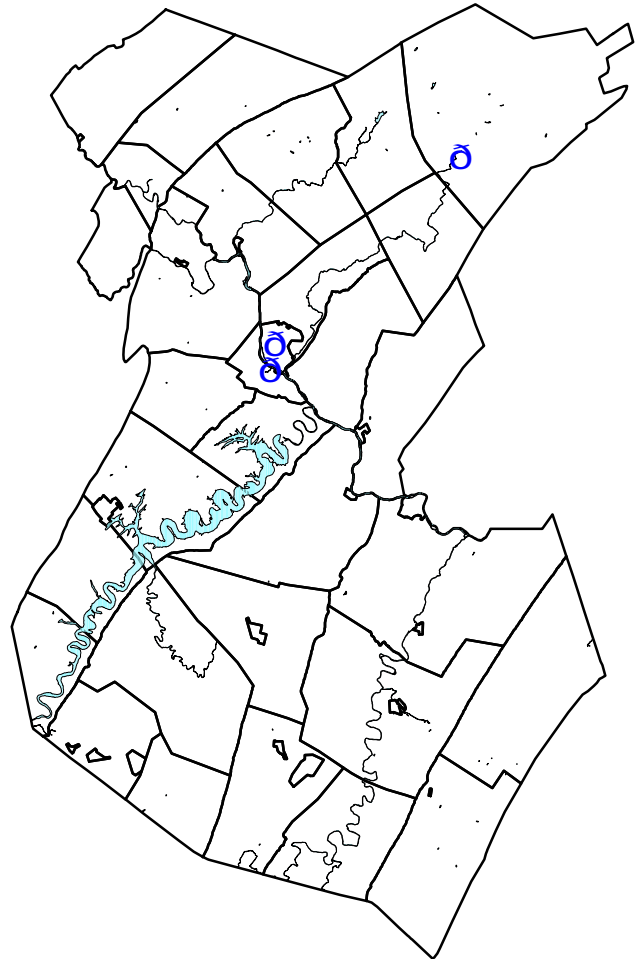
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Major Land Development Activity



Minor Land Development Activity



Land Developments Reviewed in 2000

 Major Land Development

 Minor Land Development

2000 Land Development Activity

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Prepared by; Huntingdon County Planning Commission

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0 4 8 12 16 Miles



Mifflin and Perry; along with regional groups, such as the Southern Alleghenies and Mid-State Resource Conservation and Development Councils, the Allegheny Heritage Development Corporation, DCNR, Howard Heinz Endowments and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

The Juniata Clean Water Partnership (JCWP) was formed in 1998 in order to develop a river conservation plan for the 3,400 square mile Juniata River basin. The JCWP is working to address environmental and natural resource issues along with other political and social obstacles affecting the watershed.

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAPDC) provides planning, economic development and job training services to a six-county area including Huntingdon County. The Huntingdon County Commissioners sit on the Executive Committee of Southern Alleghenies and the Planning Director represents the County on several committees: Planning Advisory Committee (PAC); Transportation Technical Committee (TTC); and Tourism Confederation. The Planner/GIS Technician is a member of the GIS Users Group (GUG).

Major activities carried out during 2000 included: development of the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and initiation of the I-99 Transportation and Community System Preservation Project (TCSP). While I-99 does not pass through Huntingdon County, the western portion of the County will be greatly impacted by completion of this Interstate Highway to I-80 near Bellefonte.

The Transportation Technical Committee met frequently during the year to develop a regional Transportation Improvement Program. Southern Alleghenies has been designated a Rural Planning Organization

(RPO) for the purpose of transportation planning and is responsible for prioritizing the transportation needs of the four rural counties within the region. The Transportation Improvement Program or TIP was approved by PA DOT in 2000. The TIP includes the first four years of the Twelve-Year Transportation Program.

During 2000 the Huntingdon County Planning Director served on the Southern Alleghenies Tourism Confederation as a representative of the PAC. The Confederation oversees several regional cooperative tourism initiatives.

Smithfield Township Economic Development Corporation (STEDCO)

The Planning Director has been involved in a major economic development project proposed by the Smithfield Township Economic Development Corporation (STEDCO), serving on the agency's Construction Committee. STEDCO has been working toward development of 116 acres of land formerly owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by soliciting development proposals. This land has been subdivided into three parcels for development purposes: Parcel A (67.2 acres) is proposed as a regional shopping center; Parcel B (41.76 acres) is proposed as a mixed use commercial/light industrial development; while Parcel C (6.97 acres) is proposed as a hotel site.

Huntingdon County Business and Industry (HCB&I)

The Planning Director continues to serve on the HCB&I Industrial Development and Transportation Committees. The Grant Administrator has been working closely with the agency while developing a more dependable water source for the Mount Union Area.

Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau

The Planner/GIS Technician worked with the Visitors Bureau to develop maps for use in agency publications, while the Planning Director and Planning Intern developed a Fact Sheet for use in the new "Visitor's Guide".

Huntingdon County Heritage Committee

The Planning Director and Nancy Shedd, Executive Director of the Huntingdon County Historical Society, continue to co-chair the Heritage Committee. Planning staff assisted the Heritage Committee in setting up and staffing a booth at the first ever Outdoor Discovery 2000 fair, held at the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds.

COUNTY-MUNICIPAL PROJECT REVIEW

Section 303 of the PA Municipalities Planning Code (Act 247) gives the Planning Commission the authority to review and comment on various public facility projects, zoning, subdivision and other land development ordinances.

