

LYCOMING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION



Annual Report 2003

*Lycoming County Planning Commission
and
Lycoming County Department of
Economic Development and Planning Services*

2003 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

Roger D. Jarrett

I would like to thank the Planning Commission for the opportunity to serve as Chairman for another year. It was an honor and a pleasure to serve as Chair of such an involved organization.

2003 was, as usual, an exciting and busy year. In addition to the normal sub-division, budget, work plan and zoning issues, we were dealing with regional Comprehensive plans, working with multi-municipal plans and planning areas. The subdivision and comprehensive plan updates remain a priority.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and commission members who put in many behind-the-scenes hours that make our mission happen.

I would also like to thank the County Commissioners for being very interactive with us. They are dedicated to our cause, giving us a great working relationship, resulting in a more productive Planning Commission. Ernie Larson is the newly elected Commissioner, I am sure he will continue to support us. Joe Neyhart will be a tough act to follow.

It is not always easy to promote growth and development projects while being harmonious with the goal of creating a better place to live, raise our families and conduct business, while protecting our natural resources.

Many exciting opportunities are in the works for 2004. A new Market Street Bridge is being constructed. The related opportunities are many. The Lycoming County Planning Commission continues to work closely with the Chamber to bring and retain jobs in our County and surrounding areas.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve with great people that **can** make a difference. It has been a great pleasure, with many rewards, to serve as your Chairman.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Jerry S. Walls, AICP

Planning and project completion cannot be successfully completed in a vacuum. To be successful, planning must be completed in concert with community groups, organizations, and local government entities. Therefore, partnerships must be formed. The partnerships cannot be just in name but must be true partnerships in every sense of the term. All members of the partnership must have an active role in planning and project completion.

Partnership was the word for 2003. Existing partnerships such as the Combined Sewer Overflow Project, Lead Partners, Halls Station Sewer Line, Flood Warning System, Lycoming Creek Watershed Stormwater Management Plan, Market Street Bridge, Lower Lycoming Flood Reduction Project, and the Multi-Municipal/County Joint Comprehensive Plan Partnership flourished during 2003 and yielded important results. New partnerships were also formed such as the MS4 Partnership.

2003 was a very exciting and productive year for the Lycoming County Planning Commission. We saw many new initiatives kick off and several long-term projects near completion, all due to our ability to partner. For example, the Flood Warning System was installed in 2003. This was the result of years of work and partnering with many groups. The Flood warning system will be operational in early 2004. The Halls Station Sewer Line is nearly 65% complete with full completion mid 2004. The Market Street Bridge will begin construction in June of 2004. The Lower Lycoming Flood Reduction Project involved partnering with 5 townships. The Multi-Municipal/County Joint Comprehensive Plan Project saw the completion of the County draft and 6 multi-municipal drafts. Phase one of the MS4 program was completed, with fieldwork scheduled for 2004.

Nurturing existing partnerships and cultivating new ones brings projects to completion. As a planning commission the ability to continue this is essential. Our staff are experts in partnering as evidenced by the projects mentioned above. As a commission we look forward to future partnerships and to completing current projects, as well as accepting new challenges.

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LYCOMING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Rebecca A. Burke, Chair
Richard T. Nassberg, Vice-Chairman
Joseph H. Neyhart, Secretary

LYCOMING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Roger D. Jarrett, Chairman
W.E. Toner Hollick, Vice-Chairman
Robert E. Waltz, Secretary
Richard C. Haas, Treasurer
George A. Durrwachter, DMD
Robert E. Bauder, P.E.
Ann S. Pepperman, Esq.
Charles D. Springman
Dan Kowalchuk

Charles F. Greevy, III, Solicitor

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**LYCOMING COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND PLANNING SERVICES STAFF**

Jerry S. Walls, AICP, Executive Director
Kurt Hausammann, Jr., AICP, Deputy Director
Mark R. Murawski, Transportation Planner
Clifford A. Kanz, AICP, Development Services Supervisor
Mary Ellen Rodgers, Community Development/Hazard Reduction Planner
William R. Kelly, Economic Development Specialist
Allan Bennett, Zoning Administrator
Kevin L. McJunkin, AICP, Environmental Planner
Joshua Billings, Subdivision & Land Development Administrator
Lynn F. Cunningham, Planning Technician/Analyst
Richard Murphy, Land Records Cartographer
Allen Kaplan, PG, GIS/Data Systems Planner
Judson Bower, GIS/Data Systems Analyst
Ed Feigles, GIS Graphics/ Fieldwork Coordinator
Mark Bletz, GIS Technician
Deborah Bennett, Project Administrator
Jane Magyar, Clerk IV
Beverly H. Bennett, Clerk II-A

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OVERVIEW OF THE LYCOMING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lycoming County Planning Commission has been concerned with the economic, social, and environmental future of Lycoming County since its formation by the County Commissioners in 1966. The Commission reviews, proposes, and recommends courses of action that will maintain and enhance the high quality of life in our County.

Nine citizen members are appointed to the Planning Commission, serving four-year terms without pay. In appointing members to this Commission, the Commissioners try to ensure that the members come from different regions of the County and have a diverse mix of occupations and perspectives.

The Commission is supported by the County Economic Development & Planning Services staff of ten professional planners and eight technical and clerical support personnel (see attached chart). The staff has a wide range of specialized experience and training including:

- * Economic Development
- * Strategic Economic Planning
- * Comprehensive Growth Management
- * Demographic Analysis
- * Transportation Engineering and Planning
- * Infrastructure Planning
- * Zoning and Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance Preparation and Administration
- * Floodplain and Stormwater Management
- * Hazard Mitigation Planning
- * Community Planning
- * Grantsmanship
- * Information Technology
- * Global Positioning Systems Technology
- * Geographic Information Systems
- * Parks and Recreation Facilities Planning
- * Environmental Concerns, such as Solid Waste Management, Wastewater Treatment, and Water Supply Systems
- * Conservation by Design
- * Geology

The staff prepares the necessary background research and documentation for planning projects and programs being developed by the County Planning Commission and the County Commissioners, assists individual citizens and developers with various land use concerns, and provides planning assistance to municipalities and Chamber of Commerce upon request.

The County Planning Commission is funded from the County General Fund, plus State and Federal Government grants, development processing fees, and municipal service contracts.

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MISSION STATEMENTS

Lycoming County

To plan and implement changes which will improve the local economy and make Lycoming County a better place to live, learn, and conduct business.

Lycoming County Planning Commission

To facilitate and promote the coordinated and harmonious management and/or development and protection of resources within Lycoming County for present and future needs. Intervene through proactive strategic planning initiatives on problems or opportunities and timely response to needs and issues identified by the County, municipalities, local agencies or community organizations and private citizens.

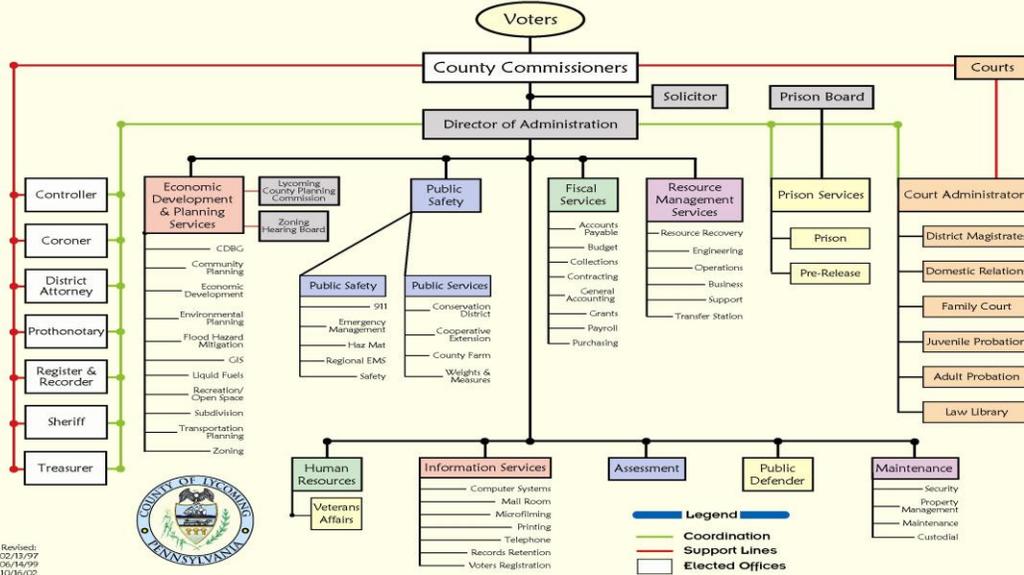
Department of Economic Development & Planning Services

To promote the orderly **development** of land while preserving/conserving natural resources, **stimulation** of sustainable economic growth, **investment** in technologies, and the **creation** of the infrastructure needed to enhance the quality of life of County residents. To initiate or support projects that foster sustainable communities and promote public welfare and safety throughout the County consistent with the goals set forth in the County's Comprehensive Plan. To advance and support joint or inter-municipal cooperation in planning and project initiatives.

