

2004 Annual Report

Huntingdon County Planning Commission

March 2005

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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.

STAFF ASSISTS WITH 'IT' IMPLEMENTATION

The Huntingdon County Commissioners completed Phase I of a three phase Information Technology Implementation Program in 2004. This follows the creation of an IT Committee in late 2003 and award of contract for information technology services to New Age Consulting of Huntingdon (NAC). The Planning Director serves as information technology coordinator for the County Commissioners, and liaison with NAC.

The County Commissioners set seven goals for the County Information Technology Program:

- ♦Provide broadband Internet access to the Courthouse;
- ♦Provide E-mail service to all employees;
- ♦Efficiently use computer equipment and peripherals

by sharing through the network;

- ♦Provide a phased solution to minimize up front cost and train employees on the new system;
- ♦Provide real-time access to geographic information system data;
- ♦Provide intra-office electronic communication to all county offices; and
- ♦Provide a server-based network for growth of future computer applications.

Phase I included installation of a server in the Courthouse to administer network and Internet connectivity using active server technology, installation of a high speed DSL connection to the Courthouse, deployment of a wireless network in the Courthouse and connection of the Commissioners,

Emergency Management, and Tax Assessment offices to the network.

Planning staff and the IT Committee worked hard to coordinate information technology activities with both NAC and the Chief Clerk, to develop an Internet use policy and to plan for Phase II.

An Assessment of information technology at Huntingdon County Courthouse offices was conducted by In-Shore Technologies as part of a six-county grant program administered by Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, paving the way for IT grants to implement Phase II, which will expand the network to other County buildings.

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

Two interns worked for the Planning and Development Department in 2004: Heather Kelly, a 2004 Juniata College Graduate (Psychology Major); and Megan Summers, a JTPA participant.

During the year, staff participated in numerous training workshops and conferences to enhance their skills. Major conferences included the Pennsylvania Planning Association Annual Conference, the GIS Annual Conference, the CDBG Annual Conference, and the 2004 GIS for Local Government Conference.

WORK PROGRAM

Municipal Waste Management Plan

Huntingdon County will continue to work with Bedford and Fulton Counties to develop a plan for the management of solid waste. Bedford County is managing funding for the Plan and Gannett Fleming has been hired to develop the Plan, which will be completed in 2005. Since DEP considers this a major Plan revision, municipal ratification will be required.

911 and Rural Addressing

It is expected that 2005 will see the completion of all aspects of the addressing project, including the issuance of addresses in all remaining regions. Field work will be completed by June, with all addresses being distributed by year's end.

Community Development

Despite major changes proposed by the Bush Administration, the administration of Community Development and other grants will continue to be a major staff activity. It is expected that applications for additional HOME funds for housing rehabilitation and CDBG Competitive funds for priority water and sewer projects will be completed.

Comprehensive Plan

Planning staff expects to begin an update of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, development of an Infrastructure Investment Strategy and Municipal Ordinance development. This will be done using State LUPTAP funds along with matching County and local funds.

Geographic Information System

Development of GIS information for Huntingdon County will focus on implementation of a second grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to fund conversion of County Tax Maps to a digital basis. Additional work will include creation of detailed maps 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.

IT Coordination

It is the goal of Phase II of the County's Information Technology Strategy to network five county offices: Courthouse, Annex I, Annex II, Emergency Management, Jail/Sheriff. Department staff will continue to

coordinate implementation of the Strategy, including connection of five county buildings to a broadband network.

Municipal Assistance

The Borough of Huntingdon has requested assistance in updating its thirty-three year old zoning ordinance. Staff will develop a grant request for LUPTAP funds and, if funded, undertake the update.

PA MAP

GIS staff will complete the collection of road centerlines, building locations and tax parcels and deliver these to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as partial fulfillment of the County's PA MAP Agreement.

FINANCIAL REPORT

During 2004, the operation of the Department was funded through the County General Fund (\$103,798.00) and through several state and federal government grant programs (\$237,209.00).

The 2005 General Fund budget increased by 2.94% from 2004; and the 2005 budget for Grants and Special Projects decreased by 2.32%. Overall, the 2005 budget is 1% lower than it was in 2004.

General Fund Budget Report

	2004 Budget	2004 Expenditures	2005 Budget
Personnel	\$82,498.00	\$82,498.77	\$86,002.00
Services	\$16,800.00	\$15,822.38	\$16,850.00
Materials & Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$1,596.16	\$2,500.00
Capital Outlay	\$2,000.00	\$2,028.74	\$1,500.00
Total	\$103,798.00	\$101,946.05	\$106,852.00

Grants and Special Projects Budget Report *

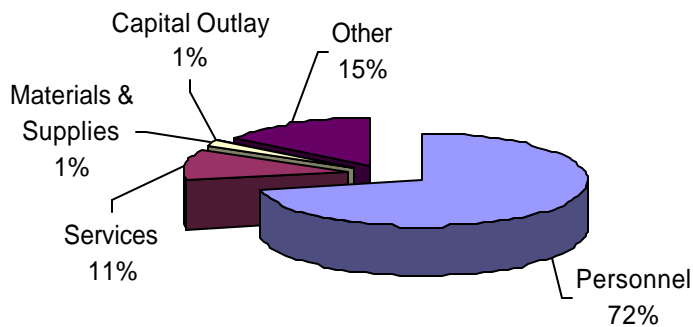
	2004 Budget	2004 Expenditures	2005 Budget
Personnel	\$136,209.00	\$135,399.63	\$140,314.00
Services	\$29,400.00	\$17,110.14	\$46,936.00
Materials & Supplies	\$3,600.00	\$2,331.47	\$3,600.00
Other	\$68,000.00	\$46,257.10	\$40,981.00
Total	\$237,209.00	\$201,098.34	\$231,831.00

Grant & General Fund Totals

2004 Budget	2004 Expenditures	2005 Budget
\$341,007.00	\$303,044.39	\$338,683.00

*Grants and Special Projects include Community Development Block Grant funds used for administrative purposes.

2004 Grant and General Fund Expenditures



MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

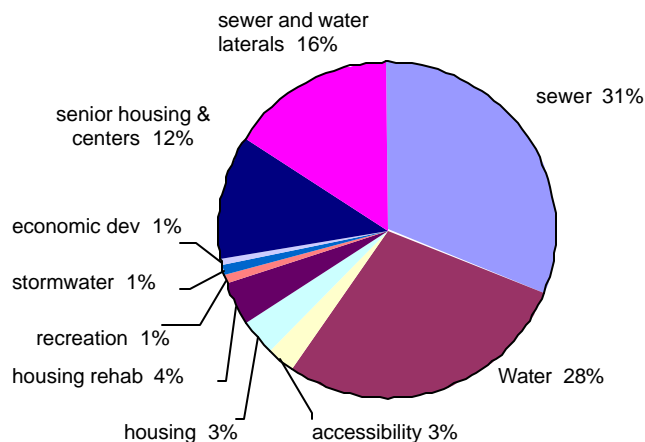
BENEFIT HUNTINGDON COUNTY CITIZENS

Approximately \$6.8 million from the Federal Community Development Block Grant Entitlement and Competitive Programs were invested in community improvement projects throughout Huntingdon County between 1990 and 2005. The CDBG Program, supported by Pennsylvania Act 179, has served Huntingdon County and its municipalities well, allowing communities to target locally defined needs within broad Federal guidelines and providing a predictable source of funding for housing and community development needs.