Local government and state agencies submitted the following 19 projects to the Commission for review and comment in 2000:

1. Porter Township Act 537 Plan
2. Mifflin County Comprehensive Plan
3. Saxton Borough Municipal Authority's DEP Water Allocation Application
4. Walker Township's Woodcock Valley Community Park
5. Huntingdon Regional Pool Project
6. Proposed Radio Tower, 800 Mhz Statewide System
7. New Enterprise Stone and Lime, Cromwell Township, Mining Activity Permit
8. Juniata College, Raystown Lake Field Station
9. PA 26, Section 021, Tussey Mountain Climbing Lane, Environmental Assessment
10. Ferguson Township, Draft Revised Official Map
11. Shirley Township Penn Vest Application

12. Walker Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment
13. Fulton County Comprehensive Plan
14. Mount Union Act 537 Plan, Land Use Consistency
15. Revised Mount Union Act 537 Plan
16. Park's Sanitation Transfer Station, Shirley Township
17. Jackson Township Subdivision Ordinance
18. Centre Region Comprehensive Plan
19. Dudley-Carbon-Coalmont Joint Municipal Authority Penn Vest Application

Additionally, Act 14 requires those applying for water obstruction permits, water quality permits, or air quality permits to notify County Commissioners and municipal officials of all requests for state permits. The Commission received 74 state permit activity notices in 2000.

FEDERAL-STATE PROJECT REVIEW

The Planning Commission reviews projects that use federal funds for consistency with the County Comprehensive Plan, under the authority of Executive Order #12372, in cooperation with the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission.

Under the state-based Intergovernmental Review Process (IRP), the Commission reviewed and commented on 2 projects in 2000.

1. Mount Union Municipal Authority - Huntingdon County

This project involved a funding request to Penn Vest for \$6,295,000 (\$7,195,000 total) to expand their wastewater treatment plant from 0.625 MGD to 1.1 MGD.

2. Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Inc. - Chesapeake Bay Watershed

This project involved a \$466,929 (\$491,504 total) funding request to the Environmental Protection Agency to continue educational programs and to further public awareness about the Bay.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan sets public policy for the development of land, public facilities, transportation, and other elements as authorized by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. The Plan is kept current through the development of various planning studies and Plan updates. The present Plan update is the first in approximately fifteen years.

Comprehensive Plan, Phase III

In March 2000 the Huntingdon County Commissioners signed contracts with both the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the consulting firm of Graney, Grossman, Ray and Associates for the implementation phase of the Plan. Phase III includes adoption of the Plan, publication of the Plan, publication of a Plan Summary, development of a Model Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and other implementation activities. All Phase III activities will be completed by June 2001.

Comprehensive Plan Adoption

On April 19, 2000 the Huntingdon

County Planning

Commission passed a resolution recommending adoption of a new comprehensive plan by the County.

Continuity Through Conservation II, Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, Phase II, The Plan was adopted on July 11, 2000 by the County Commissioners. The Plan was developed over a four-year period by Planning and Development staff with the assistance of two consulting firms and extensive public participation.

**Continuity Through
Conservation II Adopted
by County Commissioners!**

Plan Publication

Planning and Development staff edited and published 180 copies of the adopted Plan. The Plan was mailed to all municipalities as well as to those who participated in its development.

A Juniata College Planning Intern developed a draft Plan Summary during the fall of the year. It is anticipated that this brief summary of the Comprehensive Plan will be published and distributed as an insert to local newspapers

Model Subdivision Ordinance

Planning and Development staff secured the cooperation of twenty-five municipalities in development of a model subdivision and land development ordinance. These municipalities agreed to make a financial contribution and to participate in ordinance development. The first draft of the model was presented to an ad hoc Subdivision Committee in October. Out

of 48 municipalities, 22 have no ordinance and 24 have older ordinances not meeting the current requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

Planning Workshops

Thirty-one participants attended a three-week course on the administration of subdivision and land development regulations. The Basic Subdivision Course was presented by the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute (PMPEI).

MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

With the approval of the Huntingdon County Commissioners, the Planning and Development Department may provide assistance to municipalities that request it. Such assistance typically involves development of:

- ◆ subdivision, zoning and building permit ordinances;
- ◆ grant applications and administration;
- ◆ requests for proposals for professional services;
- ◆ various planning studies.

MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE

- **Broad Top Area** - Staff developed and received a \$33,000 DEP Water Service Regionalization Grant Application for several water systems in the Broad Top Area. The grant was received, an engineer hired and work is underway to prepare a Water Regionalization Study. Planning and Development staff is responsible for grant administration and detailed mapping of existing water systems in Broad Top City, Dudley Area and Saxton.
- **Franklin Township** - Staff met with the Township Supervisors to explain the Cooperative Subdivision Ordinance and to invite their participation.
- **Juniata Township** - Staff joined the Township Supervisors in meeting with the Board of Commissioners to discuss the need for improvements on three Township roads.
- **Juniata Valley School District** - Staff collected and organized a demographic profile of the School District.
- **Mill Creek Area Municipal Authority** - Staff attended a Penn Vest Coordination meeting to review plans seeking funds for

an extension of the sewer system to Fousetown.

- **Morris Township** - Staff met with the Township Planning Commission to discuss the steps needed to organize the planning commission, adopt local land use ordinances, and to discuss the relationship of the County Comprehensive Plan with local planning. Staff also assisted with an application for funding for restrooms in the Township Building.
- **Mount Union Water Authority** - Staff developed a \$500,000 CDBG Competitive Grant for new well development in Mount Union. Staff worked with the Authority and Southern Alleghenies to obtain additional federal funds to augment the CDBG funds.
- **Oneida Township** - Staff conducted a survey of municipal zoning fees on behalf of the Township.
- **Penn Township** - Staff evaluated the Township Building for compliance with handicapped accessibility requirements.
- **All Municipalities** - Staff surveyed municipal officials to compile a municipal contact database; provided an opportunity for municipal participation in the Huntingdon County CDBG Entitlement Program; requested municipal financial support for a PA Council on the Arts Local Government Grant; and invited municipal cooperation in the development of a model subdivision and land development ordinance.