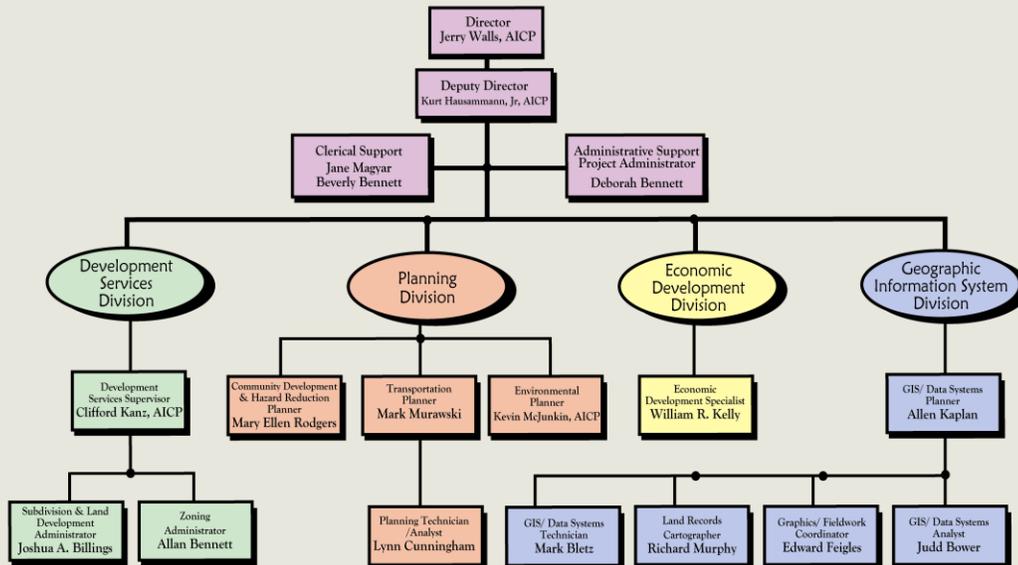
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LYCOMING COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



LYCOMING COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING SERVICES STAFFING CHART



Revisions:
 09/23/94
 09/14/99
 02/08/00
 01/17/01
 07/20/01
 03/18/02
 04/07/03

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LYCOMING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION *2003 YEAR IN REVIEW*

The Lycoming County Planning Commission meets the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. There are also additional advertised committee meetings on an as-needed basis. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend all meetings of the Planning Commission. Highlights of the 2003 monthly meetings include the following:

January

- Elected Officers
- Approved contract with Cummings & Smith

February

- Approved a multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Jordan Township
- Approved a multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Muncy & Wolf Townships
- Approved the FFY 2003-2004 WATS Unified Transportation Planning Work Program.
- Approved revised overhead rate
- Fiscal year analysis reviewed, decision to remain with state fiscal year
- Approved draft LCPC 2002 Annual Report
- Heard a presentation on the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership

March

- Discussion was held concerning the visioning statements for the comprehensive plan
- Laura Flynn and Jenny Wolf presented a program called Together Making Accessible Communities

April

- Approved the Tractor Supply land development plan for property located in Muncy Township
- Approved multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Piatt Township
- Approved Phase I Background Study and Profile for the County Comprehensive Plan
- Reviewed the Recreation Plan survey results

May

Special Meeting

- Approved LUPTAP contract extension
- Approved Gander Mountain land development plan for property in Muncy Township

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Regular Meeting

- Chairman Jarrett reviewed committee roles
- Approved Bilger land development plan for property located in Jordan Township
- Approved agreement for specialized legal counsel
- Approved contract with Endless Mountain Resource Conservation Trust

June

- Approved a multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Shrewsbury Township
- Approved a multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Pine Township
- Approved the Great Escape Theatre land development plan for property located in Muncy Township
- Approved the East Lycoming School District land development plan for property located in Hughesville Borough
- Approved a land development plan for property located in Cogan House Township
- Viewed a video from the Lycoming County Visitor's Bureau promoting Lycoming County
- Chairman Jarrett made committee assignments
- Approved LUPTAP grant application for additional \$55,000 to complete comprehensive plan

July

- Re-Approved Tractor Supply land development plan
- Approved the FFY 2003-2004 Work Program.
- Comprehensive Plan update

August

- Approved multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Penn and Franklin Townships
- Approved multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Anthony Township
- Re-approved multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Shrewsbury Township
- Approved Indirect Cost Rate for 2003-2004
- Approved contract for Keller auditing firm to perform audit for year ended June 30 2003

September

- Approved multi-lot subdivision for property located in Anthony Township
- Approved LCPC position on State Forest Resource Management Plan
- Reviewed comprehensive plan growth areas
- Members provided feedback on the PPA Annual Conference

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October

- Approved multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Anthony Township
- Reviewed comprehensive plan build out analysis and future land use

November

- Approved multi-lot subdivision for property located in Limestone Township
- Received the 2003 Audit Report
- Reviewed Flood Plain Zoning Ordinance Amendment
- Heard presentation on future land use, growth area build out analysis, and draft comprehensive plan

December

- Approved comprehensive plan contract extension
- Approved comprehensive plan scope revision for Scenic Byways
- Discussion of future land use, build out analysis, and draft comprehensive plan

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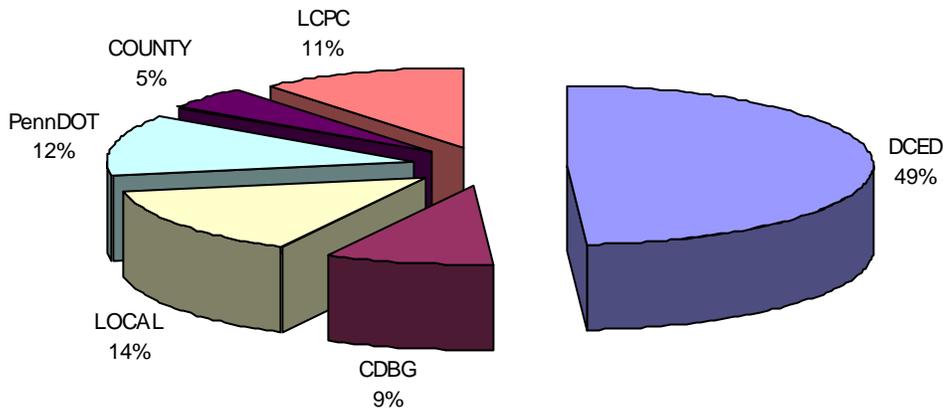
SUMMARY OF EDPS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following is a summary of the major accomplishments of Lycoming County Economic Development and Planning Services (EDPS) during 2003:

Economic & Strategic Planning

- Moved forward with the joint County/Municipal partnerships for preparation of multi-municipal comprehensive plans. Draft comprehensive plans were prepared during 2003. Advisory Team Meetings were conducted an average of every other month in 2003.
- Applied for an additional \$55,000 in LUPTAP funds for the comprehensive plan project. This will bring total LUPTAP funding for the comprehensive plan to \$326,000. Time frame for completion and adoption of plans is October 2004.

Lycoming County and Six Multi-Municipality Joint Comprehensive Plans Funding Sources



The Lycoming County Planning Commission is the Grantee for this County Wide Project.

- Combined Sewer Overflow Project Construction Grant - Construction completed at the Williamsport Sewer Authority's West Wastewater Treatment Plant and project accepted by the US Army Corps of Engineers on behalf of the US Environmental Protection Agency. The US EPA awarded a \$4 million grant to Lycoming County with \$3.5 million being directed to assist the WSA plant expansion. Also completed in 2003 was the East End Sewer Improvement Project and WSA's Central Plant Raw Sewage Flow Meter Replacement Project. Substantially completed in 2003 were two additional projects: South Williamsport's Charles Street Pump Station Upgrade and Williamsport City's Storm Water Separation Project for Second and Center Streets.

