

The Northern Lehigh Multimunicipal Comprehensive Plan

Update Meeting

July 2, 2019 – 5:30 PM, Lowhill Township Municipal Building

Steering Committee Attendees:

Dawn Didra – Heidelberg Township
Robb A. Werley – Lowhill Township
Brian Dietrich – Lynn Township
Jason Ruff – Slatington Borough
Steve Bachman – Weisenberg Township
Todd Weidman – Washington Township

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Planning Partners in Attendance:

Charles Doyle – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
Jon Von Kerczek – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

Minutes:

Introductions

Steering Committee attendees took roll call.

Charrette Summary

Mr. Doyle provided a summary of how the charrettes went and some of the comments and ideas that emerged from them. Topics included discussions about community facilities and funding issues, police coverage, open space and farmland and volunteer emergency services. Mr. Doyle then introduced the concept of an online survey to be distributed to attendees and Steering Committee members, which would be review at the following meeting.

Mapping Exercise

Mr. Doyle and Mr. Kerczek initiated the evening's exercise to be completed by Steering Committee members in attendance. The purpose of exercise was to identify regions within the Northern Lehigh region that are considered imminent for investment. Two maps were presented for attendees to identify and label priority locations for both transportation infrastructure problem locations and for development, redevelopment, and investment for building of land-use development.

The Steering Committee members then identified key locations throughout Northern Lehigh for both transportation and development. Key locations for development and concern for future development included the industrial park in Weisenberg, property surrounding the Olde Homestead golf course, the Northwestern recreational facility and downtown Slatington. Key locations for transportation investments were focused along Routes 100 and 309.

Solicitor Representation

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Mr. Doyle followed up with the Steering Committee regarding appointment of a municipal solicitor in the event of need for collective representation for challenges to the respective municipal zoning code or curative amendments. Ms. Didra indicated Heidelberg supervisors would be willing to appoint a special council or solicitor, while Mr. Ruff indicated Slatington would rather default to their current solicitor and seek special council as needed. Consensus was then made to use a special council under discretion of the municipality, with input by the Northern Lehigh Steering Committee members.

The Steering Committee then finalized the meeting by agreeing to the arranged, subsequent Steering Committee meeting at 5:30pm on August, 6, 2019 at the Lowhill Township municipal building.

Minutes prepared and respectfully transmitted by Charles Doyle, LVPC.