GRANT ASSISTANCE

Department staff applies for state and federal grants each year for the County on behalf of Huntingdon County municipalities and non-profit groups to assist them in meeting local needs. Both staff and consultants provide grantsmanship services for the County.

During 2000, staff submitted a successful application for \$500,000 in Competitive Community Development Block Grant funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development on behalf of the Mount Union Municipal Authority for the purpose of increasing the area's water supply through well development.

CDBG activities completed during 2000 include: Huntingdon House Rape Crisis Center Rehabilitation, Mill Creek Sewer Treatment Plant Improvements, Shirley Home Electrical System Rehabilitation, Courthouse

Annex #2 Elevator Project, and Mount Union Sewer Line Replacement.

As in previous years, significant municipal assistance efforts were dedicated to administration of Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Programs. The Three Year Community Development Plan shown on page 14 outlines County priorities for the coming three years.

In addition to the CDBG Program, the Planning and Development Department staff applies for and administers other grants. Grant sources include: the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, State Planning Assistance Grants, and Shared Municipal Services Grants through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. Below is a list of miscellaneous grants administered or obtained during 2000.

Miscellaneous Grants

Pennsylvania Council of the Arts

2000	Local Government Grant - Huntingdon County Arts Council	\$2,877
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Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development

1997	Competitive CDBG - Cassville Sewage Treatment	\$350,000
1998	Shared Municipal Services Program Grant - Cooperative Mapping	\$15,000
1999	State Planning Assistance Grant	\$20,750
2000	Competitive CDBG - Mount Union Municipal Authority	\$500,000

CDBG Usage - Past Three Years

	1998	1999	2000
Mapleton Sewer Laterals**	\$14,104	\$0	\$0
Bricktown Seniors Parking Lot	15,521	0	0
Juniata Valley Seniors Center**	45,000	0	0
Mt Union Sewer Line**	71,479	0	0
Shirleysburg Water Tank Rehab**	20,964	74,745	0
Courthouse Annex 2 Accessibility**	30,000	47,000	0
Mapleton Water Line*	40,480	0	83,000
Cassville Sewer Laterals*	0	60,950	0
Cassville Tap Fees*	0	15,050	0
Shirley Home for the Aged*	0	40,000	18,369
Petersburg Water Line	0	0	90,000
Housing Authority Family Center	0	0	25,000
Shirleysburg Water Meters	0	0	22,000
TOTAL	\$237,548	\$237,745	\$238,369

** activity complete * activity underway

Planned CDBG Usage - Next Three Years

	2001	2002	2003
Shoup's Run Stormwater	48,000	0	0
Rockhill Stormwater	50,000	0	0
Warriors Mark Senior Centers	66,000	0	0
Broad Top City Borough Water	50,000	0	0
Habitat for Humanity	19,500	0	0
Huntingdon County Accessibility	13,420	19,580	0
Dudley Area Water System	0	74,920	0
Cromwell Township Laterals	0	50,000	52,000
Dudley Area Sewer Laterals	0	75,500	108,000
Puttstown Sewer Laterals	0	0	60,000
TOTAL	\$246,920	\$220,000	\$220,000

- The average allocation per project is \$53,000.
- Future budgets are conservative at \$220,000 in case of cuts in grant funding.
- Activities are commonly funded in several grant years, and broken into phases, to gather sufficient funds to complete projects.
- The 6-year summary of funds above includes a total of approximately \$1.4 million. The addition of Competitive CDBG funds listed below brings this total to \$2.7 million.

Distribution by Activity Type

6 - Water
 7 - Sewer
 4 - Facilities for Elderly
 2 - Storm Water
 2 - Accessibility
 2 - Miscellaneous
2 - Total

Recent Competitive CDBG Funding

1996 - \$302,000 Mill Creek Sewer/Water Extension
 1997 - \$350,000 Cassville Sewer System
 1998 - \$153,000 Mapleton Area Sewer Tap Fees
 2000 - \$500,000 Mount Union Well Development

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

It is a goal of the Commission to provide information to the public concerning planning and development issues. Staff fulfills this responsibility through the various methods listed below.

HUNTINGDONCOUNTY.NET

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provided funding for development of a County web site featuring extensive information on recycling. The site, huntingdoncounty.net, was published in March of 2000. It features information about Huntingdon County, its elected officials, departments and services. Planning and Development staff played a major role in creating the site and in keeping it up to date.

PUBLICATIONS

The Planning and Development Department published several items in 2000:

- ◆ *Huntingdon County Map Book;*
- ◆ *Continuity Through Conservation II: Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan Phase II, The Plan;*
- ◆ *1999 HCPC Annual Report;*
- ◆ *2000 Huntingdon County Land Development Guide.*



PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Planning Director presented the information about the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan and its relationship to

Raystown Lake at the Raystown Lake Conference, spoke to the Huntingdon County Board of Realtors about the completion of the Comprehensive Plan, and spoke about the Comprehensive Plan as part of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Lecture Series. The Planning Director also spoke to the Huntingdon Rotary Club on the importance of completing the Census and to the Mount Union Chamber of Commerce about the Airport Master Plan.

The Planning Director coordinated Huntingdon County Government's participation in Expo 2000, sponsored by the Greater Huntingdon Chamber of Commerce and Huntingdon County Business and Industry.

