

**2024**  
EDITION

# ANNUAL REPORT

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## HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

205 PENN STREET, SUITE 3  
HUNTINGDON, PA 16652

📞 814-643-5091

# OUR MISSION

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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.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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<b>Directors Letter of Introduction</b>
<b>Introduction to the Planning &amp; Development Department</b>
<b>Subdivision and Land Development</b>
<b>Community Development</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>
<b>Education</b>
<b>Municipal and Agency Partnership</b>
<b>County Assistance</b>
<b>Comprehensive Plan</b>
<b>Transportation Planning</b>
<b>Agency Liaison and Coordination</b>
<b>Community Improvement Awards</b>
<b>Organization and Management</b>

## FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

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### HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Scott Walls, Chairman**  
**Patrick Reeder, Vice Chairman**  
**Jeff Thomas, Secretary**  
**Heather Fellman, Chief Clerk**

### HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

**Ron Rabena, Chairman**  
**Larry Mutti, Vice Chairman**  
**Lawrence Biemiller, Secretary**  
**Philip Cahill**  
**Peter Liese**  
**Wendy Melius**  
**Bryan Yingling**  
**David Gardner**  
**Richard Walker**



Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department  
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February 27, 2025

Residents of Huntingdon County:

On behalf of the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department is pleased to present the Planning Commission's *2024 Annual Report*. This Report fulfills the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Article II, Section 207) requirement that the County Planning Commission submit a written report outlining its activities to the governing body by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The work we performed in 2024 reflects our continued commitment to the Planning Commission's mission of implementing a positive vision for Huntingdon County and dedication to a high standard of excellence in personal and community development.

During 2024, the Planning Commission held 13 meetings. At these meetings the Planning Commission reviewed a total of 76 subdivision and land development plans; recommended a total of \$30,000.00 in Act 13 Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund awards to five municipal projects; recommended four priority projects for the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); selected five Community Improvement Award recipients; and participated in a variety of educational opportunities. Department staff were integral to these efforts and to additional projects and programs within Huntingdon County and the surrounding Southern Alleghenies region. Efforts of the Planning Commission and Planning Department greatly affect residents of and visitors to Huntingdon County. We thank the Huntingdon County Commissioners for their continued support and assistance.

We anticipate this Report will be informative and provide you with a comprehensive overview of the many projects and programs our staff reinforce through our municipal and agency partnerships. Let this serve as an invitation for you to explore the many services we provide.

Please visit <https://www.huntingdoncounty.net/departments/planning-and-development> for up-to-date project information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurie J. Nearhood". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Laurie J. Nearhood  
Planning Director

# **INTRODUCTION TO THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

The Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department is responsible for the administration of the County's planning and community development programs.

Department staff is responsible for development of various functional plans in response to community needs including:

Land Use  
Housing  
Economic Development  
Community Facilities  
Cultural Heritage  
Natural Resources  
Transportation

The Department also provides planning assistance to municipalities in the areas of comprehensive planning, zoning, and subdivision and land development.

The County Planning Department meets with the Planning Commission during monthly public meetings to discuss current activities in the above-mentioned categories. Staff also work to provide educational opportunities about specific topics of interest, such as Housing Trust Fund, Broadband, Demolition Fund, transportation planning, solar energy and historic preservation.

## **Planning and Development Department Staff**

Laurie Nearhood, Planning Director  
Jen Bellis, Community Development Administrator  
Jayme Reck, Assistant Community Development Administrator  
Jodi Gutshall, Office Manager/Secretary

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# SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

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 and land use ordinances, and population and socio-economic characteristics.

## Subdivision Activity (Lots Sold)

The number of new subdivision lots recorded indicates the level of subdivision activity occurring within Huntingdon County. This information is valuable when determining the need for public services.

In accordance with Article 1 Section 107 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act 1968, P.L. 805 as amended), the act of subdivision is the division or re-division of a lot, tract, or parcel of land by any means into two or more lots, tracts, parcels, or other divisions of land including changes to existing lot lines for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of lease, partition by the court for the distribution to heirs or devisees, transfers of ownership or building or lot development.

Subsequent to subdividing land, a deed is prepared demonstrating the new metes and bounds for the lot. After the County Mapping Department completes the Uniform Parcel Identification (UPI) stamping process, the deed is recorded in the Recorder of Deeds Office and the new lot is officially created. In many instances, lots may have been created by subdivision; however if a deed is not created, then the lot is not officially created.

During 2024, 106 new lots were recorded in Huntingdon County. This is an increase of 23% from the 86 lots recorded in 2023.

Municipalities with the highest levels of recorded lots in 2024 included:

- Juniata Township - 10 Lots
- Penn Township - 9 Lots
- Shirley Township - 8 Lots

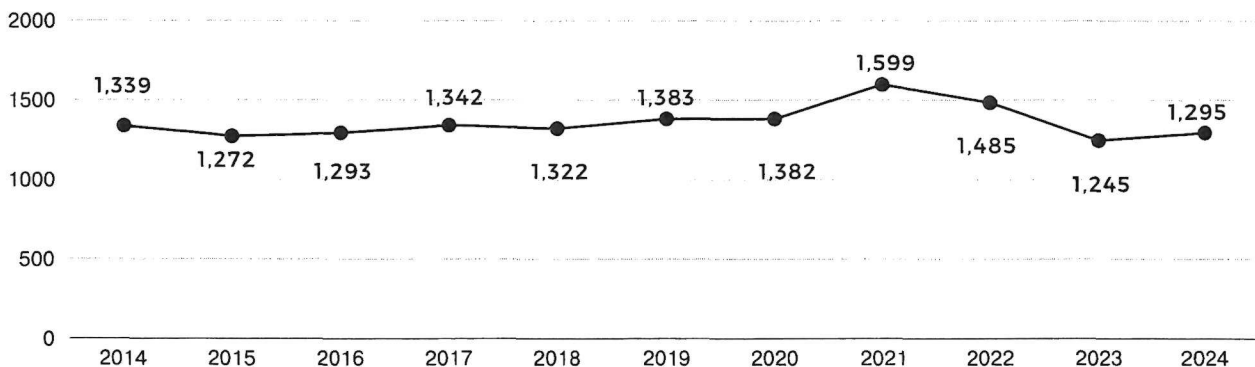
## Subdivision, Land Development & Sewage Module Reviews

Section 502(b) of the PA Municipalities Planning Code requires that the Planning Commission review and comment on all subdivision and land development plans submitted to municipalities that have a subdivision and land development ordinance prior to final municipal action. Additionally, the PA Sewage Facilities Act 537 requires that the Planning Commission review and comment on all municipal Act 537 Plans as well as Component 2 and Component 3 modules.

