



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



**LYCOMING COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Lycoming County Commissioners

Scott L. Metzger, Chairman
Tony R. Mussare, Vice-Chairman
Richard Mirabito, Secretary



Planning Commission Members

Joe Reighard, Chairman
Brett Taylor, Vice-Chairman
Jason Bogle, Secretary
Larry Allison, Jr.
James Crawford*
Howard Fry, III
Chase Kelch
Denise Reis
Linda Sosniak*

*Terms ended for James Crawford and Linda Sosniak. Thank you for your service to the Lycoming County Planning Commission. The LCPC welcomed two new members in 2023: Brett Bowes and Beth Miller.

Planning and Community Development

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PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STAFF LIST

Executive

Shannon L. Rossman, AICP, Executive Director
John Lavelle, AICP, CFM, Deputy Director

Administrative Staff

Heather Lehman, Financial Administrative Supervisor
Sherrie Hook, Administrative Support
Christine Gartelman, Administrative Support

Development Services

Mark Haas, Development Services Supervisor
David Hubbard, CFM, Zoning Administrator
Christopher Hodges, Subdivision/Land Development Administrator
Heather George, Zoning Officer

Planning

Jenny Picciano, AICP, Community Development/Lead Planner
Kelsey Green, Hazard Reduction Planner
Alexa Bixel, Natural Resource Planner – new hire February 2023
Maleick Fleming, Community & Economic Development Planner

Transportation

Scott Williams, Transportation Supervisor
Sal Vitko, CFM, Transportation Planner
Austin Daily, Transportation Planner
Mark Murawski, Transportation Planner PT

GIS

Amy M. Fry, GIS Supervisor
Rich Murphy, Land Records Cartographer
Dana Strunk, Land Records Database Coordinator
Stacy Lewis, Assistant Land Records Cartographer

THOSE THAT HAVE MOVED ON:

William Clees, Natural Resource Planner
Alison Herman, Community & Economic Development/Natural Resource Planner
Michele Hazel, Administrative Support, Clerk III PT (new hire in 2022)

2022 New Hire

Maleick Fleming – Maleick joined the Lycoming County Planning Department Staff in August 2022 as the Community & Economic Development Planner. Prior to that, he worked in the community through L.I.F.E. Child Care Learning Center as administrative assistant and helping school age children develop Life principles



to share in their families and communities. Maleick graduated from Morgan State University in 2018 with a Bachelor's in Architecture and Environmental Design. He also worked with Pennsylvania State University as an Assistant to the Stuckeman School. In his free time, he enjoys spending time serving the community, volunteering at Christ Community Worship Center and family time with his wife, Rachel and daughter, Mabel. Maleick looks forward to serving the County and the people that live in Lycoming County.

Staff Transition in 2022

Christine Gartleman – Originally from New York City, Chris Gartelman and her



husband moved here when they retired. He was a plumber, she worked for a Museum as a Human Resources Manager. They bought an old Victorian house here in Williamsport and spent the next five years bringing it back to its original glory. Initially hired as a part timer, Chris now splits her full-time hours between Planning and Transportation and is thankful for everything the City of Williamsport has to offer.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Lycoming County Planning & Community Development Department is eager to continue our progress on existing and begin new programs/projects as we move into the 2023 year. It is always a good idea to reflect on the previous year to learn from these experiences and put this knowledge to the benefit of future endeavors.

During 2022 the PCD staff continued to work with the Lycoming County Commissioners with the American Rescue Plan Act funds to help offset lingering issues with the COVID Pandemic effect. While entities are recovering there are still supply, employment and other issues still being felt by all.

PCD is not exempt from feeling the effects of these lingering issues; we have seen staff changes continue, major price increases in projects due to supply chain issues and project delivery negatively effected due to these and other external issues.

The PCD was pleased to finish the new entrance to the Timber Run Industrial Park, located in Brady Township, and the opening of our first tenant, Digger Specialties, Inc. Staff will continue to work with the Lycoming County Resource Management Services on the 2nd phase of the Industrial Park.

The County's first 14 bridges replacements, under the bridge bundle program, were also completed in 2022. The remaining three bridge projects will be finished in 2023. Study of transportation issues along major corridors to enhance safety, access and economic development will continue with the Central Susquehanna Valley Throughway Initiative and other areas as needed.

