

2005 Annual Report

Huntingdon County Planning Commission

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March 2006

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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.

PLAN UPDATE MOVES INTO HIGH GEAR

On September 1, 2005, the firm of David Miller Associates (DM/A) was retained to conduct an update to the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan. The DM/A firm was recommended by the Planning Commission after thorough review of the five proposals received.

DM/A is working with Urban Research and Development Corporation (URDC) to prepare an update to the 2000 *Comprehensive Plan*. URDC's focus is on subdivision and land development and zoning ordinances. The update is expected to be complete by the end of 2006.

The update to the Plan, *Continuity Through Conservation II*, is funded in part through a Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance (LUPTAP) Grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development.

To assure public participation in the analysis and plan, numerous individuals were invited to join the Comprehensive

Plan Committee (CPC). The first CPC meeting was held on November 9, 2005. The final mailing list for the committee, including the County Commissioners and Planning Commission, totals 45 persons. In addition, separate Borough Zoning Committee meetings and several public meetings are planned during the planning process.

The scope of work includes:

- ⇒ Land use inventory,
- ⇒ Huntingdon Borough Zoning update,
- ⇒ Model Zoning Ordinance,
- ⇒ Infrastructure Investment Strategy,
- ⇒ Land Use Plan update (focused on Acts 67 & 68),
- ⇒ Water Supply Plan, and
- ⇒ Plan consistency policy

The public is invited to go to www.huntingdoncounty.net for further information.

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

Brian Young was promoted to GIS Coordinator during the year, and given oversight of all County GIS work. Shelley Rotruck, a Liberty University Psychology Major, worked as Planning Intern during the summer. Shelley completed many website updates, scanned the Department's entire slide library, worked on a Courthouse parking analysis, and assisted other office personnel.

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 Community Development and Housing Practitioners Annual Conference, the 2005 GIS for Local Government Conference, and an ArcView 9.X Workshop.

WORK PROGRAM

Municipal Waste Management Plan

Huntingdon County will complete drafting a plan for the management of solid waste in cooperation with

Bedford and Fulton Counties. The final steps will include approval of the plan by the Department of Environmental Protection and endorsement by local municipalities.

911 and Rural Addressing

It is expected that 2006 will see the completion of all aspects of the addressing project, including the issuance of addresses in all remaining regions. Remaining areas to be addressed include: Broad Top Area, Cassville, Calvin, Mapleton, Mill Creek, Robertsdale and Three Springs. Huntingdon Area addresses were issued in early 2006. Field work was completed in August 2005.

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 complete an update of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, funded, in part, through Pennsylvania Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance (LUPTAP) funds. The project includes development of an updated land use inventory, Infrastructure Investment Strategy, updated Land Use Plan and Municipal Ordinance development.

Geographic Information System

The Department expects to apply for funding in support of a new Map Book and Transportation Map this year. These data products are an important way of sharing street data with emergency service providers and the public.

In addition, GIS staff will work on improving County road centerlines, building locations and tax parcels to comply with Pennsylvania Geospatial Data Sharing Standards (PGDSS) in conformance with the PA MAP Program.

IT Coordination

It is the goal of Phase III 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.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

Planning staff will work cooperatively with the Emergency Management Department to update the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. Work will focus on a survey of county infrastructure vulnerabilities, public input and development of a geographic information system database of vulnerable areas.

Tax Parcel Mapping

The Department will continue to coordinate the implementation of digital parcel mapping for the County with the Tax Assessment Office. A third and final grant through the Department of Agriculture has been sought for this purpose.

Courthouse Expansion

Staff will assist the County Commissioners in developing plans for expansion of County office space, principally through an addition to the Courthouse. It is expected that an environmental assessment and parking analysis will be completed and that grant funding sources will be explored.

FINANCIAL REPORT

During 2005, the operation of the Department was funded through the County General Fund (\$106,852.00) and through several state and federal government grant programs (\$231,831.00).

The 2006 General Fund budget increased by 3.24% from 2005; and the 2006 budget for Grants and Special Projects decreased by 3.6%. Overall, the 2006 budget is 1.42% lower than it was in 2005.

General Fund Budget Report

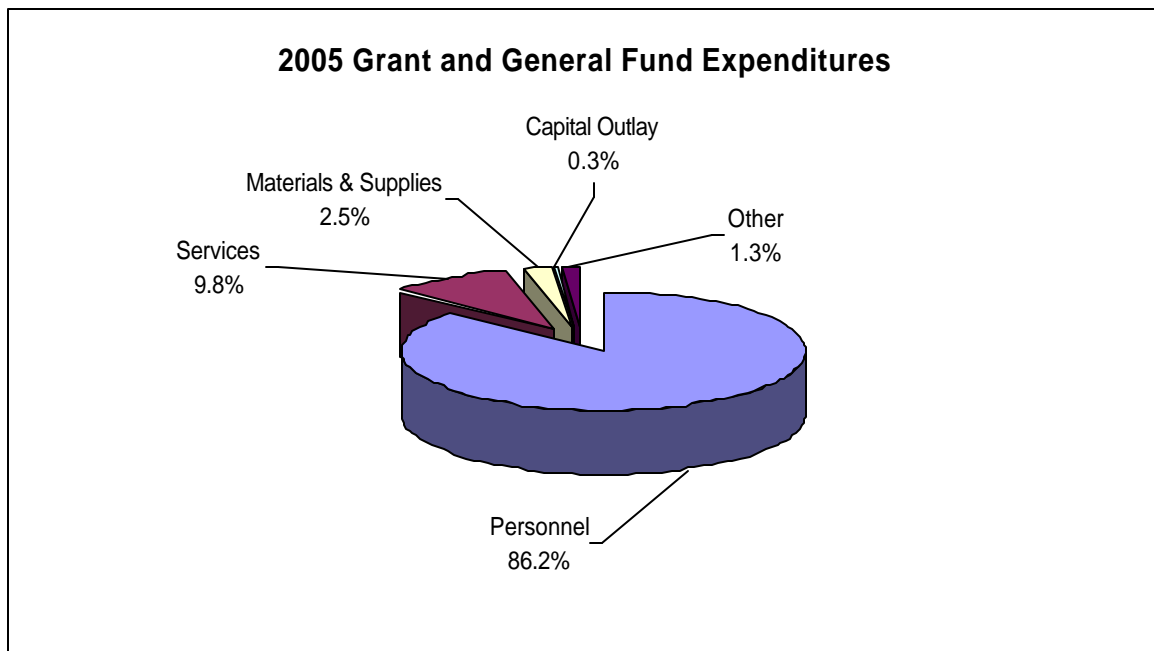
Grants and Special Projects Budget Report *

	2005 Budget	2005 Expenditures	2006 Budget		2005 Budget	2005 Expenditures	2006 Budget
Personnel	\$86,002.00	\$86,205.48	\$88,970.00	Personnel	\$140,314.00	\$142,579.12	\$128,908.00
Services	\$16,850.00	\$16,432.71	\$17,050.00	Services	\$46,936.00	\$9,687.52	\$51,050.00
Materials & Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$1,798.52	\$2,500.00	Materials & Supplies	\$3,600.00	\$4,768.96	\$3,800.00
Capital Outlay	\$1,500.00	\$764.96	\$1,800.00	Other	\$40,981.00	\$3,322.35	\$39,800.00
Total	\$106,852.00	\$105,201.67	\$110,320.00	Total	\$231,831.00	\$160,357.95	\$223,558.00

Grant & General Fund Totals

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

2005 Budget	2005 Expenditures	2006 Budget
\$338,683.00	\$265,559.62	\$333,878.00



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Regional Greenway Initiative Leads to Plan Element

The *Southern Alleghenies Greenway Plan* currently in development will result in a greenway element being added to the Huntingdon County *Comprehensive Plan*. According to Planning Director, Richard Stahl, the County Plan element will contain a finer level of detail than the regional effort.