The Planning Director and staff coordinated the Basic Subdivision Course, sponsored by the Planning Commission and presented by PMPEI.

WALK-IN REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

The Department receives an average of two inquiries per day concerning:

- Census Data
- Municipal Contacts and Ordinances
- Flood Plain Data
- Planning Studies
- Grant Availability
- Recycling Information
- County and Municipal Maps
- GIS Data

Most of these requests came from municipal officials, realtors, professional market analysts, residents of Huntingdon County, and those interested in re-locating to Huntingdon County.

COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Many Department activities are countywide in nature and benefit all municipalities equally. Some activities are done to assist the County Commissioners in non-planning areas. Major Planning projects in 2000 included:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

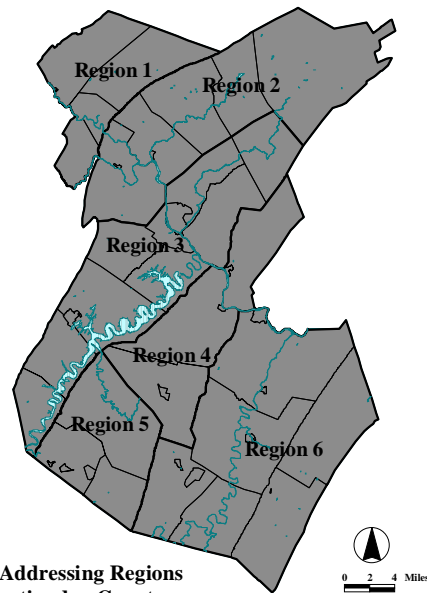
The County Commissioners named the Planning Director to the inter-agency Huntingdon County Economic Development Task Force. With the leadership of the County Commissioners and the assistance of the Planning Director, the Task Force developed a Strategic Plan to address the many economic development issues facing the County. The role of the Task Force is to, “encourage economic development in Huntingdon County.” Agencies represented include: Greater Huntingdon Chamber of Commerce, Huntingdon Area Merchants, Huntingdon County Business and Industry, Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau, Mount Union Chamber of Commerce and Smithfield Township Economic Development Corporation.

Task Force Vision

It is the vision of the Huntingdon County Economic Development Task Force to improve the economic health and quality of life of Huntingdon County residents by fostering and enhancing community education and innovation, agency communication and coordination and promotion of a positive image of the County.

911 AND RURAL ADDRESSING

In August, a part time Addressing Technician was hired to assist with the verification process. This was a welcomed addition to the Addressing staff. With the Technician, the staff was able to generate an additional two days a week of fieldwork.



911 Addressing Regions
Huntingdon County
Pennsylvania

The Addressing staff completed address verification in Address Region 1 in October. Approximately 1900 structures were identified, including 1344 addressable and 556 non-addressable. Addressable structures consist of single family and multi-family dwellings, businesses, churches, and industrial sites. The number of addressable structures is slightly greater than the number estimated prior to the start of address verification.

Address verification information for Region 1 was submitted to the addressing consultant in November. The address consultant will generate the new addresses based on the field

verification data, street names provided and the adopted zero-grid addressing system and provide an address list to Department staff. The staff will submit addresses to the United States Postal Regional Office in Johnstown for review. After addresses are approved by the U.S.P.S. the Planning and Development staff will submit the addresses to the residents.

Address verification began in Address Region 2 in December. Region 2 includes Porter, Logan, West, Barree, and Jackson Townships, and Alexandria and Petersburg Boroughs.

HUNTINGDON COUNTY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

The most significant accomplishment during the year was the completion of the "Huntingdon County Map Book." In addition, significant improvement in the locational accuracy of the Huntingdon County Geographic Information System (GIS) was achieved during the year, and various map coverages were generated and merged into the GIS.

Prior to 2000 the County GIS coverages or data layers were built upon Tiger/Line Files from the U.S Census Bureau, PENN DOT Centerline Data, and various other sources. These files are registered to the NAD 27 (North American Datum 1927). The Planning and Development Department staff working with the Spatial Science Research Center, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, has converted all the County GIS data layers to the NAD 83 (North American Datum 1983). The intent of this datum conversion was to standardize all County data layers using the same datum and to improve accuracy. These new NAD 83 files will better align with the Digital Orthophotography being used in the 911 Addressing Project. In a further effort to enhance accuracy, road centerline files were aligned with orthophotographs using a process called "heads-up digitizing." These more accurate road files have been very valuable in the Rural Addressing Project.

New standard project files were generated using the NAD 83 files. These project files are created on a letter size layout and give the Planning and Development Department staff the advantage of having standard maps such as Municipal Boundaries, 911 Landmarks, Police, Fire and Ambulance Service Areas, etc., readily available to provide to the public. A standard layout is available for all of the County data layers.

The "Huntingdon County Map Book" was completed in the first quarter of 2000. The Huntingdon County Commissioners, various municipalities, and a Shared Municipal Services Grant funded this project. The Map Book is an indexed atlas of the named streets throughout the County. The Map Book was designed to familiarize emergency services with the many street names that will be used for 911 addressing. In May of 2000 the Map Book was distributed at no cost to all emergency service providers including service responders outside of the County.