The Planning Commission reviewed a total of 76 applications during 2024 an increase of 14 applications from the 62 reviewed during 2023. These reviews included one major subdivision, 57 minor subdivisions, one major residential land development, two minor residential land developments, 14 non-residential land developments and one sewage module. These projects encompass a total of 73 new lots and 1,095.9769 acres.

## Deed Transfers

The number of deeds created and transferred for both new and existing properties is monitored as an indicator of the economic well-being of the County. The Huntingdon County Registers and Recorders Office reported a total of 1,295 deeds recorded in 2024. This is an increase from the 1,245 deeds recorded in 2023.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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, as well as acting as the responsible entity for environmental reviews.

## Grant Administration

2024 has been a busy year for CDBG staff. While continuing to meet and engage with townships and municipalities, Jen Bellis and Jayme Reck are getting more involved with various committees and local events. They've attended several webinars that were available through DCED, which were all helpful in the continual learning process of the CDBG program. Their fair housing activity for 2024 focused on elementary aged children by providing the elementary schools within the County with copies of two different books that were geared to specific grade levels. The thought was that these books would help children have a better understanding of fair housing rights in an easily comprehensible format. Overall, 142 books were distributed that will be accessible to over 2,000 children. Jen and Jayme continue to look forward to more community development opportunities that they are able to provide for Huntingdon County. The following are descriptions of the CDBG projects that were completed in 2024, as well as ongoing activities.

### Huntingdon County FY 2022

#### **Brick Town Senior Center Upgrades - Mount Union**

The Bricktown Senior Center is located in Mount Union Borough with a member size of 229 seniors ranging in ages 62 and older. Due to recent changes for senior centers, they are required to provide funding for their own utilities. Bricktown Senior Center addresses this requirement by having a monthly hoagie fundraising event held May through September. The seniors were in need of a freezer-less refrigerator to store hoagies while awaiting pickup to be delivered. They were also in need of updated dining room/event room seating. The chairs they had were older and very much worn from general wear and tear. In early April 2024, 150 stackable chairs and one freezer-less refrigerator were ordered and delivered to the Senior Center. After two incidences of damaged chairs due to mishandling by the delivery service, we were able to get replacement chairs delivered without incident and the project was completed by mid-April. The funded amount for this project was \$10,411.61. Due to some items being on sale, the total spent for the project was \$10,196.50. The remaining \$215.11 was allocated to the MUMA W. Davis/W. Garber St. Waterline project.



### FY 2022

#### **MUMA W.DAVIS/W.GARBER ST. Waterline Repair - Mount Union**



This County project involved repair work to the waterlines in the W.Davis/W. Garber St. area of Mount Union Borough. The project was under contract with Snyder Excavating, LLC in April 2024, and work began in June 2024. New valves were installed in the lines along Washington Street and the intersections of W. Davis and W. Garber Streets, a new 8" water main was installed through the woods between W. Davis and W. Garber Streets, and a new 4" valve was added to connect the new 4" line to the existing line along Garber Street. There was also a new fire hydrant installed along W. Davis Street. A layer of asphalt was applied to remedy any damages caused by the heavy equipment usage on Davis Street, leaving an unexpected improvement to the existing roadways for the residents. Work was completed on this project in July 2024. The funded amount for this project was \$155,305.00.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (CNTD)

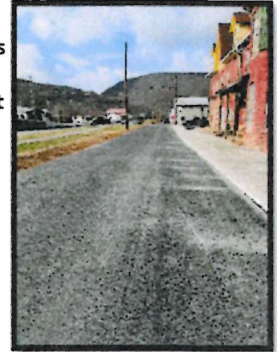
FY 2021,2022 and 2023

## **Pennsylvania Ave Restoration - Mount Union**



The section of Pennsylvania Avenue in between Jefferson and Division Streets in Mount Union Borough was narrow, sidewalks warped by tree roots causing uneven walking surfaces, no ADA accessibility to the sidewalk, sidewalk parking causing deterioration of curbs, and no formal parking spaces designated along the corridor provided a need for attention along this heavily traveled segment of roadway. This project, went under contract with Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. in September 2024, and work began in November 2024. Upon the start of construction the first layer of pavement was excavated to reveal a surprise sublayer of old brick that was used as support and foundation for the roadway. The brick created additional excavation and additional subgrade that was not initially factored into the cost. An estimate of \$25,000 was requested to accommodate the additional

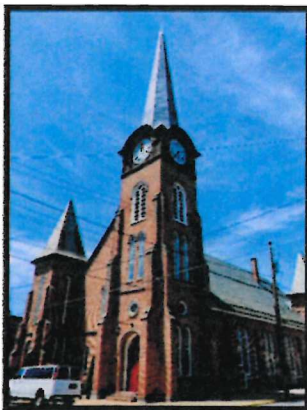
work and supplies. There were no CDBG funds available to add to the project, and Mount Union Borough sought their own resources to cover the overages. Work continued with the final inspection in late December 2024. The only unresolved issue is the line painting of the crosswalks on both ends of PA Ave. The lines were painted as the weather permitted, however the paint did not "stick" and will be redone under product warranty in the spring of 2025. The funded amount for this project was \$290,004.50.



## Huntingdon Borough FY 2018 & 2019

### obo Huntingdon Borough Town Clock Revitalization

This activity involved the repair and restoration (historical preservation) of the town clock located at 508 Mifflin Street, Huntingdon, PA. This project was very detailed and labor intensive due to the complete repair of the Seth Thomas Time and Strike tower clock movement, restoration of the dials, repair of the bell floor, bell cribbing, tolling wheel and hammer assembly, installation of appropriate dial lighting and structural repairs to eliminate existing water infiltration.