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Construction at the WSA West Plant

- Combined Sewer Overflow Study – The Monitoring & Evaluation phase of this 3-year study is nearly complete. During 2003 inflow and infiltration studies were substantially completed in Duboistown, South Williamsport, Old Lycoming, and Loyalsock; also within Loyalsock a major demonstration study is well along—all in-ground construction activities are finished—a post construction analysis of the improved flow conditions is set for Spring 2004. A flow analysis has been completed within the service area of the Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority. In addition, we have used consultants to complete the surveying and engineering to support rerouting of main interceptors under Arch Street (Williamsport Sanitary Authority’s West Plant); initiated update to City’s Storm Water Master Plan; nearly completed the evaluation phase of the combined study of WSA’s Central Plant and the conveyance system of that plant’s service area; and have nearly completed the funded activity on the ambitious GIS task to map the infrastructure of the sanitary and storm water sewer system(s) for all municipalities in the CSO study area.
- LCPC Executive Director continued to serve on the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) Planning Team and was elected chairman of the Partnership. Extensive public outreach involved hundreds of residents in greenway design.
- Created new and fostered existing Municipal/County/State/Federal partnerships surrounding new projects and initiatives; CSO Planning Grant, Comprehensive Plan Project, GIS Deployment, Market Street Bridge Study, Lower Lycoming Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan, Flood Hazard Mitigation Efforts, and County Recreation Plan.
- Updated the County Economic Development Strategy and created a three-party Partnership Agreement involving the County, the Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce and the

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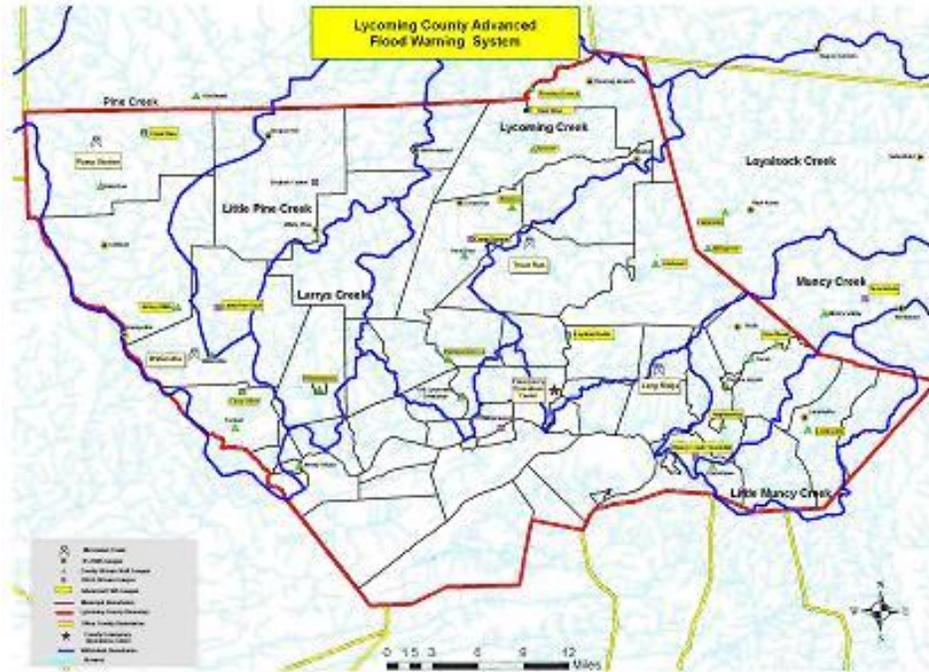
Industrial Properties Corporation – draft update of the Strategy supported the Governor Rendell Economic Summit.

- Feasibility Study to design Central Business District revitalization strategy and delineate component projects completed. Plan received the endorsement of the Lead Partners, Lycoming County Commissioners, and the Lycoming County Planning Commission. All major components of the plan authorized in the Pennsylvania Capital Budget legislation.
- Construction is 65% complete on the Halls Station area sewer system.
- Lycoming County Recreation, Parks, and Open Space/Greenway Plan work began with input from a 5000 household random survey plus recreation focus groups.
- Brownfields for Housing Program—a State DCED initiative: The County made great stride on the FY 2002 program during 2003 – both of the single family homes being constructed by Habitat for Humanity at the site of the former Buckeye Pretzel plant on Eldred Street in Williamsport were completed and dedicated. The former “Pennsy Commons” project is being redefined by the City. The County was also awarded FY 2003 program funds for the second round of Brownfields funds which included projects by Montgomery Community Development Corporation, Habitat for Humanity, and STEP Inc. Habitat has completed one of the two homes the grant funds help to support while STEP has already assisted over 13 smaller home rehabilitation projects



- Flood Warning System—Installation has been completed and system acceptance has been approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. New, state-of-the-art system includes 20 all weather gauges to measure stream depth on all five major creeks, adds nine more rain gages to the IFLOWs network of gages within the County, installs new radio equipment on four towers and adds new equipment to the County EOC. Sophisticated software enables fast and intelligent analysis of each weather event in comparison to other floods in the database.

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Flood Warning System Gauge Locations

- Ralston Bridge Project completed within budget and ahead of schedule.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- LCPC staff, with assistance from the Larson Design Group and RBA consultant team, has made significant progress in the development of a **County Recreation, Parks, and Open Space/Greenway Plan** update:
 1. Completed and compiled a Survey of local needs and demands for recreation programs and park areas;
 2. Convened and interviewed a number of Focus Groups (e.g. Youth, boating, hiking activities) relating to specialized areas of recreation and natural resource management;
 3. Completed an Inventory of existing recreation programs and park facilities and their usage patterns, and;
 4. Developing recommendations for priority in addressing needs for recreation programs and park facilities.

This project will also help address needs identified by local residents at the Our Towns 2010 Workshops, and has been recognized by the Greater Williamsport Area 2000 Alliance as a top priority, which will enhance existing recreation programs and facilities and will foster increased cooperation and resource sharing between our County's local governments.

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Funding from DCNR (\$80,000) and DCED (\$30,000) has been secured. A 60 + member Recreation Advisory Committee has been formed to review recreation and open space inventory information and provide input into project goals and process. The Lycoming County Planning Commission, staff/consultants and Advisory Committee developed and distributed a Comprehensive Recreation Survey to 5,000 randomly selected Lycoming County households. Of these, 1,352 surveys were returned ($1352/4933 = 27.4\%$), a very high percentage for this type of survey. The survey will provide statistically significant information about County recreational needs, and will be helpful in obtaining Grant funding for community recreation projects and programs. A summary of the Survey results is posted on the County Website. A draft of the plan is scheduled for completion by the end of April 2004.

A major focus of this planning effort will be a Comprehensive Open Space and Greenway Initiative. Staff has compiled many data layers and will apply them through the GIS system to develop a comprehensive Open Space and Greenway network. Greenways are linear corridors of open space that will serve to protect natural, cultural, and scenic resources, provide recreational benefits, enhance natural beauty and quality of life in neighborhoods and communities, and stimulate economic development opportunities.

- The LCPC staff continued to participate on various committees including the:
 - Susquehanna River Conservation Plan Steering Committee
 - Pine Creek River Conservation Plan Steering Committee
 - Susquehanna Greenway Partnership Planning Team
 - PA DCNR Growing Greener Advisory Committee
 - PA DCNR Greenways Advisory Group
 - PA DEP Regional Roundtable
 - Endless Mountains Resource Conservation and Development (RC & D) Council
 - Pine Creek Rail Trail Advisory Committee (LCPC Members + Executive Director)
 - PA DEP Big Bend and Susquehannock/Gennessee Regional Watershed Association (the Environmental Planner, in conjunction with the GIS Department, provided professional and technical support to several Lycoming County Watershed Associations)
 - Lycoming County Conservation District
 - Lycoming County Forest Lands Beautification Task Force
 - DEP Northcentral Regional Citizens Round Table.
 - The Environmental Planner, in conjunction with the GIS Department, provided professional and technical support to several Lycoming County Watershed Associations

- The LCPC completed a Phase I Scope of Study for a **Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan for the Lycoming Creek Watershed**, utilizing a grant from the PA DEP. The study area is about 372 square miles, comprised of 16 municipalities in Lycoming, Tioga, and Sullivan County. An Advisory Committee comprised of municipal and agency officials and the Lycoming Creek Watershed Association has been convened and provided input for the Scope of Study for the Plan. This project will be coordinated with the Lower Lycoming Creek

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Hazard Mitigation Project, providing valuable stormwater modeling input and helping to meet local funding match requirements. We will also use stream assessment data being compiled by the Lycoming College Clean Water Institute for the Lycoming Creek Watershed Association. The Phase II Stormwater Plan and Model Ordinance is anticipated to begin in August 2004, upon approval of the Phase II Scope of Study by DEP, and will take about two years to complete.

- The LCPC is working with the **Williamsport Area MS4** (municipal separate storm sewer system) municipalities to develop a coordinated and efficient program to meet this Federal stormwater quality mandate. To this end, the County Planning Office is in the process of working out a Phase I Scope of Study for a Lower West Branch Susquehanna Act 167 Stormwater Plan and an update of the Grafius, Miller's and McClure Plan. We will incorporate the new MS4 stormwater management water quality requirements into the Model Ordinance prepared to implement these Plans.
- LCPC representatives and staff are working with the Endless Mountains RC & D and other representatives from Lycoming, Tioga, and Potter Counties to develop a multi-County **Pine Creek River Conservation Plan**. A round of Public Meetings and a Public Opinion Survey have been conducted as a first step.
- LCPC staff reviewed a number of natural resource related development projects (e.g. proposed Wind Power Farm), **Ordinances** (Cummings Twp. Solid Waste Ordinance), **Regulations** (proposed DEP ozone standards), **Plans** (DCNR State Forest Plan), and provided comments and support for a number of **Grant Applications** (e.g. Montgomery Skateboard Park).