Various other GIS Mapping projects were completed in 2000 for private and public interests. Some of these projects include: maps for the Huntingdon County Historical Society, Huntingdon County Tourist Promotion, and the Greater Huntingdon Chamber of Commerce.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

The Planning and Development Department administers the Community Development Block Grant Program for the Huntingdon County Commissioners. Grant administration activities include preparing grant applications, maintaining grant files, preparing environmental assessments of project activities, conducting eligibility income surveys, enforcement of federal procurement, labor, and civil rights standards, accounting and fiscal management, and overall project direction. A detailed description of grant activities is provided on pages 13 and 14.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT - HUNTINGDON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

In cooperation with the Huntingdon County Arts Council, the Department administered a \$2,877 Local Government Grant for art activities in 2000. Matching grant contributions were made by the County and many municipalities for a \$5,952 program. These funds are used by the Arts Council to fund various art activities.

RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE

The Recycling Coordinator organized a household hazardous waste collection day (3,180 pounds), and a plastic and magazine collection day (18.53 tons). The Coordinator also prepared the following: the County's Solid Waste Annual Report, a DEP 903 Grant for Recycling Coordinator expenses, a 902 Grant for educational programs and materials, and another 902 Grant in conjunction with Juniata College for the purchase of clusters of windsor barrels to expand the recycling program to the College. Five clusters were purchased and placed throughout the Campus.

In addition, the Recycling Coordinator made recycling presentations throughout the County, attended various recycling committee meetings and training conferences, developed a booth for the Huntingdon County Fair, and helped develop three new television commercials for airing in 2001.

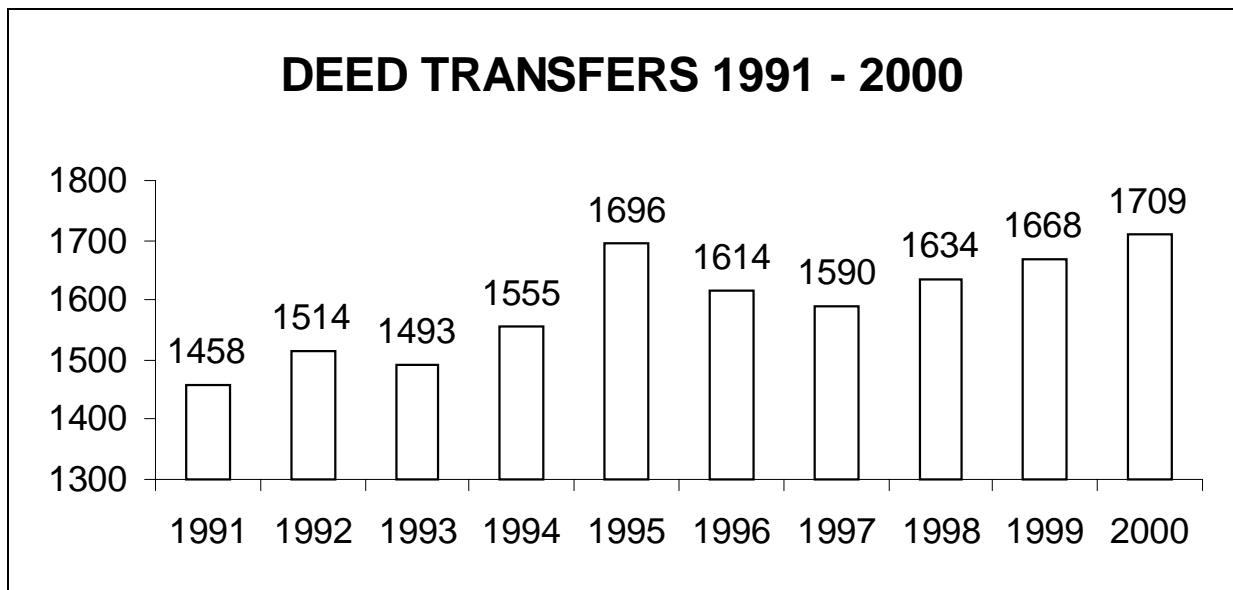
OTHER COUNTY ASSISTANCE

The Grant Administrator continues to serve on both the County Safety and Social Committees, and the Planning Technician and Grant Administrator continue to serve as members of the Huntingdon County Human Service Council. The Planning Technician also conducted Courthouse tours for local school, church and civic groups.

DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

Proper maintenance and implementation of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan requires continuous data collection and analysis. Data collected by Planning Staff includes:

- ◆ Building Activity
- ◆ Deed Transfers
- ◆ Municipal Contacts
- ◆ Municipal Land Use Ordinances
- ◆ Population
- ◆ Socio-Economic Characteristics



DEED TRANSFERS

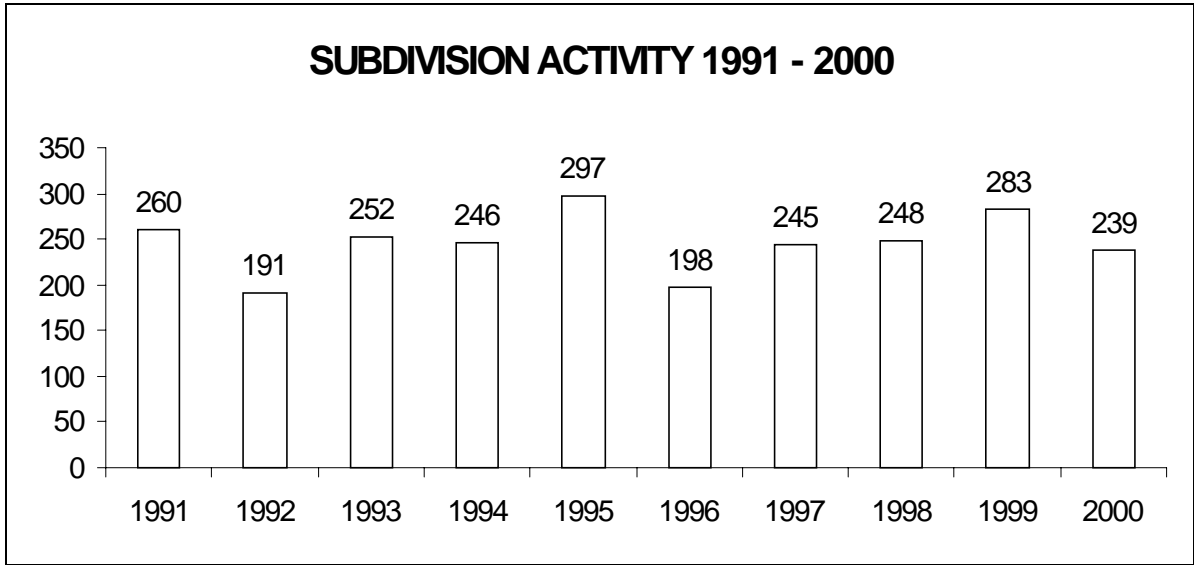
The number of deeds transferred for both new and existing properties is monitored as an indicator of the economic well being of the County. The chart below illustrates the number of deed transfers over the past ten years.