This groundbreaking multi-county initiative is a direct result and in support of the six-county Southern Alleghenies Tourism Confederation's efforts to promote the regions' most valuable commodity - open space. According to DCNR, **greenways are linear corridors of open space, including both public and private**

land, which provide linkages between natural and manmade features.

The Greenway Plan is funded jointly by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). Local support is provided through local data sharing, participation in a regional greenway committee, and support for the public involvement phase of the project.

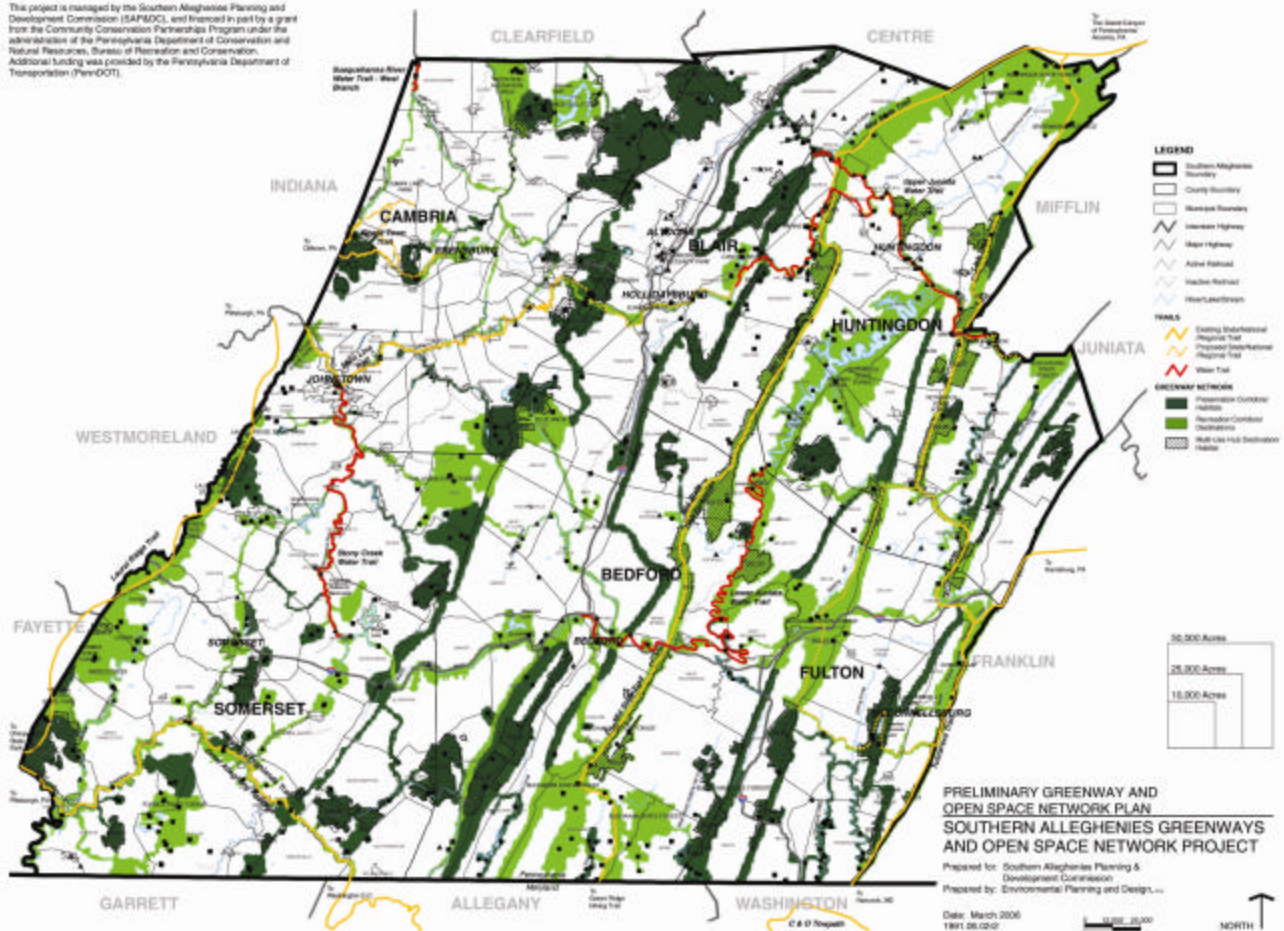
Initial efforts have focused on the development of a geographic information system (GIS) to analyze

a complex set of natural resource data. These data include: public lands, land use, sewer and water service areas, high quality streams, floodplains, trails, steep slopes, ridge tops, wetlands, abandoned railroads, active railroads, utility corridors and reservoir watersheds.

Public "open houses" were held in October to gather public comment, and in late 2005 a draft Greenway Plan was developed (see below).

The "greenway" consulting team is headed by Environmental Planning and Design (EPD), a Pittsburgh consultant.

This project is managed by the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAPMDC), and financed in part by a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. Additional funding was provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT).



PRELIMINARY GREENWAY AND OPEN SPACE NETWORK PLAN
SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES GREENWAYS AND OPEN SPACE NETWORK PROJECT
Prepared for: Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission
Prepared by: Environmental Planning and Design, LLC
Date: March 2006
1991 06.0202

MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

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/Porter Township - Staff worked with Emergency Management and a citizen's committee to identify funds for a Flood Hazard Mitigation Study. Alexandria and the Southside neighborhood of Porter Township were severely impacted by Tropical Storm Ivan in the fall of 2004.

Carbon Township - Staff coordinated hiring a surveyor to provide first floor elevations for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant program and prepared and submitted the application.

Hopewell Township - Staff received approval to prepare and submit a CDBG Competitive Grant in support of the Puttstown Sewer Extension project. The application was submitted to DCED.

Jackson Township - Staff attended a public hearing on the seven year review of the Township's Agricultural Security Area.

Penn Township - Staff attended a Township meeting to discuss the model development permit ordinance. Staff also provided extensive assistance with the Hesston sewage issue, attending meetings with Walker Township to discuss the possible interconnection of both systems and coordinating with RUS on possible funding.

Petersburg Borough - Staff met with members of the Borough Water Authority to hear a request for help

in securing CDBG funding for rehabilitation of the Petersburg Reservoir. In cooperation with Gwin, Dobson and Foreman, staff prepared and submitted a CDBG Competitive application.

Shirley Township - Staff met with the Supervisors to discuss assistance in the development of a database for on-lot sewage management and the use of County GIS data. A proposal was developed by the Planning Department and accepted by the Supervisors.