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Williamsport Area Transportation Study & Transportation Planning Activities

Within Lycoming County, the transportation planning process is conducted through the Williamsport Area Transportation Study, (WATS). WATS was established in 1968 with the purpose to develop sound transportation policies, programs and projects which move people and goods in a safe, efficient manner, promote economic development, protect the environment and preserve the County's outstanding quality of life amenities. The Lycoming County Planning Commission (LCPC) provides staff support to WATS to carryout transportation planning activities identified in the WATS Unified Planning Work Program. All federally funded highway, bridge and transit projects must receive WATS approval prior to project initiation. The major transportation activities conducted during 2003 are described below:

Rail Service

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The EDPS Director was re-appointed by the Lycoming County Commissioners to serve as a voting member to the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority. He has been reelected Vice-Chairman of the Rail Authority. Industries served by the Lycoming Valley Railroad continue to report improved usage and overall service quality in rail services since the Joint Rail Authority purchased the Williamsport Branch Lines between Jersey Shore and Muncy from Conrail in August 1996. Continuing issues in rail service to Lycoming County rail shippers with Norfolk Southern regarding track use rights to the Harrisburg-Buffalo Mainline and competitive access to the Canadian Pacific Interchange at Sunbury have been the focus of Joint Rail Authority concern. The EDPS Director has been asked by the Joint Rail Authority to chair its negotiating team for Norfolk Southern issues. EDPS staff has been working closely with SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority and PENNDOT to explore funding options for replacement of the Lycoming Valley Railroad Bridge over Loyalsock Creek in conjunction with the airport access road and Montoursville Flood Protection projects. The hydraulic waterway opening contributes to the flooding problem along Loyalsock Creek, especially when flood debris is collected at the bridge. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$ 5 million. The federal, state and local funding package is being finalized. The SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority has agreed to allow PENNDOT to design and construct the railroad bridge as part of the PENNDOT Airport Access Road Project using URS as the consultant. A scope of work has been developed. Design of the railroad bridge will begin in May 2004 and will take about 18 months. The project should be under construction in 2006.

In 2003, PENNDOT approved \$ 60,000 in FHWA Supplemental Planning Funds for the LCPC to conduct an Intermodal Freight Distribution Center Feasibility Study in partnership with SEDA-COG. This study will evaluate the overall need for a truck, rail, and air freight distribution center in the SEDA-COG region based upon a thorough market assessment survey of manufacturing and distribution companies undertaken by a highly qualified consultant. The study will also evaluate potential sites and estimated costs for this type of facility, including public infrastructure needs to support the project. An implementation plan will be provided. The study will commence in spring, 2004 with an estimated completion date of June 30, 2005.

Interstate 99 Initiatives

The LCPC continues to develop the I-99 Land Use Planning Study in conjunction with the PENNDOT Interstate 99 (Susquehanna Beltway) project along the US 220 Corridor between Jersey Shore and Williamsport. This project was initiated by PENNDOT in response to the TEA-21 legislation authorizing designation of the Appalachian Thruway (US 220 / US 15 between Bedford, PA and Corning NY) as Interstate 99. Official interstate designation cannot occur until the corridor is fully upgraded to meet Interstate design standards. However, at the request of the Route 15 Coalition and Appalachian Thruway Association, with assistance from Senator Roger A. Madigan, signage has been erected by PENNDOT along US 15 between Williamsport and New York indicating that the corridor will have a future I-99 designation to help educate the traveling public.

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This is the first of this type of future interstate signage erected in Pennsylvania, although other states (such as New York) have installed similar signage.

PENNDOT has hired Urban Engineers as the prime consultant to design the I-99 project between Jersey Shore and Williamsport. PENNDOT has also formed a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), which is meeting as needed to review and comment on key documents associated with each project step. In 2003, four CAC meetings were held. The LCPC Executive Director and Transportation Planner are serving on the CAC. The Needs Study has been completed and approved by various environmental regulatory agencies and the FHWA. LCPC staff made extensive contributions toward development of the Needs Study such as providing GIS mapping, existing land use data, future population / land use forecasts and traffic count information.

PENNDOT is presently conducting detailed studies of two primary alignment alternatives for the new highway. One alternative utilizes much of the existing highway alignment while the other alternative consists of a new alignment slightly to the north of the existing highway corridor. A PENNDOT preferred alignment alternative should be identified in 2005.

The I-99 Land Use Planning Study and Joint Comprehensive Planning process is extremely important to properly plan for anticipated growth impacts in the study area resulting from the new interstate highway. The LCPC has hired the consultant team of Gannett Fleming, Delta Development Group, and the Larson Design Group to assist the LCPC in preparing the Land Use Planning Study and a I-99 Corridor Joint Municipal Comprehensive Plan. Major work on both plans occurred in 2003. These plans will be completed and adopted in mid-2004.

It is anticipated that construction of Interstate 99 should be fully completed throughout Pennsylvania by 2013 pending funding availability.

Williamsport CBD Revitalization Vision

The LCPC, using Delta Development Group, John C. Haas Associates and GDA as consultants, completed the Market Street Bridge Land Use / Transportation Impact Study. This study has been undertaken in conjunction with the PENNDOT Market Street Bridge Replacement Project. Final design of the \$ 75 million Market Street Bridge project is complete with an anticipated start of construction in May 2004 with completion in 2007. A major component of the project is the incorporation of a Single Point Urban Interchange, which will provide full directional access between the new bridge and Interstate 180. The improvement will provide a dramatic new gateway to the City of Williamsport and South Williamsport Borough. Numerous context sensitive design elements funded by Congressional federal earmarks secured by the Lycoming County Commissioners have been incorporated into the bridge project, such as modern roundabouts along Via Bella, lighting, railing, bike/pedestrian facilities, retaining wall murals and other features. Funding from the bridge project can be leveraged toward redevelopment projects.

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The study has been closely coordinated with the five lead partner organizations consisting of Lycoming County, City of Williamsport, Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, Our Towns 2010 and the Lycoming County Housing Finance, Inc. The study provides an overall vision for revitalizing the downtown area. This vision includes development of several projects over two phases. Phase 1 consists of a conference center with winter garden, Church Street Center containing a new parking deck with retail shops, Trade and Transit Center Expansion, Susquehanna Riverwalk and downtown streetscape improvements. Phase 2 consists of a multi-purpose arena, elevated skywalk, and cable stayed pedestrian bridge. The vision has been presented to approximately 100 stakeholder organizations, municipal officials, affected property owners and service clubs with positive feedback. EDPS arranged for development of a professional video that has aired on local cable TV. This vision is also available by visiting the county's website at www.lyco.org.

The next step in the study process is to secure Federal, State, local and private funding to initiate design of these projects. The Lead Partners have been successful in obtaining an authorization of \$ 35 million towards the state share for these projects on the approved State Capital Budget. The Lycoming County Commissioners and City of Williamsport have each budgeted \$ 350,000 to advance the CBD Revitalization Vision during CY 2004. The Lycoming County Commissioners met with Governor Rendell in August 2003 requesting release of \$ 13.7 million in state funding for the Phase 1 projects. The Commissioners also met with our Congressional delegation in late February 2003 in an attempt to secure the required federal shares. An announcement by our Congressional delegation is expected soon about these federal funding requests. It is anticipated that design of the Conference Center, Trade and Transit Center Expansion and Church Street Center projects will begin in 2004. In April, 2003, the LCPC Executive Director presented the CBD Vision to the National Association of State Transportation Officials at their conference held at Saratoga Springs New York. The vision was recognized as an excellent example of integrating land use and transportation projects to promote regional economic development and community revitalization.

Susquehanna Greenway Development

Considerable progress was made in 2003 to develop a regional greenway system along the Susquehanna Greenway Corridor. First, the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership continued development of a PA DCNR funded feasibility study of developing a 500 + mile greenway system along the Susquehanna River corridor throughout Pennsylvania. The LCPC Executive Director serves on the Greenway Partnership Planning Team and chairs the Partnership. With regard to the portion of the greenway in Lycoming County, the Lycoming County Commissioners were successful in obtaining approximately \$1 million from PA DCNR and PENNDOT in 2002 to design and construct the Susquehanna Riverwalk connecting the Loyalsock bikeway with Maynard Street Bridge and new Market Street Bridge using the Williamsport dike-levee system on the Williamsport and South Williamsport sides of the Susquehanna River. Project scoping is complete. Larson Design Group will begin preliminary design studies in February 2004 with construction in 2006. When

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completed, this Riverwalk will tie directly to the Downtown Vision initiatives and will provide an outstanding riverfront recreation experience. The Susquehanna Greenway will eventually tie into the 62-mile Pine Creek Rail Trail between Jersey Shore and Wellsboro Junction. The Phase 3 section between Waterville and the US 220 railroad bridge over US 220 near Jersey Shore was completed in 2003. The trailhead facility with parking in Jersey Shore Borough, will be completed by PA DCNR in 2004. The Lycoming County Commissioners secured a \$ 200,000 Congressional earmark for PA DCNR to paint the Pine Creek Rail Trail Bridge over US 220. This project will also be completed in 2004.