ACTIVITY NAME	BUDGET
water projects	
Alexandria Line Replacements	\$175,000
Broad Top City Meters/Tank/Well	\$120,566
Dudley Area Water System	\$76,223
Mapleton Line Replacements	\$523,354
Mount Union Water System	\$524,181
Orbisonia-Rockhill Meters	\$20,000
Petersburg Line Replacements	\$151,500
Robertsdale Area Water System	\$21,606
Shirleysburg Tank/Meters/Well	\$151,511
Wrangletown Road Water Main	\$172,790
economic development	
Broad Top Sewer/Water to KOEZ	\$37,690
housing	
Habitat For Humanity	\$31,500
Huntingdon House Bridge Housing	\$103,564
Huntingdon House Emergency Shltr	\$65,982
Habitat for Humanity	\$20,000
housing rehabilitation	
Juniata Valley Housing Rehab	\$71,425
Mount Union Housing Rehab	\$178,800
Todd Twp Housing Rehab	\$11,220
Mount Union Sidewalks	\$25,000
parks and recreation	
Orbisonia-Rockhill Homecoming Fac.	\$58,000
senior housing and centers	
Bricktown Senior Center	\$214,936
Juniata Valley Senior Center	\$221,492
Shirley Home for the Aged	\$390,674

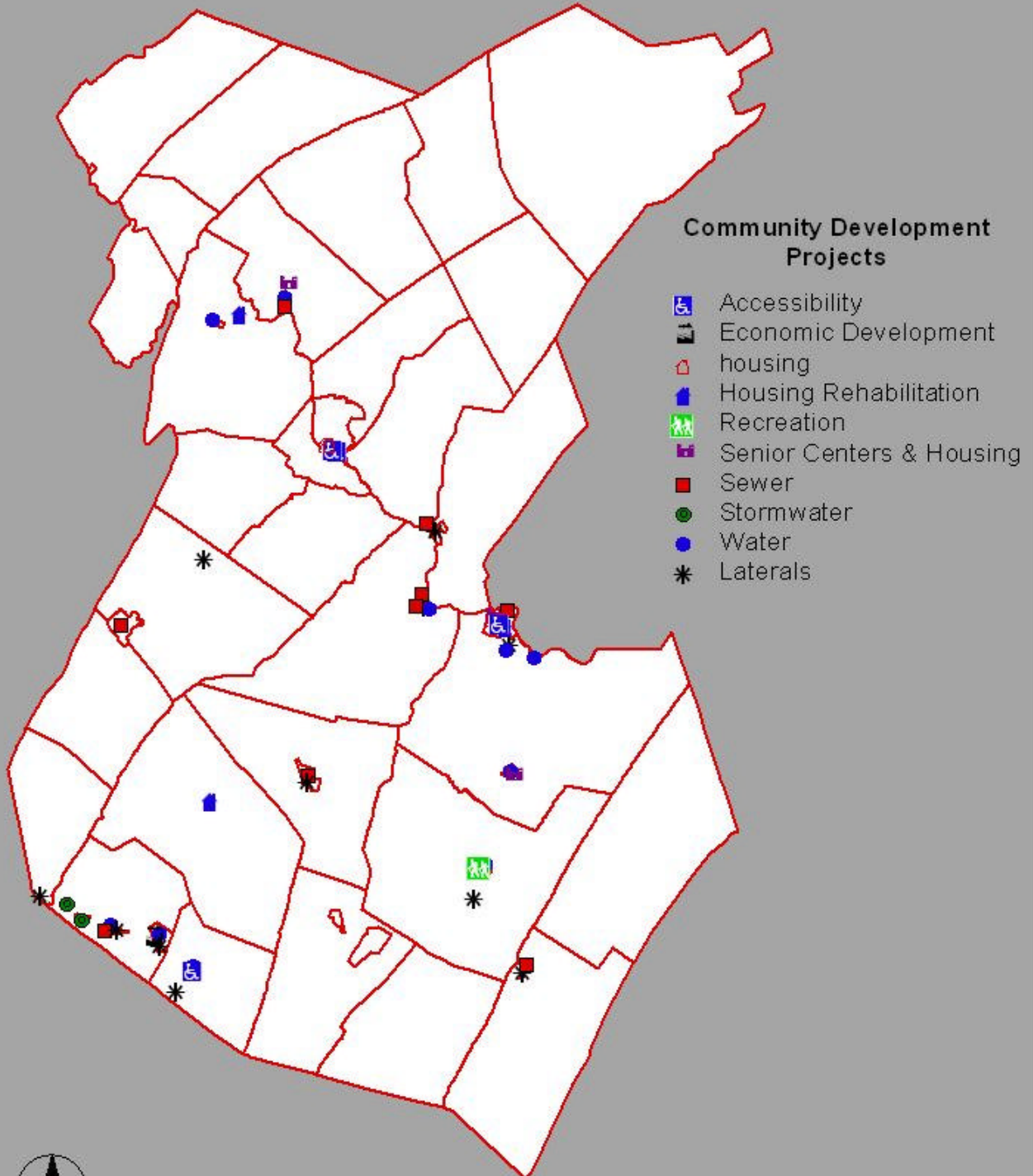
ACTIVITY NAME	BUDGET
sewer projects	
Cassville Sewer System	\$350,000
Dudley-Coalmont Sewer System	\$500,000
Mapleton Tap Fees	\$102,500
Mill Creek Area Sewer & Study	\$688,500
Mount Union Line Replacement	\$71,478
Shade Gap Area Sewer	\$350,000
Mapleton Sewer Drying Bed	\$20,000
Petersburg Pump Rehab	\$55,788
sewer and water laterals	
Broad Top City Sewer Laterals	\$63,371
Cassville Sewer Laterals	\$90,340
Dudley-Coalmont Sewer Lats	\$285,969
Mapleton Sewer Laterals	\$112,304
Marklesburg Sewer Laterals	\$42,000
Mill Creek Sewer/Water Laterals	\$40,000
Penn Twp Sewer Laterals	\$37,414
Robertsdale Sewer Laterals	\$162,709
Shade Gap Area Sewer Laterals	\$80,000
Wrangletown Rd Water Laterals	\$24,119
Cromwell Twp Sewer Laterals	\$117,000
Puttstown Sewer Laterals	\$25,000
accessibility	
Coal Miners Museum Accessibility	\$22,000
Courthouse Annex Elevator	\$77,000
County Annex II elevator/restroom	\$77,000
Mount Union Elevator	\$15,000
stormwater	
Shoup/Coalbank Run	\$18,500
Shoups Run Stormwater	\$48,000
TOTAL	\$6,843,006

FUNDING DISTRIBUTION



Huntingdon Borough and Smithfield Township also receive Entitlement CDBG funds of approximately \$260,000 per year for community investment which are not included in the lists above. These funds were administered by Huntingdon County until 1995.