Balzer Family Clockworks (Rick, Linda and Chris) were busy with the restoration of the timepiece since December 2022 in their Freeport,

Maine workshop. They re-visited the site multiple times throughout the process. From removal of the timepiece to removing the dials and clock faces for refabricating; installation of the new faces and hands; and finally, on May 21 and 22, 2024, installation of the timepiece itself located in the church vestibule, which allows the public to watch the actual movement of all the components of the timepiece. Huntingdon Borough staff were able to complete the construction portion of the work, and will also maintain the upkeep required to keep the timepiece operational. The encasement that will go around the timepiece could not be completed until the timepiece itself was actually installed. This part of the process will be overseen and funded by Huntingdon Borough. The total cost of this project was \$241,635.67, with funding coming from CDBG grant funds and Huntingdon Landmarks



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (CNTD)

## FY 2022

### **Westminster Place Outdoor Upgrades**

Westminster Place are fairly new senior living apartments located in Huntingdon Borough that host lower income seniors ranging in ages 62 and over who are able to live independently. Many times throughout the day there are groups of residents sitting outside in their one and only seating area. This area offers no shading which results in it being in direct sunlight for a majority of the day. While there are health benefits to being outside, too much sun is not favorable despite the temperature, therefore the complex was seeking assistance in purchasing an awning for a shade option. The seating area will be partially covered with the 24' retractable awning. The awning is made from durable canvas with the color and trim being aesthetically pleasing to the design of the building. It was purchased in mid-April 2024, and was installed by Huntingdon Borough staff. Due to the awning being on sale at the time of purchase, there were funds left over that weren't anticipated. It was decided to purchase (2) 4' outdoor steel benches with backrests, providing more seating options to residents so that they can enjoy their new awning. Total cost of this project was \$3,156.00.



### **Smithfield Township** **FY 2020 & 2021**

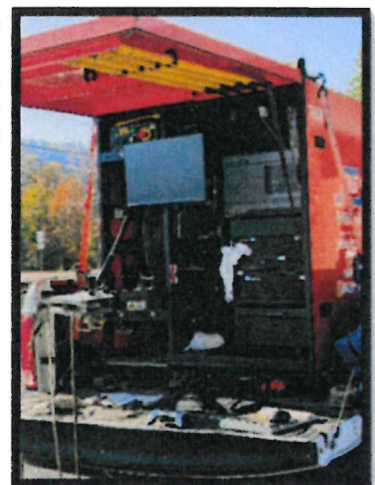
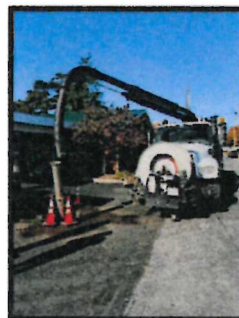
#### **obo Smithfield Township Housing Rehabilitation**

After teaming up with SEDA-COG to administer this project, Hilltop Construction was selected for the rehabilitation of a single family residence. This project consisted of extensive exterior work which included replacement of walks around the front and side of the home, installation of vinyl railings and posts, installation of new drainage, cleaning of the chimney, installation of new vinyl replacement windows and replacement of the foundation wall. Interior work that was done included removing the existing water heater and replacing it with a new energy efficient water heater, updating electrical throughout the residence, replacement of smoke alarms, complete kitchen and bathroom remodel, installation of a new insulated steel door and replacement of all storm doors, installation of new ceiling moulding and new flooring (carpet and vinyl plank) installed throughout the home. Final inspection was performed by SEDA-COG on March 26, 2024. Total cost of this project was \$100,850.00.

### **FY 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024**

#### **ST Storm Sewer Improvements Phase East (CCTV portion)**

The preliminary portion of this project consisted of closed circuit television inspection of the existing storm sewer lines, as well as cleaning and jetting. This portion was completed as of October 2024, and the report is being generated by the engineer with a full scope of necessary repairs and/or replacements, and bidding for the next phase will occur in Spring 2025.





# **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (CNTD)**

## **ONGOING CDBG CONTRACTS & ACTIVITIES**

### **Huntingdon County** **FY 2023 & 2024**

#### **Habitat for Humanity—Mount Union (19 E. Garber Street)**

Currently slated as two separate house rehabilitation projects; one of which is 19 E. Garber Street and the other location to be determined (in Mount Union Borough.) Due to unforeseen circumstances the completion of a second property may be a challenge, therefore the organization may forego the rehabilitation of a second property at this time, releasing their commitment to a portion of the funds allocated to the project. This would allow time to revise the budgets to include another project, or potentially start a later dated one sooner. That will be determined by Habitat and relayed to CDBG staff as soon as a decision is reached.

### **Huntingdon Borough** **FY 2022, 2023, & 2024**

#### **7th Street Parking Lot Rehabilitation**

A modification to FY 2022 application resulted in the change in the Huntingdon Borough project from the Huntingdon Community Center ADA Accommodations to the 7th Street Parking Lot Rehabilitation. While this parking lot had recent electrical accommodations made, the paving and draining in the lot is in poor condition and in need of repairs. There are also currently no ADA parking spaces. We are anticipating needing to combine the FY 2022 and FY 2023 funds with the allocation for FY 2024 as well to complete the entire paving project with bid specifications, bidding and start dates to occur in late 2025.

### **Smithfield Township** **FY 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024**

#### **ST Storm Sewer Improvements Phase East**

We are in the beginning stages of a large multi-year, multi-phased storm sewer improvement project within the "village" of Smithfield Township beginning with the first portion named Phase East. It has been noted by the engineer that upon inspection the existing storm sewer system has collapsed and clogged sections throughout. Repair and replacement of storm sewer system components is the only method of system improvement. In Phase East, the service was cleaned and inspected by closed circuit television. All defects and areas in need of repair will be noted, and a detailed design for repair will be completed by the engineer, followed by a full scope of work to be done in the invitation to bid, to be published in Spring 2025.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (CNTD)

## Planning and Community Development Grant Summary

### ENTITLEMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

FY 2021	AMOUNT
Pennsylvania Ave Restoration—final inspection December 2024	\$206,680.00
HB 6th Street Parking Lot Rehab—completed September 2023	\$103,964.00
ST Housing Rehab—completed March 2024	\$21,905.00
ST Storm Sewer Improvements Phase East —CCTV portion completed October 2024	\$58,065.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$390,614.00</b>

FY 2022	AMOUNT
HB 6th Street Parking Lot Rehab—completed September 2023	\$4,922.21
Bricktown Senior Center Upgrades—completed April 2024	\$10,196.50
Westminster Place Outdoor Upgrades—completed April 2024	\$3,154.25
Pennsylvania Ave Restoration—final inspection December 2024	\$33,763.50
HB 7th Street Parking Lot Rehabilitation—Bidding in late 2025	\$95,234.54
MUMA W. Davis/W. Garber St. Waterline—completed July 2024	\$155,305.00
ST Storm Sewer Improvements Phase East —CCTV portion completed October 2024	\$83,149.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$385,725.00</b>

FY 2023	AMOUNT
Pennsylvania Ave Restoration—final inspection December 2024	\$49,561.00
Habitat for Humanity—Mount Union—project cleared to start December 2024	\$149,754.00
7th Street Parking Lot Rehabilitation—Bidding in late 2025	\$103,348.00
ST Storm Sewer Improvements Phase East —CCTV portion completed October 2024	\$83,175.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$385,838.00</b>

# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) defines economic development as creating conditions for economic growth and improved quality of life by expanding the capacity of individuals, firms, and communities to maximize the use of their talents and skills to support innovation, lower transaction costs, and responsibly produce and trade valuable goods and services. Economic development requires effective, collaborative institutions focused on advancing mutual gain for the public and the private sector. Economic Development is essential to ensuring our economic future. The role of the Department is to positively influence economic development policy and promote professional communication among members of key partners.