Springfield Township - Staff customized the Model Subdivision and Model Development Permit Ordinances for the Township and attended several Township meetings to discuss their adoption. As part of this process, staff developed a land use analysis of areas in the Township suitable for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) using Huntingdon County GIS data.

Todd Township - Staff attended a public meeting to answer questions concerning the Model Subdivision Ordinance, prior to adoption by the Township.

Walker Township - Staff coordinated a revision of the Walker Township Zoning Map with Consultant Tom Graney.

All Municipalities - Staff surveyed municipal officials to update a municipal contact database; provided an opportunity for participation in the Huntingdon County CDBG Entitlement Program; and requested municipal financial support for a PA Council on the Arts Local Government Grant.

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. Due to reductions in the federal CDBG budget, the Huntingdon County CDBG Entitlement declined from a high in 2004 of \$302,088, to \$293,447 in 2005. This was a loss of 3.5%, or \$8,641. The Entitlement was further reduced to \$271,759 in 2006, a loss of 10%, or \$30,329, from the 2004 allocation.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development awarded one Competitive CDBG contract to Huntingdon County in 2005 on behalf of Cromwell Township, for \$500,000 toward a new sanitary sewer system to serve the Village of Pogue. The County submitted two additional Competitive CDBG applications, each in the amount of \$500,000. One was on behalf of the Petersburg Water Authority for Reeds Run Reservoir Rehabilitation. A second was on behalf of Hopewell Township for wastewater collection system construction. Grant award notifications are pending as of the end of 2005.

Administration of the following CDBG funded activities was completed in 2005: Alexandria Water Authority water line replacement, Juniata Valley Senior Citizen Center Dining Room Addition, Mapleton Sewage Sludge Drying Shed, and Dudley-Carbon-Coalmont Water Improvements. Substantial completion was also achieved on renovations to the new Huntingdon House Shelter, funded through the Pennsylvania Emergency Shelter Grant Program.

An Engineering Services Program grant through DEP was facilitated by staff to provide hydrogeologic services for the well development project undertaken by the Broad Top City Borough Water Authority and the Dudley-Carbon-Coalmont Joint Municipal Authority.

Carbon Township Flood Mitigation Project Receives State Approval

The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency selected the Carbon Township Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application for funding. The application, prepared and submitted by Planning Department staff in April of 2005, and resubmitted in October, requested \$497,350 for acquiring 7 properties.

Planning Department staff worked with Carbon Township residents after Tropical Storm Ivan flooded their properties and destroyed their only evacuation route in September of 2004. All property owners living in the area of entrapment voluntarily agreed to participate in a federal program that would purchase the

flood prone properties. The purchased properties would be deeded to Carbon Township to remain permanently undeveloped.

The grant reimburses each property owner the appraised pre-flood property value and provides funds to clear buildings and decommission wells and septic systems. The total appraised value of all properties is \$425,300.

The application was forwarded to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for final approval pending further processing. FEMA's obligation of funds is scheduled for March of 2006.



Hazard Mitigation Grant application submitted to assist 7 households repeatedly flooded by Shoups Run and Sugar Camp Run in Carbon Township

Completion of First Time Homebuyer Program Nears

The implementation of the third round of the First Time Homebuyer Program was seen in 2005. First recommended in the 2000 *Comprehensive Plan*, the Program has placed twelve families in homes to date. The Program is funded by a HOME Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Department intends to apply for additional HOME funds, as current funding for the program is nearly fully expended.

Income qualified prospective homebuyers receive up to \$6,500 toward the down payment and closing costs. The homes purchased through the Program had an average cost of \$66,308 (ranging from \$40,900 to \$119,500). Three homes each were purchased in Huntingdon Borough and Smithfield Township, with two in Mount Union Borough. One home each was purchased in Cass, Penn and Henderson Townships and Broad Top City Borough.

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. To date, 58% of the loans were made by Omega Bank.

Enterprise Program Spawns Revolving Loan Fund

With approval of the third Enterprise Zone Loan next year, Huntingdon County will have a revolving loan fund with a principle of \$1,001,250. Enterprise Zone Coordinator, Janet Chambers, announced that the County expects to make several smaller "revolving loans" in 2006.

In November 2005, the Huntingdon County Commissioners approved an application for \$500,000 in competitive Enterprise Zone funds on behalf of Mutual Benefit, for the County's third Enterprise Zone Loan. The County's support is part of

Mutual Benefit's \$5,953,653 expansion project in Downtown Huntingdon. Previous loans have included a \$365,000 loan to Bonney Forge and a \$136,250 loan for J.R. Wald Co.

The Enterprise Zone Loan Program is administered by the Juniata College Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (JCEL) on behalf of the County. The Planning and Development Department serves as the chief liaison between JCEL, the Commissioners and DCED.

Cooperative Street Sign Project Completed

Planning and Development staff completed the purchase of municipal street signs as part of a state-funded Shared Municipal Services Grant. The Shared Municipal Services Grant supported joint bidding of the signs and subsidized the purchase of signs.

Fifteen municipalities participated in the project, matching the state grant with an equal amount of cash. The total project cost exceeded \$40,000.



This project is the third such effort in providing assistance to municipalities in installing street signs. The project was undertaken to both implement 911 rural addressing and to comply with new Penn DOT sign standards that require 6" lettering.

The greatest numbers of signs were purchased by Shirley (116), Walker (100), Hopewell (79), Porter (77) and Dublin (74) Townships. A total of 777 signs plus various posts and hardware items were purchased.

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 gave a presentation on comprehensive planning and growth in Warriors

Mark to the Spruce Creek Keystone Project Community Meeting in Stormstown; he and other committee members recorded a TV 17 "Spotlight" program promoting Leadership Huntingdon County; participated with the Grant Administrator in a one-day workshop about On-Lot Sewage Management cosponsored by RCAP Solutions; met with Mount Union Zoning Hearing Board members for training purposes; and attended a presentation by Juniata College students regarding the Huntingdon Shoppers Survey, which focused on potential impact of Wal-Mart on local shopping habits.

The Recycling Coordinator gave "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" presentations at several school districts, senior centers, and health fairs; and distributed recycling information at the Huntingdon County Fair and Huntingdon Borough's May Fest.

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 2005, the Planning and Development Department published the *2004 HCPC Annual Report*.

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.

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 Coordinator is a member of the GIS Users Group (GUG) and the County Commissioners sit on the Executive Committee.

The Planning Director also sits on the Greenway Steering Committee. This Committee includes major stakeholders in the six county greenway plan now under development. A planning team headed by Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) of Pittsburgh has been hired to prepare the innovative multi-county greenway plan, funded by both the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Penn DOT.

During 2005, the Transportation Technical Committee began the process of updating the Federal

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in conjunction with counties and Penn DOT. The process was begun with a county transportation survey in early 2005, and will end in July 2006 with the adoption of the TIP by the State Transportation Commission.

Juniata College Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (JCEL)

Staff works closely with JCEL, working to implement the *Huntingdon County Economic Development Strategy*. 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 and community development through JCEL partnering with the Huntingdon County Commissioners and HCB&I.

