

# **The Northern Lehigh Multimunicipal Comprehensive Plan**

May 5, 2020 – 5:30 PM, Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the previously schedule May 12<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting was re-advertised for May 5<sup>th</sup> as the meeting was held virtually.

## **Steering Committee Attendees:**

Dawn Didra – Heidelberg Township  
Janice Meyers – Heidelberg Township  
Steve Bachman – Heidelberg Township  
Robb A. Werley – Lowhill Township  
Brian Carl – Lowhill & Weisenberg Townships  
Brian Dietrich – Lynn Township  
Jason Ruff – Slatington Borough  
Linda Gorgas – Weisenberg Township  
Tony Werley – Weisenberg Township

## **Members of the Public in Attendance:**

Troy Sosnovik – Northwestern School District, Assistant Superintendent  
Jennifer Holman – Northwestern School District, Superintendent  
Richard Hughes – Lowhill Township, Board of Supervisors

## **Planning Partners in Attendance:**

Charles Doyle – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission  
Bethany Vazquez – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission  
Samantha Smith – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission  
Becky Bradley – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

## **Minutes:**

### **Introductions**

Steering Committee attendees took roll call.

### **Courtesy of the Floor**

Ms. Bradley stated that the LVPC will be contacting the municipalities regarding coordination with Fire Companies, Lehigh County Authority (LCA), PennDOT, and other organization related to emergency management and infrastructure as the LVPC wants to begin scheduling those planning discussions.

### **Northern Lehigh School District Presentation**

Ms. Holman gave a brief presentation on the activities of the Northwestern Lehigh School District. The district created two promotional documents to share their efforts with the community, the Northwestern Lehigh Points of Pride Document and their Portrait of a Graduate Document. The “NWL Points of Pride” document reviewed the district’s mission, vision, provided services to students and their parents, student statistics, information about each school and the

surrounding municipalities, the financial structure of the district, district facilities, athletics and activities, as well as community partnerships.

The district's "Portrait of a Graduate" document was an initiative of a large group of community members to layout characteristics and skills of a successful Northwestern graduate. The document highlights six themes: community-mindedness, being a team player, being emotionally intelligent, being a critical thinker, being a continuous learner, and being an effective communicator. Ms. Bradley stated that the LVPC would like to follow-up with the Northwestern Lehigh School District to discuss their IT needs and coverage for the District as well as where the "gap spots" are for the district's coverage area.

Mr. Bachman asked Ms. Holman about the anticipated growth of the district and the reports of declined enrollment. Ms. Holman shared some of the potential changes the district is considering in order to accommodate the challenge of smaller student bodies and uneven growth in enrollment.

Mr. Ruff commented that the Committee should continue to look at plans for infrastructure and the long-term effects for the region. Ms. Holman continued the discussion asking the Committee their opinions of the strengths and weaknesses of the school district. The Committee each shared their perspectives of the districts strengths and weakness with Ms. Holman and Mr. Sosnoviak.

### **Infrastructure Inventory + Planning Discussion/Data Gathering**

Mr. Doyle stated that the LVPC would like the Committee to be thinking about their individual municipal infrastructure inventories so that next meeting the Committee can continue the planning discussion and data gathering.

### **Adjournment**

Minutes prepared and respectfully transmitted by LVPC.