## **Partnership For Economic Progress (PEP)**

The County Commissioners established the Partnership for Economic Progress (PEP) in 2000, with the vision of "improving the economic health and quality of life of Huntingdon County residents by fostering and enhancing community education and innovation, agency communication and coordination and promotion of a positive image of the County." To implement this vision, the group works towards a common strategic plan. In 2023, the members of PEP met quarterly to discuss the following strategic priorities:

1. Supply Chain: Support Existing Businesses by Promoting Crossover Businesses;
2. Business Development: Assist Businesses by Providing a Host of Services;
3. Infrastructure: Promote 21st Century Infrastructure Provided to Businesses;
4. Workforce Development: Attract, Retain, and Educate the Workforce; and
5. Marketing: Market the County to Employers, Investors, and Employees.

PEP members and stakeholders include the Huntingdon County Commissioners, State Senator, State Representative, Huntingdon County Business & Industry, Inc., Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce, Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau, Huntingdon County Planner, Huntingdon CareerLink/Employment & Training, Huntingdon County Career & Technology Center, Huntingdon Area School District, Juniata Valley School District, Mount Union Area School District, Juniata College, Penn Highlands Community College, Penn State Cooperative Extension, East Broad Top Foundation, Center for Community Action, Huntingdon Borough, New Day Charter School, and representatives of industry sectors (i.e. agriculture, healthcare, insurance, housing, banking).

## **Board of Directors and Economic Infrastructure Committee**

The Huntingdon County Business & Industry (HCBI) mission is "to promote economic development throughout Huntingdon County." The Planning Director participates in the public session of the Board of Directors, reporting on community and economic development activities of the Planning Department,

Through the HCBI Economic Infrastructure Committee, members advance and facilitate economic growth by addressing matters regarding transportation (highways, rail development, etc.) public utilities and infrastructure, telecommunications, and economic development incentives. The Planning Director participates in this Committee.

## **Revolving Loan Fund**

Planning Department staff coordinate with Huntingdon County Business & Industry to deposit monthly loan payments, disburse funds for loan closings, provide bank statements and facilitate payment of monthly reimbursements for administration of the loan program.

## EDUCATION

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. The various methods listed below are ways in which department staff fulfill this responsibility.

### Fair Housing Awareness



An annual Fair Housing activity is a requirement for recipients of CDBG funding. For 2024, our activity focused on elementary aged children, which included (4) school districts within Huntingdon County. CDBG staff provided each elementary school within the four districts with copies of two different books, "Strictly No Elephants" by Lisa Mantchev (appropriate for grades Pre-K-2) and "The Fair Housing Five & the Haunted House" by the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (appropriate for grades 3-5.) Our thought was that these books would help children have a better understanding of fair housing rights in an easily comprehensible classroom (based on grade level), and two copies for each school's library. We also provided a handout explaining what fair housing means and some activities children could do to help promote fair housing. We also had the pleasure of being able to read these books to some of the library classes at Standing Stone Elementary and Southside Elementary located in the Huntingdon Area School District. Overall, we distributed 142 books that will be accessible to over 2,000 children.



### PMPEI Course in Subdivision and Land Development Review

This course deals with the work of planning commissions in the subdivision and land development review process - from pre-application meetings through project completion. Extensively revised in 2005, the course emphasizes the MPC as the source of authority to regulate development. Planning commissions have a central role to play in the land development process which is an integral part of a community's comprehensive planning program. New in the course are flexible design concepts and options for better project design. Participants learn new skills for administering the review process, reviewing plans, and calculating impacts of development. The course also covers techniques for incorporating internal and external reviews in plan review, and how information sharing can improve local and regional planning.

The Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission hosted this course for planning commissions, staff, local elected officials, engineers and solicitors in the six-county Southern Alleghenies Region. This training took place over three sessions, from 9 a.m. until noon on March 5, 19, and 26, 2024. Participants included one member of the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, the Huntingdon County Planning Director and Assistant Community Development Administrator.

### Penn State Extension

The Planning Commission and Department staff coordinated a January 18, 2024 workshop session regarding opportunities and consideration for agriculture alongside solar production, known as agrivoltaics or dual use solar. Municipal officials were invited to join the Planning Commission for this informative session. Presenters included Ryan Spelman, Blair County Field & Forage Crops Educator with Penn State Extension and Dan Brockett, Venango County Community Development and Energy Educator with Penn State Extension. Dan Brockett provided information regarding the increase in solar project proposals, the cost for building new solar arrays and the PJM review process. Ryan Spelman explained ways to integrate solar power with agriculture, including sheep grazing under solar arrays and planting of flowers in the array fields to attract pollinators.

### Historic Preservation

Frank Grumbine, Central PA Community Preservation Coordinator with the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office was the speaker at a September 19, 2024 workshop. Attendees included the County Planning Commission, Planning Department Staff and members of the Huntingdon County History and Heritage Roundtable and Huntingdon Landmarks. Frank provided information about the importance of historic preservation and the various programs and resources the State Historic Preservation Office offers.

# 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 2024:

### *Huntingdon Borough, Mount Union Borough and Smithfield Township*

Staff coordinated with municipal staff and engineers to discuss current and future entitlement CDBG projects.

#### *Huntingdon Borough*

Staff and the Planning Commission reviewed and submitted comments on a draft Huntingdon Borough Chicken Ordinance.

#### *Mount Union Borough*

Staff and the Planning Commission reviewed and submitted comments on a draft Borough Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and the draft Borough Comprehensive Plan.

#### *Petersburg Borough*

Staff coordinated demographic surveys in Petersburg Borough to determine eligibility for possible CDBG projects.

#### *Three Springs Borough*

Staff met with a Borough committee to discuss development of a subdivision and land development ordinance for Three Springs Borough, including customization of the County Model SALDO and acreages of tax parcels within the Borough.

#### *West Township*

Staff responded to requests for information regarding applicability of subdivision and land development ordinance requirements versus zoning ordinance requirements related to a potential motocross development.

#### *Warriors Mark Township*

Staff responded to requests for information regarding commercial development and commercial zoning district ordinance requirements in other municipal zoning ordinances.

