

# Lycoming County Planning Commission



## Annual Report 2002

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

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

I would like to thank the Planning Commission for the opportunity to serve as Chairman for another year. It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as Chair of such a well-respected and pro-active organization.

2002 was, as normal, an exciting and busy year. We have the regular sub-division, budget, work plan and zoning issues to deal with, as well as some new tasks that will shape the future of Lycoming County.

We are working with the many other Stakeholders toward a visioning plan for Downtown, tied to the new Market Street Bridge project, and the revitalization of Downtown. Our Planning Commission is doing the largest Comprehensive Plan project, in the State, involving the most municipalities. We have Implemented The Lycoming County Recreation Parks and Greenway/Openspace Plan. We have just completed The Combined Sewer Overflow Construction Project at the WSA West Treatment Plant. These are just of a few of the many things that have made this an interesting and rewarding year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and commission member 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.

The World is a different place than it was only a few short years ago, not only in the way we live our lives, but also in the way we look at planning for our future.

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 2003. Our planning Commission, with the dedicated and capable staff, will make the most of them.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve with great people that can and do make a difference.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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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

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, Administrative Specialist  
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
- \* Geographic Information Systems
- \* Parks and Recreation Facilities Planning
- \* Environmental Concerns, such as Solid Waste Management, Wastewater Treatment, and Water Supply Systems
- \* Conservation by Design

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 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.

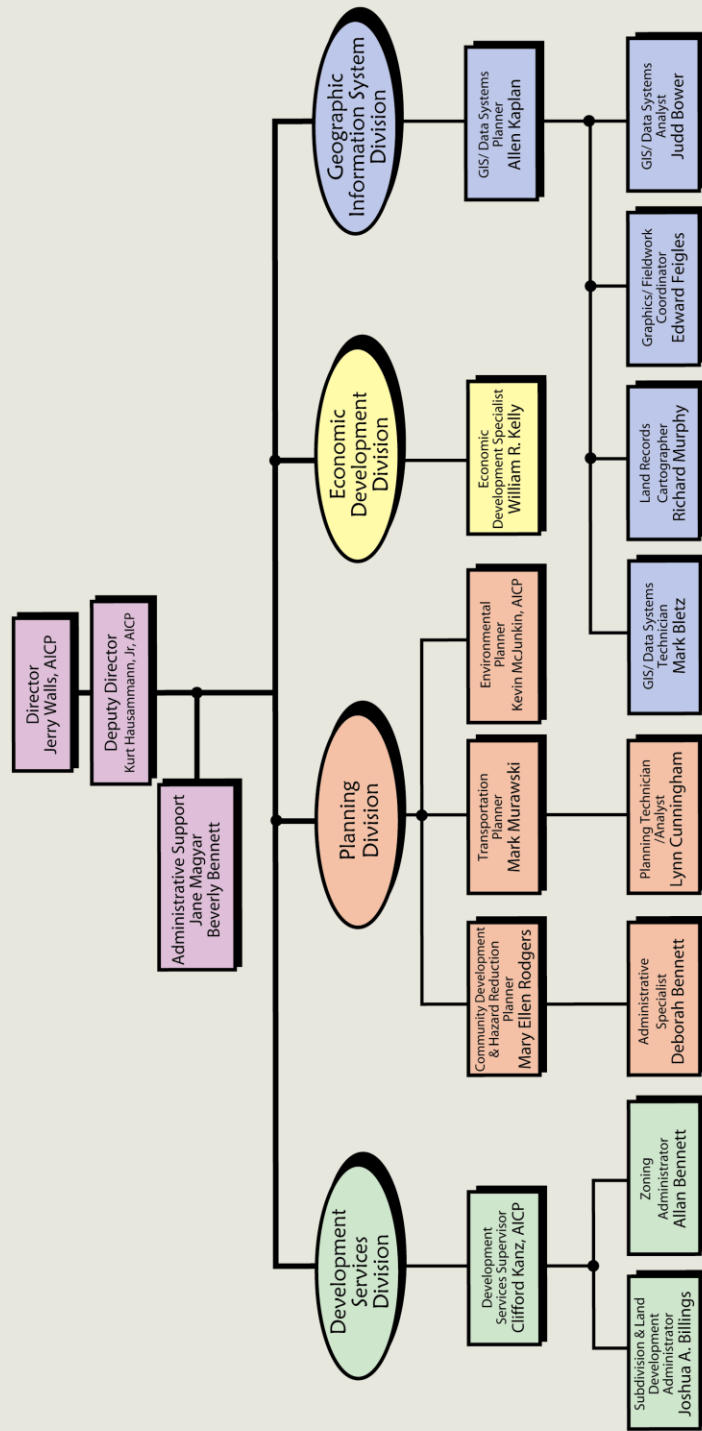
#### *Department of Economic Development & Planning Services*

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  
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

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### LYCOMING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION *2002 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 2002 monthly meetings include the following:

#### January

- Present slate of officers re-elected.
- Reviewed draft of 2001 Annual Report
- Approval for Executive Director to execute comprehensive plan contract with Gannett Fleming after negotiating changes
- Ratified single-lot report

#### February

- Received the single-lot report
- Approved mid-year adjustments to Work Program.
- Sketch Plan review of Fairfield Honda.
- Approved the FFY 2002-2003 WATS Unified Transportation Planning Work Program.
- Final review of 2001 Annual Report

#### March

- Reviewed tour schedule of County for comprehensive plan project
- Reviewed Chapters One and Two of current County Comprehensive Plan
- Ratified single-lot report

#### April

- Heard an update of the comprehensive plan bus tours
- Approved NCPA Sportsmen Partnership multi-lot subdivision in Cogan House Township
- Ratified single-lot report
- Heard presentation by Kevin McJunkin, Allen Kaplan, and Robert McCullough concerning the upcoming sale of leases on 500,000 acres of state forest and parklands for oil and gas drilling rights
- Reviewed Chapter Three of the current County Comprehensive Plan

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### May

- Ratified single-lot report
- Heard an in depth presentation on I-99 by Mark Murawski and Eric High
- Reviewed draft zoning amendment concerning Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations
- Heard presentation by Jerry Walls on the Uniform Construction Code

### June

- Approved a multi-lot subdivision plan for Andrysick, property located in Jordan Township
- Approved Fairfield Honda land development plan
- Approved Crooks land development plan
- Ratified single-lot report
- Approved William Harris contract with stipulations
- Approved PDM Planning Grant application
- Heard presentation by Jerry Walls on the CBD Revitalization Plan
- Reviewed preliminary work program

### July

- Ratified single-lot report
- Reviewed draft Consistency Manual
- Authorized Executive Director to select Lycoming Creek Stormwater Plan consultant and to execute contract
- Heard presentation on Community Standards
- Reviewed County land use maps prepared for the comprehensive plan update
- Dennis Auker made a presentation on natural resources

### August

- Approved Myers multi-lot subdivision plan for property located in Jordan Township
- Approved Bartley multi-lot subdivision plan for Bartley in Anthony Township
- Ratified single-lot report
- Recognized Kurt Hausammann, Jr. for recent AICP certification
- Cliff Kanz reviewed zoning partner comments concerning the proposed CAFO zoning amendment

