

**Franklin Township Transportation and Land Use Planning Workshop
South Mountain Elementary School
Mountain Road, Franklin Township**

March 27, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.

Workshop Notes

On Thursday, March 27, 2008 a public workshop sponsored by the Franklin Township Board of Supervisors to discuss transportation and land use planning was held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:10 p.m. at the South Mountain Elementary School. These notes record the major points of workshop discussion.

Approximately 24 people participated in the workshop. Among the participants were: municipal officials from Dillsburg Borough, Franklin Township, Franklinton Borough, Huntington Township, and Adams County; area citizens; representative Scott Perry, and Robert Reilly of Congressman Todd Platts office.

The workshop was facilitated by Gary Brown, Franklin Township Supervisor. Will Clark, Senior Transportation Planner for the York County Planning Commission (YCPC), made two power point presentations during the workshop and responded to questions from the participants. The first presentation was on transportation planning. The second was on the proposed amendment to the transportation element of the Northern York County Region Comprehensive Plan.

Transportation Planning

The first presentation was an overview of transportation planning and included information on the following topics:

- PENNDOT Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan
- York Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (YAMPO) Long Range Transportation Plan
- York County Comprehensive Plan
- PENNDOT 12 Year Transportation Program
- Transportation Element of the Northern York County Region Comprehensive Plan(NYCRCP)

The points Will Clark made during his overview of transportation planning were:

- The PENNDOT Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan, primarily a transportation policy plan, was adopted in 2007.
- The YAMPO Long Range Transportation Plan was last adopted in 2003 and is currently being updated. It is for a planning horizon of 27 years.
- There are currently two projects in the draft 2009 YAMPO Transportation Improvement Program-Route 74 and Spring Lane Intersection in Carroll Township and the Dillsburg Hometown Streets Project.

The transportation planning questions asked and comments offered by the participants and responses to them from Will Clark were:

- What are the criteria for adding transportation projects to the transportation plans outside the Northern York County Region Comprehensive Plan and municipal growth management areas? Will Clark indicated that capacity-adding projects are discouraged outside growth management areas if the primary reason is to increase capacity.
- How do you get public input into the transportation plans? Will Clark indicated that there is a wide variety of public involvement techniques such as meetings, and websites used to get public input. Proven techniques are used for the various planning activities depending on the goals of the public involvement.
- How does the YCPC assess good public involvement? What do you do with public officials that have limited public input? What do you do to make sure that there has been good public input? Will Clark indicated that YAMPO conducts its public involvement in accordance with a MPO -approved public involvement plan. Also, based on experience the YCPC uses the most effective public involvement techniques and a good faith effort.
- Does the YCPC use the Harrisburg Patriot and the Dillsburg Banner to inform the public? Will Clark said, yes.
- What representation does the Northern York Region have on the YAMPO committees? Will Clark indicated that Robert Schopfer from Carroll Township currently represents YAMPO Region 4 and Mike Fleming from Fairview Township is the alternate, which includes the Northern York County Region. The YAMPO appointees serve 4 year terms.
- Who watches the transportation planning process? Will Clark indicated that PENNDOT and Federal Highway participate in the YAMPO transportation planning process.
- Are minutes of the YAMPO meetings published? Will Clark indicated that they are posted on the YCPC website.
- What percentage of the 2003 YAMPO Long Range Transportation Plan was completed? Is there a report card? Will there be turning lanes on the Route 74 and Spring Lane Road Intersection Project? Will Clark indicated that a report card for the 2003 Long Range Plan is being developed to be presented to the MPO in June. The Route 74 and Spring Lane Road Intersection is in the design phase and turning lanes will be included.
- What happens to the proposed amendment to the transportation element of the Northern York County Region Comprehensive Plan once it is adopted? Will Clark indicated that it will be used to inform the YAMPO transportation planning process and set priorities for future improvements

Proposed Amendment to the Transportation Element of the Northern York County Region Comprehensive Plan

The second presentation was an overview of the proposed amendment and included information on the following topics:

- Why Complete an Amendment?
- Selecting a Consultant
- Work Group and Public Involvement
- Proposed Scope of Work for the Amendment
- Route 15 Corridor Intersection Safety and Traffic Analyses