## Juniata River Blueprint Communities (JRBC)

Formed in 2014, The Juniata River Blueprint Communities (JRBC) was one of only six participants in the Blueprint Communities program within the Commonwealth. The initial "Core Team" of the group was tasked with committing themselves to trainings and focus groups that would aide in creating a comprehensive 5-year plan for the communities of Mapleton, Shirley Township, and Mount Union. Their hard work and dedication allowed them to compile a thorough strategic plan that was organized into the following seven themes: Business and Economy, Housing and Neighborhoods, Image and Identity, Quality of Life, Workforce and Education, Infrastructure, and Social and Political.

Today, the group consists of a mixture of original and new members who all share the common interest to improve the quality of life and support the growth in the communities of Mapleton Borough, Mount Union Borough, and Shirley Township.

Jen Bellis and Jayme Reck from the Planning and Development Department are members and are also involved in the Promotions and Marketing subcommittee within JRBC.



# MUNICIPAL AND AGENCY PARTNERSHIPS (CNTD)

## Act 13 Marcellus Shale 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.” These funds may be leveraged with other funding sources to complete a project and mostly serve as a gap financing.

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

For 2024, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission received and reviewed fourteen applications for Act 13 funding totaling \$131,324.65. The Planning Commission’s award recommendations were forwarded to the Huntingdon County Commissioners who awarded a total of \$30,000.00 to five projects on April 30, 2024.

The five 2024 Act 13 Legacy Fund awards included the following:

\$8,904.00	Playground Equipment Improvements at Canal Street Park, Alexandria Borough
\$10,000.00	Community Building Roof Replacement/Electrical Upgrades, Cassville Borough
\$7,330.00	Backstop and Fence Replacement on the Farm League Field, (JV Youth Baseball), Petersburg Borough
\$2,020.00	Improvements at J. Melvin and Beulah Isett Community Park, Marklesburg Borough
\$1,746.00	Equipment needs for Warriors Mark Youth Baseball, Warriors Mark Township

## COUNTY ASSISTANCE

**Many Department activities are countywide in nature and benefit all municipalities equally while other activities assist the Huntingdon County Commissioners in non-planning areas.**

### Hazard Mitigation Plan

Although the current Huntingdon County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan does not expire until February 24, 2026, Huntingdon County successfully applied for a US Department of Homeland Security Federal Fiscal Year 2019 Hazard Mitigation Grant that was presented as a one-time only opportunity. At the time of that application, County staff were aware receiving the funds would create an expedited schedule for completion of the next Plan update. After receiving a fully executed grant agreement dated October 3, 2023, staff of the County Emergency Management Agency and the County Planning and Development Department began the process by requesting the Huntingdon County Commissioners re-establish the Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee and authorize advertisement of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to seek qualified consulting firms. MCM Consulting Group, Inc. was hired April 24, 2024 and project kick off meetings with the Local Planning Team and Municipalities were held June 24, 2024. Following a series of municipal and local planning committee meetings, it is anticipated the completed Plan will be adopted by August 5, 2025.

# COUNTY ASSISTANCE

## Solid Waste Plan Update

The South Central Counties Solid Waste Agency (SCCSWA) consists of the County Commissioners of Huntingdon, Bedford and Fulton Counties. The purpose of the agency is to ensure there is sufficient capacity of the disposal of waste (both household solid waste and recycling) in the three county region.

In September 2021, the draft Municipal Waste Management Plan was advertised for public comment and a copy of the draft Plan was submitted to each municipality for review, as part of the plan update process. On October 6, 2021, Bedford County, Fulton County, and Huntingdon County held a joint public hearing on the proposed 2021 Plan Update. Resolution 2-2022, approved by the Huntingdon County Commissioners on January 11, 2022 adopted the South Central Counties Solid Waste Agency's (SSCSWA) 2021 Joint Municipal Solid Waste Plan.

Consistent with Act 101, the adopted Plan was sent to Huntingdon County Municipalities on January 19, 2022 for ratification. Ten municipalities ratified the Plan by resolution. Since no municipality declined, all other municipalities were deemed to approve the Plan.

The major goals of the Plan are:

1. Securing sufficient capacity for the disposal of municipal waste generated by residents, businesses and institutions within the Region for at least a ten year period;
2. Showing how the Region intends to continue to provide recycling opportunities for residents and businesses in an effort to move toward the thirty-five percent (35%) State Recycling goal

In November 2022, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) notified the Planning Department they had received and reviewed the substantial plan revision for the Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon County Municipal Waste Management Plan. DEP Staff recommended the plan be withdrawn until a meeting could be held to discuss deficiencies and the deficiencies could be addressed. The Counties subsequently withdrew the plan by letter dated November 15, 2022.

Following extension coordination with DEP officials and staff, State and County elected officials and planning consultant Barton & Loguidice throughout 2023, an agreement with Barton & Loguidice outlining the scope of work to be completed to address regulatory deficiencies was approved by DEP staff and signed by the SCCSWA on September 27, 2023. Barton & Loguidice requested updated information from each county, revised portions of the Plan and submitted completed chapters to DEP staff for review and comment prior to official plan submission. By December 19, 2023, Chapters 1,2,5,9,10 and 12 were completed and submitted to DEP. In 2024, Barton & Loguidice completed revising all chapters and appendices of the Plan. After addressing DEP's thorough review of the preliminary submission, the Draft Plan Update was adopted by the Huntingdon County Commissioners on June 4, 2024 and by the Bedford and Fulton County Commissioners on June 11, 2024. A required 90 day municipal review and ratification period followed county adoption. When this 90 day ratification period ended on September 12, 2024, 28 Huntingdon County municipalities, 16 Bedford County municipalities and nine Fulton County municipalities had submitted official ratification forms. Municipalities that did not formally adopt the Plan, but did not officially decline were deemed to have approved the Plan, in accordance with DEP regulations.

Barton & Loguidice submitted the Final Plan to DEP for review and approval on September 20, 2024. DEP approved the Bedford, Fulton and Huntingdon County 2024-2034 Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan, Substantial Plan Revision (September 2024 revision) on October 18, 2024. While officially approving the Plan, DEP requested clarification on several items, including required landfill capacity agreements. The November 2024 Revision of the Plan is the official Municipal Waste Management for a ten year period ending October 18, 2034. DEP requires submission of executed waste capacity agreements by April 2025 thereby ensuring adequate waste disposal capacity for the entire period of the Plan.

# COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

**Section 301.4 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) Act of 108 P.L. 805 No 247, as reenacted and amended requires counties to develop and adopt a comprehensive plan. Section 107 of the MPC defines a county comprehensive plan as “a land use and growth management plan prepared by the county planning commission and adopted by the county commissioners which establishes broad goals and criteria for municipalities to use in preparation of their comprehensive plan and land use regulation.” Comprehensive plans shall be updated at least every ten years, in accordance with Section 302(d) of the MPC.**

## Alleghenies Ahead

The six south-central counties represented by the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAP&DC) - Cambria, Somerset, Blair, Bedford, Fulton, and Huntingdon - prepared an award winning multi-county Comprehensive Plan, Alleghenies Ahead. Adopted by the Huntingdon County Commissioners on July 3, 2018, Alleghenies Ahead identifies five specific Action Plan priorities for Huntingdon County: Broadband and Cellular Service, Collaboration and Coordination, Business and Workforce Development, Housing and Blight and Recreational Amenities and Natural Assets. During 2024, the Planning Commission reviewed these five action plans.



## Recreational Amenities and Natural Assets

The Huntingdon County Commissioners adopted the Huntingdon County Active Transportation Plan as part of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan on January 16, 2024. A regional sidewalk study and sidewalk mapping project finalized by SAP&DC in 2023 is a great resource to further Lifeway Corridors identified in the Active Transportation Plan.

## Housing and Blight

SAP&DC facilitated preparation of Alleghenies Ahead on Housing, A Regional Housing Strategy. Completed in February 2023, the Strategy contains a “close up” for each county. Huntingdon County’s indicates there is a “complex and hard to interpret housing market. From 2000 to 2020 there was a 0% household growth; a 270% increase in chronically vacant units, 3rd highest in the region; in the bottom half of the region in average sale prices; one of only two counties whose median home value gained against the US median; and second highest growth in value-to-income ratio (2.16 to 2.66), a sign of growing demand.”

The market typology reveals, “the northern half of Huntingdon County generally exhibits above-average levels of market demand, particularly in Warriors Mark along the I-99 corridor and much of the north side of Huntingdon Borough. The historic core of Huntingdon Borough is a mix of market conditions (ranging from below-average to above-average), as is much of the southern portion of the County. Mount Union includes areas of especially low demand, and markets noticeably weakened along the County’s southern border with Bedford and Fulton Counties.”

## Broadband and Cellular Service

The Huntingdon County Commissioners Office is the primary office for implementing broadband strategies to serve unserved and underserved areas of Huntingdon County.

Alleghenies Broadband, Inc. (ABI), a non-profit 501(c)(3), serves as a Competitive Access Provider (CAP) and is committed to digital equity in the Southern Alleghenies region by partnering with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and other stakeholders to provide high-speed internet connections and necessary resources to residents and businesses.

Using a \$20 million National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Grant, ABI intends to construct new towers and retrofit existing towers in the region. The scope of work for Huntingdon County includes building six new towers and updating equipment on three existing towers. During 2024, construction activities were limited to complete environmental studies and other planning steps. Project completion is expected in 2025.



# TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Transportation planning exists to facilitate technical information, effective transportation, and efficient movement of people and goods. Transportation planning shapes urban form, affects economic vitality and impacts quality of life. The Planning & Development Department strives to create better communication among Huntingdon County Municipalities, Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAP&DC)'s Rural Planning Organization (RPO), and with other professional groups. We assess and make recommendations on policies and programs so as to derive the full public benefits of comprehensive and community-based planning that promote personal mobility and travel choices.

## Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Every two years, Huntingdon County participates in the update to the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission's (SAP&DC) Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP makes up the first four years of the Twelve Year Program (TYP) and is developed in cooperation with Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon and Somerset Counties, PennDOT District 9-0, PennDOT Central Office, and SAP&DC.

The RPO prioritizes, reviews and approves the final TIP. The TIP is fiscally constrained by available funding identified by PennDOT. The RPO's transportation projects include safety improvements, traditional roadway resurfacing and reconstruction projects, major construction projects of new facilities, and the bridge network.

The RPO's Rural Transportation Technical Committee (RTTC) makes TIP recommendations to the Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee (RTCC). The RPO relies on Huntingdon County to solicit for transportation projects, which are reviewed by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission (HCPC). The HCPC votes on recommendations to the County Commissioners regarding a list of prioritized projects to be forwarded to the RPO and PennDOT for consideration and addition to the TIP.

During May 2024, the RPO held a 30 day public comment period and public meetings for the Draft 2025-2028 TIP. Following approval by the RTTC and RTCC in June 2024, the 2025-2028 TIP went into effect on October 1, 2024.

Also during May 2024, staff of the County Planning and Development Department conducted outreach to municipalities and community stakeholders to encourage participation in an online survey regarding road and bridge needs.

The Huntingdon County Planning Commission reviewed and prioritized projects for the 2027-2030 TIP during their December 19, 2024 meeting and forwarded their recommendations to the Huntingdon County Commissioners. The County Commissioners formally approved 2027-2030 TIP recommendations on December 31, 2024. Those recommendations include the following safety and bridge priorities:

### **Safety:**

- 1) SR 1009 and SR 4007 Intersection Improvement (Cold Springs Road and Petersburg Pike) in Oneida Township;
- 2) Route 45 and Route 350 Intersection Improvement (Warriors Mark Path and Spruce Creek Road) in Franklin Township

### **Bridge:**

- 1) Globe Run Road (T-520) over Globe Run in West Township;
- 2) Harmony Church Road (T-392) over Little Trough Creek in Union Township

The schedule for the Draft 2027-2030 TIP includes a 30 day public comment period and public hearings in May 2026 and the RTTC and RTCC approval in late June 2026. It is anticipated the 2027-2030 TIP will be effective October 1, 2026.

# TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (CNTD)

## Active Transportation Committee (HCATC)

Created by the Huntingdon County Commissioners on November 28, 2017 and reconvened on February 11, 2022, the Active Transportation Committee (ATC) consist of 14 voting members and four ex-officio members that meet on the last Friday of each month.

On January 16, 2024, the Huntingdon County Commissioners formally adopted a Committee Charter, which includes delivering semiannual reports in January and July to the County Planning Commission.

## Huntingdon County Active Transportation Plan

The Plan embodies the Huntingdon County's active transportation vision of improving walking, bicycling, wheeling and paddling connections to favorable destinations and increasing safe and accessible opportunities for Huntingdon County residents so they can be more physically active.