### September

- Approved Moore multi-lot subdivision for property located in Brown Township
- Ratified single-lot report
- Approved Johnson land development plan for property located in Jackson Township

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- Approved Fidler waiver request to maximum cul-de-sac length
- Approved acceptance of \$71,000 LUPTAP grant for comprehensive plan update
- Heard presentation by Kevin McJunkin on the MS4 regulations
- Heard presentation by Mary Ellen Rodgers on DFIRM update
- Heard presentation by Mary Ellen Rodgers on the flood inundation maps

### October

- Ratified single-lot report
- Cliff Kanz presented an overview of the proposed County zoning map amendment in Muncy Township
- Approved recommendation of staff to Rezone SE area to I in Muncy Township
- Heard an executive summary of the CSO project

### November

- Reviewed A&B Building Associates waiver request to minimum street design standards for a multi-lot plan of property located in Muncy Township. Tabled
- Approved Dunkle land development plan for property located in Mifflin Township
- Ratified single-lot report
- Heard 2002 Audit Report presentation by Pat Young
- Approved FY2002-2003 Overhead Rates

### December

- Ratified single-lot report
- Expressed appreciation for Jeff Bower's years of service to the Lycoming County Planning Commission
- Reviewed County Recreation Survey Form
- Roger Jarrett and George Durrwachter reappointed to commission by County Commissioners

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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 2002:

#### *Economic & Strategic Planning*

- Strengthened joint County/Municipal partnerships for preparation of multi-municipal comprehensive plans. Planning Advisory Team Meetings were conducted an average of every other month in 2002.
- Secured an additional \$71,000 in LUPTAP funds for the comprehensive plan project. This brings total LUPTAP funding for the comprehensive plan to \$271,000. Time frame for completion and adoption of plans is April 2004.



**Comprehensive Plan Key Person Workshops**



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- Combined Sewer Overflow Project Construction Grant - Construction completed at the Williamsport Sewer Authority's West Wastewater Treatment Plant.



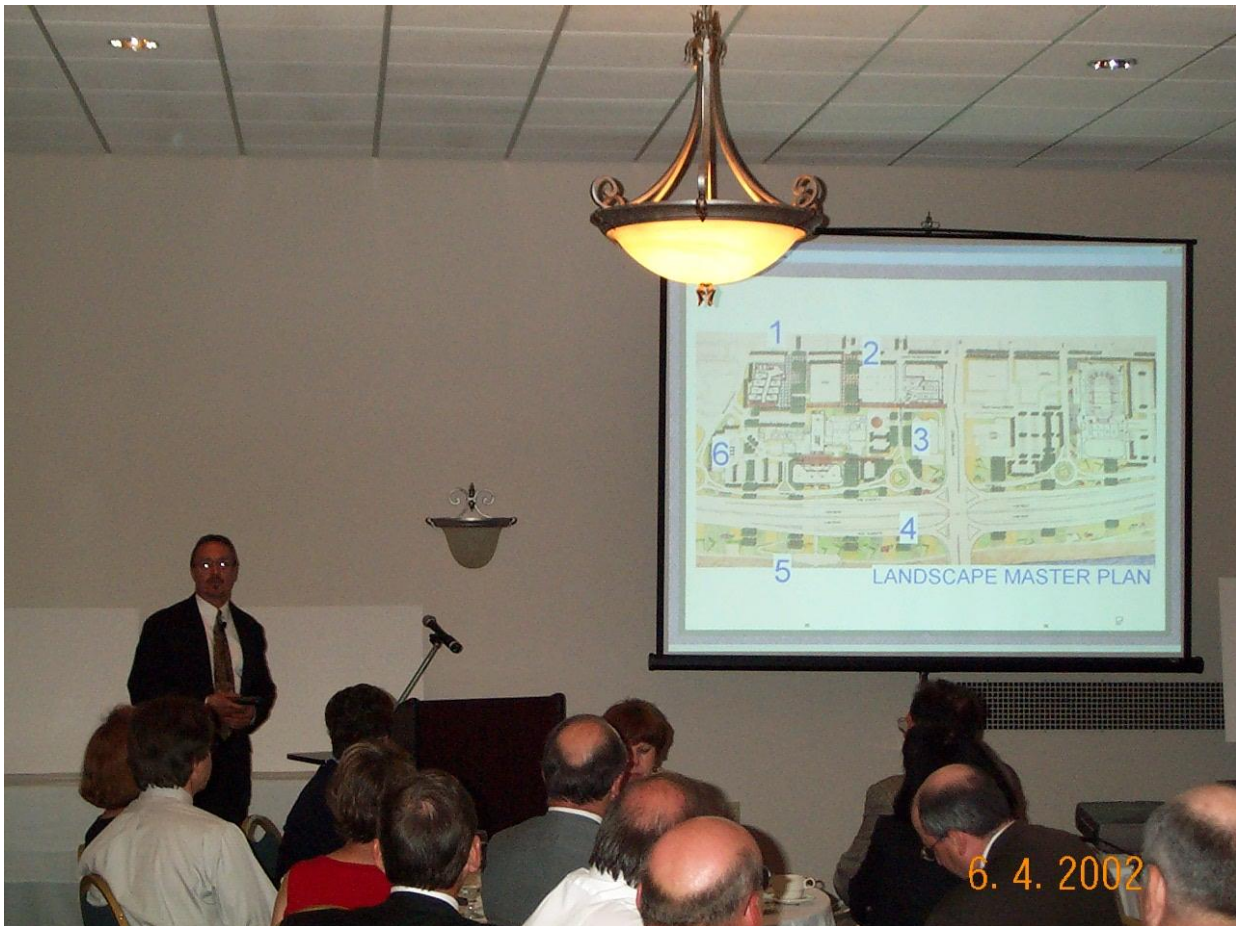
**Construction at the WSA West Plant**

- Combined Sewer Overflow Study – All major elements of the study are underway—inflow and infiltration studies are underway (one has been completed) in Duboistown, South Williamsport, Old Lycoming, and Loyalsock; also within Loyalsock a major demonstration study has been initiated; a flow analysis has been completed within the service area of the Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority; initiated 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; initiated combined study of WSA's Central Plant and the conveyance system of that plant's service area; and made significant progress on an ambitious GIS task to map the infrastructure of the sanitary and storm water sewer system(s) for all municipalities in the CSO study area.
- Executive Director continued to serve on the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership Steering Committee.



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- 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 Chamber of Commerce and the 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 core area 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 bill.