The Huntingdon County Register and Recorder's Office reported that the total number of deeds transferred in 2000 (both existing and new) remained fairly constant, showing a 2.46% increase from 1,668 in 1999 to 1709 in 2000.

SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY

The number of new subdivision lots created indicates the level of land development occurring in the County. This information is valuable when determining the need for public services. Subdivision activity reflects the actual number of deeds recorded in the Courthouse (sale of lots) rather than the platting of lots referenced in the Coordination section.

During 2000, 239 new lots were created in Huntingdon County. This is a decrease of 15.55% from the 283 lots created in 1999. A ten-year history of subdivision activity is provided on page 20.



The largest number of lots were created in Warriors Mark Township, 23 new lots. The next highest levels of subdivision activity occurred in Todd Township, 21 new lots; Penn Township, 18 new lots; Huntingdon Borough and Union Township, 14 new lots each; Walker Township, 12 new lots; Hopewell Township, 11 new lots; Clay, Cromwell and Dublin Townships, 10 new lots each. In 1999, the highest level of activity occurred in Walker Township - 35 new lots. The map on page 21 illustrates the intensity of development experienced in each municipality in 2000.

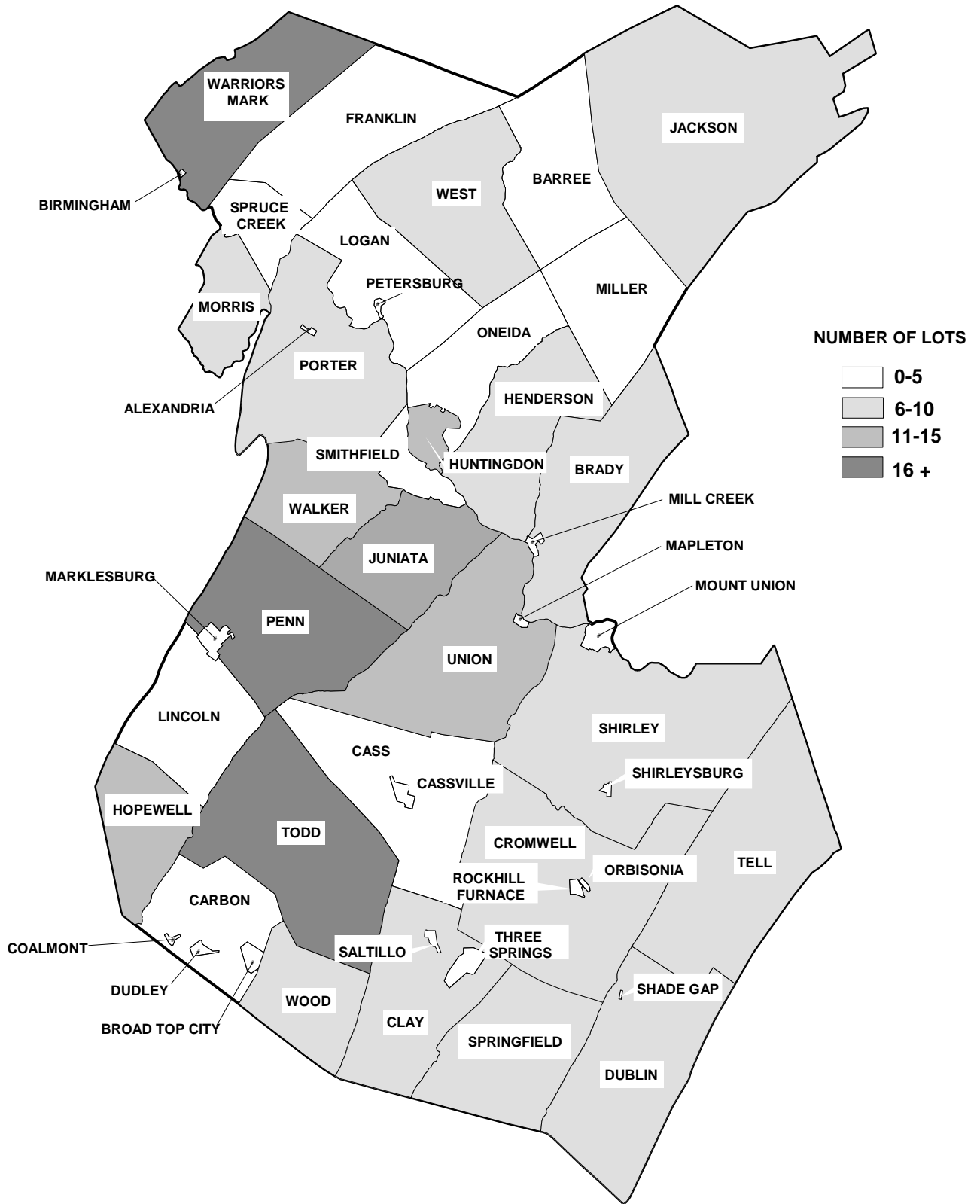
BUILDING ACTIVITY

The number of new houses constructed is measured annually. The Department uses electrical permits, from Valley Rural Electric

Cooperative, and building permits, as reported to the Huntingdon County Tax Assessment Office, to estimate new housing starts.