The Sylvan Dell Conservation Project was completed. Final transfer of the property to the newly created South Side Recreation Authority occurred and the closeout of the grants received towards the project were completed. The nature preserve is now open to the public and provides passive trail recreation along with environmental protection of key wetlands and wildlife.

Other projects/programs that staff are continuing to work on include:

- Five County Solid Waste Plan Update
- Williamsport Area Levee Improvements
- Design of the Riverwalk Trail Extension from Maynard Street to Reach Road
- Hazard Mitigation (Buyouts, Utility Elevations, Flood Mitigation Efforts ...)
- Countywide Action Plan for the Chesapeake Bay
- Brownfield Clean-up

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

American Rescue Plan Act Update

Through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which was signed into law in March 2021, the County of Lycoming received \$22 million to support COVID-19 response efforts, replace lost revenue, support economic stabilization for households and businesses, and address systemic public health and economic challenges.

In an effort to assess Lycoming County's community "need" the Board of Commissioners provided an opportunity for entities within the County to submit a pre-application request for funding and then held multiple focus group listening sessions with various sectors of the community including representatives from:

- Municipalities
- Residential developer and realtor trades groups
- Public utility providers – most notably water and sewer providers
- The agricultural community
- The early childhood education community

As a result of these outreach efforts the County received 119 outside requests for funding totaling \$54,601,060. Additionally, County Departments also submitted 55 requests totaling \$24,589,12. In deciding how to distribute funds, the County Commissioners broke the budget down into the following line items:

ARPA - Proposed budget (\$22 M)		
Suggested Category	Proposed Budget (M)	Total Requested (Rounded M)
County Projects (Public Safety Included)	\$4.00 M	\$25.00 M
Levee Recertification	\$4.00 M	\$4.00 M
Construction - Economic Development	\$1.00 M	\$1.60 M
Agriculture	\$1.00 M	\$0.20 M
SEDA COG Contract	\$0.40 M	N/A
Workforce Development	\$0.60 M	\$0.05 M
Public Works (W&S / Stormwater)	\$5.00 M	\$23.00 M
Education	\$1.10 M	\$1.50 M
Private / Public Revenue Loss	\$1.00 M	\$1.00 M
Recreation	\$0.90 M	\$0.25 M
Public Health Response	\$2.00 M	\$2.00 M
Broadband Development	\$1.00 M	\$6.58 M
Total	\$22.00 M	\$65.18 M

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Acknowledging that this effort is quite an undertaking, the Commissioners decided to expand the ARPA team by entering into a contract with SEDA Council of Government (COG) for grant management and reporting services. SEDA COG's representatives will work directly with Planning and Purchasing personnel to complete intake, scoping, and contract preparation services for grant awards. In addition, they will also monitor the projects and ensure that all procurement efforts are performed in accordance to ARPA grant guidance. SEDA COG has been an invaluable member of our project delivery team.

The following is a description of the intended use for each line item:

County Projects: Funding expended in this line item is intended to support projects deemed critical by the Commissioners. In addition, we will attempt to financially support our public safety organizations in their efforts to modernize their communication infrastructure.

- Budget: \$4,000,000

Levee Recertification: Funding in this category will be put towards levee recertification efforts including consultant fees, construction projects and as matching funds for grants.

- Budget: \$4,000,000

Construction-Economic Development: A specific program has not yet been developed for this category, but our goal is to create a competitive grant program for small businesses who wish to expand their current operation.

- Budget: \$1,000,000

Agriculture: This category will be utilized to fund projects to support the agricultural community within Lycoming County and the Lycoming County Conservation District.

- Budget: \$1,000,000

Workforce Development: Projects that bolster the development of an adequate workforce to meet employment needs within the County of Lycoming will be considered as part of this category.

- Budget: \$600,000

Public Works: Grants awards were issued to eligible water and sewer entities/authorities for projects that generated the largest possible positive impact to their customers, supported the well-being of the system, supported economic growth and development potential, and supported safe drinking water / clean water initiatives. Future awards will be offered to eligible entities/authorities for additional projects on a competitive basis.

- Budget \$5,000,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Early Childhood Education: Projects that support early childhood education and childcare will be considered as part of this category.

