

There are a number of committees and authorities whose members are appointed by the County Commissioners. Besides the County Planning Commission, these include the Conservation District and Housing and Redevelopment Authority. These organizations develop a program, with recommendations, which are presented to the Commissioners. If you are interested in becoming involved in a particular topic, contact the County Commissioners and express your interest in serving on a committee.

You can also express your concerns to the County Planning Commission via one of the members of the Board of the Commission. One of the best ways to become involved is to become active in your own local government affairs. Please feel free to visit the Office of the County Planning Commission, located in the Courthouse, to obtain information or discuss issues of interest with the County Planning Staff. Office hours are 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

PUBLICATIONS & INFORMATION AVAILABLE

A vast array of information is available in the County Planning Commission Office. This information is all available for inspection. Many reports and publications are available free of charge, while others are available for purchase.

There are sixty-three major documents and reports, which have been prepared by the County Planning Commission on file at the Planning Office. These include:

- Existing Land Use
- Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance

- Planning Commission Annual Reports 1973 through 2004
- Policies for the Future
- Statistical Profile
- Land Use and Housing Plans
- Economic Improvement Program
- Historic Site Inventory
- Emergency Resource Inventory and Emergency Operations Plan
- Community and Individual Services Directory
- Industrial Directory
- Community Profile

Also available at the County Planning Commission Office are:

- County, municipal, and topographical maps
- Census data for the county and each of its twenty-two municipalities
- Local subdivision and zoning ordinances
- Local comprehensive plans
- Community planning training materials
- A wide variety of statistical and informational data

Publications and reports under preparation include:

- McKean County Municipal Waste Management Plan

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MCKEAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Thomas Causer, Chairman

John Egbert

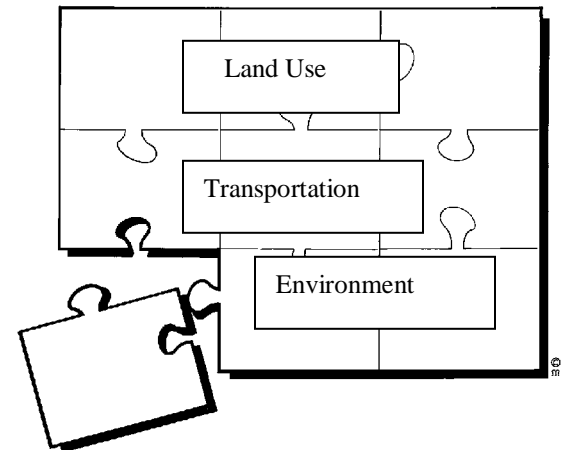
Clifford Lane

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AN INTRODUCTION

to the

**MCKEAN
COUNTY
PLANNING
COMMISSION**



AN INTRODUCTION

The McKean County Planning Commission is a nine member body appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Created in May of 1962, the County Planning Commission was given the key responsibility of "Providing for the orderly growth and development of McKean County."

Members must be residents of McKean County. Each serves a four-year term. Members are not paid. Appointments are made with the intention of having representatives from all the various areas of the county.

The function of the Planning Commission is to develop and carry out a planning program within the policies determined by the County Commissioners. The members serve to contribute their knowledge of the issues and needs of their area of the county, as well as of the county as a whole.

State Law requires some of the functions of the Planning Commission. These involve reviews and recommendations on specific projects, preparation of a highway priority program, review of developments in flood hazard areas, local subdivision reviews, etc.

The responsibilities and performance of the Planning Commission are dictated by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247, 1968. The Board of County Commissioners has assigned the Planning Commission a number of additional duties.

A professional staff, the Department of Planning, is employed to do technical work and to do the research and prepare the studies necessary to carry out authorized programs. The staff has a wide range of special training and knowledge in a number of areas including:

Natural/Environmental Resources
Cartography
Demography

Economic Planning and Development
Zoning and Subdivision Design and Law
Federal and State Program Administration
Grantsmanship
Mineral Resource Extraction and Regulation

These specialized capabilities are used by the staff to perform the daily functions of the Planning Department and to undertake progress approved by the county.

The budget for the County Planning Commission comes primarily from the general fund, although regional, state, and federal revenues are sometimes utilized for specific programs.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The County Planning Commission carries out a program of activities in nine separate Major Activity Categories. These are:

General Administration
Administration of the McKean County Sub-
division and Land Development Ordinance
Technical Assistance
Economic Development
Staff Training and New Programs
Distribution of Information and Data
Coordination
Map Collection, Maintenance and
Distribution
Special Projects

The Commission is concerned with promoting sound land use practices and viable economic development. It reviews, proposes, and analyzes courses of action needed to maintain a healthy and safe, yet vibrant county.

Special services include:

Preparing and publishing a county profile containing spatial; demographic, land use, and transportation data;

Preparing and keeping in stock a wide range of maps including topographical maps of the county and its various areas;

Performing reviews and submitting recommendations required by state and local laws, including zoning and subdivision matters, sewer and water service applications, etc.;

Preparing highway priority projects for State Twelve-Year Highway Program and for special transportation programs;

Providing professional planning assistance to local planning commissions and local governments;

Preparing county-wide planning studies including the comprehensive, land use, housing, economic, sewer and water, solid waste, and other plans;

Providing training programs for local elected and appointed officials;

Serving as a liaison for local governments on state and federal programs and regulations;

Coordinating with other county and regional agencies;

Administering the McKean County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance; and

Preparing evaluations on proposed and pending legislation.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Your participation in matters being discussed by the County Planning Commission is welcomed. County Planning Commission meetings are held in the County Courthouse at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are advertised and are open to the public. A preliminary agenda can be supplied upon request. Should you need time to make a presentation, please contact the Commission prior to a meeting so that you can be placed on the agenda.