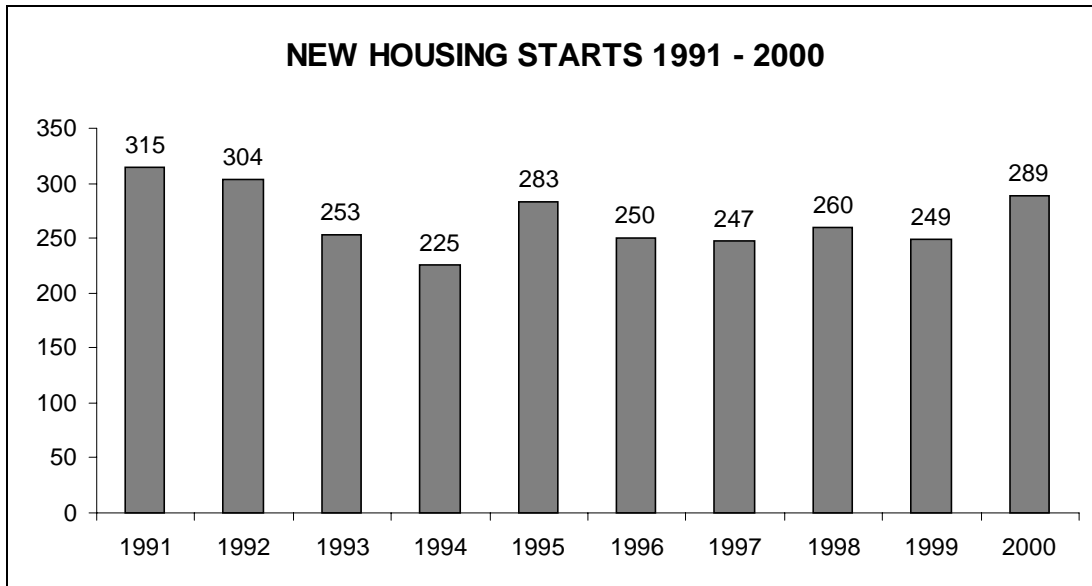
The number of new houses constructed in Huntingdon County in 2000 (289) grew 10.06% from the 1999 total (249). A ten-year trend is illustrated in the chart on page 22.

The map on page 23 illustrates the level of building activity in each municipality in 2000. Shirley Township led all municipalities with 20 new homes, followed by Jackson Township (19), Cass Township (18), Huntingdon Borough and Penn Township (17), Todd Township (16), Walker Township (14), Union Township (13), Springfield and Warriors Mark Townships (12), Dublin Township (11), and Cromwell and Hopewell Townships (10).



Subdivision Activity, 2000
Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania
 Prepared by; Huntingdon County Planning Commission
 1/24/01





SEASONAL AND YEAR-ROUND HOUSING

The housing data also allows a comparison between seasonal and year-round housing starts. Based on Valley Rural data, 45 units, or 15.57% of new housing activity in 2000 involved seasonal housing. This is a decrease of 10% from 50 seasonal units in 1999. Year-round housing activity increased by 11.2%, from 135 units in 1999 to 152 units in 2000.

Following are the municipalities that led the County in seasonal and year-round housing starts:

Seasonal Housing:

Todd Township (12); Hopewell Township (8); Shirley Township (5).

Year-Round Housing:

