

# 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: June 9, 2014  
Re: Dauphin County Planning Commission Progress Report #2

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Since our last progress report in January, staff has been busy working with municipalities to update out-of-date ordinances as well as gather information about transportation issues. Our Next Steps Memo talks about the importance of the City of Harrisburg to the success of Dauphin County. The newly elected mayor has now had about six months of service and has restarted the Harrisburg Comprehensive Planning Process and the Zoning Ordinance adoption. The planning commission has been involved in both of these major projects.

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

- Held annual dinner featuring speaker Galina Tachieva who helped to educate the Tri-County region on how to retrofit our suburbs to make them more livable in the future.
- Held outreach meetings in County to discuss planning issues. The attendees of these meeting represented 21 of the County's 40 municipalities, both above and below the mountain.
- Have scheduled the next round of outreach meetings for November 2014.
- Adopted a Form-Based Zoning Ordinance in Halifax Borough.
- Member of the City of Harrisburg Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee.
- Began the development of the 2014 Premier Project Awards. Promoting smart growth and good planning throughout Dauphin County.
- Completed update of Mifflin Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.
- Continued work on the development of the West Hanover Township Comprehensive Plan and updating their urban growth boundary.
- 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 Principles have guided us in our planning decisions and will continue to help us work towards a more livable community.