**CBD Stakeholders Presentation**

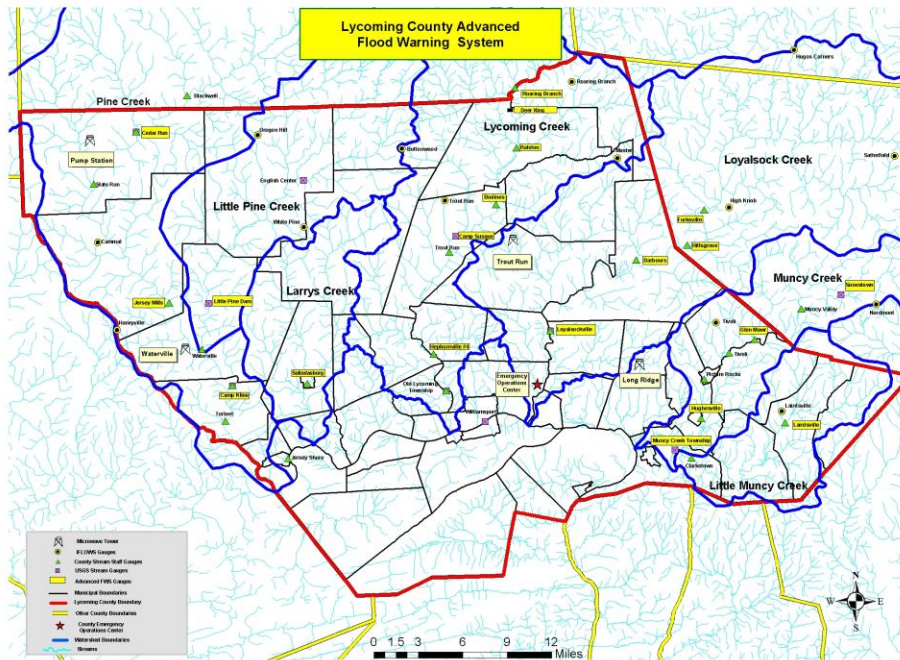
- Construction began on the Halls Station area sewer system.
- Lycoming County Recreation, Parks, and Open Space/Greenway Plan work began.

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- Brownfields for Housing Program—a State DCED initiative—started with the receipt of an \$86,000 grant in May. Included in the Lycoming County 2002 Program were a pair of single family homes being constructed by Habitat for Humanity at the site of the former Buckeye Pretzel plant on Eldred Street in Williamsport and a 50-unit housing project called “Penny Commons” being built in the Newberry section of the City. In 2002, the County also applied for the next round of Brownfields funds and advanced a request to support three more housing organizations—Montgomery Community Development Corporation, Habitat for Humanity, and STEP Inc.



- Flood Warning System—Design completed, Feasibility Study approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, construction/installation contract awarded. New, state-of-the-art system will include 20 all weather gauges to measure stream depth on all five major creeks, add nine more rain gages to the County, install new radio equipment on four towers and add new equipment to the County EOC.



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### Flood Warning System Gauge Locations

- Industrial Assets Inventory completed—the first comprehensive assessment of the County’s major industrialized-zoned areas—direct assistance to the Industrial Properties Corporation—fourteen sites assessed and inventoried—web site development underway.
- Ralston Bridge Project completed.

### ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- Made significant progress in the development of a County Recreation, Parks, and Open Space/Greenway Plan update to include the following:
  1. Survey of local needs and demands for recreation programs and park areas,
  2. Inventory of existing recreation programs and park facilities and their usage patterns, and
  3. 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.

Funding from DCNR (\$80,000) and DCED (\$30,000) has been secured. A 60 + member Recreation Advisory Committee has been formed and has met four times 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 Lycoming County households. To date, over 1,200 surveys have been returned (approximately 25%), 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 draft of the plan is scheduled for completion by the end of 2003.

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,
- PA DCNR Growing Greener Advisory Committee
- Endless Mountains Resource Conservation and Development (RC & D) Council

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- Pine Creek Rail Trail Advisory Committee
  - DEP Big Bend and Susquehannock/Genessee 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 Planning Commission staff recently briefed the new Executive Director of the Lycoming County Water & Sewer Authority, Randall Camp, about the DEP approved Lycoming County Water Supply Plan. We are continuing to assist the Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority with the development of an implementation grant proposal to evaluate a Regional Water Service Project for the Muncy-Montoursville Corridor.
  - The LCPC has initiated 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 has provided input for the Scope of Study for the Plan. This project will be coordinated with the Lower Lycoming Creek 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. Phase I of this project, is to development a Scope of Study, which will be completed by February 28, 2003. The Phase II Stormwater Plan and Model Ordinance is anticipated to begin in April, 2003, upon approval of the Phase I Scope of Study by DEP, and will take about two years to complete. We will incorporate the new MS4 stormwater management water quality requirements into the model Ordinance.

### **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,

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bridge and transit projects must receive WATS approval prior to project initiation. The major transportation activities conducted during 2002 are described below:

### **Rail Service**

The EDPS Director was re-appointed by the Lycoming County Commissioners to serve as a voting member to the SEDA-COG Joint 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 serve on its negotiating team for Norfolk Southern issues. EDPS staff has been working closely with SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority and Delta Development 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 \$ 4 million. In December, 2002 the Pennsylvania General Assembly amended the Bridge Bill to include \$ 800,000 of state matching funds for the railroad bridge replacement project. The challenge for the County and Rail Authority in 2003 will be to secure the \$ 3.2 million federal portion so PENNDOT may undertake this project in conjunction with the Airport Access Road Scope and schedule.

In 2002, 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, 2003 with an estimated completion date of June 30, 2004.

### **Interstate 99 Initiatives**

The LCPC continues to develop the Phase I 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

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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. 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 regularly to review and comment on key documents associated with each project step. In 2002, 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 also identified and evaluated preliminary alignment alternatives for the new highway. These alternatives were presented to the LCPC at their May 16, 2002 public meeting. The LCPC provided comments on these alternatives and endorsed PENNDOT's recommendation to narrow the range of alternatives for further detailed study.

The Phase I 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. Existing conditions reports and background study profiles are nearing completion. Major work on these plans will continue during 2003.

The LCPC Transportation Planner is also actively participating on an FHWA I-99 Economic Impact Advisory Committee. This committee is overseeing the development of a study assessing the regional economic benefits of completing I-99 in PA and NY. The study report will be issued to FHWA and Congress in April, 2003. The report will be used by Congress during the TEA-21 legislative reauthorization process to help ensure adequate funding levels will be provided to complete I-99 and improve other important feeder routes between I-99 and major economic activity centers.

It is anticipated that construction of Interstate 99 should be fully completed throughout Pennsylvania by 2010.

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### **Market Street Bridge Land Use / Transportation Impact Study**

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 \$ 51 million Market Street Bridge project is nearing completion with an anticipated start of construction in 2004 with completion in 2007, pending available funding. 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 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. Traffic circulation patterns will be significantly altered, thus creating outstanding urban redevelopment opportunities through improved access to undeveloped land modules and vacant buildings in the downtown core area. Funding from the bridge project can be leveraged toward redevelopment projects.

The study has been closely coordinated with the five lead partner organizations consisting of the Lycoming County, City of Williamsport, Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce, Our Towns 2010 and the Lycoming County Housing Authority. The study provides an overall vision for revitalizing the downtown area. This vision includes development of a conference center, winter garden, new parking deck with retail shops, multi-purpose arena, elevated skywalk, cable stayed pedestrian bridge and a Susquehanna Riverwalk. The vision has been presented to approximately 100 stakeholder organizations, municipal officials, affected property owners and service clubs with positive feedback. The LCPC 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](http://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 Commissioners will meet with our Congressional delegation in late February, 2003 in an attempt to secure the required federal shares.