Distribution of CDBG Projects Huntingdon County 1990-2005



With the approval of the Huntingdon County Commissioners, the Planning and Development Department may provide assistance to municipalities upon request. Such requests typically involve development of subdivision, zoning and building permit ordinances; preparation of grant applications and administration; requests for proposals for professional services; and various planning studies.

MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE

Alexandria Borough - Staff attended a meeting of the Alexandria Flood Response Committee to discuss possible mitigation measures to minimize future flood damage and flooding. First floor elevations, provided by the Borough Engineer, were incorporated into a GIS analysis of the 100 year floodplain.

Broad Top City Borough - Staff assisted the Borough with finding a landscape architect to develop a grant application and Park Master Plan.

Cromwell Township - Staff met with the Supervisors to discuss adoption of the Model Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and concerns regarding concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO's). A series of maps analyzing the suitability of the Township for development of CAFO's was developed and presented.

Huntingdon Borough - Staff coordinated a meeting between the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, the Greater Huntingdon Chamber of Commerce and Huntingdon Borough to discuss a "Gateway Garden" project. Subsequently, a site near the old Portstown Arch was approved for participation in the Gateway Garden Program.

Lincoln Township - Staff met with the Township Supervisors and attended a public meeting to discuss adoption of the Model Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.

Morris Township - Staff met with the Township Planning Commission to discuss adoption of the Model Development Permit Ordinance.

Penn Township - Staff assisted the Township in obtaining funding for a sewer problem in Hesston through Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission. An income survey was conducted to determine if the project is eligible for CDBG funds.

Shirley Township - Staff participated in a neighborhood watch community walk in Allenport to survey community blight and needed improvements.

Smithfield Township - Staff attended a Township Planning Commission meeting to hear the initial presentation of plans for developing a WalMart.

Tell and Union Townships - Staff attended meetings of the Township Supervisors to discuss adoption and administration of the Model Subdivision Ordinance.

Warriors Mark Township - Staff cooperated with the Township Planning Commission and consultant Thomas R. Deans to prepare GIS-based mapping for the Township's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

Model Subdivision Ordinance - To date, the Model Subdivision Ordinance has been adopted by Brady, Morris, Porter, Spruce Creek and Union Townships.

All Municipalities - Staff distributed a draft Development Permit Ordinance for municipal consideration. This Ordinance, which was developed by Planning Department staff to eliminate the confusion between the new Uniform Construction Code (UCC) and the older municipal building permit ordinance, meets the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, ensures that rural addresses are posted and covers construction exempted by the UCC.

In addition, staff surveyed municipal officials to update a municipal contact database and determine technology needs; provided an opportunity for participation in the Huntingdon County CDBG

Entitlement Program; requested municipal financial support for a PA Council on the Arts Local Government Grant; determined interest in a multi-municipal grant for the purchase of street signs; and notified municipal officials about the availability of financial assistance for technology improvements.

GRANT ASSISTANCE

The Department assists municipalities and non-profit organizations in meeting community development needs by applying for and administering various state and federal grants, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program. Funding of the 2005 CDBG Entitlement was cut by 5.6%, from \$302,088 in 2004 to \$285,184.

A total of \$1,867,277 in CDBG and miscellaneous grants was received from 2002 through 2004.

During 2003, staff submitted a successful application for \$227,000 in Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to supplement existing housing initiatives already funded through a 2002 HOME grant. TANF initiatives include owner occupied housing rehabilitation, repairs to First Time Homebuyer houses, and Minor Home Repairs averaging \$5,000 per house.

Huntingdon County contracts with Huntingdon County Housing Services, previously Weatherization, Inc., for the administration of HOME grant funds and housing rehabilitation services.

In 2004, the new Dudley-Carbon-Coalmont sanitary sewer collection system and treatment plant was constructed and a majority of the laterals for low and moderate income households were installed. An on-lot septic system was constructed at the Shirley Home for the Aged. Dudley-Carbon-Coalmont Joint Municipal Authority staff installed water lines, and Habitat For Humanity purchased a vacant lot in Mount Union for construction of two houses.

Planning Commission Tours Shirley Home

In July, members of the Planning Commission and Department staff shared a “home-cooked” meal and toured the recently remodeled Shirley Home as part of the regular monthly Commission meeting. Home Director, Lucy Kidd, and Grant Administrator, Maureen Safko, provided a review of CDBG and County investment in the facility between 1990 and 2004.

Approximately \$580,000 was invested in CDBG funds with an additional \$120,000 in County funds and \$75,000 in other grant funding. The Shirley Home is a County-owned personal care home operated by a non-profit board. Improvements included a new roof, elevator, electrical improvements, new dining room, rehabilitation of the four unit apartment building, preparation of a Long Range Plan, and, most recently, a new sand mound sewage system.



Shirley Home Director, Lucy Kidd, conducts a tour of the facility.

Bonney Forge, First Enterprise Zone Loan

On July 7, 2004 the Huntingdon County Commissioners approved a contract for \$375,000 in competitive Enterprise Zone funds on behalf of Bonney Forge. Bonney Forge, the first local company to receive financial assistance through the Enterprise Zone Program, is adding approximately 40,000 square feet to its plant in Shirley Township.

The Huntingdon County Commissioners have contracted the Juniata College Entrepreneurial Leadership Center (JCEL) to act as the Enterprise Zone Coordinator. The Planning and Development Department serves as the chief liaison between JCEL, the Commissioners and DCED.

JCEL focused on a “cluster strategy” for 2004, receiving an Enterprise Zone Basic Grant for operations in the amount of \$75,000. The Basic Grant is normally \$50,000. Clusters identified by JCEL include retirement homes, tourism, forestry and wood products, biotechnology and information technology.

In addition to marketing the Zone, JCEL began a feasibility study for an “anchor building,” a building in the historic part of Huntingdon suitable for supporting information technology and related businesses. Another key component of the Enterprise Zone is a business visitation program designed to identify business opportunities and problems.