Huntingdon County Business and Industry (HCB&I)

The Planning Director serves on the HCB&I Business Development and Infrastructure Committees. One of the principle goals of the Business Development Committee is developing the Riverview Business Center. At year end, two serious prospects were expected to make offers on Riverview land. During the year, the State approved the Huntingdon County Keystone Innovation Zone (KIZ), an economic development zone centered on Juniata College.

Agricultural Land Preservation Board

Planning Director, Richard Stahl, was appointed to the Agricultural Land Preservation Board by the County Commissioners in 2005. Planning staff works closely with the staff of the Huntingdon County Conservation District who administer the program.

To date, the Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board has purchased preservation easements on 150 acres of farmland in Brady and Warriors Mark Townships. During the year, planning staff used GIS data to review a third farm in Brady Township against farmland preservation criteria. A conservation easement on this eligible 100 acre farm is expected in 2006.

Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce

The Planning Director participates in the Chamber's Community Improvement and Technology Committees.

During the fall of 2005, the Planning Commission agreed to jointly sponsor a Community Improvement Award in cooperation with the Chamber and Kish Bank. The Planning Commission adopted award guidelines for four categories: residential, commercial, public and non-profit, and special achievement. Nominations are due in February 2006, with awards being made in March 2006 at the HCPC Annual Meeting.

Huntingdon County Heritage Committee

The Planning Director continued to Co-chair the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee along with Historical Society Director Sandy Carowick. Erica Rhodes served a second summer as Heritage Intern.

Allegheny Ridge Heritage Area

The Planning Director serves on the Board of Directors for the Allegheny Ridge Corporation. Activity in 2005 focused on an update to the Heritage Areas Management Action Plan.

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 53 projects to the Commission for review and comment in 2005:

1. Evergreen Farms, Inc., NPDES CAFO Permit and Dairy Farm Modification, Franklin Township
2. R.R.P. Recreation Limited Partnership, Lake Raystown Resort Public Water Supply Permit Amendment, Lincoln Township
3. Shy Beaver Lakeview Estates, NPDES Permit Renewal, Hopewell Township
4. Walker Township Zoning Ordinance Update
5. R.R.P. Recreation Limited Partnership, NPDES Permit Revision, Lincoln Township
6. Silas and Eldbjorg Dubbel Subdivision, NPDES Permit, Oneida Township
7. Weis Markets Incorporated, Bank Rehabilitation Permit, Huntingdon Borough
8. PA DOT, waterway encroachment permit for pipe replacement, Cromwell Township
9. Jackson Township Agricultural Security Area, 7 Year Review
10. Smithfield Township Zoning Amendment, parking design standards
11. Liberty Heights Subdivision, NPDES Permit, Warriors Mark Township
12. Robert Parsons Subdivision, NPDES Permit, Dublin Township
13. Cromwell Township Supervisors, Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits, Wilson Road Bridge Repair
14. Marklesburg Authority, NPDES Permit Renewal
15. Lake Raystown Resort, environmental assessment for proposed improvements, Lincoln Township
16. Dominion Transmission, Inc., proposed natural gas line, Joint Permit, Jackson Township
17. War Vets Field Committee, replacement of ticket booth and restrooms, General Permit
18. Mapleton Borough, bridge repair over Scrub Run, Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits
19. Mount Union Municipal Authority, NPDES Permit, Shirley Township
20. Evergreen Farms, Inc., construction of 99' x 559' free stall barn, Phase II NPDES Permit, Franklin Township
21. Bryan Chappory, driveway installation with culvert access to seasonal cabin, Water Obstruction Permit, Juniata Township
22. William R. Morgan, temporary road crossing for timber harvest and removal, Water Obstruction Permit, West Township
23. Runk Farm, 2,200 head finishing barn, NPDES Permit, Cromwell Township
24. PA DOT, culvert replacement on Route 655, Waterway Obstruction and Encroachment Permits, Cass and Union Townships
25. L. Edmund Wilson, topsoil removal and sale, Alexandria Borough
26. Cromwell Township Supervisors, Monroe Valley Road culvert replacement, Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit
27. Steve Prendergast, Backbone Ridge Subdivision, NPDES, utility line and minor road crossing permits, Walker Township
28. Warriors Mark Township Subdivision Ordinance Amendment
29. Wood Township, headwall replacement on tributary to Great Trough Creek, General Permit
30. Riverside Park playground equipment improvement project, DCED and DCNR Grant applications, Mount Union Borough
31. Morris Township, Tippery Road culvert replacement, GP-11 Permit
32. Bonney Forge Corporation, NPDES Permit, Shirley Township
33. Portstown Park, recreational and toilet facilities, Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits, Huntingdon Borough
34. Larry Dick, Dollar General Store, NPDES Permit, Porter Township
35. Shirley Township Agricultural Security Amendment
36. Bruce E. Cox Phase II (Lot 3RR resubdivision), NPDES Permit, Warriors Mark Township
37. Greene Hills Church Camp, construction of new wastewater treatment plant, NPDES Part II Permit
38. Upper Riverside Park Project, construction of new driveway, parking, pavilion and ADA accessible sidewalks, DCNR Grant application, Smithfield Township
39. SR 453, Water Street Truck Climbing Lane, North Section, Environmental Review, Morris Township
40. Willow Behrer Farm, CAFO, NPDES Permit, Franklin Township
41. Carl Shehan Subdivision, NPDES Permit, Cromwell Township
42. Stephen P. Stoltzfus, Stone Valley Welding Shop, Air Quality Operating Permit, Jackson Township
43. PA DOT, reinforcement of concrete box culverts and arch culverts on Route 22, Henderson Township and Mill Creek Borough
44. Cromwell Township Agricultural Security Area Amendment
45. Shoups Run Watershed Association, Kenrock Mine reclamation, NPDES Permit, Carbon Township
46. John R. Gates, stream bank flood repair projects, General Permit, Franklin Township
47. Henderson Township Supervisors, Numers Hollow Culvert replacement, Waterway Obstruction Joint Permit
48. John Gillen, road access to 29 wooded vacation home sites, NPDES Permit, Juniata Township
49. Todd Township Supervisors, culvert replacement on Paradise Road over Lick Run, General Permit
50. Puttstown Sanitary Sewer Extension, Water Quality Management, Water Obstruction and Encroachment and NPDES Permits, Hopewell Township

- 51. Saxton Borough Municipal Authority, Kenrock Waterline replacement, General Permit, Carbon Township
- 52. Huntingdon County Bridge No. 8, stream improvements, Minimum Use Driveway Permit, Cromwell Township
- 53. Penn Township Act 537, Hesston Sewer System

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 98 state permit activity notices in 2005.

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 6 projects in 2005:

- 1. Main Street Cafe, Alexandria Borough**
This project involved a \$150,000 USDA funding request to purchase the Café, real estate, fixtures, equipment and working capital.
- 2. Pennsylvania Farm Link**
This project involved a \$40,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant funding request to provide beginning farmers with tools, knowledge and skills to create viable agricultural enterprises.
- 3. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection**
This application requested \$12,991,697 in grants from the EPA and US Department of Labor to fund local scale air monitoring, the underground and leaking underground storage tank programs, the hazardous waste management program, and mine safety and health administration.

4. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
This application involved funding requests totaling \$23,289,962 in EPA Grant funds for funding to assist with reduction of nonpoint source loading in watersheds, to address security needs of small to medium size drinking water systems, to continue NPDES permitting programs and the groundwater and wellhead protection programs, to continue water quality management activities, to further efforts related to compensatory wetland replacement, mitigation banking, and voluntary wetland restoration; and to control air pollution through planning, coordination, and operation of Statewide air programs.

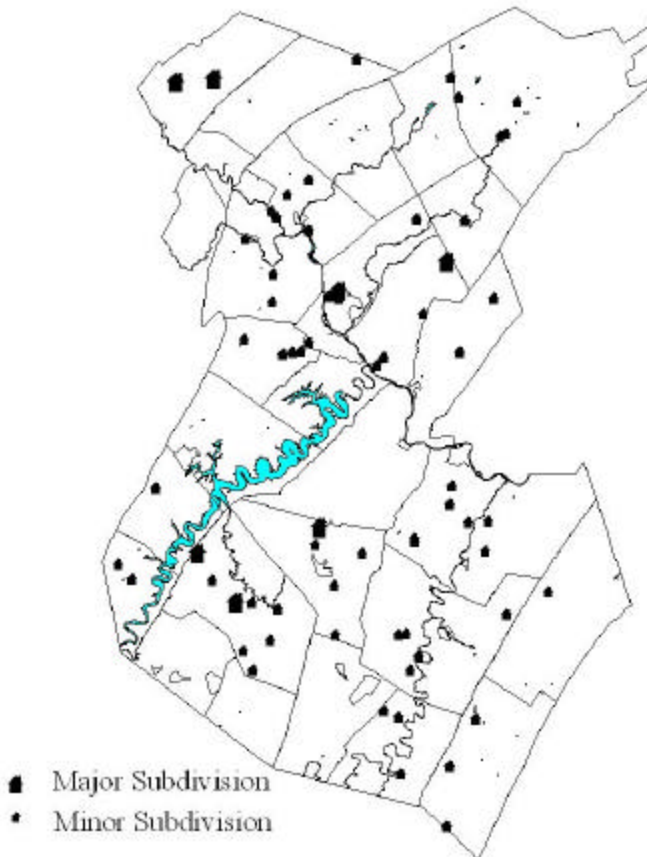
5. Northeastern Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center, Inc., Eastern and Central PA

This \$980,000 total project involved a \$490,000 USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant application to support a rural manufacturing initiative to enhance the competitiveness of rural manufacturers.

6. The Progress Fund
This application requested an additional \$200,000 in USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant funding for revolving loan fund capital.

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



■ Major Subdivision
★ Minor Subdivision

HCPC SUBDIVISION REVIEW 2005
Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania
Prepared by: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
3/14/06

municipalities. The Commission also comments on consistency with Act 537, the PA Sewage Facilities Act.

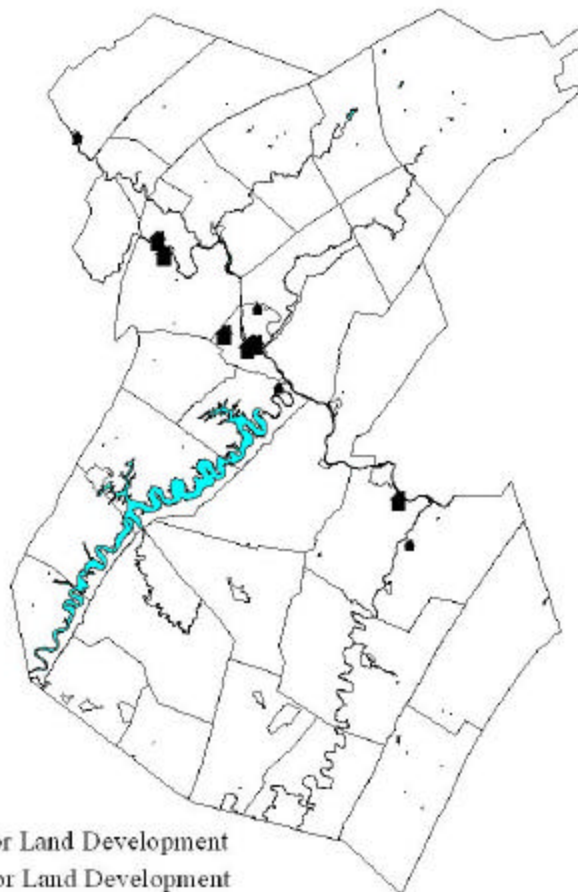
The Commission reviewed 81 subdivisions in 22 municipalities in 2005, down by 10 since 2004. These included 7 major subdivisions, 62 minor subdivisions, 5 major land developments, and 7 minor land developments encompassing 181 lots and 5,156 acres. Maps illustrating distribution of these proposals are located on pages 10 and 11.

The largest subdivisions reviewed in 2005 were:

- the Liberty Heights Subdivision with 139.54 acres and 34 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Raystown Highlands Subdivision with 222.25 acres and 26 lots in Todd Township;
- the Highlands Phase VI Subdivision with 4.848 acres and 11 lots in Huntingdon Borough;
- the Majestic Acres Subdivision with 14.35 acres and 9 lots in Warriors Mark Township;
- the Dogwood Acres Subdivision with 21.62 acres and 6 lots in Henderson Township;
- the Lawson's Lair Subdivision with 7.58 acres and 6 lots in Todd Township; and
- the Backbone Ridge Estates Subdivision with 37.951 acres and 5 lots in Walker Township.

The five major land development reviews conducted in 2005 included:

- Mutual Benefit Group, Inc., Huntingdon Borough - demolition of radio station



- Major Land Development
- Minor Land Development

HCPC LAND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW 2005

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Prepared by: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
3/14/06

- building and construction of new four-floor, 40,000 square foot building addition;
- Alexandria Dollar General, Porter Township - construction of a 10,500 square foot retail building;
- Bonney Forge Plant Expansion, Shirley Township - construction of a 5,800 square foot building addition;
- ACE Fix-It Hardware, Inc., Smithfield Township - construction of 2 building additions totaling 4,488 square feet;
- Wal-Mart Fueling Station, Smithfield Township - construction of an eight pump fueling station.

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 2005 included:

PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS

The Planning Director and Secretary continued to provide support to the Partnership for Economic Progress (PEP) during the year. The County Commissioners chair this committee.