### **Susquehanna Greenway Development**

Considerable progress was made in 2002 to develop a regional greenway system along the Susquehanna Greenway Corridor. First, a Susquehanna Greenway Partnership initiated 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 Steering Committee. With regard to the portion of the greenway in Lycoming County, the Lycoming County Commissioners were successful in obtaining

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approximately \$ 1 million from PA DCNR and PENNDOT in 2002 to design and construct the Phase 1 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 early 2003 with construction in 2005-2006. When completed, this river walk 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 Jct. The Phase 3 section between Waterville and Jersey Shore, including a trailhead facility with parking in Jersey Shore Borough, will be completed by PA DCNR in late 2003.

### *Other WATS Activities*

- LCPC staff, in partnership with PENNDOT and the Williamsport Bureau of Transportation, jointly developed a 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.
- At their September 6, 2002 public meeting, the WATS MPO approved an expansion of the WATS Study Area to include countywide geographic coverage. The MPO also approved the addition of five new voting members to ensure adequate representation from Townships, Boroughs and intermodal service providers.
- At the invitation of the PENNDOT Deputy Secretary for Planning, the LCPC Executive Director participated on a National Governors Association Policy Academy. This initiative focused on development of a white paper to be presented to 25 newly elected Governors throughout the nation as an educational tool to highlight the importance of integrating land use and transportation to promote sound planning practices, avoid unnecessary infrastructure costs, improve the economy and preserve the environment and overall quality of life in communities.
- 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.
- LCPC Staff prepared funding recommendations on transportation enhancement projects in Lycoming County. The WATS approved \$ 334,000 for WBT to rehabilitate the former rail freight station near the Park Home for use as a transportation museum. WATS also approved \$ 150,000 for Hughesville Borough to undertake a Phase 1 streetscape project along PA 405.



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- In January 2003, the Williamsport Bureau of Transportation begins 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 2003. For more information on City Bus routes, schedules and services visit their website at [www.citybus.org](http://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. A major security improvement completed in 2002 involved installation of the new baggage screening area staffed by the new Transportation Security Administration. The LCPC Transportation Planner was also appointed by the Lycoming County Commissioners to serve on the Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority during 2002. For more information on airport flight schedules and other services, visit their website at [www.flyipt.com](http://www.flyipt.com).
- 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.
- LCPC staff developed the WATS Unified Planning Work Program describing all transportation planning activities undertaken in 2002 and completed all reporting requirements.
- LCPC staff continued active involvement with other 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 2002 to administer County Liquid Fuels funded projects. Program highlights include:

- Construction of the new replacement County-owned bridge and flood mitigation project in the Village of Ralston was completed. LCPC Staff organized a public dedication ceremony sponsored by the County Commissioners held on October 31, 2002 with over 100 people

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

in attendance. This project was completed on time and within budget with no change orders.

- Preliminary design studies have now been completed to replace the County-owned bridge in the Village of Texas, Pine Township. Final design and right-of-way acquisition will be undertaken in 2003 with construction of the new bridge scheduled for 2004.
- Final design and right-of-way acquisition has been completed to replace the County-owned bridge serving the New Tribes Missionary Institute in Piatt Township. The Commissioners concurred in the award of the construction contract to Susquehanna Supply Company of Williamsport, PA in the amount of their low bid of \$ 1,008,696. Construction of the new bridge should begin on February 10, 2003 with completion on or before October 9, 2003.
- The Lycoming County Commissioners won the PA Highway Information Association Road and Bridge Safety Improvement Award for the emergency repairs to the County-owned bridge located in the Village of English Center. These repairs were necessary to avoid a weight limit posting. This bridge is heavily used by Fisher Mining Company, a major employer in Lycoming County. Failure to make these repairs would have resulted in serious disruption to mining operations. The award was presented to the Commissioners at the County Commissioners Association of PA convention in Hershey on August 7, 2002.
- Low cost emergency repairs were completed to the County-owned bridge near Tivoli. The repairs are intended to maintain the bridge's 3-ton weight limit for approximately 5 years to enable completion of a new replacement bridge. It is anticipated that preliminary design of the replacement bridge will be initiated in 2003.
- LCPC staff continued to administer the County Bridge Inspection Program. In 2002, all county-owned and municipality owned bridges (20 feet or greater in length) that have a weight limit posting or other critical deficiency 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 2003, all County and locally owned bridges will receive an inspection.

In 2002, 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.

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**Ralston Bridge**

### **COUNTY SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE ADMINISTRATION**

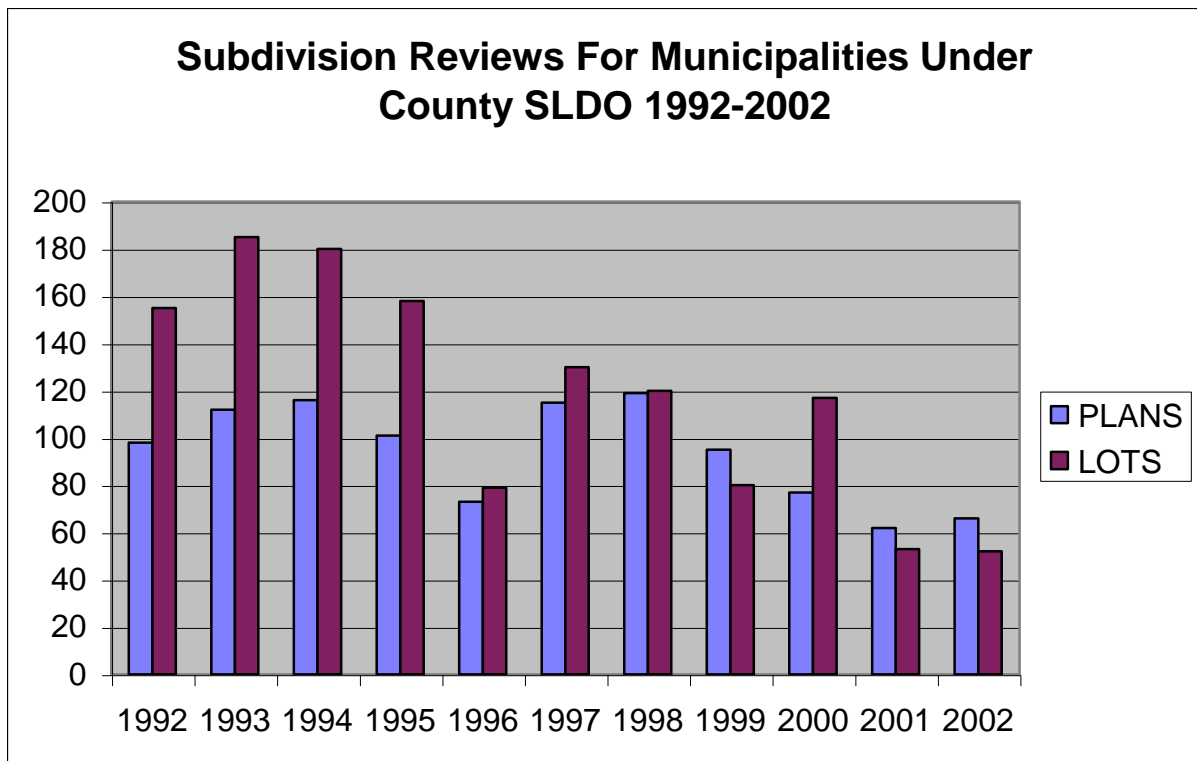
The Lycoming County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SLDO) was enacted on December 26, 1972 and last updated in 1989. One of the principal functions of the Lycoming County Planning Commission, as delegated by the Lycoming County Commissioners, is to review and take official action on subdivision 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 review by the LCPC began in 2002 and continues into 2003.