Other WATS Activities

- LCPC staff, in partnership with PENNDOT and the Williamsport Bureau of Transportation, jointly administered the FFY 2003-2006 Transportation Improvement Program that has received federal approval. This program contains 50 transportation projects approved for \$165 million in Federal, State and local funds.
- The LCPC Executive Director testified at the State Transportation Commission 12 Year Transportation Program public hearing held in Williamsport on October 16, 2003 regarding Lycoming County transportation project funding needs and priorities. LCPC staff coordinated with all 52 Lycoming County municipalities and other organizations to gather input on transportation project needs.
- LCPC Staff worked with PENNDOT and their consultant Grove-Miller along with the Borough of South Williamsport to complete a Phase 1 Congested Corridors Initiative Study of the US 15 Corridor in South Williamsport between the Little League Complex and the Market Street Bridge. The study recommendations were approved by WATS at their November 7, 2003 public meeting.
- LCPC Staff worked with PENNDOT and their consultant Orth Rogers and SEDA-COG to develop the US 15 Corridor Safety and Capacity Study between South Williamsport and Interstate 80. The existing conditions analysis was approved by the WATS MPO at their November 7, 2003 public meeting. A computerized travel demand model is also being developed that will include all of Lycoming County and additional counties in the SEDA-COG region. This model will provide the LCPC with improved transportation planning capabilities to evaluate the need for system-wide transportation network improvements. The model will be completed in 2004.
- In 2003, PENNDOT approved \$26,000 in federal funding for the LCPC to initiate development of a Scenic Byways Program as part of the Lycoming County Comprehensive Plan Update process. The LCPC will develop criteria for evaluation and designation of scenic byways corridors in Lycoming County. This process will be used by PENNDOT as a guide for

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development of a scenic byways initiative for the Commonwealth. The study will be completed by June 2004 using Gannett Fleming as the consultant.

- In addition to I-99 and the Market Street Bridge, LCPC Staff provided technical assistance necessary to advance key transportation projects funded on the WATS Transportation Improvement Program, including but not limited to, the Airport Access Road / Montoursville Dike, US 15 Steam Valley Mountain highway realignment, I-180 Lycoming Mall Road Full Interchange, PA 405 Susquehanna River / Muncy Creek Bridges and the PA 414 Jersey Mills Bridge.
- On January 6, 2003, the Williamsport Bureau of Transportation began transit services to Hughesville under the Welfare to Work Transportation Demonstration Program. An evaluation to further extend transit service to Jersey Shore will be undertaken in 2004. For more information on City Bus routes, schedules and services visit their website at www.citybus.org.
- Due to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, increased security measures were instituted at the Williamsport Regional Airport. The airport currently meets or exceeds the newly issued FAA security requirements. Commercial air service was temporarily suspended to Philadelphia International Airport between June and September 2003 by US Airways. Service has been restored and overall enplanements at the airport are gradually increasing since 9/11/01. During 2003, the LCPC Transportation Planner was appointed by Governor Rendell to serve as a member of the Pennsylvania Aviation Advisory Committee and re-appointed by the Lycoming County Commissioners as a member of the Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority. For more information on airport flight schedules and other services, visit their website at www.flyipt.com.
- During 2003, the LCPC Planning Technician / Analyst successfully completed the Highway Performance Monitoring System traffic count data collection and inventory requirements. Approximately 100 traffic counts were compiled and entered into the PENNDOT Roadway Management System and Lyco-GIS databases in support of the WATS transportation planning program. Based upon a recent PENNDOT HPMS Program audit, the Lycoming County Planning Commission had the highest data collection accuracy rate (99.8%) among PENNDOT Engineering Districts and Metropolitan and Rural Planning Agencies in PA.
- LCPC staff developed the WATS Unified Planning Work Program describing all transportation planning activities undertaken in 2003 and completed all reporting requirements.
- PENNDOT has selected the Lycoming County Planning Commission to co-host the 2004 Planning Partners Conference to be held in Williamsport on October 17-20. The LCPC will receive special funds to assist PENNDOT in arranging all details associated with the conference and will focus on Intermodal solutions.

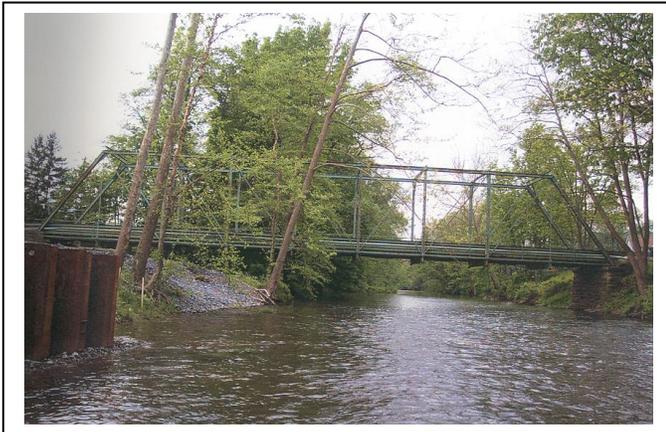
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- LCPC staff continued active involvement with other state level, regional and local organizations in coordinating key transportation issues by serving on the Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee, SEDA-COG Regional Transportation Planning Advisory Committee, PENNDOT Financial Guidance Work Group, Transportation Enhancement Work Group, Modal Integration Work Group, Our Towns 2010, Route 15 Coalition, Appalachian Thruway Association, ADA Advisory Committee and Welfare to Work Transportation Committee.

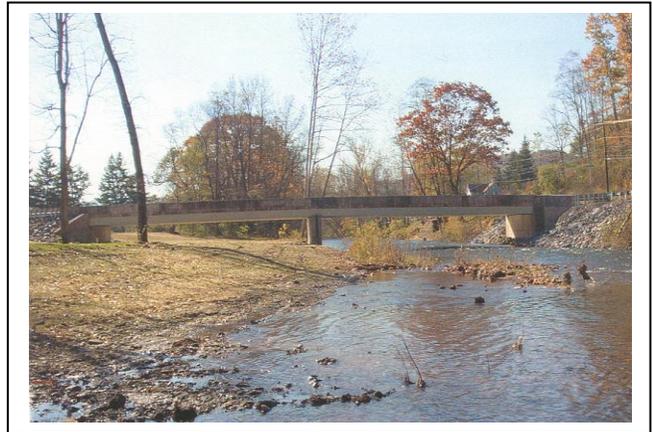
COUNTY LIQUID FUELS PROGRAM

LCPC staff provided considerable assistance to the Lycoming County Commissioners in 2003 to administer County Liquid Fuels funded projects. Program highlights include:

- Construction of the new replacement County-owned bridge along T-365 over Larrys Creek serving New Tribes Institute was completed. This project was completed on time and within budget with no change orders.



New Tribes - Old



New Tribes - New

Design studies were completed to replace the County-owned bridge over Texas Creek in the Village of Texas, Pine Township. The County Commissioners awarded the construction contract to Nestlerode Contractors of Lock Haven. Construction of the new bridge will begin in March 2004 and be completed by the end of October 2004.

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Texas Creek Bridge

- LCPC staff continued to administer the County Bridge Inspection Program. In 2003, all 102 county-owned and municipality owned bridges (20 feet or greater in length) received a bridge inspection as required by Federal law. Inspection reports were issued to bridge owners. Results of these inspections are used by LCPC staff to assess bridge priorities for funding purposes to ensure public safety and unrestricted goods movement important to economic development in Lycoming County. Larson Design Group, County Engineer, performs the actual bridge inspections. In 2004, only County and locally owned bridges that have weight restrictions or other critical deficiencies will receive an inspection.
- In 2003, the Lycoming County Commissioners shared approximately \$ 150,000 in County Liquid Fuels funds with local municipalities to undertake municipal road and bridge improvement projects using a formula that averages each municipality's population and road mileage.

COUNTY SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE ADMINISTRATION

The Lycoming County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SLDO) was enacted on December 26, 1972 and last updated in 1989. One of the principal functions of the Lycoming County Planning Commission, as delegated by the Lycoming County Commissioners, is to review and take official action on subdivision and land development applications for those municipalities under jurisdiction of the County SLDO. The purpose of the County SLDO is to provide for the harmonious development of the municipality and County by ensuring that proposed developments meet the standards of the Ordinance for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. Examples of standards include stormwater management, traffic safety, road construction standards, erosion and sediment control, sewage disposal, and adequate water supply.