Homeownership Program Serves Five Families

Five families became homeowners thanks to the County’s new First Time Homebuyer Program. These five participants purchased homes in Huntingdon and Mount Union Boroughs and Cass, Smithfield and Penn Townships.

Participants are pre-qualified by area banks for mortgages averaging \$67,000, and have 12 months from the date of acceptance into the Program to purchase a home. The Program meets this need by providing up to \$6,500 toward down payment and closing costs for low- and moderate-income households.

Program implementation involves intake and project management by Department staff, homebuyer education by the Penn State Cooperative Extension Office, home inspection by Huntingdon County Housing Services, and home loans from area lending institutions.

The 2000 *Comprehensive Plan* recommended creation of a First Time Homebuyer Program.

COORDINATION

Coordinating the implementation of the *Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan*, with public and private organizations, is achieved through the following four processes: Agency Liaison, County-Municipal Project Review, Federal-State Project Review and Subdivision and Land Development Reviews.

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.

Allegheny Ridge Corporation and the Pittsburgh to Harrisburg Greenway

The Planning Director serves on the Board of Directors of the Allegheny Ridge Corporation (ARCorp) and as a member of the Greenway Advisory Board.

The "Mainline Canal Greenway: Pennsylvania's Millennium Trail" report was published by ARCorp in June 2004. The greenway proposed by this study runs from Pittsburgh to Harrisburg, passing through Alexandria, Huntingdon, Mill Creek, Mapleton and Mount Union.

Greenway development has many potential positive benefits for the County, trail development, open space conservation and economic development.

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAPDC)

The Planning Director represents the County on several Southern Alleghenies committees: Planning Advisory Committee (PAC); DSF

Committee; Transportation Technical Committee (TTC); and Tourism Confederation. The Planner/GIS Technician is a member of the GIS Users Group (GUG) and the County Commissioners sit on the Executive Committee.

Southern Alleghenies provided financial assistance to the County and its municipalities through two programs in 2004: PennSTEP and the Southern Alleghenies Technology Assistance Program (SATAP). The PennSTEP program provided \$10,000 for storm sewer replacement in Henderson Township and \$8,000 for wastewater treatment improvements in Penn Township.

New for 2004 was the Greenway Steering Committee. This Committee includes major stakeholders in the six county greenway plan now under development. The Steering Committee provided input to Southern Alleghenies staff on the procurement of a planning team to carry out the greenway plan. The committee recommended hiring a team headed by Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) of Pittsburgh.

Juniata College Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (JCEL)

Staff has worked closely with JCEL this year. JCEL serves as Enterprise Zone Coordinator for the County Commissioners and serves as staff for HCB&I.

Juniata College has taken a proactive approach to business education, seeking to involve students in experiential learning. JCEL has created a student seed capital fund to develop student operated businesses and the Bob and Eileen Sill Business Incubator to support new businesses. The Business Incubator is expected to open during the summer of 2004.

Huntingdon County Business and Industry (HCB&I)

The Planning Director continues to serve on the HCB&I Business Development and Infrastructure Committees. The Grant Administrator has also been working closely with HCB&I to develop a well head protection strategy and storm water plan for the Riverview Business Center.

Juniata Clean Water Partnership (JCWP)

The Planning Director sits on the Partnership Board and served as President for 2004. JCWP sponsored a sojourn on the Juniata River, titled "Mainstem Madness."

The seven counties that participate in the Partnership are Bedford, Blair, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin and Perry; along with regional groups, such as the Allegheny Ridge Corporation, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Westsylvania Heritage Corporation, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Trout Unlimited and the Rural Communities Assistance Program

Agricultural Land Preservation Board

Planning staff continued to work closely with the Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board and County Conservation District staff to implement an agricultural land preservation program in the County. During 2004 a 100 acre easement was purchased in Brady Township and applications were received from farms in Brady and Warriors Mark Townships. While the Huntingdon County Conservation District is lead staff for the program, planning staff evaluates and ranks farms for participation in the easement program.

Huntingdon County Heritage Committee

2004 marked the retirement of long time Huntingdon County Historical Society Director, Nancy Shedd. The new Director, Sandy Carowick, will co-chair the County Heritage Committee along with the Planning Director. Summer Intern Erica Rhodes updated the Heritage Committee web site.

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. In addition, Acts 67 & 68 of 2000 provide an opportunity for local municipalities and counties to comment on the consistency of state funded projects with county and municipal planning and zoning.

Local government and state agencies submitted the following 43 projects to the Commission for review and comment in 2004:

1. Bank rehabilitation and gravel bar removal, DEP, General Permit, North Spring Creek, Saltillo Borough
2. Huntingdon County Bridge No. 8 Stream Improvement Project, Cromwell Township
3. Lake Raystown Resort Water Storage Tank, DEP Water Supply Permit, Lincoln Township
4. PADOT, Improvements to SR 22 and SR 26, Smithfield Township
5. Lake Raystown Shopping Center Expansion, NPDES Permit, Smithfield Township
6. FCI Communications, NPDES Permit, Shirley Township
7. The Highlands NPDES Permit, Huntingdon Borough
8. Victoria Heights Subdivision, NPDES Permit, Walker Township
9. PADOT, SR 350, Water Obstruction Permit, Warriors Mark Township
10. Warriors Mark General Authority, SR 350 Waterline Replacement Project, Warriors Mark Village
11. Raystown Highlands, Inc., NPDES Permit, Todd Township
12. PADOT, SR 2004, bridge structure replacement, Three Springs Creek, Clay Township
13. PADOT, SR 522, Safety Improvement, Cromwell Township and Orbisonia Borough
14. PADOT, Weaver Falls Bridge Replacement, Hopewell Township
15. Laurel Pipe Line Company, NPDES Permit, Shirley Township
16. Liberty Heights Subdivision, NPDES Permit, Warriors Mark Township
17. Stone Valley Welding Shop, Air Quality Permit, Jackson Township
18. PADOT, SR 453, roadway reconstruction, Morris Township
19. PADOT, SR 550, bridge replacement and roadway improvement, Warriors Mark Township
20. John G. Gilliland (Hickory Ridge Phases I & II, Gillbrook Farms Phases I, II and II, Arbutus Estates), Warriors Mark Township
21. Huntingdon Borough Act 537 Plan Update Revision (Allegheny Street Combined Sewer Outfall Replacement)
22. SR 3001, Little Valley Road, Safety Improvements Environmental Assessment, Todd Township
23. Smithfield Town Center, NPDES Permit, Smithfield Township
24. Huntingdon Country Club Golf Course Expansion, NPDES Permit, Walker Township
25. Malone Tract Phase II, NPDES Permit, Union Township
26. Bonney Forge Plant Expansion, NPDES Permit, Shirley Township
27. Alexandria Borough Water Authority, NPDES Permit Renewal
28. Alexandria Borough Water Authority, Water Quality Part II Permit
29. Leadership Huntingdon County, Annual Support Grant for Year Two - Letter of Support
30. Bumgardner & Flasher, Inc., aboveground storage tank system for heating oil and kerosene, Shirley Township
31. Wild Cherry Acres, NPDES Permit, Warriors Mark Township
32. Petersburg Water Authority, Reed's Run Dam Rehabilitation
33. Raystown Highlands, Inc., new road construction, Todd Township
34. Lake Raystown Resort Lakeside Cabins, construction of 25 cabins instead of 12, Lincoln Township
35. SAP&DC, creation of 15 - 30 miles of multi-use single-track bicycle trail, Army Corps of Engineers Raystown Lake Property
36. Alexandria Borough Water Authority Filtration Treatment Facility Project Environmental Assessment
37. Fred R. Lang, conversion of carport to living area, Huntingdon Borough
38. Scott and Joseph Shearer, demolition of 2 existing cottages and construction of 1 home, Franklin Township
39. Barry Park, 8 residential lots and access road, Porter Township
40. Dudley-Carbon-Coalmon Joint Municipal Authority, Phase II Sanitary Sewer Construction
41. PADOT, SR 22, emergency repairs to bridge over Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River and Lower Trail
42. DCNR, Construction of a temporary road crossing over Globe Run and rehabilitation of existing bridge
43. Dudley-Carbon-Coalmon Joint Municipal Authority, construction of access bridge over Shoups Run, Carbon Township