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

The County provides full-time, professional administration and legal support for the Ordinance. This service is currently being utilized by 23 municipalities as shown by Annex 1 at the end of this report. Following is a summary of subdivision and land development activities in 2002:

- Accepted 66 new applications (plus 11 submissions were carried over from 2001). Processed and granted final approval for 63 subdivisions and 51 land development plans. Five plans were submitted for reapproval, four plans were withdrawn. No subdivision plan was denied. Subdivision plan approvals increased by 1 from 2001. Land development plan approvals increased by 2 from 2001; there were 2 business related land developments and 3, Second Principal Residence on one-lot proposals approved. The Graph below depicts the subdivision approval trends over the last ten years.



## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

A total of 52 new lots were created within the municipalities under jurisdiction of the County SLDO, a decrease of one from 2001. See the following chart "LCPC Final Subdivision Approvals and Sewage Determination, 2002" for more detailed information.

							SEWAGE DISPOSAL METHOD FOR NEW LOTS							
							W AIVER	STD TR	ESM*	EXIST	MUNI. OR STP	NFD	HT	SI
MUNICIPALITY	TOTAL # OF PLANS	SINGLE & ADD LOT PLANS	MULTI-LOT PLANS	RE- APPROVAL	NEW LOTS	ADD LOTS								
Anthony	6	5	1	1	4	5	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Armstrong	1	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cogan House	3	1	1	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Cummings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gamble	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson	3	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan	10	6	3	1	17	2	1	1	13	2	0	0	0	0
Limestone	5	4	1	0	3	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
McHenry	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
McIntyre	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McNett	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Miffilin	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mill Creek	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Moreland	4	4	0	0	4	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Muncy	6	3	0	2	4	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	0
Penn	3	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Platt	5	4	0	1	4	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Pine	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shrewsbury	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Watson	3	3	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Hughesville	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Picture Rocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salladasburg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

- \* ESM - Elevated Sand Mound
- \* STD TR - Standard Trench
- \* WAIVER - Waiver From Sewage Planning "Form B"
- \* EXIST - Existing System
- \* MUNI - Municipal System or Sewage Treatment Plant
- \* HT - Holding Tank
- \* SI - Spray Irrigation

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

Land Development Plans were approved for the following:

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Use/Size (square feet)</u>
Muncy	Wilfred Associates	Honda Vehicle Sales 11,546 sq.ft.
Muncy	William C. Brown	Bank Drive-Thru 720 sq.ft.
Cogan House	Neihl & Pamela Crooks	2 <sup>nd</sup> Principal Res. 780 sq.ft.
Jackson	David Johnson	3 <sup>rd</sup> Principal Res. 672 sq.ft.
Mifflin	Dunkle Family Trust	2 <sup>nd</sup> Principal Res. 2640 sq.ft.



Fairfield Honda, Muncy Township

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

### **COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE ADMINISTRATION**

The County/Municipal Zoning Partnership was started on December 31, 1991 with the enactment 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 representatives to the County Zoning Hearing Board on a rotating basis, 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 the 12 townships. Since that time, two additional Townships have joined the Partnership, bringing the total number of municipalities up to 14. In addition, six of the partner Townships have rescinded their Floodplain Ordinance to come under the Floodplain regulations within the County Zoning Ordinance. The following report summarizes County Zoning Activity in 2002, including County Zoning Hearing Board cases.

This past year saw the continued use of a computerized permit-tracking program. It is now possible to have almost instant access to the status of individual permits. In addition, regular progress reports can be generated quickly and accurately.

#### **2002 Lycoming County Zoning Activity Summary:**

There were 360 Building/Zoning permits approved for a total of 517,914 square feet with an estimated value of \$7,481,088 dollars. Included in this permit activity were 11 logging, 11 temporary and 3 sign permits. Compared to the previous year, the permit activity represents a 14% increase in numbers of permits issued, an 87% increase in square footage constructed and a 20% increase in estimated value.

47 Certificates of Compliance or Occupancy were issued representing a 47% increase over the previous year.

There were 52 land development/subdivision applications coordinated with County Zoning.

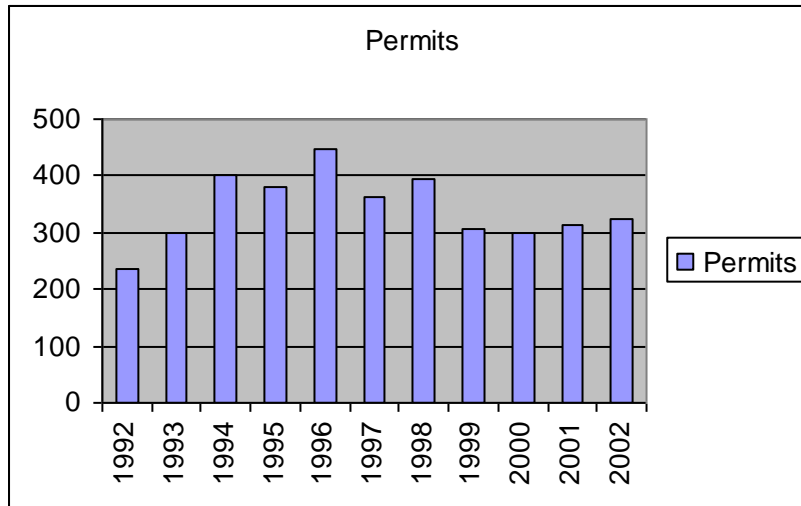
Eleven applications requiring Zoning Hearing Board action were received and acted on.

There were 23 violations and complaints investigated, such as accumulated junk and debris, excessive noise, construction without permits and occupancy without certificates. Enforcement actions are ongoing.