According to the PEP Strategic Plan: *"It is the vision of the Huntingdon County Partnership for Economic Progress to improve the economic health and the 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."*

LEADERSHIP HUNTINGDON COUNTY

Leadership Huntingdon County was developed as a result of the PEP Strategic Plan to develop leaders and support a positive vision for the County. Department staff again applied for Appalachia funding for Leadership Huntingdon County. The Planning Director is a member of the Leadership Steering Committee and manages the finances for the program. The Class of 2006 has 19 members.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

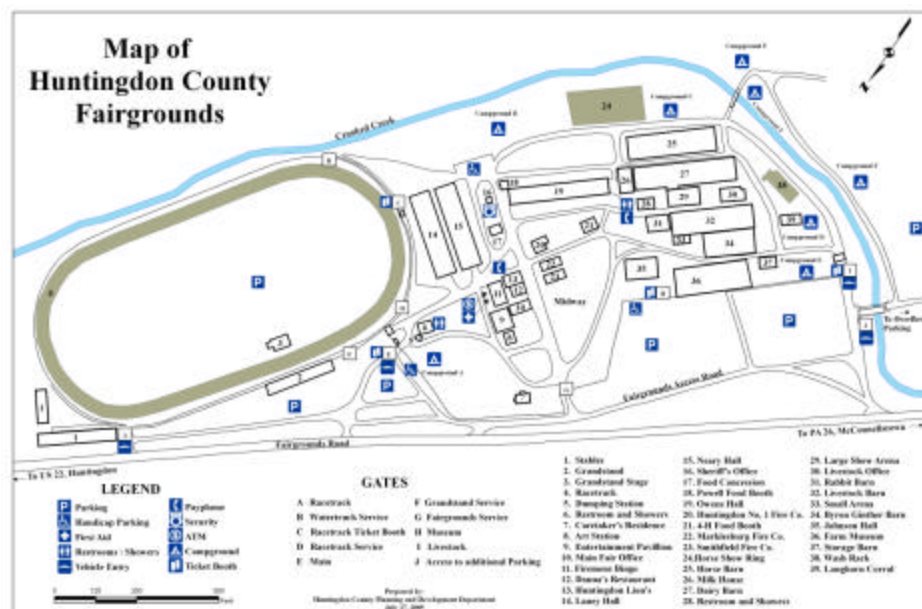
The Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department maintains maps of over 100 features such as roads, streams and municipal boundaries (known as coverages) as part of the Huntingdon County Geographic Information System (GIS). These

maps range from county and municipal boundaries to the detailed location information used in 911 addressing.

In 2005, the following GIS mapping projects were completed: mapped first floor elevations for Alexandria Borough and Porter Township (Southside) to compare first floor elevations to floodplain elevations in the area; created detailed maps for the Juniata River Walkway project, identifying the proposed connectivity between Riverside Park in Smithfield Township and Portstown Park in Huntingdon Borough; converted the Walker Township Zoning Maps to a digital format and updated zoning districts in conformance with the amended zoning ordinance; created maps for the Huntingdon Fairgrounds for use at the 2005 County Fair (see map below); prepared land use analyses for Springfield and Cromwell Townships;

Staff provides this digital data via CD or email. In the upcoming year, the Department intends to create a distribution policy for data and a standard data set that can be shared with any agency, private party, or entity.

In addition, staff prepares custom and standard maps for a variety of clients. Available map sizes range from 8.5" x 11" to 34" x 44". In 2005, the following custom maps were created: home locations of Leadership Huntingdon County Participants, updated Flagpole Hill Trail Map for Huntingdon Borough, locations of Dental Offices in Huntingdon County for J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital, updated Juniata Valley High School Bus Route Maps, locations of Huntingdon County First Time



and conducted assessments and created maps for parcels offered for the Agricultural Easement Program.

Department staff receives many requests for GIS data from other GIS professionals, engineers, realtors, and state, regional and county agencies. Typically, the data requested includes street centerline files, tax parcels, soil mapping, land use and other files that are unique to Huntingdon County.

Home Buyer Participants, customized Aerial Photo map for Giant Foods, and various other maps.

Chester Engineers was hired as the Mapping Consultant for the County. Prior to hiring Chester Engineers, Department staff worked with the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Spatial Sciences Research Center. Staff outlined several GIS projects

for Chester Engineers including an analysis of the County GIS System and coordination of the system between the Planning Department and other departments using GIS; maintenance of various GIS layers; and creation of metadata.

PAMAP

PAMap is a statewide initiative to create a common digital GIS base map for Pennsylvania. This cooperative program provides counties with regularly updated aerial photography in return for sharing various county GIS layers such as road centerlines and tax parcels

Planning staff has participated in reviewing data standards created for PAMAP. In 2005, Huntingdon County staff attended a workshop in State College to assist with the creation of Data Standards to be used in the PAMap project. These standards are currently in a draft stage for review by state and local government agencies.

DIGITAL PARCEL MAPPING

The second phase of the digital tax parcel-mapping project was completed in 2005. The GIS Coordinator obtained grant funding and worked as a liaison between the Tax Assessment Office and consultant. Approximately 26,636 tax parcels in Huntingdon County have been mapped in a seamless GIS coverage. Public access to the digital tax parcel information is now available in the Tax Assessment Office via two access terminals. RTC Technology of State College completed this work with assistance by Tax Assessment staff.

911 AND RURAL ADDRESSING

The year marked the release of 2,470 new 911 addresses for residents of Mount Union and several other rural delivery areas of southern Huntingdon County. The new physical addresses identify the exact location of each structure for emergency services. These structures are located within the Huntingdon County Addressing

Region Six, which includes the following municipalities: Shirley Township, Shirleysburg Borough, Cromwell Township, Rockhill Borough, Orbisonia Borough, Shade Gap Borough, Dublin Township, Tell Township and Springfield Township. The zip code areas include Blairs Mills, 17213; Burnt Cabins, 17215; Hustontown, 17229; Mount Union, 17066; Neelyton, 17239; Orbisonia, 17243; Rockhill Furnace, 17249; East Waterford, 17021; and Shade Gap, 17255.

There have been two previous releases of 911 addresses in Huntingdon County. These two releases were known as Addressing Regions One and Two. Region One, Warriors Mark area, saw the release of 2,532 addresses in the northwestern end of the County during November of 2001. Region Two, which included the Alexandria and Petersburg Zip Code Areas, witnessed the release of 4,750 new addresses during October 2003.

Addresses in the Huntingdon Zip Code area are slated for Release in February 2006. This zip code area includes: Oneida, Henderson, Miller, Juniata, Porter, Barree, Logan, Union, and West Townships and parts of Jackson Township. Also included in this Region are the McConnellstown Zip Code Area (P.O. Box holders only) and a portion of the Calvin Zip Code Area (P.O. Box holders only). Huntingdon Borough and Smithfield Village residents will retain their current addresses.

All address field data collection was completed in 2005. It is anticipated that physical addresses for the remaining portions of Huntingdon County will be released in the fall of 2006.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

In 2005, Huntingdon County entered into contracts for Miscellaneous and Community Development Block Grants totaling \$763,908. Tables on page 14 detail each miscellaneous grant awarded and CDBG usage and planned allocations.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT

In cooperation with the Huntingdon County Arts Council, the Department administered a \$3,281 Local Government Grant for art activities in 2005. Matching grant contributions were made by the County and many municipalities for a \$6,562 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 2005, 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 2004 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 18.1 tons of magazines, 2.44 tons of plastic, 1.75 tons of corrugated cardboard, 7,356 pounds of household hazardous waste, 150 gallons waste oil, and 55 gallons antifreeze were collected. An additional Fall Special Collection Day was held in cooperation with PA Cleanways of Huntingdon County, with 208 carloads participating for a total collection of 118 pieces of white goods, 57 Freon items, and 72 lead acid batteries.