The Plan provides transportation equity; supports development of land use plans and policies that allow development of activity-friendly, non-motorized routes connecting to everyday destinations; and incorporates portions of various plans, including the Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Plan (2007); the September 11 National Memorial Trail - Northern Pilgrimage Trail Alignment Study (2015); the Alleghenies Ahead; Comprehensive Plan for the (2018) Southern Alleghenies Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (2021); the Penn Highlands Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)(2021); and data from the Pennsylvania County Health profiles, United States Census Bureau, PennDOT and various other sources.

The 10 Plan priorities directed at improving walking and biking conditions in Huntingdon County include the three top priorities and seven non-prioritized priorities:

- 1. Main Line Canal Greenway Trail/September 11 National Memorial Trail - Segment 1**
- 2. Main Line Canal Greenway Trail/September 11 National Memorial Trail - Segment 13**
- 3. Main Line Canal Greenway Trail/September 11 National Memorial Trail - Segment 19**

- Improving Connections with Priority Corridors
- Establishing Lifeway Corridors
- Increasing Collaboration Among Trail Groups/Organizations
- Local Promotion of Walking, Biking (mountain, on-road, gravel) and Paddling Resources
- Establishing Connections to Centre, Bedford, Blair and Mifflin Counties
- Improving Paddling Opportunities - Providing Logical Public Access Points
- Conducting a Communication Approach to Promote the Value and Benefits of the Plan

After the September 12, 2023 Plan adoption by the Huntingdon County Commissioners, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission and Planning and Development Department began the process to adopt the Plan as part of the County Comprehensive Plan. The required public hearing was held January 16, 2024 and immediately followed by the County Commissioners official adoption of the Plan by Resolution 2024-2.

# **AGENCY LIAISON AND 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 Review.**

**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.**

## **County Planning Directors Association of Pennsylvania**

An affiliate of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP), the County Planning Directors Association (CPDAP) works with federal, state, and local partners to provide pertinent news, updates and education on topics that have an effect on county planning. The County Planning Director is a member of this organization.

## **Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAP&DC)**

The Planning Director represents the County on several SAP&DC committees, including the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) and the Rural Transportation Technical Committee (RTTC). The County Commissioners sit on the Coordinating Committee (RTCC). The RTTC and RTCC have key roles in review and approval of the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

## **Huntingdon County Business and Industry (HCBI)**

The Planning Director participates in the public portion of the HCBI Board of Directors meetings and on the HCBI Economic Infrastructure Committee. The Economic Infrastructure Committee has a goal of advocating, supporting economic issues related to highways, rail, the Riverview Business Center, telecommunication, multimodal transportation, and economic development incentives.

## **County Municipal Project Review**

Article III, Section 303 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act 127) gives the Planning Commission the authority to review and comment on various public facility projects, zoning, subdivision, and other land development ordinances. One municipal subdivision and land development ordinance, one municipal comprehensive plan, and one chicken ordinance revision were reviewed in 2024. In addition, Acts 67, 68 and 127 provide an opportunity for local municipalities and counties to comment on consistency of state-funded or state-permitted projects with county and municipal planning and zoning. In 2024, local government and state agencies submitted 24 projects for review and comment under Acts 67 and 68 and 14 projects for review under Act 127.

Other notifications included 12 DEP County Notifications of Planned Land Development for Chapter 102 Permits; one DEP NPDES CAFO Renewal Permit; one DEP Air Quality Title V Operating Permit; one U.S. Fish and Wildlife Application to PA DEP; 3 NEPA Section 106 Effect on Historic Property Reviews; 5 comprehensive plan consistency requests along with 11 letters of support for applications to funding sources that included Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority Grant; DCNR C2P2 Grant; Community Project Funding House Appropriations FY 2025; Southern Alleghenies Regional Mini-Grant; DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund; Pennsylvania Mixed-Use Housing Development Pilot Program; and Local Share Account State Wide Program.

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 request for state permits. The Huntingdon County Planning Commission received 33 such notices in 2024.

## **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.

Under the Intergovernmental Review Process (IRP), 30 funding requests to federal agencies were received in 2024: 20 from the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); seven from the PA DEP to the US Department of Energy; one from PA DEP to the US Department of Labor; one from PA DEP to the US Department Commerce and one from the PA DEP to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

# COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AWARDS

The Community Improvement Awards are sponsored by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce, and Kish Bank. The Planning Commission and the Chamber's Community Improvement Committee jointly review nominees, with final selection made by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission. Categories for the 2023 Awards were Community Spirit, New Construction, Preservation, and Special Merit.

The Five awards were presented when the nineteenth annual Community Improvement Awards were announced during the Planning Commission's March 8, 2024 Annual Dinner Meeting. Recipients of the 2023 Awards included:

## Community Spirit - Huntingdon Area Food Pantry



A cheerful looking community asset! The location at 700 Penn Street, formally Paul's Mobile, has sat vacant since it's closure in the early 1990's, but was recently renovated to be the new location of the Huntingdon Area Food Pantry. For the last 40 years the Food Pantry has been located in the basement of the First United Methodist Church in Huntingdon and is eagerly serving the area in their new location with more space and better accessibility. The appearance of the new space is welcoming, more visible and an asset to Penn Street and



the Community as a whole. Now, being a stand alone building the facility will have the options to extend their hours of operation. Jean Feagley, Executive Director, alongside Polly Smith and Brady Smith accepted the award.

## Community Spirit - Huntingdon Community Center

Out with the old and in with the new! A recent facelift given to the center included a complete restoration to the bottom floor which is the location of the game/rec room with new drywall, a bright color scheme and is now home to the new Skate Café. The gym has been freshly painted and new, safer panels installed on the wall. Additionally, fun carpet squares were placed throughout areas of the facility. The third floor which was not usable space has been renovated as well with new floors, paint, lighting and ceiling to create a safe and efficient work space now boasting office space for staff as well as an area for educational opportunities lovingly called "Heather's Gateway to Learning" which was originally created and funded by the family of Heather Scalia-Khan. The newly updated bright and colorful space is bound to be a fun place for the youth of our area for years to come. Becky McGrath, Executive Director, alongside Jessica Bischof, Brandi Corbin-Helton and Jesse Leonard accepted the award.



## Preservation- NAPA AUTO PARTS - Mount Union



Save a trip and shop local for auto parts with a newly repurposed commercial property in Mount Union Borough. Formally a bank located along Shirley Street in Mount Union, the space was recently repurposed into NAPA Auto Parts. The bright and attractive appearance adds a street enhancement as well as a retail opportunity along one of the main thoroughfares in Mount Union. The store will offer locals, as well as repair shops, the ability to purchase

items for repairs of their cars, trucks, tractors, equipment and heavy duty trucks locally all while increasing economic development and ease in purchasing closer to home. John Donnelly, alongside his wife Diane Donnelly accepted the award.