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

2002	New	Building	Accessory	
<u>Structures</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>Construction</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Single Family				
Residence	69	50	167	286
Commercial	7	3	11	21
Home Business				1
Agriculture			18	
Family Care				1

16



**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. 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.



## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

- Provided advisory review comments for 158 subdivision and land development plans, including 39 land developments under local ordinance jurisdiction. This compares to 141 subdivisions, including 21 land developments in 2001. During 2002, the total number of plans reviewed was about 10% higher than last year. The land developments occurred within the City of Williamsport (16,) Loyalsock (14,) Muncy Creek (2,) Clinton (2), Armstrong, Porter Townships; Jersey Shore, Muncy and Montoursville Boroughs (1 each.) The total number of lots reviewed throughout the year decreased from 265 in 2001 to 167 in 2002. Subdivisions during the year involved single lots and addition-lots, 17 multi-lot plans totaling 72 lots. Of the 167 lots, 38 were addition lot plans.
- 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.
- Provided review comments for Nippenose Township Act 537 Update.
- In accordance with the State Planning Code (Act 247), we provided review comments for 26 proposed municipal Zoning Ordinance amendments during 2002. Highlights include:
  1. City of Williamsport – zoning text amendments to add parking lot bufferyards; shade trees, colleges in the Institutional (I) District; map amendments regarding district changes: Institutional (CS to I, East 4<sup>th</sup> Street and ML to I - West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street).
  2. Brady Township - zoning amendment to building height in the Industrial Zone.
  3. Loyalsock Township cell phone tower and map amendment to change RU to R-1.
  4. Piatt Township – zoning ordinance book amendment.
  5. Hepburn Township - zoning map amendment to adjust the Agricultural Districts.
  6. Clinton Township – text amendment in the industrial zone adding medical offices.
  7. Muncy Borough – text and map amendment to add Historic District overlay.
  8. Woodward Township – cell phone tower zoning amendment.
  9. Plunketts Creek Township - SLDO amendments.
  10. Porter, Bastress and Nippenose Townships – Adding intensive agriculture use zoning amendments.
  11. Nippenose Township - amending zoning ordinance with airport use.
  12. Eldred Township - text amendments, with agricultural zoning map amendment.
  13. Mifflin Township - erosion and sedimentation control provisions.
  14. Bradford County - SLDO revisions.

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- The drafting 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.

### **HAZARD MITIGATION**

#### **Acquisitions and Retrofitting**

##### **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program:**

All acquisitions and retrofits through this funding source were completed. Successfully worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to close Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Acquisition and Retrofitting Projects in Hepburn Township, Lycoming Township, and Muncy Borough. Closing these projects involves finalization of both fiscal and program compliance issues. Old Lycoming Township is in final fiscal reconciliation and has met all compliance standards.



**Heating plant placed in attic above possible floodwaters**

##### **Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMAP):**

Lower Lycoming Flood Hazard Reduction Acquisition Project approval was received. A formal sub grantee contract was established with Old Lycoming Township for acquisitions through this grant. Two property owners accepted the offers made on their properties in 2002. The grant was revised to accept more properties, and approval for an additional \$125,791 has been received, but is pending contract and receipt of check. In anticipation of additional funds, the Township administrator has been contacted for more addresses to replace those approved, but not purchased.

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,

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

has designated this grant for potential funding and will forward the application to FEMA for the '03 funding year.

### **Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) Adoption:**

The mitigation division and GIS have worked extensively toward assuring that the digitization of the new Flood Insurance Maps is consistent with the Flood Insurance Study and contour information. Preliminary maps and a draft of the new Flood Insurance Study were released on September 13, 2002 for a review period prior to start of the appeal period. Upon completion of the Pine Creek study, digitization of these maps was completed and forwarded to Dewberry and Davis for map development and distribution to Pine Creek Communities as of 12/23/02. Allen Kaplan and Mary Ellen Rodgers are currently reviewing municipal comments concerning the mapping and have resolved a number of municipal concerns. A workshop concerning the new maps was coordinated for local municipal officials. It was co-sponsored by DCED, FEMA and the NFIP. It was attended by nearly 100 municipal officials, planning commission members and permit officers.

### **Automated Telephone Notification System:**

The Director of Public Safety and the Community Development and Hazard Mitigation Planner have conducted ongoing meetings with the contractor toward the goal of deployment to municipal officials in the first half of 2003.

### **Lower Lycoming Structural Project:**

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

### **Ralston Flood Mitigation Structural Project:**

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

### **County Hazard Plan:**

A draft of the County Hazard Plan was completed. A Pre-disaster Mitigation Planning grant was sought and approved to complete this project. Funding is pending.

### **Lower Lycoming Flood Hazard Reduction Plan:**

This plan earned a Certificate of Merit from the Pennsylvania Planning Association. It has been placed on the Lycoming County web site, [www.lyco.org](http://www.lyco.org) site for professional use. A shortened version was also submitted for easier download for local citizens.

### **Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Planning:**

This grant application was approved. The grant contract signed by County Commissioners and returned to PEMA for full execution. It will provide funding for completion of the Jersey Shore Area Flood Hazard Reduction Plan, as well as the County Hazard Plan.

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### **Flood Forecast Maps:**

Flood inundation was tied to gauge readings at the Camp Susque USGS gauge and mapped for the commercial & industrial areas along Lycoming Creek Road from Fisher Drive in Hepburn Township South to the Williamsport levee. These maps were forwarded to the Townships for their review. The project was funded through a sub contract with SEDA-COG for Economic Development Administration funds.

### **Municipal and Public Assistance:**

The Mitigation Division 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.

- *Ralston Flood Mitigation Project* to reduce flood damages to the rural village of Ralston. This project involved acquiring and demolishing homes to reduce flood damages, and the lowering of flood levels by utilizing an over-bank flow channel, increasing conveyance capacity of a township bridge, removing a low railroad bridge, increasing conveyance capacity of a new county bridge; and repairing and improving the existing levee. (HMGP - in partnership with PA DOT, PEMA & FEMA).



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**Ralston Bridge – Transportation & Mitigation Project**

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**Ralston Over Bank Flow Channel**

### **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

#### **High Points of GIS Accomplishments in 2002**

##### **GIS Deployment:**

In the year 2002, 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 six municipalities that already have GeoPlan installed. Picture Rocks Boro, Clinton Township, and South Williamsport Boro signed on, and GIS staff installed the software and loaded our data at no added cost.