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 as Chairman of both the County Safety and Social Committees, the Planning Technician and Grant Administrator continue to serve as members of the

Huntingdon County Human Services Council, and continue to conduct tours of the Courthouse for school students and various organizations.

Planning and Development staff provided assistance to the Huntingdon County Library in evaluating future

library space needs. The Planning Director serves on the Library Property and Planning Committee.

Staff also provided continued assistance with the new sand mound septic system at the Shirley Home for the Aged.

Miscellaneous Grants			
Pennsylvania Council on the Arts			
2005	Local Government Grant - Huntingdon County Arts Council		\$3,281
Shared Municipal Services			
2005	Cooperative Street Sign Project		\$20,000
Competitive CDBG			
2005	Cromwell Township Sewage System		\$500,000

CDBG Usage—Past Three Years	2003	2004	2005
Dudley Area Sewer Laterals*	\$131,241	0	0
Mount Union Sidewalks*	\$25,000	0	0
Mapleton Drying Shed**	\$20,000	0	0
Dudley Area Sewer System*	\$68,000	0	0
Huntingdon House Shelter*	0	\$37,000	0
Broad Top City Well Development*	0	\$48,500	0
Dudley Area Well Development*	0	\$48,500	0
Orbisonia-Rockhill Homecoming Assoc. Facility Improvements	0	\$58,000	0
Petersburg Borough Sewer Pump Replacement	0	\$55,788	0
Shirley Home for the Aged Stair Tower*	0	0	\$20,000
Habitat for Humanity	0	0	\$20,000
Juniata Valley Senior Center**	0	0	\$38,000
Puttstown Sewer Laterals	0	0	\$25,000
Cromwell Sewer Laterals	0	0	\$117,000
Dudley Area Phase II Sewer Laterals	0	0	\$20,627
Past Three Years Totals	\$244,241	\$247,788	\$240,627

** activity complete * activity underway

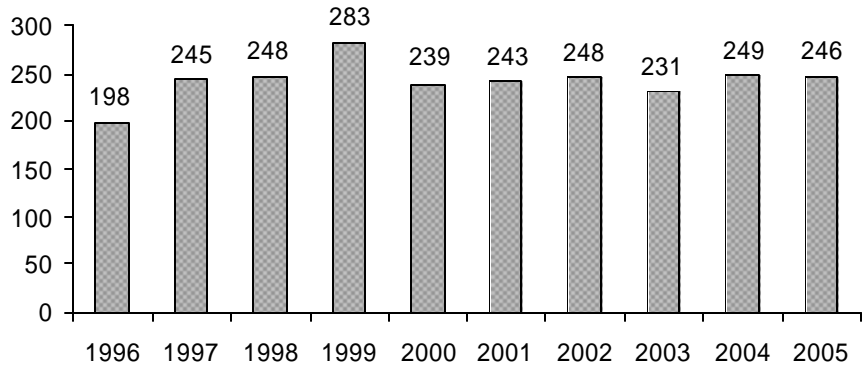
CDBG Usage - Next Three Years	2006	2007	2008
Puttstown Sewer Laterals	\$53,843	0	0
Cromwell Township Laterals	\$14,000	0	0
Petersburg Sewer Pump Replacement	\$37,000	0	0
Mill Creek Sewer Laterals/Tap Fees	\$118,000	\$40,500	0
Orbi-Rockhill Water Tank	0	\$97,500	\$60,000
Huntingdon Co Main Library Accessibility	0	\$42,500	0
Dudley - Carbon-Coalont Phase II Sewer Laterals	0	\$29,500	0
Mapleton Water Line Replacement	0	0	\$100,000
Affordable Housing Sites	0	0	\$50,000
Next Three Years Totals	\$222,843	\$210,000	\$210,000

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 1996 - 2005

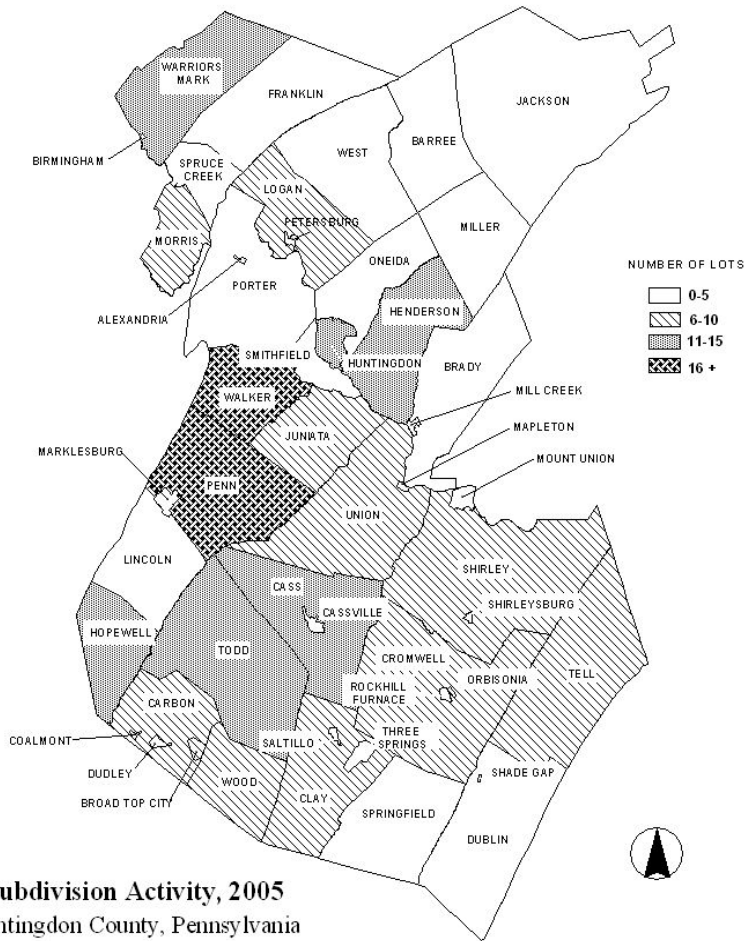


SUBDIVISION ACTIVITY

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 2005, 246 new lots were recorded in Huntingdon County. This is a decrease of 1% from the 249 lots created in 2004.

In 2004, the highest level of activity, 31 new lots, occurred in Warriors Mark Township. The table below shows the highest levels in 2005 and the map on this page illustrates the intensity of development experienced in each municipality in 2005.



Subdivision Activity, 2005

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Prepared by: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
3/13/06

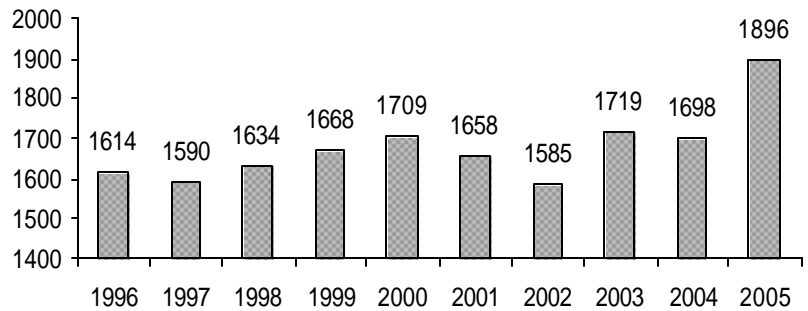
Municipality	New Lots
Walker Township	24
Penn Township	22
Cass Township	15
Warriors Mark Township	15
Hopewell Township	13
Huntingdon Borough	13
Henderson Township	11
Todd Township	11
Shirley Township	10

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 on this page illustrates the number of deeds transferred over the past ten years.

