

Heidelberg Township
Lowhill Township
Lynn Township



NORTHERN LEHIGH PLAN

Slatington Borough
Washington Township
Weisenberg Township

Northern Lehigh Communities Planning Together

Six Northern Lehigh County communities are updating their plan to work more efficiently, save money and ultimately better manage the growth in their communities, as they plan for the future.

Slatington Borough and the townships of Heidelberg, Lynn, Lowhill, Washington and Weisenberg, Wednesday came together to kick off an 18-month effort to update a partnership that has been serving them since 2004.

The project to build a new Northern Lehigh Multi-Municipal Plan was launched during a news conference in which community leaders, stakeholders and funding partners agreed that strengthening their bond will help them take advantage of geographic similarities and address their common priorities, while better managing an evolving development landscape.

“It takes a team effort for us to create the community that we all want to see,” said Jason Ruff, a Slatington Borough Council Vice President and Northern Lehigh Multi-Municipal Plan Steering Committee member, before a news conference at the Old Homestead Gold Course. “We all want what’s best for our communities and we know this is the best way to get there.”

The funding for this project is provided through the Municipal Assistance Program from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, the six municipalities and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC).

Multi-Municipal plans are a way for communities to work together on issues that cross municipal lines, while maintaining local autonomy and control.

“This kind of regional planning fosters cooperation between neighboring municipalities, enabling them to share services and giving them the tools they need to manage development impacts that cross municipal borders,” said LVPC Executive Director Becky Bradley. “Multi-Municipal Plans benefit everyone involved, including the residents in each community.”

The update of the 2004 Northern Region of Lehigh County Comprehensive Plan will continue the inter-municipal cooperation that’s been growing for more than a decade.

Crafting a new plan will involve monthly Steering Committee meetings, a detailed housing, economic, demographics and land use analysis, and a community survey. The plan is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2020.

If you have any questions contact Matt Assad at massad@lvpc.org or 610-264-4544.