

DAUPHIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

DAUPHIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17101

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To: Smart Growth America - Elizabeth Schilling and Ilana Preuss
From: Leah Pearlman-Storch, AICP
Date: January 8, 2014
Re: Dauphin County Planning Commission Progress Report #1

Below are projects and steps taken as a result of the Smart Growth Implementation 101 Workshop. Since the workshop in September, 2013, staff at the Planning Commission has worked to plug Smart Growth principles in all outreach opportunities. Based on our Next Steps Memo, we were tasked with measuring participation throughout our planning process. Although we have not officially begun the Comprehensive Planning Process we have been able to work with the County municipalities in other ways to prepare them for the upcoming planning process.

Here are some measures that we feel show a successful implementation of Smart Growth Principles:

- Held outreach meetings in County to discuss planning issues. The attendees of these meeting represented 18 of the County's 40 municipalities, both above and below the mountain.
- Have scheduled the next round of outreach meetings for February 2014.
- Working with local Council of Governments to promote the development of a new plan and how it can and will affect all parts of the County.
- Have reached out to the newly inaugurated mayor of the City of Harrisburg to ensure that he is willing to participate in the development of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Promoted Smart Growth through the awarding of the Dauphin County Premier Project Awards which strive to acknowledge excellence and professional leadership in the planning field. These awards will be presented on 1/14/2014.
- Continued to work with the County Commissioners to get adequate funding to for the development of the Comprehensive Plan.
- New tools are being worked on for the Regional Toolkit that is available to all municipalities and the public as needed.

Public participation efforts will continue until we have officially begun the Comprehensive Planning Process. The Smart Growth Principals have guided us in our planning decisions and will continue to help us work towards a more livable community.