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 69 state permit activity notices in 2004.

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 four projects in 2004:

1. Terrace Mountain Alpacas, Union Township

This project involved a funding request from The Progress Fund in the amount of \$105,000 in USDA loan funds for the purchase of breeding stock and equipment.

2. Tuscarora Organic Growers Cooperative, Springfield Township

This project involved a funding request from the Progress Fund in the amount of \$65,000 in USDA loan funds for the purchase of equipment and building expansion.

3. Top Notch Farms, LLC, Alexandria/Porter Township

This project involved a funding request from the Progress Fund in the amount of \$134,000 in USDA loan funds for the purchase of land and working capital for a horse boarding facility.

4. Southern Huntingdon County Medical Services Committee, Orbisonia Borough

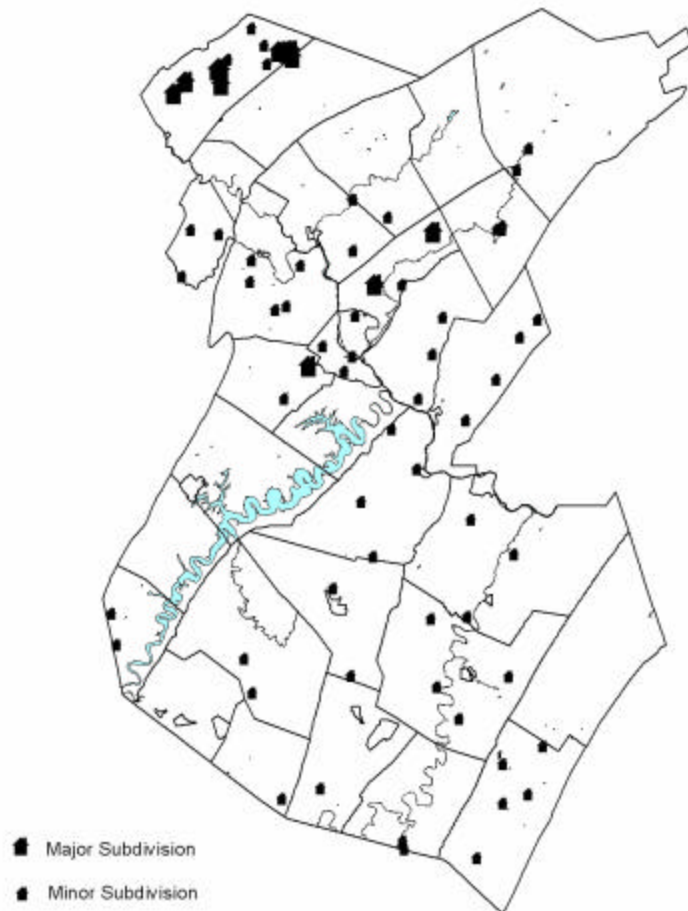
This project involved a funding request of \$281,000 in USDA Community Facilities Loan funds for dental clinic expansion.

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 91 subdivisions in 25 municipalities in 2004, up by 10 since 2003. These included 13 major subdivisions, 61 minor subdivisions, 6 major land developments, and 11 minor land developments encompassing 550 lots and 7,119 acres. Maps illustrating distribution of these proposals are located on pages 10 and 11.



HCPC Subdivision Review 2004

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Prepared by: Huntingdon County Planning Commission

3/8/05

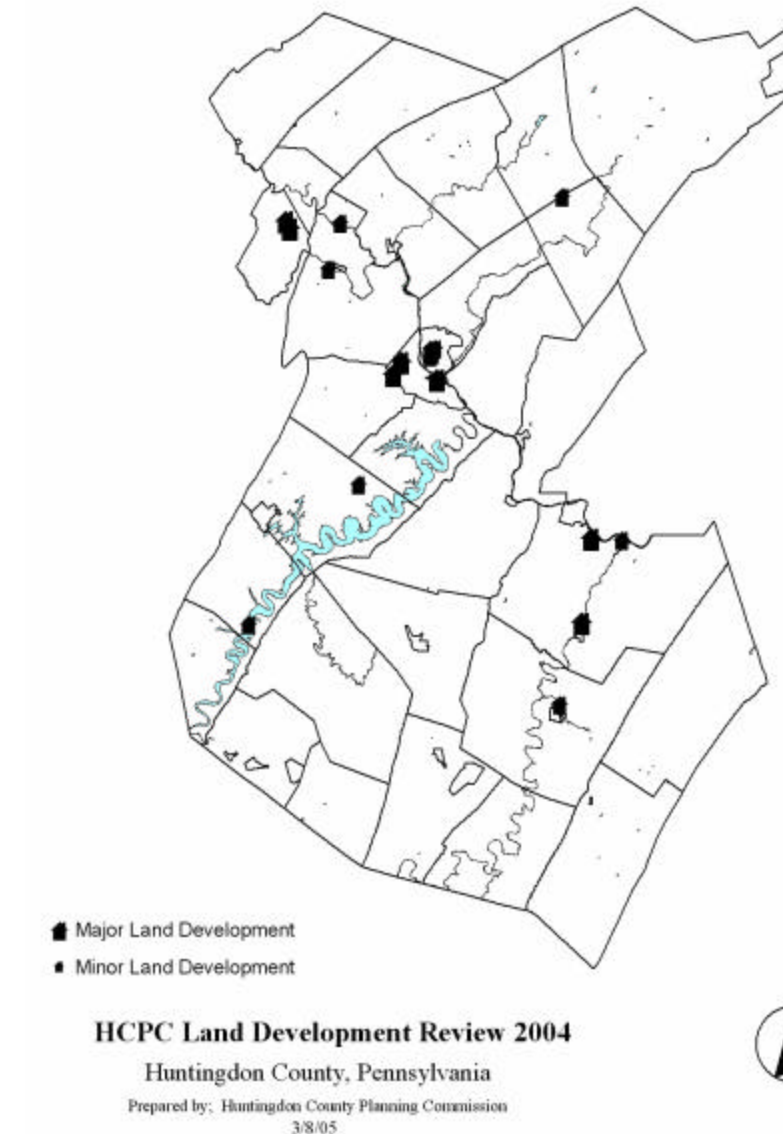


The largest subdivisions reviewed in 2004 were:

