

**JOINT STRATEGIC PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012  
7:00-9:00AM  
WARWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**ATTENDEES:** Brittany Smith, Chris Brown, Gwen Newell, Emma Hamme, Rick Jackson, Scott Shaub, Hans Derr, Grant hummer, Matt Clair, Bob Lamb, Sgt. Joshua Killgore, Wade Hartz, Frank Kenavan, Jeff Tennis, Brian Donmoyer, Karen Harnly, John Peris, Dan Zimmerman, Todd Kauffman, April Hershey, Karen Mailen, Ken Kauffman, James Simmermon, Tom Zug, Rodney May, Jim Wenger, Ethan Gibbel, Karen Weibel, Scott Hain, Alex Piehl, Sue Barry, Bob Navitski, Steve Lee, Curt Strasheim, Eileen Lieberman, Greg Bomberger, Mike Vigunas, Logan Myers, Herb Flosdorf, Doug Plank

**AGENDA**

1. Introduction by host
2. Review of current regional themes
3. Presentation by various community partners
  - a. School District: Dr. April Hershey went over the history of Warwick School District and its expansion over the years. Enrollment has been steady within the past 10 years, and the buildings currently have the capacity for 1,000 more students. Over the next two to five years, the school district will be taking a look at Bonfield Elementary, re-evaluate and maintain existing facilities, and keep up-to-date technology.
  - b. Energy and Telecommunications: Dan Zimmerman spoke for John Levitski of PPL. PPL has been involved in a major upgrade throughout the nation in an effort to double capacity and reduce outages during inclement weather. The company has outlined over \$700 million to address aging infrastructure, improve operations and increase reliability.
  - c. Sewer and Water: Todd Kauffman reviewed the capacity for the water and sewer treatment plants. Currently there are adequate hydraulic capacity, drinking water, and organic capacity for future growth. Between the municipalities, the sewer ordinance is being reviewed and updated. Recently, EPA recognized Warwick and Lititz for their Wellhead protection program, while LRWA serves as a model for other watershed groups. *Challenges that face this region are many of the new federal mandates as well as funding to follow those mandates.* Zimmerman made note that this region consumes much less than the national average. However, Brown reminded the committee to keep droughts and our water resources in the forefront with climate changes.
  - d. Transportation: Doug Plank reviewed the improvement projects along the 501 corridor, such as widening lanes, adding traffic signals, synchronizing lights and adding left turn lanes. Over 10 years there was a 14% decrease in traffic volume

along the 501 corridor, mainly due to better distributing the traffic among the region. Other improvements included more signage about slow moving vehicles, pedestrians and sharing the road, as well as the lighted crosswalks in the Borough and Warwick Twp. Elizabeth Township was one of the first municipalities in the state to use LED traffic signals, which provide a 40-50% reduction in cost and require less maintenance.

- e. Stormwater Management: Dan Zimmerman spoke about the new MS4 regulations within the state. Already, Warwick Township and Borough has done monitoring, pollution prevention and education and outreach. My BMPs (best management practices) have been completed on Warwick's municipal campus, from biobasin, permeable surfaces, solar crosswalks, and more. Lititz Borough and Warwick Twp are the first municipalities in the state to meet the total maximum daily load (TMDL) requirements. This region has been so successful due in part to its combined effort of the entire community, maintaining both public and private facilities and the partnership between Lititz and Warwick for the Lititz run Watershed Alliance (LRWA). Over 15 years, the Lititz Run has been vastly improved and reclassified from a warm water to cold water stream. *Upcoming challenges that the municipalities face are updating to comply with new mandates, funding and maintenance for upkeep. As well, working with the state to clean up the Speedwell Forge and Hammer Creek*
- f. Trails/alternative Transportation: Dan Zimmerman spoke on this region's extensive trail system, from local trails, to the state game lands in Elizabeth Township, to the future rails-to-trails that will extend from downtown Lititz to downtown Ephrata. The trail system is made up of public and private partnerships, which makes long-term maintenance and care a challenge within the future. These trails provide recreational, health benefits, eco-tourism, economic development and historic preservation. They also have the potential to become a viable means of alternate transportation. *In the future, work continues for the Lititz/Warwick to Ephrata Rails-to-Trail and a potential county greenway that would connect to the conservancy and tie into Manheim Twp, and continued maintenance will be a challenge.*

Parks and Recreation: Curt Strasheim took inventory of our recreational facilities. We have over 62 park and recreational facilities, which translates to about 3,908 acres total. In 2002 the WRRRC Park and Open Space Plan was completed and included \$10 million worth of updates. *The next 5 years will focus on developing more partnerships, maintenance for BMPs, recreation programming and finance issues.* On another note, the region is already sharing equipment or purchasing in bulk. Also, this community will need to look into services for the aging population within the next 5 to 10 years.

- g. Freight Station and Rail: Scott Hain spoke about the rail line that runs through Lititz Borough, which is owned and operated by Norfolk-Southern. A year ago the rail line was still being operated but the borough would like the turn the rail line into a rails-to-trail, part of the project connecting downtown Lititz with downtown Ephrata. This would encourage economic development among other benefits. Part of the trail would include trying to save the freight station. In the

mean time, the Borough is looking to incorporate a short walking trail around the downtown.

- h. Downtown parking and sidewalks: Chris Brown addressed the parking concern in Lititz Borough starting with the Downtown Master Plan which included a study about parking. Currently the downtown has enough parking, though it could be better utilized with better signage. Any improvements made in the future would be solved with infill development and vertical parking, as opposed to large lots. He suggested the idea of ‘(park)ing day’, an event that many other cities around the country have been adopting to utilize parking spaces to allow more room on sidewalks. Brown suggested Lititz try something similar for 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays or other major events.

## **ADJOURN**

### **NEXT MEETING: November 15th at Lititz recCenter**

Drafting of Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives