

MUNICIPAL AND AGENCY PARTNERSHIPS

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

INDIVIDUAL MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE

Department staff worked directly with the following municipalities in 2020:

Alexandria Borough and Porter Township

Staff attended March meetings with Alexandria Borough and Porter Township officials, staff of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE), and a representative from Gannett Fleming, Inc. to discuss the flood mitigation studies for the Juniata River prior to the start of field work.

The purpose of the Porter Township Flood Mitigation Study is to provide assistance in completing a flood mitigation to update the existing flood modeling and flood hazard mapping, assess the damages associated with floods of different recurrence and intervals and develop alternatives for both riverine and stormwater flooding. The approximate cost of this study funded by the USACE is \$150,000.00.

Huntingdon Borough

Staff attended meetings with Borough staff and Council to discuss current and future entitlement CDBG projects and to finalize a cooperation agreement for the Department's administration of Borough CDBG funds.

Staff also attended a meeting in March with Huntingdon Borough officials and USACE Baltimore District staff to discuss the Muddy Run floodplain mapping project prior to the start of field work. This flood mapping project is to provide assistance in completing revised floodplain mapping for Muddy Run in the Borough of Huntingdon to accurately depict the flood risk based upon present day hydrologic and hydraulic conditions. The approximate cost for this study funded by the USACE is \$70,000.00.

Mount Union Borough

Staff participated in a variety of meetings and conference calls with Borough staff, Borough Council, Borough Solicitor and the Engineer of record to coordinate the construction and financial administration of the Pennsylvania Avenue Linear Park Retaining Wall project.

Smithfield Township

Staff attended meetings with Township staff and Supervisors to discuss current and future entitlement CDBG projects.

Three Springs Borough

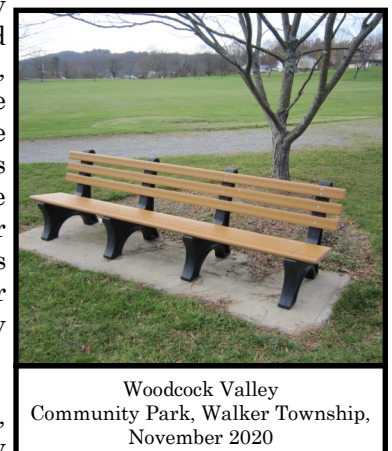
Staff worked extensively with Borough staff and officials to conduct an income survey to determine eligibility for a project at the Borough's water reservoir. While the project was CDBG eligible, the income survey determined the customers of the water system did not meet CDBG low-moderate income requirements.

ACT 13 LEGACY FUND

One provision of Act 13 that directly impacts Huntingdon County is the establishment of a Legacy Fund (Section 2315(a.1)(5)), which allows each county in the commonwealth to receive a share of the Marcellus Shale drilling impact fee based upon county population. These funds are intended for "the planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, natural areas, community conservation and beautification projects, community and heritage parks and water resource management. Funds may be used to acquire lands for recreational or conservation purposes and land damaged or prone to drainage by storms or flooding."

Since September 3, 2013, the Huntingdon County Commissioners have made a total of \$30,000.00 available each year, with a maximum award of \$10,000.00 per project. Six percent of each award is retained for administrative expenses.

On August 20, 2020, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission reviewed eight applications totaling \$67,485.66. Their recommendations were forwarded to the Huntingdon County Commissioners, who awarded a total of \$30,000.00 to four projects on August 25, 2020. The 2020 Act 13 Legacy Fund awards include:



Woodcock Valley
Community Park, Walker Township,
November 2020

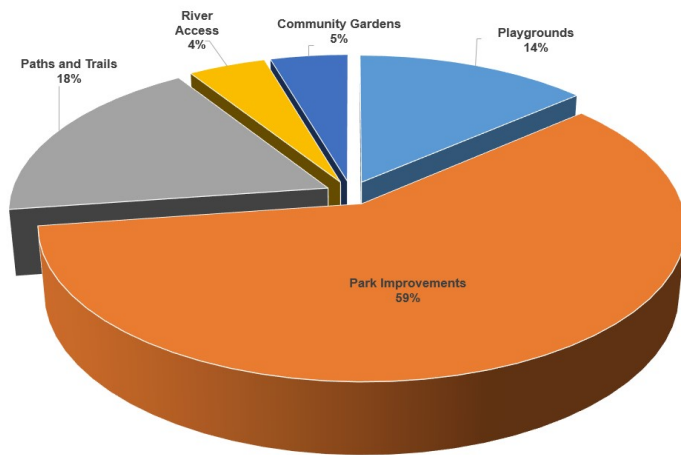
MUNICIPAL AND AGENCY PARTNERSHIPS (cont...)

- \$10,000.00 toward development of Bryant Park in Huntingdon Borough;
- \$9,000.00 to create a community garden in Mount Union Borough;
- \$7,000.00 toward playground improvements at the Veterans Memorial Park Playground in Mapleton Borough; and
- \$4,000.00 to replace and update park benches at the Woodcock Valley Community Park in Walker Township

Of the \$203,945.53 in Act 13 Legacy Funds awarded for 26 eligible projects since 2013, a total of \$132,858.26 was spent by the end of 2020 - \$125,968.91 for project costs and \$6,889.35 for program administration. Also by the end of 2020, \$35,047.27 of the total funds awarded were assigned for reallocation because four projects were no longer viable and four projects did not utilize their entire award.

Since 2013, the projects utilizing awarded Act 13 Legacy funds are located in the following municipalities: Broad Top City, Cassville, Huntingdon, Mapleton, Mount Union and Shirleysburg Boroughs; and in Morris, Porter, Shirley, Smithfield, Tell and Walker Townships.

The distribution of Act 13 funds summarized by category is detailed in the chart below:



**2013 - 2020 Huntingdon County
Distribution of Act 13 Legacy Funds**

JUNIATA RIVER BLUEPRINT COMMUNITIES (JRBC) UPDATE

The JRBC adopted a five-year strategy based on comprehensive input from several public meetings held throughout the Mapleton, Mount Union, and Shirley Township area. Due to such a wide array of needs and ideas presented, the five-year strategy was bold and wide-reaching.

During 2020, the JRBC received an anchor grant through the Federal Home Loan Bank. This grant was earmarked for the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute (PMPEI) Course in Community Planning, which was to be offered to interested municipal official countywide. Due to COVID-19 restrictions all in-person PMPEI instruction was discontinued. Only several virtual instruction sessions were available through PMPEI.

Kyle Bailey with the Pennsylvania Downtown Center was retained to assist with a perception survey of Mapleton Borough, Mount Union Borough and Shirley Township as part of a public visioning component for the JRBC.