The Huntingdon County Register and Recorder's Office reported that the total number of deeds transferred in 2005, both existing and new, showed a 12.3% increase from 1,689 in 2004 to 1,896 in 2005.

DEED TRANSFERS 1996-2005



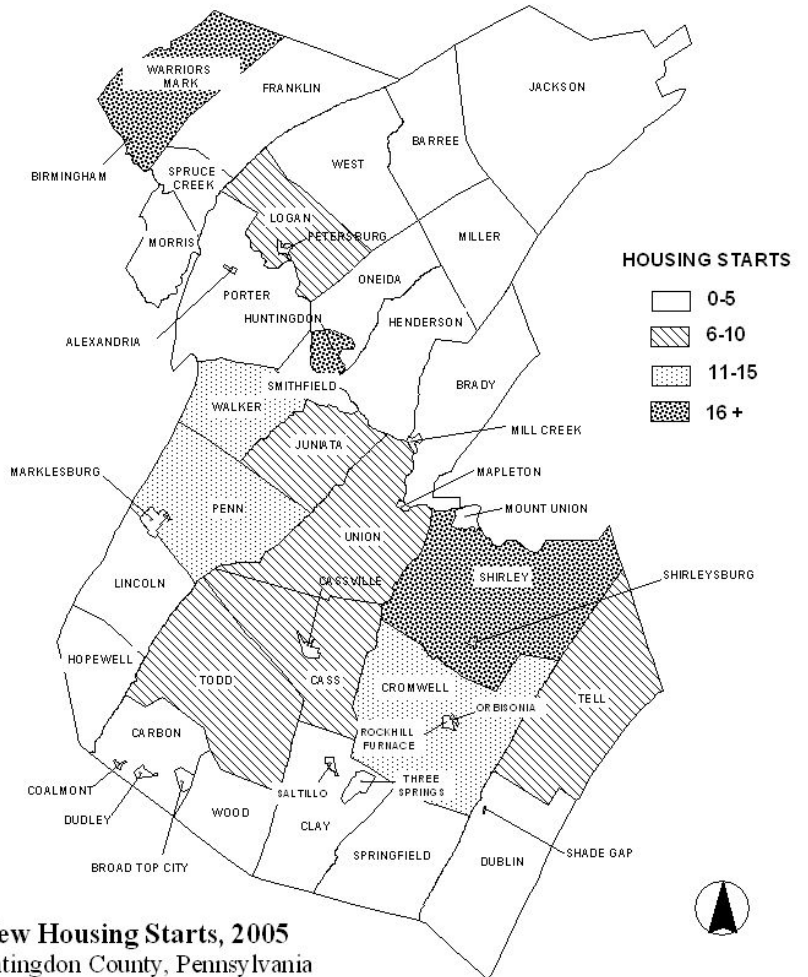
BUILDING ACTIVITY

The number of new houses constructed is measured annually. The Department uses electrical permits, from Valley Rural Electric Cooperative; building permits, as reported to the Huntingdon County Tax Assessment Office; and permitting data from municipal permitting agencies, to estimate new housing starts. In 2005, the number of new houses constructed, 179, decreased 31% from the 258 in 2004.

A ten-year housing starts trend is illustrated in the chart on page 17. The map on this page illustrates the level of building activity in each municipality in 2005.

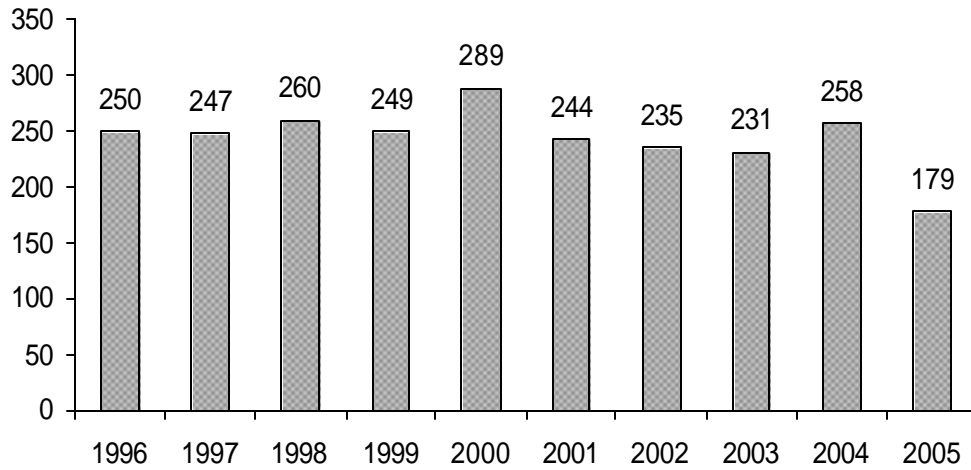
Following are the municipalities that led the County in new housing starts:

Municipality	New Homes
Huntingdon Borough	17
Shirley Township	17
Warriors Mark Township	16
Cromwell Township	13
Penn Township	12
Walker Township	11
Tell Township	9
Union Township	9
Logan Township	7
Todd Township	7



New Housing Starts, 2005
 Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania
 Prepared by: Huntingdon County Planning Commission
 3/13/06

NEW HOUSING STARTS 1996 - 2005



SEASONAL AND YEAR-ROUND HOUSING

The housing data also allows a comparison between seasonal and year-round housing starts. Based on Valley Rural data, 26 units, or 14.5% of new housing activity in 2005 involved seasonal housing. This is a decrease of 57% from 61 seasonal units in 2004. Year-round housing activity decreased by 39%, from 114 units in 2004 to 69 units in 2005.

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

Seasonal Housing:

Municipality	New Homes
Penn Township	5
Union Township	5
Shirley Township	4
Juniata Township	3

Year-Round Housing:

Municipality	New Homes
Huntingdon Borough	17
Warriors Mark Township	16
Shirley Township	13
Cromwell Township	12
Walker Township	10
Tell Township	9
Logan Township	7
Penn Township	7
Todd Township	6
Union Township	4

HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Charles L. States, Chairman
R. Dean Fluke, Vice Chairman
Roy E. Thomas, Secretary

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF

Richard E. Stahl,
Planning Director
Maureen H. Safko,
Planner/Grants Administrator
D. Brian Young,
Planner/GIS Coordinator
Peggy Ann Wilson,
Secretary/Bookkeeper
Sally Ann States,
Planning Technician*
Laurie J. Nearhood,
Secretary
Cinnamon L. Bair,
Addressing Technician
Timothy J. Nabozny,
Addressing Technician*
Lou Ann Shontz,
Recycling Coordinator

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Ron Rabena, Chairman
Larry Mutti, Vice Chairman
Ginny Gill, Secretary

Larry Pruss
Ann Kyper Reynolds
Mildred Rockwell
Herb Cole
Carl Jaymes
Bryan Yingling

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