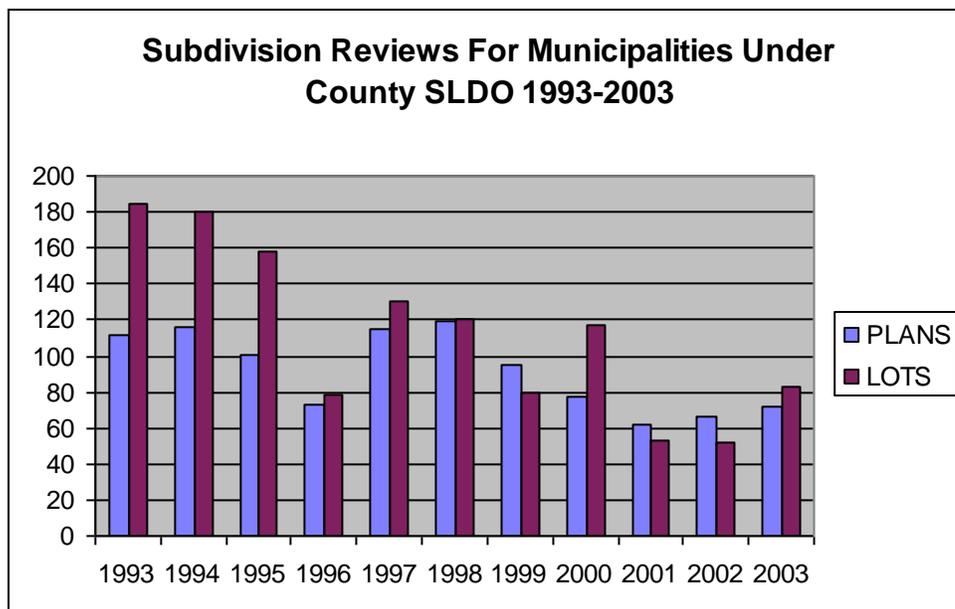
The Planning Commission also recommends periodic updates to the Ordinance. Staff completed a draft comprehensive update of the County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. The

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review by the LCPC began in 2002 and continues into 2004.

The County provides full-time, professional administration and legal support for the Ordinance. This service is currently being utilized by 24 municipalities as shown by Annex 1 at the end of this report. Following is a summary of subdivision and land development activities in 2003:

- Accepted 76 new applications (plus 8 submissions were carried over from 2002). Processed and granted final approval for 61 subdivisions and 6-land development plans. Nine plans were submitted for re-approval. No subdivision plan was denied. Subdivision Plan approvals decreased by 2 from 2002. Land development plan approvals increased by 1 from 2002; there were 4 business related land developments and 2 additional Principal Residence on one-lot proposals approved. The Graph below depicts the subdivision approval trends over the last ten years.



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A total of 83 new lots were created within the municipalities under jurisdiction of the County SLDO, an increase of 31 from 2002. See the following chart “LCPC Final Subdivision Approvals and Sewage Determination, 2003” for more detailed information.

| LCPC Subdivision And Sewage Disposal Report 2003 | | | | | | | SEWAGE DISPOSAL METHOD FOR NEW LOTS | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------|----------|-------------------------------------|--------|------|-------|--------------|-----|----|----|
| MUNICIPALITY | TOTAL # OF PLANS | SINGLE & ADD LOT PLANS | MULTI-LOT PLANS | RE-APPROVAL | NEW LOTS | ADD LOTS | WAIVER | STD TR | ESM* | EXIST | MUNL. OR STP | NFD | HT | SI |
| Anthony | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brown | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cogan House | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cummings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gamble | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jackson | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jordan | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Limestone | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| McHenry | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| McIntyre | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| McNett | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mifflin | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mill Creek | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Moreland | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Muncy | 10 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Penn | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Platt | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Pine | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Shrewsbury | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Watson | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Hughesville | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Picture Rocks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Salladasburg | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 72 | 60 | 11 | 9 | 83 | 38 | 10 | 5 | 43 | 18 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 |

- * ESM - Elevated Sand Mound
- * STD TR - Standard Trench
- * WAIVER - Waiver From Sew age Planning "Form B"
- * EXIST - Existing System
- * MUNI - Municipal System or Sew age Treatment Plant
- * NFD - Not For Development
- * HT - Holding Tank
- * SI - Spray Irrigation

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Land Development Plans were approved for the following:

| <u>Municipality</u> | <u>Applicant</u> | <u>Use/Size (square feet)</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Muncy | The Keith Corporation | Tractor Supply Store/ 18,500 sq.ft. |
| Muncy | GMTN Pennsdale LLC | Gander Mtn. Addition/25,200 sq.ft. |
| Muncy | Aliance Entertainment | Great Escape 12 ScreenTheatre/ 40,267 sq.ft. |
| Hughesville | East Lyc. School District | School Addition/ 7,534 sq.ft. |
| Jordan | Charles & Daughn Bilger | 2 nd Principal Res./ 1,232 sq.ft. |
| Cogan House | Palmer Wetzel Jr. | 3 rd Principal Res./ 980 sq.ft. |



Fairfield Honda, Muncy Township

COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE ADMINISTRATION

The County/Municipal Zoning Partnership was started on December 31, 1991 with preparation of the Lycoming County Zoning Ordinance following numerous meetings with municipal officials, the development community, and other interested parties. The County provides full-time professional zoning administration and legal support at a net overall cost savings. Municipalities provide nominees which the County Commissioners consider for the County Zoning Hearing Board, and are solicited for comments on all actions beyond routine Zoning Administrator reviews, such as zoning amendments, variances, and special exceptions.

The County Zoning Ordinance, adopted in 1992, originally applied to 12 townships. Since that time, two additional Townships have joined the Partnership, bringing the total number of municipalities up to 14. Of the 14 townships, six rescinded their individual floodplain ordinances and chose to come under the Floodplain regulations contained within the County Zoning Ordinance. Responsibility for

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administering the flood plain regulations for those six townships now falls on the County. Additionally, as a result of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's requirement for every municipality to update their flood plain regulations, five additional townships and Salladasburg borough are actively petitioning the County to assume their floodplain regulation responsibilities.

The following report summarizes County Zoning Activity in 2003, including County Zoning Hearing Board cases.

2003 Lycoming County Zoning Activity Summary:

There were 316 Building/Zoning permits approved for a total of 470,005 square feet with an estimated value of \$11,121,547 dollars. Included in this permit activity were 20 logging, 8 temporary and 8 sign permits. Compared to the previous year, the permit activity represents a 13% decrease in numbers of permits issued but a 33% increase in value.

22 Certificates of Compliance or Occupancy were issued. This number is down from the previous years total. Wet weather during the construction season had an adverse effect on the completion of construction projects.

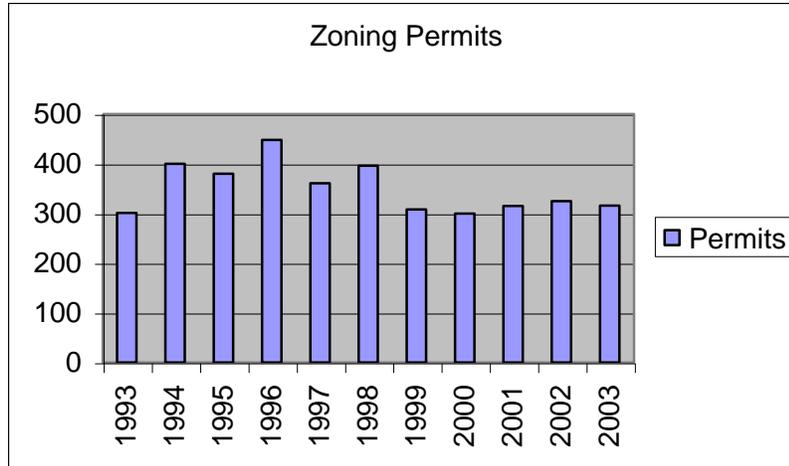
There were 43 land development/subdivision applications coordinated with County Zoning.

Seven applications requiring Zoning Hearing Board action were received. Six went before the board for determination. Four were for Special Exception and two were for Variances.

There were 22 violations and complaints investigated, such as accumulated junk and debris, excessive noise, construction without permits and occupancy without certificates. Enforcement actions are ongoing.

| <u>Use</u> | <u>New Construction</u> | <u>Building Additions</u> | <u>Accessory Structures</u> | <u>2003 Total</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Single Family Residence | 78 | 36 | 162 | 276 |
| Commercial | 9 | 3 | 6 | 18 |
| Home Business | 1 | | | 1 |
| Agriculture | 2 | 2 | 11 | |
| Institutional | | 1 | | |

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Municipal assistance was provided on an as needed basis. The Zoning Administrator assisted in resolving questions concerning the administration of the zoning program. In addition, assistance was provided to several non-partner townships requesting assistance in the review of their individual ordinances.