- Route 15 Corridor Traffic Model
- Route 15 Corridor Intersection Improvement Analyses
- Route 15 Corridor Land Use Strategies

The points Will Clark made during his overview of the proposed amendment were:

- The proposed amendment is likely to have a shelf life of 5 years. Typically, project-related environmental data and analysis to meet state and federal environmental requirements is good for 3 years and traffic analysis is good for no more than 5 years.
- The plan will look at pedestrian transportation needs for a radius of ¼ mile around areas identified as walkable destinations, i.e. schools, libraries
- PENNDOT has verbally informed the YCPC that it will be awarding \$116,480 (80%) of the transportation planning funds for the proposed amendment to the YCPC. This will require a 20 % match or \$29, 620. The YCPC will submit an application to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for some of the 20% match from its Land Use Planning Technical Assistance Program. The Northern York County municipalities will prepare the application. (Note #1: In recent conversations with Ed LeClear of DCED, his agency is looking to providing about 10% of the 20% match or about \$15,000.) (Note #2: In recent conversations with the Adams County Planning Office, it will consider making some of its Community Development Block Grant funds available for the 20% match based on the population of Huntington and Latimore Townships and York Springs. This could amount to \$5,000.)
- A condition of YAMPO approval of the funding is the execution of an implementation agreement for the Northern York County Region Comprehensive Plan by all of the participating municipalities.
- The proposed amendment study will make extensive use of the previous 2001 Route 15 Study and other relevant studies.
- The YCPC is planning to: 1) advertise for a consultant to perform the study in May or early June 2008; 2) receive consultant proposals by the end of June 2008; 3) select the consultant in July 2008; 4) execute a consultant contract in September/October 2008; and 5) start the study in November/December 2008. If after the consultant proposals are received in June 2008 there is an apparent funding shortfall, consideration will be given to seeking additional matching funds from DCED and the municipalities.
- There is about \$15 million dollars designated in the current 2003 YAMPO Long Range Plan for constructing projects coming out of the 2001 Route 15 Study.
- Last fall, the YCPC received letters asking to place a Route 15 southern interchange on the YAMPO Long Range Plan. Currently, the 2003 YAMPO Long Range Plan includes a northern interchange.

The transportation amendment study questions asked and comments offered by the participants and responses to them from Will Clark were:

- One participant stated, “We want safe roads.” Will Clark indicated that 91% of the reported accidents are caused by driver error.
- One participant suggested that the municipal subdivision and land development ordinances be modified to add traffic impact modeling as a

requirement of the development process. It was noted that Carroll Township is in the process of doing that.

- What should municipalities do to make sure the projects included in the transportation amendment happen? Will Clark indicated that YAMPO will take the transportation amendment into consideration in its plan updates. Also, the municipalities could implement land use measures such as official map ordinances and traffic impacts studies.
- One participant stated, "That the official map is the back door to eminent domain and takes property without just compensation."
- One participant stated a concern that property owners receive adequate notice of the proposed adoption of an official map.
- It is incumbent upon the participating municipalities to work closely together to implement the results of the proposed study.
- Will the proposed study include public involvement? Will Clark indicated that there will be a study committee comprised of representatives from the participating municipalities. He is looking for suggestions for ways to have effective public involvement.
- Will the implementation agreement be modified after the proposed study is complete? Will Clark indicated that it should be changed to define responsibilities of each municipality in implementing the measures recommended in the study.
- How much input will police, EMT, and fire officials have into the study? Will indicated that their input is important and will be sought. Also, he indicated that the accident data he has access to only includes reportable crashes and the local police departments will be contacted to identify non-reportable crashes.
- If PENNDOT is putting its emphasis on bridges, will there be money for Route 15 corridor improvements? Will Clark indicated that he anticipates that the MPO would fund improvements up to \$15 million dollars to implement the 2001 Route 15 Study, which is what was programmed for in the previous Long Range Plan.

Adjournment and Thank You

Gary Brown thanked Will Clark for his presentations and the attendees for participating in the workshop and adjourned the workshop.

Notes Prepared by: Wayne Kober, Gary Brown and Will Clark
April 9, 2008