- the Liberty Heights Subdivision with 425 acres and 138 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Gillbrook Farms I Subdivision with 137.17 acres and 55 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Gillbrook Farms III Subdivision with 81.05 acres and 39 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Victoria Heights Phase I Subdivision with 26 acres and 33 lots in Walker Township;
- the Ridge View II Subdivision with 69.46 acres and 28 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Ashley Acres Subdivision with 46.9 acres and 28 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Westview Highlands Subdivision with 72.89 acres and 22 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Arbutus Subdivision with 34 acres and 18 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Gillbrook Farms II Subdivision with 31.79 acres and 17 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Elizabeth Acres Subdivision with 44.85 acres and 15 lots in Warriors Mark Township; and
- the Rex A. and Peggy K. Smith Subdivision with 47.2 acres and 12 lots in Oneida Township.

The six major land development reviews conducted in 2004 included:

- Smithfield Town Center, Smithfield Township - development of 7 out parcels, construction of one 155,000 square foot retail store,



- construction of an additional 30,000 square foot retail building, and gas station;
- Lake Raystown Shopping Center Expansion, Smithfield Township - construction of a new 59,424 square foot Giant Food Store and renovation of existing store;
- Bonney Forge Plant Expansion, Shirley Township - construction of a 55,400 square foot expansion for manufacturing, storage and offices;
- Huntingdon Country Club, Walker Township - addition of nine golf holes, clubhouse
- addition, construction of new maintenance barn and three overnight lodges;
- John Paul Espy, Morris Township - 2 lot subdivision and construction of a 4,160 square foot storage facility;
- Price Beverage, Shirley Township - 2 lot subdivision and construction of a 2,400 square foot distributorship.

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 2004 included:

The Planning Director conducted a strategic planning process for the Huntingdon County Economic Development Task Force, which was created by the County Commissioners in 2000. After completion of the Strategic Plan, the Task Force voted to become the Huntingdon County Partnership for Economic Progress (PEP).

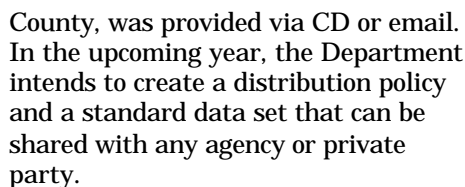
LEADERSHIP HUNTINGDON COUNTY

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

In 2004 the following GIS mapping projects were completed: Public Library locations were mapped and

Planning and Development staff received many requests for GIS data from other GIS professionals, engineers, realtors, state, regional and county agencies. The requested data, which included street centerline files, tax parcels, soil mapping, land use and other coverages unique to Huntingdon

County staff continued work with the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Spatial Sciences Research Center to identify community sewer, water and storm sewer locations throughout the County. The project consisted of collecting Computer Aid Design



(CAD) data from each community with digital data available (some community systems are only documented on paper) and converting that data to a format compatible with GIS. The conversion process provided GIS data layers that include sewer, water, and storm sewer line locations, sizes and types of line,

valve locations and service areas. This data will be very valuable for future planning and for analyzing existing and proposed facilities.

PA MAP

PAMap is a statewide initiative to create a common digital GIS base map for Pennsylvania. This cooperative program provides counties with resources to update existing GIS data layers (roads and other transportation, tax parcels, buildings, elevation, hydrography, geodetic monumentation orthophotography, political boundaries, names) to higher levels of accuracy that meet state and federal GIS standards.

In 2004, Huntingdon County entered into an agreement with DCNR (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) to cooperate and participate in the PAMap project. Huntingdon County received \$39,360 and 1:2,400 full color digital aerial photography to assist in the creation of the accurate map layers for the project. Once map layers are created that meet the required standard, the County will submit these layers to DCNR for use in the statewide mapping project.

DIGITAL PARCEL MAPPING

Phase 2 of the digital tax parcel mapping project is nearing completion with approximately 95% of the 26,636 tax parcels in Huntingdon County created in a seamless GIS coverage. It is anticipated that completion of the parcel mapping will occur in the summer of 2005. Public access to the digital tax parcel information is now available via two access terminals in the Tax Assessment Office. RTC Technology of State College performed the digitization with assistance from Tax Assessment staff.

911 AND RURAL ADDRESSING

2004 marked the completion of field data collection in Regions 3 and 6.

Through PA MAP DCNR Provided Huntingdon County aerial photography and money to meet its mapping goals.

Region 3 includes Miller, Henderson, Oneida, Smithfield, Walker, Juniata, Penn, Lincoln and Hopewell Townships and Huntingdon and Marklesburg Boroughs. Region 6 includes Shirley, Cromwell, Tell, Dublin, Clay and Springfield Townships and Mount Union, Rockhill, Orbisonia, Shade Gap, Three Springs, and Saltillo Boroughs. Data collection was also completed in Region 4, which includes Brady, Cass and Union Townships, and Mill Creek, Cassville and Mapleton Boroughs.

County road centerline files used for the project were also improved during 2004 using the new 1:2,400 aerial photography provided as part of the PA Map Project. The photography was used to adjust street centerline files to improve location and positional accuracy. These improvements were necessary to the 911 project because the previous road centerline files were based on 1:24,000 aerial photography.

The Planning Department anticipates that physical addresses will be issued for Regions 3 and 6 and that all addressing fieldwork will be completed by the summer of 2005. The Department also anticipates that the entire County will be readdressed by December 2005.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

In 2004, Huntingdon County entered into contracts for Miscellaneous and Community Development Block Grants totaling \$290,508. Tables on page 14

detail each miscellaneous grant awarded and CDBG usage and planned allocations.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT HUNTINGDON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

In cooperation with the Huntingdon County Arts Council, the Department administered a \$3,360 Local Government Grant for art activities in 2004. Matching grant contributions were made by the County and many municipalities for a \$6,720 program.

RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE

The Recycling Coordinator provides educational programs for all Huntingdon County Schools and major events that occur within Huntingdon County.