Continued support to the Lycoming County Zoning Hearing Board involved staff duties for required public notices and set-up for the public hearings and submission of professional recommendations where appropriate. An annual review of the previously approved family care units was made to assure continued compliance with the conditions of approval by the Board.

Floodplain management reviews were completed in the five townships that continue to utilize County Zoning floodplain regulations. There were eight sites reviewed for compliance with floodplain regulations. Services were provided to property owners throughout Lycoming County concerning floodplain mapping interpretation and regulations.

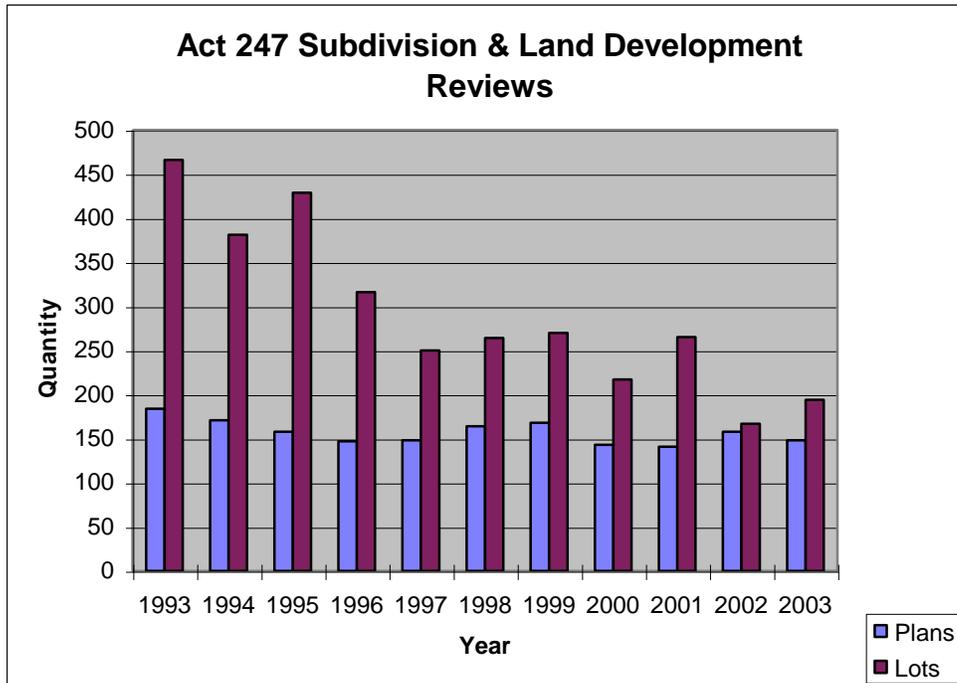
Administrative actions for the fiscal management of the County Zoning functions consisted of responsibility for the operating revenues and expenditures, purchasing, and maintaining the fixed assets inventory. County Zoning budget development included preparation of the 2003 capital budget.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

- Provided advisory review comments for 148 subdivision and land development plans, including 29 land developments under local ordinance jurisdiction. This compares to 158 subdivisions, including 39 land developments in 2002. During 2003, the total number of plans reviewed was about 10% lower than last year. The land developments occurred within the City of Williamsport (7,) Loyalsock (9,) South Williamsport (3,) Montoursville Borough (3,) Clinton

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(2), Wolf (2,) Old Lycoming and Muncy Creek Townships; Jersey Shore Borough (1 each.) The total number of lots reviewed throughout the year increased from 167 in 2002 to 194 in 2003. Some of these lots were for non-residential uses. Subdivisions during the year involved 61 single lots and 31 addition-lots, 24 residential multi-lots plans totaling 94 lots, and 2 land developments included 89 attached/semi-attached dwellings.



- Provided general zoning, subdivision, and floodplain assistance on a daily basis to municipal officials, property owners, real estate professionals, bankers, insurance representatives, attorneys, surveyors, engineers, interested citizens, and the general public.
- In accordance with the State Planning Code (Act 247), we provided review comments for 40 proposed municipal Zoning Ordinance amendments during 2003. 20 were ordinance amendments in accordance with the new FEMA Floodplain Mapping Update, with an adoption deadline of March 16, 2004 imposed by the federal rules. Additional ordinance amendments are forthcoming the first couple months of 2004 for other municipalities to meet the adoption requirement.
- The drafting and GIS staff provided mapping support to facilitate flood mitigation planning, water and sewer planning, municipal planning assistance contracts, zoning map changes and printing for individual municipalities.

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HAZARD MITIGATION

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMAP):

Lower Lycoming Flood Hazard Reduction Acquisition Project was rescoped to add eight additional properties to the three retained from the original grant and earlier rescopes. The total grant amount is now \$741,000. Five of the offers made on the eight additional properties were accepted.

Hepburn Township: An acquisition application for properties in Hepburn Township was completed and submitted to PEMA. PEMA, as a managing State for FEMA Acquisition funds, designated this grant for potential FEMA funding. However, due to a tight State fiscal picture, PEMA is unable to fund the 22% percent share that they had supplied to previous acquisition programs. This grant application is being held by PEMA until additional funding becomes available.

In Lycoming County, a total of 133 properties have been acquired and 157 families have been removed from harm's way through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and Flood Mitigation Assistance Program.

Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) Adoption:

The Hazard Mitigation Planner and GIS Division have worked extensively toward assuring that the digitization of the new Flood Insurance Maps is consistent with the Flood Insurance Study and real world conditions. Revised preliminaries were issued in Spring 2003, and the ninety-day public comment period ran from May until August of 2003. Over 100 property owners viewed the floodplain status of their properties on the GIS Public Use Station. Multiple public meetings that were organized by local municipalities were supported by LCPC staff. At least eight protests were supported by EDPS GIS mapping capability. LCPC staff has coordinated with DCED to assist local municipalities to adopt an ordinance compliant with State and Federal law prior to the March 16, 2004 deadline.

Automated Telephone Notification System:

The Director of Public Safety and the Community Development and Hazard Mitigation Planner met with Lycoming County Information Services staff in order to explore the possibility of bringing this system under County operation. The technological aspects are being explored by IS.

Lower Lycoming Structural Project:

The Mitigation Planner and the Economic Development Specialist have worked extensively on furtherance of this Project. See the Economic Development section of this report for details.

Montoursville Flood Protection Project:

The LCPC Staff worked extensively with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Montoursville Borough and numerous other stakeholders to develop a feasibility study evaluating the need, feasibility and

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cost of constructing a levee system along the east side of Loyalsock Creek to protect the Montoursville area from future flooding. Mapping is nearly complete and alignment options have been identified and are being evaluated. The study is scheduled for completion by the end of 2004. The levee project is being closely coordinated with the PENNDOT Airport Access Road and Loyalsock Creek Railroad Bridge replacement project. Construction of these projects is anticipated in 2006.

Ralston Flood Mitigation Structural Project:

The Mitigation Planner continues to support the Transportation Planner with this project. See details in the Transportation Section.

County Hazard Plan:

Data aspects of this mitigation plan have been updated. A pre-review of the plan was conducted by FEMA staff who were favorably impressed by LCPC capability, particularly GIS.

Lower Lycoming Flood Hazard Reduction Plan:

At an April 16th ceremony in Hershey, Pennsylvania, Lt Governor Catherine Baker Knoll announced the winners of the 2003 local government excellence awards. Of the state's 2,634 municipalities, ten were recognized for their achievements including the 5 municipalities of the Lower Lycoming Creek and Lycoming County government.

Municipal and Public Assistance:

The Mitigation planner assisted multiple municipalities and property owners with floodplain management, coordinating DEP, DCED, FEMA and municipal officials toward resolution of regulatory matters, and educating the public concerning floodplain management.



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Ralston Bridge – Transportation & Mitigation Project



Ralston Over Bank Flow Channel

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

GIS Deployment:

The GIS division continued the deployment of computer mapping and database technology to the community. GeoPlan software and GIS data, was distributed to three new municipalities in addition to the nine municipalities that already have GeoPlan installed. Mifflin and Muncy Creek Townships and Montgomery Borough are new members of the GeoPlan family.