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

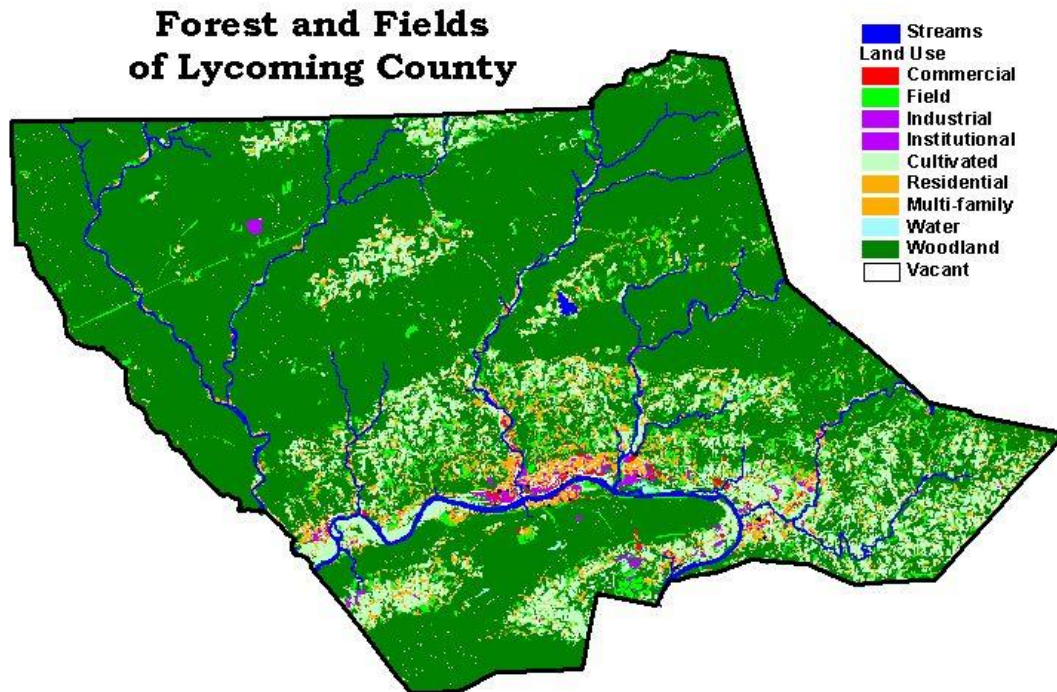
### Comprehensive Plan Mapping:

The GIS staff have compiled information and created the base maps for the countywide comprehensive plan and for each of the six multi-municipal planning areas. Location maps, floodplain classifications, state lands, agriculture preservation, agriculture easements, and other coverages, including basic transportation and cultural features were mapped.

The GIS staff are gathering data and creating mapping coverages of many new and interesting variables. We have fine-tuned and modified the land use coverage to match the APA standard classifications and display colors. This hierarchical classification allows each work team to further define commercial and industrial specifications to allow better analyses.

We have also obtained the specifications of the hydric (wet) soils, the prime farmland soils, and the soils of statewide significance. Slope classifications, including steep slope areas were also identified and mapped.

Another coverage of interest that was created is hunting lands. This coverage will also help with the recreation plan. Open space coverage was created and mapped, and a countywide “equivalent” zoning was developed.



### Recreation Plan

Lyco-GIS supplied the consultants (RBA and LDG) with GIS data to be used in their analytical process. We are working on checking and attributing some of the coverages to add information

## 2002 LCPC/EDPS ANNUAL REPORT

needed for analysis. GIS randomly selected addresses for the mail out of the recreation plan survey forms. The non-household addresses were then screened out. We defined a computer data input form to match the printed data input form to allow for accurate and speedy capture of the recreation plan survey forms.

### **Combined Sewer Overflow:**

The GIS team is using two staff members full time along with up to three contract staff in addition to map the urban sewers of Williamsport, South Williamsport, Duboistown, Loyalsock, and Old Lycoming. This is an intriguing problem of capturing data from very old maps, combining this with new photogrammetric data from an aerial survey, checking the data in the field to resolve any differences and add in the accurate GPS location and elevations. We are helping to find manholes and pipe infrastructure that have been lost as staff retired. Ed Feigles and temps spend many days outside in the worst weather with the GPS equipment gathering data.

In order to obtain very high standards of elevation accuracy across the long reach from Newberry to the Loyalsock Creek, we are using a high accuracy centimeter GPS unit. This unit will obtain a value in ten seconds if there is nothing to block the signal, like leaves or buildings. In order to get consistent elevations with tenth of a foot accuracy our base had to be calibrated and certified. With only a little more effort we registered the base with the National Geodetic Survey as a Continuously Operation Reference Station (CORS). The CORS program enables engineers and surveyors to access our base station to calibrate their field GPS equipment. We are doing our part by filling a gap in the nationwide CORS coverage.



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## Combined Sewer Overflow Field Work

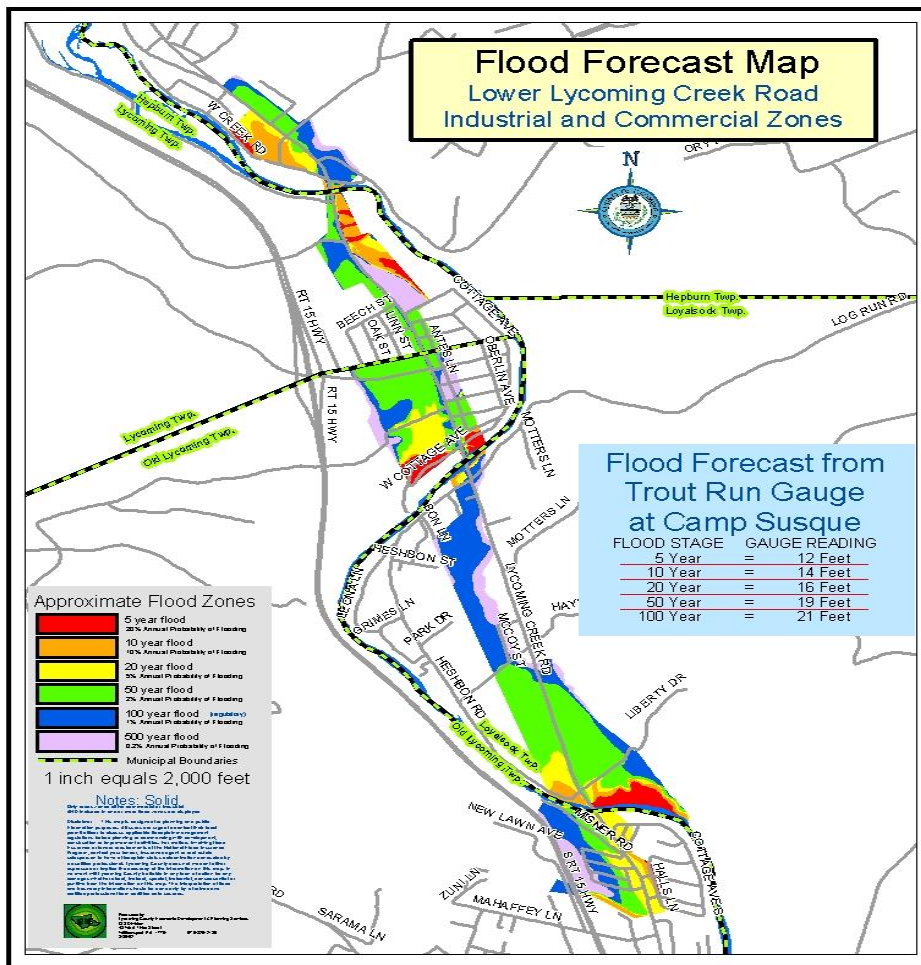
### Hazard Mitigation:

Ed Feigles spent the beginning of 2002 outside in a boat on Pine Creek assisting the US Geological Survey Hydro geologists with the new flood insurance study.

GIS staff continued to provide major support to hazard mitigation efforts. The Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM's) needed the type of review that only could be provided by the GIS overlay capabilities, thorough investigation, and discussions with the USGS and FEMA staff.

