



**Community Development Implementation Partners Meeting Summary  
May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018  
Madeline Olewine Memorial Library**

**Organizers:**

Jerry Duke, Dauphin county Planning Coordinator, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, [gduke@tcrpc-pa.org](mailto:gduke@tcrpc-pa.org)

Alexa Korber, Planner, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, [akorber@tcrpc-pa.org](mailto:akorber@tcrpc-pa.org)

**Attendees:**

Carl Dickson, Dauphin County Parks and Recreation

Dhruvi Panchal, City of Harrisburg

Rob Leshner, Dauphin County Library System

Dave Sheppard, Home Builders Association

Bryan Van Sweden, PA Historical and Museum Commission

Julie Walter, Tri-County Community Action

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**Review from Previous Meeting**

Jerry Duke opened the meeting by presenting all participants with binders that contained notes and handouts from the first meeting last September. The goal is to have all participants bring the binders to future meeting in order to add their notes and handouts. For anyone considering participation in future meetings who would like to receive a binder please email Jerry at the address above.

There was a review of the Key Action Items from the Dauphin County Comprehensive Plan. The Key Action Items had been ranked in accordance with the preferences of the group. The top ranking Action Items were: **prioritizing growth within defined services areas** and **enacted municipal ordinances to achieve this directed growth**. For a reminder of all Goals and Key Action Items for this section of the Comprehensive Plan, please follow this link and navigate

through the different subsections: <https://www.dauphincountycompplan.org/growing-our-communities-intro/>

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### **What Committee Members Are Doing**

The group then went around the table to share projects from their respective organizations:

Mr. Dickson of Dauphin County Parks and Recreation said that they are planning a public meeting for Detweiler Park and the Eggs and Issues event with the Dauphin County Commissioners. They also met with a water authority in northern Dauphin that owns land considered to be a potential segment of the Lykens Valley Rail Trail and will have \$1.7 million dollars of improvements coming to intersections along the Capital Area Greenbelt. The Fort Hunter Park connector project will also be starting in the summer and will connect Fort Hunter to Wildwood Park. There has also been talk of a potential regional trail connecting the Susquehanna River up the shoreline.

Mr. Sheppard of the Home Builders association said that their main focus is preparing for the major change coming to the PA Building Code in October. Mr. Sheppard indicated that some places might struggle in adapting to the code change and thought there might be benefit from approaching it from an educational standpoint. He also mentioned affordability as an issue and that builders are often being held up in the permit process because of zoning issues, and that there are slight problems associated with stormwater fees. In regards to stormwater fees he thinks there should be more of a focus on residential credits and that the focus should be for consistent costs and consideration for home-owners and residents.

Mr. Van Sweden of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) mentioned that their priority is helping communities do better hazard mitigation plans in regards to historic resources. PHMC has developed a pilot program in in four counties, and that there is enough funding left over to extend the process in to Dauphin County. This is a project TCRPC will be assisting with. Mr. Van Sweden said that there is an opportunity to leverage this study in to better transportation planning and to create greenways in accordance with the Harrisburg City Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Panchal from Harrisburg City is new to the area but stated that she will be involved heavily with the Harrisburg Comprehensive Plan and the Vision Zero program. Vision Zero aims to have zero pedestrian, bicyclist, transit rider, and motorist deaths within the city limits by a certain time.

Ms. Walters from Tri-County Community Action (TCCA) mentioned that they have started preliminary talks with the Harrisburg Redevelopment Authority for a parcel survey. On the city level, TCCA is looking to create city plans based on a program called heart of the Hill that

supports safe, complete streets. TCCA is also partnering with Capital Region Water to do streetscape improvements on Derry Street with funds coming both from Capital Region Water and Impact Harrisburg.

Mr. Leshner from the Dauphin County Library System said that they have just wrapped up a project to upgrade IT infrastructure for the library systems throughout the County. It is important to the library system that all facilities have access to public WiFi and the ability to implement a mobile technology program. They are also completing a new strategic plan which includes an evaluation of all facilities—three rural, three urban, and two suburban. The goal is to evaluate the placement of the libraries and to analyze where underserved areas might be.

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### **Next Steps**

Jerry Duke then asked for the group's opinion on how to move forward with implementation. He said that new development within the last year has been mostly inside the defined service area and that development is fairly consistent. Other ideas are as follows:

- From Jerry Duke, encouraging municipalities to update their comprehensive plans,
- Mr. Sheppard, streamlining the process of building permits and regulations. Potential to gather six to ten individuals in the housing community for a small 'summit' to discuss process and affordability.

The group was in consensus that they would like to know more about plans for the state hospital grounds. It was also mentioned that effort should be taken to educate the public on the new CAT bus routes to avoid confusion.

The next meeting of the Community Implementation Partners will be in October or November of 2018. If you would like to be added to the email list please contact Jerry Duke at the above email address or 717-234-2639.