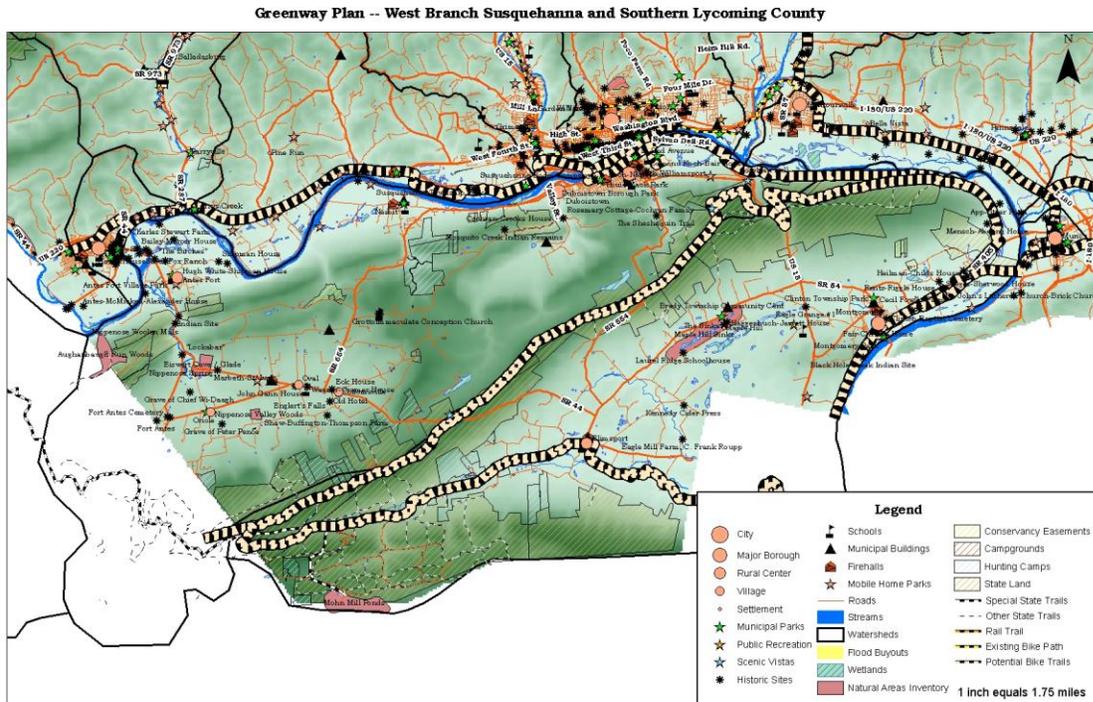
Comprehensive Plan Mapping:

Community Viz software was installed and used for build-out prediction and locations. New coverages were added including historical districts, historical houses, and others.

Recreation Plan

Detailed maps were created and submitted for review specifically for seven watershed areas including the map below:

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Greenway Plan – West Branch Susquehanna and Southern Lycoming County

Showing potential new bicycle paths.

Combined Sewer Overflow:

Field mapping of manholes and drains continued through the summer, fall and winter with completion for second quarter of 2004.

Hazard Mitigation:

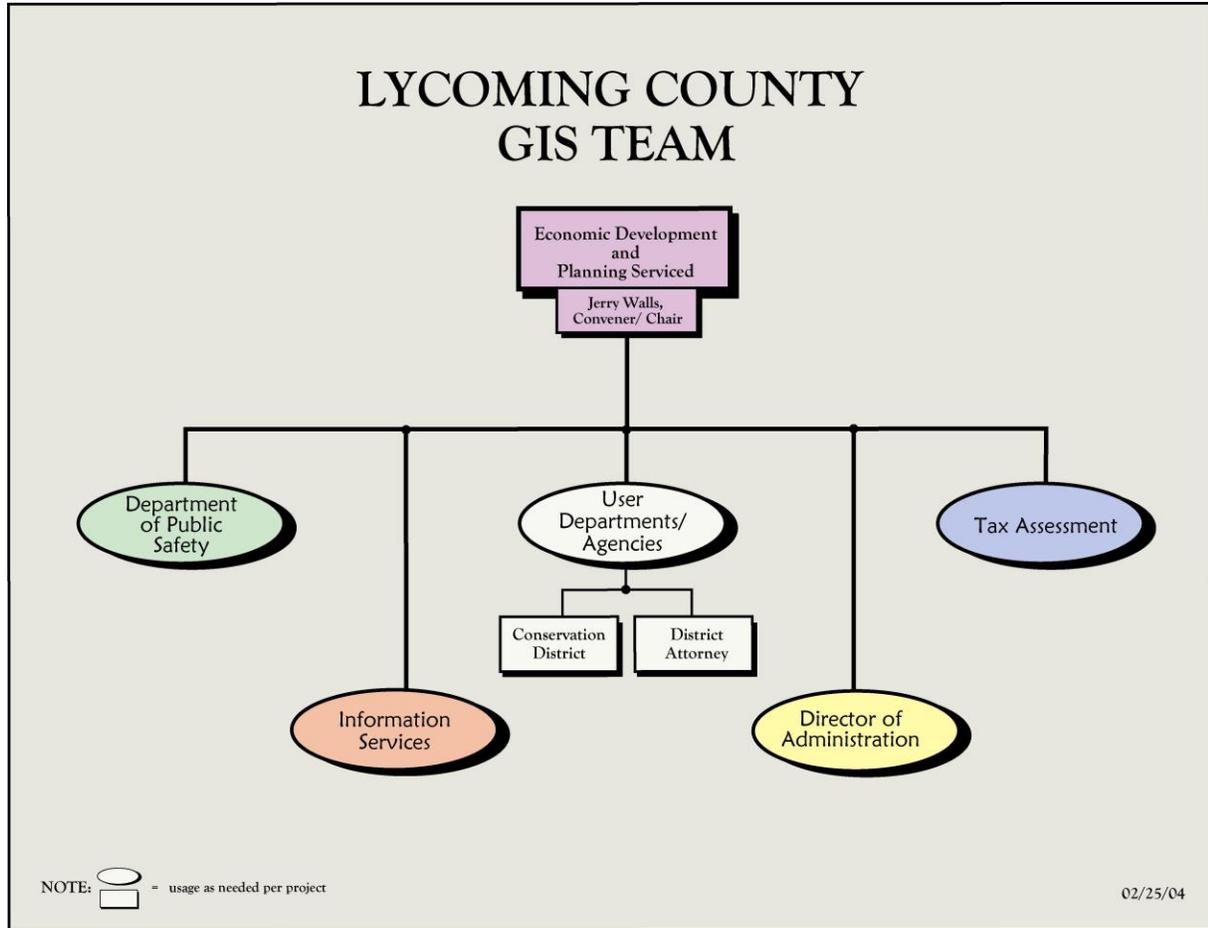
Montoursville dike field assistance and mapping was provided for the Corps of Engineers D-FIRM analyses and reviews are conducted and modifications sent to FEMA. A public use terminal, software, and data was installed for citizen review of their own properties.

Tax Assessment:

Assistance was provided to prepare for the Fair Tax Review. Nathan Bordy EDPS GIS Technician was trained to step in and work for the Assessment office.

GIS STAFF NEWS

- Hannah Ingram replaced Tricia Meredith as one of our temporary mappers.
- Tricia Meredith is assisting on the field crew
- Sheila Palmeter replaced Nathan Bordy who was hired by the Tax Assessors office.



ADMINISTRATION & INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

- Had a clean audit without qualifications or management letter, and adjusted our costing rate to more quickly absorb prior years' under billings.
- The Lycoming County Planning Commission adopted a joint LCPC/EDPS FY 2003-2004 work program of \$2,190,846 of which \$972,851 (44 %) is net County funding support. The remaining funds of \$1,217,995 are from State and Federal Government grants; development processing fees; and municipal service contracts. The FY 2003-2004 Work Program Budget includes \$903,362 for outside consultants and other direct costs (such as software and computer product acquisition).
- The 2004 budget for EDPS is \$5.4 million.
- Retired Environmental Planner Mr. Robert McCullough received the Lycoming County Distinguished Service Award.

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- Community Development/Hazard Reduction Planner Mary Ellen Rogers received the Lycoming County Employee of the Year Award.
- Updated technological hardware and software, including digital cameras, scanner, 25% of department computers, and GIS software and equipment.

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ACRONYMS

- CAFO – Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation
- CBD – Central Business District
- CCAP – County Commissioners Association of PA
- CP – Canadian Pacific Railroad Corporation
- CSO – Combined Sewer Overflow
- DCED – Department of Community and Economic Development
- DCNR – Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- DEP – Department of Environmental Protection
- DFIRM – Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map
- DRI – Disaster Resistance Initiative (Lycoming County Project Impact)
- DTN – Digital Terrain Model
- EDPS – Economic Development and Planning Services
- EDA-Economic Development Administration
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
- FMAP- Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
- GIS – Geographic Information System
- GPS – Geographic Positioning System
- HMGP – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- KOZ – Keystone Opportunity Zone

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LCC – Lycoming County Commissioners

LCSWA – Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority

Lead Partners – County, City, Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, Lycoming Housing Finance, Inc., our Towns 2010

LHR – Lumber Heritage Region

LVRB – Lycoming Valley Railroad

NGA – National Governor’s Association

NGS CORS – National Geodetic Survey Continually Operating Reference Station

NS – Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation

PAT – Planning Advisory Team

PDM-Pre-Disaster Mitigation

PEMA – Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

RPT – Regional Planning Technologies

SGP – Susquehanna Greenway Partnership

US ACE – United States Army Corp of Engineers

USGS- United States Geological Survey

WSA – Williamsport Sanitary Authority

WTP – Wastewater Treatment Plant