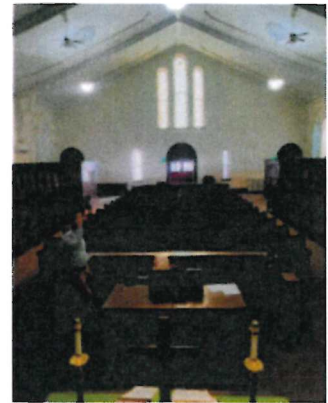
## COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AWARDS (CNTD)

### Preservation - Huntingdon Presbyterian Church



A Huntingdon Borough landmark that has stood the test of time! Built in 1873, Huntingdon Presbyterian Church is home to a timeless and beautiful sanctuary. The history is visible throughout with the original pews, woodwork and an 1889 organ still in use. Last updated in the 1950's, the sanctuary was in need of some upgrades for modernization while remaining true to the components of the original design. Amish

craftsmanship was able to create matching pieces to the existing woodwork creating a new railing around the organ and in the creation of two new rooms in the back of the sanctuary. The new space will accommodate the AV system and offer a space for families of young children. In a post-COVID world, a lot of people continue to worship from their homes or while traveling making the new AV system a necessity for parishioners. New doors have been added to the facility as well as an online door lock system. Finally, to provide additional comfort for worshipers a heating and air conditioning system was installed. Pastor Brett Hoover, alongside Sylvia Byers and Max Byers accepted the award.

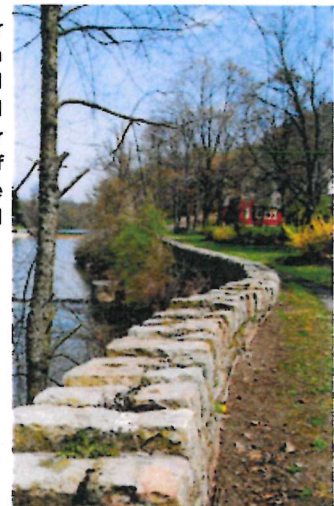


### Special Merit - Blair Park Revival

Gifted to Huntingdon Borough in 1897 by Kate Fisher Blair alongside her husband could this be the last standing monument to the Blair Family? With the loss of the Blair Building and the renaming of the hospital the park could be the final remaining landmark of the Blair family. The Huntingdon Parks and Road Association are working actively to promote the legacy of the JC Blair family in Huntingdon by revitalizing the park and bringing more members of the community to the park in any part of their 18 acres spanning across three townships. Doted as being "Huntingdon's Hidden Gem" the park is not well known throughout the community and through the efforts of HPRA to make



the park a known entity, help was sought first by a meeting with Mayor Yoder followed by two articles in The Daily News. The outreach resulted in contact with Huntingdon Rotary who offered a grant application for the purchase of paint for both the gazebo and picnic table and the labor was provided by SCI Huntingdon. Community support came shortly



thereafter with offers to fundraise and volunteers for maintenance. The first fundraising efforts were in the hosting of their first annual 5K race during Oktoberfest and the 15th Street United Methodist Church designated Blair Park as the recipient of their annual "Music, Music, Music" concert. These funds will aide in future trail maintenance and enhancements. Be sure to check out the park for your next hike, picnic, or just to enjoy the quiet beauty of nature. Julie Peoples, President of Huntingdon Park & Road Association, alongside Deborah Fisher Riley accepted the award

**We are grateful to work in Huntingdon County where the community spirit is thriving and the dedicated residents make a difference everyday.**

# ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Huntingdon County Commissioners created the Huntingdon County Planning Commission in 1962 and hired the first County 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 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

Jodi Gutshall was hired on January 9th, 2024 to fill the open position for Office Manager/Secretary and assumed her duties on January 16th, 2024.

## Staff Training

Planning and Development Staff attended the following trainings in 2024:

- Solar Ordinances in Pennsylvania Webinar
- PA Chapter of the American Planning Association 2024 Annual Conference

## Looking Ahead

### ***Finalize Hazard Mitigation Plan Update***

Coordinate with the County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to administer a U.S. Department of Homeland Security FFY 2019 Hazard Mitigation Grant. Work with the Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee and MCM Consulting Group, Inc. to prepare a FEMA - approved Hazard Mitigation Plan by August 5, 2025.

### ***Implement Alleghenies Ahead***

Each member of the SAP&DC Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) will continue to implement Alleghenies Ahead.

### ***Complete the South Central Counties Solid Waste Agency's Solid Waste Plan***

Administer and Close Out a DEP 901 Planning Grant and implement the Plan update for Bedford, Fulton and Huntingdon Counties.

### ***Implement Alleghenies Ahead on Housing***

Participate in the Regional Housing Task Force and coordinate with organizations and stakeholders to form a Huntingdon County Housing Task Force.

### ***Implement PEP's Strategic Plan***

Collaborate with PEP member organizations to continue implementation of PEP's strategic priorities.

### ***Implement the County's Active Transportation Plan***

Coordinate with the County's Active Transportation Committee to implement the plan, focusing on Segments 1, 13 and 19 of the Main Line Canal Greenway Trail/September 11th National Memorial Trail and establishing Lifeway Corridors.

# ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

## Financial Report

The Department is funded by the County General Fund's Planning and Zoning, as well as Planning Grants (Community Development Block Grant or CDBG) line items. Below are detailed budget reports for 2024 and 2025.

### General Funds

<b>2024 Budget</b> \$186,000.00	<b>2024 Expenditures</b> \$179,238.36	<b>2025 Budget</b> \$191,350.00
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PLANNING AND ZONING BUDGET REPORT	2024 BUDGET	2024 EXPENDITURES	2025 BUDGET
PERSONNEL	\$78,000.00	\$74,601.19	\$84,400.00
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$6,600.00	\$6,864.39	\$5,600.00
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	\$800.00	\$965.97	\$1,000.00
OTHER	\$3,500.00	\$3,673.28	\$3,500.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$3,500.00	\$883.67	\$1,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$92,400.00</b>	<b>\$86,988.50</b>	<b>\$96,000.00</b>

PLANNING GRANTS AND BUDGET REPORT	2024 BUDGET	2024 EXPENDITURES	2025 BUDGET
PERSONNEL	\$91,500.00	\$91,500.11	\$94,000.00
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$1,150.00	\$575.86	\$1,150.00
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	\$100.00	\$13.99	\$100.00
OTHER	\$100.00	\$159.90	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$92,850.00</b>	<b>\$92,249.86</b>	<b>\$95,350.00</b>