### Economic Development Administration:

Flood forecast maps for the commercially zoned areas along Lycoming Creek were created. For the first time, a map was produced which allows citizens to tell if their home is going to flood by using the gauge reading at Camp Susque and looking up their flood zone on the map. They also can find out how frequently their neighborhood floods.





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### **Official Lycoming County Road Map Update:**

We sold out of the first GIS based County road map and prepared a revision for publication. Paulhamus Litho finished production of 10,000 maps in July 2002. In addition to the new roads and new road names, all the soccer fields were added. In addition to the sixteen local outlets, we allow "ADC, The Map People" to distribute our map to gas stations, supermarkets, and discount stores across the region. By the end of the year, 4,000 maps had been distributed.

### **Miscellaneous:**

Displays and plots were produced and delivered to walk-in and phone-in customers including plotting the Limestone Township karst area, the Mill Creek townhouse area, and the Eck Cinema Complex.

### **Land Records Cartography:**

The very important clean up of parcel boundaries and their building data continued in conjunction with the Land Records Cartographer. Rich Murphy attended the Autodesk University in order to learn new techniques and how to improve the interface with ESRI GIS software. He also attended a presentation of MapGuide, which is a promising new package for putting maps on the web. Mr. Murphy supported the CSO program by scanning hundreds of sewer maps into the 36-inch scanner.

### **GIS STAFF NEWS**

- Mark Bletz finished work on his Associates Degree.
- Allen Kaplan received his Registered Professional Geologist license from the state.

## **ADMINISTRATION & INTERAGENCY COORDINATION**

- Had a clean audit without qualifications and findings, and lowered our costing rate.
- The Lycoming County Planning Commission adopted a joint LCPC/EDPS FY 2002-2003 work program of \$2,317,485 of which \$916,093 (39 %) is net County funding support. The remaining funds of \$1,401,324 are from State and Federal Government grants; development processing fees; and municipal service contracts. The FY 2002-2003 Work Program Budget includes \$973,567 for outside consultants and other direct costs (such as software and computer product acquisition).
- The entire budget for EDPS is \$9.5 million.

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- Roger Jarrett, Toner Hollick and Richard Haas were re-appointed to the Planning Commission. Mark Bletz was added to the planning commission staff as a full time GIS technician.
- Planning Commission member, George Durrwachter, received the Lycoming County Distinguished Volunteer Award.
- Deputy Director Kurt Hausammann, Jr. received AICP certification.
- GIS Systems Planner Allen Kaplan received his Registered Professional Geologist license.
- Economic Development Specialist William Kelly received the Lycoming County Employee of the Year Award.
- Transportation Planner Mark Murawski received the Lycoming County Senior Employee Leadership 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

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KOZ – Keystone Opportunity Zone

LCC – Lycoming County Commissioners

LCSWA – Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority

LVERR – 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

US ACE – United States Army Corp of Engineers

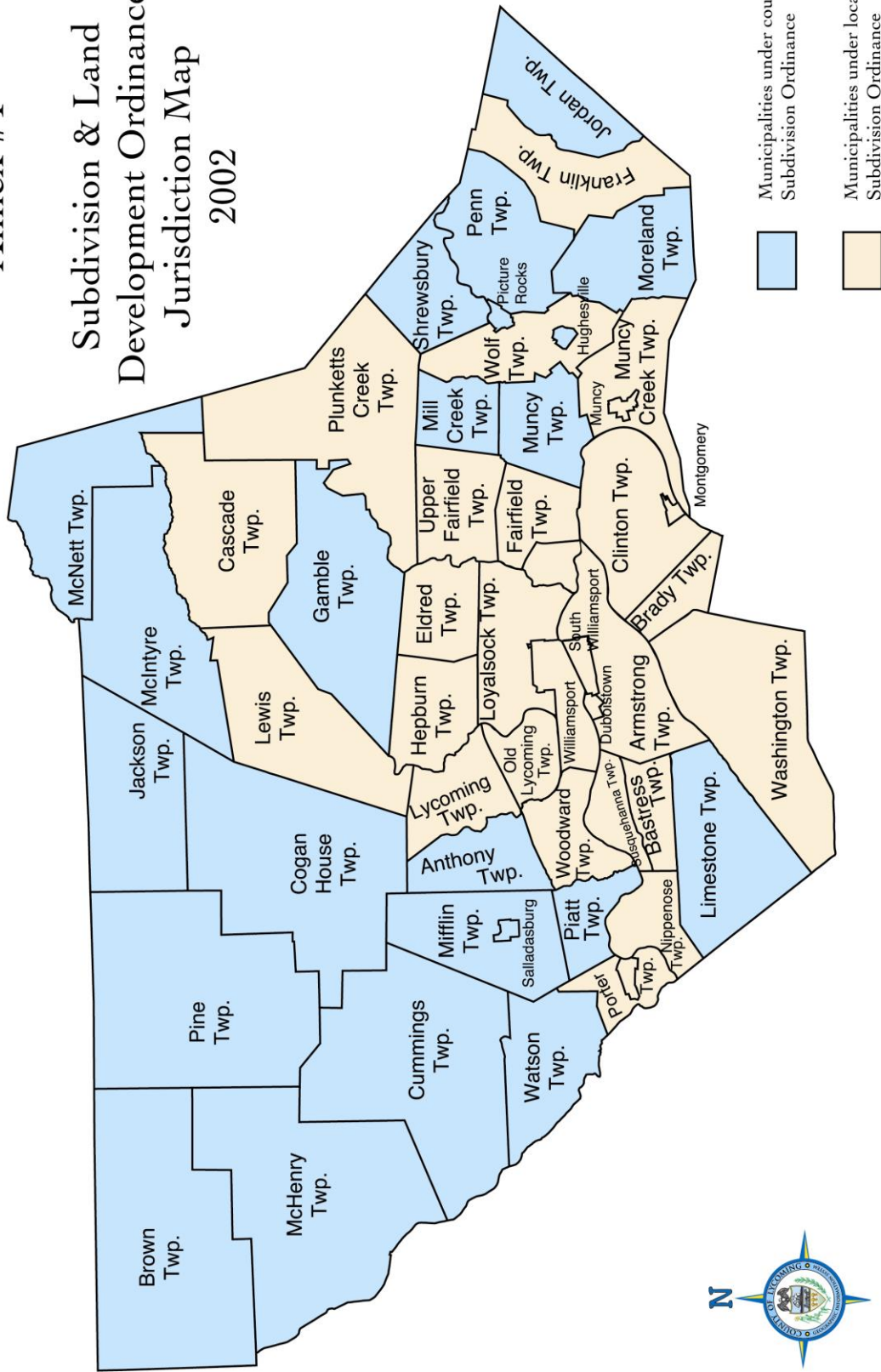
USGS- United States Geological Survey

WSA – Williamsport Sanitary Authority

WTP – Wastewater Treatment Plant

Annex #1

Subdivision & Land  
Development Ordinance  
Jurisdiction Map  
2002



Annex #2  
Zoning Ordinance  
Jurisdiction Map  
2002