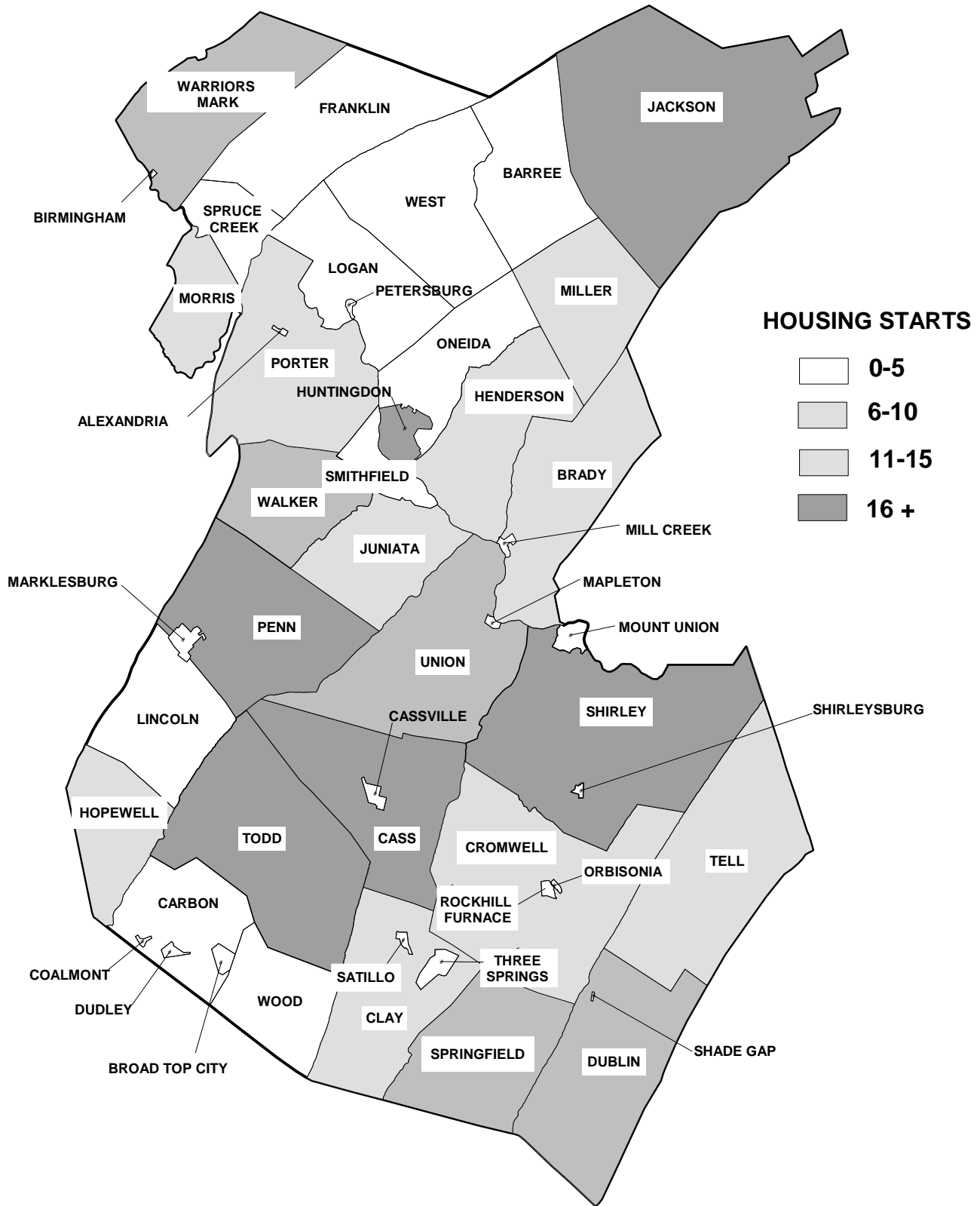
Jackson Township (18); Cass and Shirley Townships (14); Cromwell, Dublin and Springfield Townships (10).

PRELIMINARY 2000 CENSUS DATA

The U.S. Census Bureau has released Census 2000 Redistricting Data for Pennsylvania, revealing a 3.22% population increase for Huntingdon County over the past decade. According to this data, Huntingdon County now has 45,586 persons. The State of Pennsylvania gained 3.36% over the decade.

Huntingdon County experienced the 4th fastest growth rate of area counties. Leading counties are Centre (9.67%), Franklin (6.80%), Bedford (4.31%), Huntingdon (3.22%), Somerset (2.31%), Mifflin (0.63%) and Fulton (0.54%). Blair and Cambria Counties lost 1.07% and 6.40% respectively.

Municipal population change ranged from Marklesburg's 35.0% increase to Birmingham's 30.5% decrease. While 10 boroughs lost population, 8 gained. Most townships (23) experienced a population gain, with only 7 losing population. The table and maps on the following pages provide complete details.



NEW HOUSING STARTS, 2000

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Prepared by; Huntingdon County Planning Commission

1/29/01

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



**POPULATION CHANGE, 1990 - 2000
HUNTINGDON COUNTY**

Municipality	1990	2000	Change	Percent
Alexandria	401	401	0	0.00%
Barree	436	460	24	5.50%
Birmingham	131	91	-40	-30.53%
Brady	1053	1,035	-18	-1.71%
Broad Top City	325	384	59	18.15%
Carbon	460	428	-32	-6.96%
Cass	998	1,062	64	6.41%
Cassville	166	152	-14	-8.43%
Clay	917	920	3	0.33%
Coalmont	105	128	23	21.90%
Cromwell	1500	1,632	132	8.80%
Dublin	1121	1,280	159	14.18%
Dudley	210	192	-18	-8.57%
Franklin	502	447	-55	-10.96%
Henderson	954	972	18	1.89%
Hopewell	539	587	48	8.91%
Huntingdon	6843	6,918	75	1.10%
Jackson	816	882	66	8.09%
Juniata	443	553	110	24.83%
Lincoln	337	319	-18	-5.34%
Logan	671	703	32	4.77%
Mapleton	536	473	-63	-11.75%
Marklesburg	160	216	56	35.00%
Mill Creek	371	351	-20	-5.39%
Miller	488	514	26	5.33%
Morris	410	416	6	1.46%
Mount Union	2878	2,504	-374	-13.00%
Oneida	1085	1,129	44	4.06%
Orbisionia	485	425	-60	-12.37%
Penn	944	1,054	110	11.65%
Petersburg	479	455	-24	-5.01%
Porter	1942	1,917	-25	-1.29%
Rockhill	392	414	22	5.61%
Saltillo	333	343	10	3.00%
Shade Gap	121	97	-24	-19.83%
Shirely	2490	2,526	36	1.45%
Shirleysburg	142	140	-2	-1.41%
Smithfield	4194	4,466	272	6.49%
Springfield	511	612	101	19.77%
Spruce Creek	296	263	-33	-11.15%
Tell	553	648	95	17.18%
Three Springs	427	445	18	4.22%
Todd	889	1,004	115	12.94%
Union	992	1,005	13	1.31%
Walker	1501	1,747	246	16.39%
Warriors Mark	1353	1,635	282	20.84%
West	526	528	2	0.38%
Wood	738	713	-25	-3.39%
Huntingdon County	44164	45586	1422	3.22%

Source: Census 2000 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) File

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF

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