During 2004, the Recycling Coordinator prepared several reports and grant applications: the County's Solid Waste Annual Report, a DEP 903 Grant for Recycling Coordinator expenses, a 902 Grant for educational programs and materials, and a DEP 904 Grant for materials that were recycled in 2003 through the Bedford-Fulton-Huntingdon County Recycling Program.

Three special events were held at the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds - Spring and Fall magazine, plastic and corrugated cardboard collections and a Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection.

A total of 12 tons of magazines, 1 ton of plastic, 1 ton of corrugated cardboard, and 6,313 pounds of household hazardous waste were collected.

The Recycling Coordinator continues to be an active member of the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania (PROP), serving on their Educational Committee; and is an active member of the Solid

Waste Advisory Committee and the Huntingdon County Chapter of PA Cleanways.

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 Services Council.

Planning and Development staff provided assistance to the Huntingdon County Library, developing a GIS analysis of public library locations within Huntingdon County and in surrounding areas. The Planning Director serves on the

Library Property and Planning Committee.

Staff also assisted the Commissioners in dealing with a malfunctioning septic system at the Shirley Home. CDBG funds were used to fund a majority of the cost of replacing the existing system with a sand mound.

Miscellaneous Grants		
Pennsylvania Council on the Arts		
2004	Local Government Grant - Huntingdon County Arts Council	\$3,360
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources		
2004	PA Map	\$39,360

CDBG Usage—Past Three Years	2002	2003	2004
Habitat for Humanity*	\$12,000	0	0
Shirley Home for the Aged Roof**	\$90,000	0	0
Mount Union Borough Elevator Feasibility Study	\$15,000	0	0
Broad Top City Borough Water and Sewer Extensions to KOEZ **	\$40,000	0	0
Dudley Sewer Laterals	\$85,553	\$199,241	0
Mount Union Sidewalks	0	\$25,000	0
Mapleton Drying Shed	0	\$20,000	0
Huntingdon House Shelter	0	0	\$37,000
Alexandria Water Line Replacement	0	0	\$97,000
Orbisonia-Rockhill Homecoming Assoc. Facility Improvements	0	0	\$58,000
Petersburg Borough Sewer Pump Replacement	0	0	\$55,788
Past Three Years Totals	\$242,553	\$244,241	\$247,788
** activity complete * activity underway			
CDBG Usage - Next Three Years	2005	2006	2007
Huntingdon Habitat for Humanity	\$20,000	0	0
Juniata Valley Senior Center Addition	\$58,000	0	0
Puttstown Sewer Laterals	\$25,000	\$51,000	0
Cromwell Township Laterals	\$117,000	\$14,000	0
Petersburg Sewer Pump Replacement	0	\$37,000	0
Mill Creek Sewer Laterals/Tap Fees	0	\$118,000	\$43,000
Orbisonia-Rockhill Water Tank	0	0	\$100,000
Huntingdon County Main Library Accessibility	0	0	\$45,000
Dudley-Carbon-Coalmont Phase II Sewer Laterals	\$13,851	0	\$32,000
Next Three Years Totals	\$233,851	\$220,000	\$220,000

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Natural Heritage Inventory Leads to Regional Greenway Initiative

The *Huntingdon County Natural Heritage Inventory* was published in March 2004, marking the completion of this two year project. The Natural Heritage Inventory provides information on areas of the County which provide habitat for threatened or endangered species.

The existence of a natural heritage inventory in both Huntingdon and Bedford Counties and pending development in other counties has allowed Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission to receive funding for a multi-county greenway plan.

In Huntingdon County, the study identified 5 large Landscape

Conservation Areas (LCA's), 80 Biological Diversity Areas (BDA's) and 3 Important Bird Areas (IBA's). BDA's are unique ecosystems which support one or more threatened or endangered species. LCA's are larger areas possessing unique natural and scenic qualities. IBA's are internationally recognized areas for bird conservation.

Planners from the six counties discussed the possibility of a regional greenway initiative with DCNR staff during a summer Planning Advisory Committee meeting. Subsequently, Southern Alleghenies staff put together a grant proposal which leveraged DCNR funds against Penn DOT funding. A regional

greenway plan has been supported by both the Southern Alleghenies Planning Advisory Committee and the Tourism Confederation as a means of supporting tourism and outdoor recreation through conservation of natural areas.

Environmental Planning and Design (EPD), a Pittsburgh consultant, has been selected to head a team developing the Plan. Other members of the planning team are the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and Trans Associates.

Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon Continue to Cooperate on Solid Waste

Planning consultant, Gannett Fleming made progress in developing a three county municipal waste management plan for Bedford, Fulton and Huntingdon Counties during 2004 in response to a DEP mandate. County planning staff in each county are assisting with data gathering and public involvement. Solid Waste Advisory Committees have been developed in each county.

According to the Draft Plan, an estimated 55,830 tons of municipal solid waste was disposed by the three counties in 2003 - 26,051 tons by Bedford County, 6,501 tons by Fulton County and 23,278 tons by Huntingdon County.

Accomplishments to date include: estimating solid waste tonnage, surveys of municipalities and sewage treatment plants, drafts of several plan chapters and solicitation of proposals for waste disposal capacity. The Plan is expected to be completed in 2006.



PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

It is a goal of the Planning Commission to provide information to the public concerning planning and development issues as well as local trends in growth and development. Staff fulfills this responsibility through the various methods listed below.

HUNTINGDONCOUNTY.NET

Planning and Development staff continued to maintain the County web site with the support of Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission.

The new web site uses Digital Site Framework (DSF) technology. DSF is designed to allow local staff to manage the content of their own web sites without the aid of a web developer. The County web address will continue to be www.huntingdoncounty.net, which was first published in March of 2000.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Planning Director spoke to the Huntingdon Board of Realtors regarding current planning issues and gave a presentation to the Huntingdon Rotary Club about the Huntingdon County Partnership for Economic Progress. The Planning Director and GIS Technician gave a presentation to the Huntingdon Rotary Club and the Huntingdon County Commissioners regarding Huntingdon County GIS.

The Planning Director cooperated with the County Conservation District, PA Department of Agriculture and farming representatives to present information to the Warriors Mark Township Supervisors and Planning Commission on land use, agriculture and comprehensive planning. He also cooperated with the Huntingdon County Conservation District to conduct an Agricultural Law Seminar.

“The Planning Technician conducted five Courthouse tours for local schools, churches and civic groups.”

The Grant Administrator spoke to the Board of Realtors about the First Time Homebuyer Program, the Planning Director met with representatives from the Huntingdon-Smithfield Trailways organizations to discuss greenway and trail ideas for the Huntingdon-Smithfield Area, and the GIS Technician gave a GIS presentation to participants at the Huntingdon Area Middle School Career Day.

The Planning Technician conducted five Courthouse tours for local schools, churches and civic groups.

WALK-IN REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

The Department receives an average of four 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
- ⇒ 911 addresses

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

PUBLICATIONS

In 2004, the Planning and Development Department published the *2003 HCPC Annual Report* and the *2005-2006 Leadership Brochure*. In addition, the Department received and distributed copies of the *Huntingdon County Natural Heritage Inventory*.

DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

Proper maintenance and implementation of the *Huntingdon County*

Comprehensive Plan requires continuous data collection and analysis. Data collected by the Planning Staff includes:

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

SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY

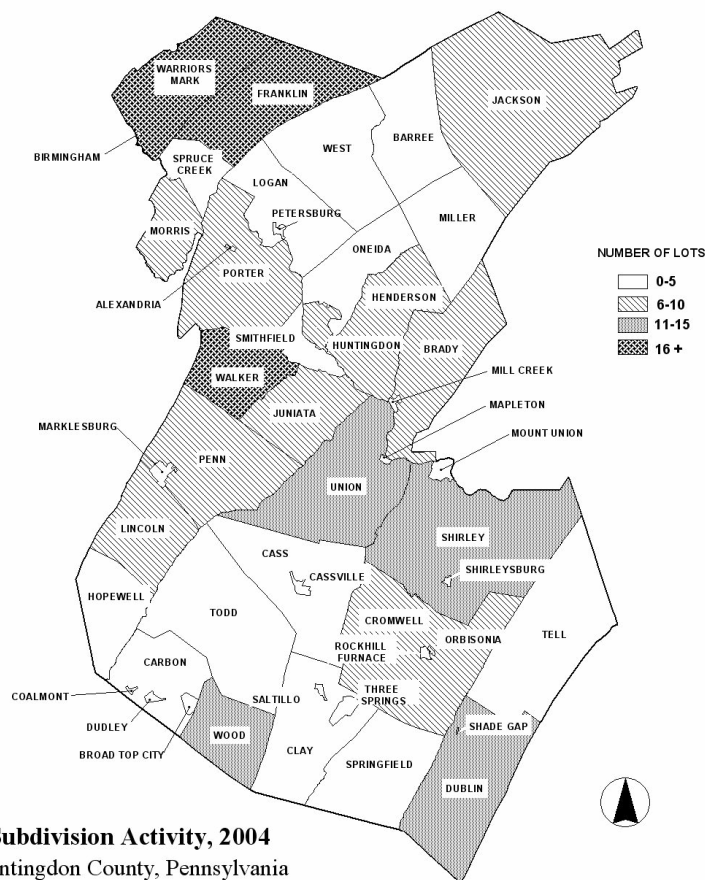
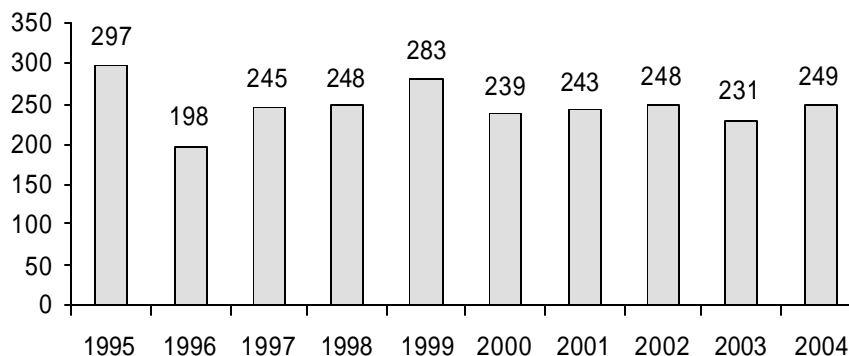
The number of new subdivision lots recorded indicates the level of land development occurring within the County. This information is valuable when determining the need for public services. Subdivision activity reflects the actual number of deeds recorded in the Courthouse (sale of lots) rather than the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

During 2004, 249 new lots were recorded in Huntingdon County. This is an increase of 7.8% from the 231 lots created in 2003.

In 2003, the highest level of activity occurred in Warriors Mark Township - 37 new lots. The table below shows the highest levels in 2004 and the map on this page illustrates the intensity of development experienced in each municipality in 2004.

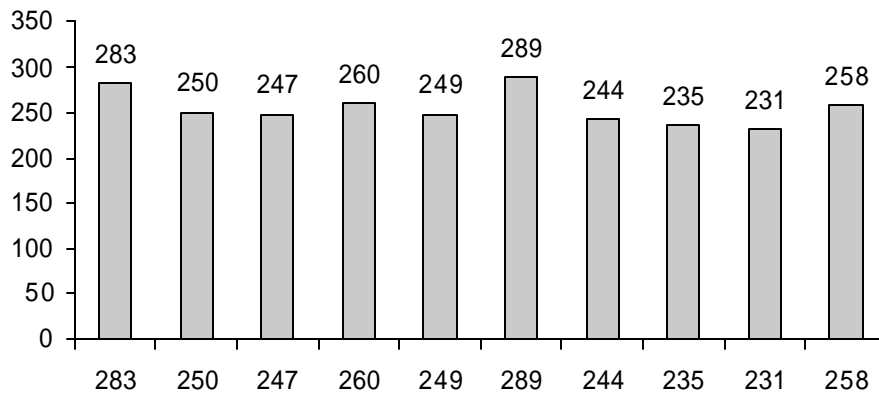
Municipality	New Lots
Warriors Mark Township	31
Walker Township	17
Franklin Township	16
Union Township	15
Wood Township	15
Shirley Township	14
Dublin Township	12
Brady Township	10
Cromwell Township	10
Huntingdon Borough	10

SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY 1995 - 2004



Subdivision Activity, 2004
Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania
Prepared by: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
3/8/05

New Housing Starts, 2004
Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania
Prepared by: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
3/8/05

NEW HOUSING STARTS 1995 - 2004**SEASONAL AND YEAR-ROUND HOUSING**

The housing data also allows a comparison between seasonal and year-round housing starts. Based on Valley Rural data, 61 units, or 23.6% of new housing activity in 2004 involved seasonal housing. This is an increase of 20% from 51 seasonal units in 2003. Year-round housing activity increased by 12%, from 102 units in 2003 to 114 units in 2004.

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

Seasonal Housing:

Municipality	New Homes
Union Township	17
Penn Township	7
Hopewell Township	5
Springfield Township	5
Todd Township	5

Year-Round Housing:

Municipality	New Homes
Dublin Township	11
Cromwell Township	10
Union Township	10
Hopewell Township	7
Henderson Township	6
Jackson Township	6
Miller Township	6
Springfield Township	6
Todd Township	6
Cass Township	5
Shirley Township	5
Walker Township	5

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