- Budget: \$1,100,000

Public / Private Revenue Loss: This category is intended to help businesses and organizations recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic. For private businesses, gross receipts from 2019, 2020, & 2021 are compared and those businesses that applied and showed that they did not fully recover by the end of 2021 are eligible for a grant award of up to \$50,000.

The County's ARPA team is currently working on developing guidance for non-profit entities that have applied under this category. Supporting eligible projects that further the mission of these organizations may be considered as well.

- Budget: \$1,000,000

Recreation: As a result of outdoor activities increasing because of the pandemic, many communities recreational assets were used quite heavily. The Department of Treasury has made enhancements and maintenance activities to outdoor recreational assets eligible as a result.

- Budget: \$900,000

Public Health Response: Projects that will be considered in this category will fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff.

- Budget: \$2,000,000

Broadband Development: The Commissioners have budgeted funds that will help local internet service providers expand broadband infrastructure within Lycoming County. Projects must provide for a minimum of 100 Mbps download speed and 20 Mbps upload speed through a wireline connection, and participate or provide an affordability program for low-income customers.

- Budget: \$1,000,000

Expended Funds: Please visit www.lyco.org/ARPA to find the latest information on the County's progress. This page will be updated as the County progresses through grant review, project development, and award phases. Line item amounts may be modified as the County's APRA team attempts to find the highest and best use for these funds.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Housing Starts Grant Initiative

Lycoming County Board of Commissioners have tasked the Planning and Community Development Department (PCD) with creating a grant program to help address the ongoing market rate housing issues being experienced nationally and felt locally within our region. Recent housing market analysis findings and stakeholder feedback site a need for an increase in modernized housing stock to better diversify our current real estate market. This program is intended to complement already established housing efforts that currently offer programs for income-based housing rehabilitation, affordable housing, and senior housing; as well as to spur an increase in development and help reduce the impact of inflation on new home prices.

The Housing Starts Grant Initiative will offer a financial incentive to cover the cost of required improvements; connections to public water / sewer facilities, or demolition in order to spur growth in our market rate housing sector. All proposals must be within the County's [Designated Growth](#) Areas and propose a minimum of ten buildable lots or units or a minimum of three infill units of constructed housing within established communities. Compelling proposals will receive grant assistance to cover one-third of the total cost of eligible items up to \$500,000.

In order to facilitate this process, the PCD developed an application process to receive formal requests from interested parties. PCD staff will perform the grant intake and initial review of all project submissions on a rolling deadline. Applicants will then be invited to an interview with the Commissioners prior to any funding decisions being made. Grant awards will be issued to proposals that the Commissioners deem eligible and viable on a first come first serve basis until the budgeted funds are allocated. The County anticipates a budget of \$2,000,000 for calendar year 2022 and an additional \$2,000,000 in calendar year 2023.

In 2022, the County had received three grant applications. One grant award was made thus far to T-Ross Bros for \$34,696 that will help to fund sewer connection fees for the Woodland Heights Subdivision, which is located on the west side of the City of Williamsport. The other two awards are under consideration for funding in 2023.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

PHARE 2022

In 2022, Pennsylvania Housing Finance Authority (PHFA) awarded Lycoming County \$952,534 in Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Funds. This annual award is funded through oil and gas activities occurring in the County, and go to projects that address local housing needs. PHARE projects have had a history of success in the County, with this year's award being distributed among:

- STEP – *Urgent Need*
- Habitat for Humanity – *Memorial Homes Scott Street, Home Preservation Program*
- YWCA – *Liberty House*
- ARW – *Rental Assistance*
- TLC – *Master Leasing Program*
- STEP – *Homes-in-Need*
- STEP – *Supportive Housing Program*



STEP has been a long-standing partner of Lycoming County in addressing housing issues. Their accomplishments in utilizing PHARE funds in 2022 encompass responsive housing rehabilitation with Urgent Need, longer-term renovations with Home-In-Need, and holistic housing support for at risk individuals with the Supportive Housing Program. These funds come at a time of dire need for the services STEP provides, with Homes-In-Need alone seeing a waiting list of 641 households.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*

The YWCA and Transitional Living Centers received PHARE funds to continue support of their respective Liberty House and Master Leasing programs, both of which provide supportive services to individuals at risk of homelessness.



The American Rescue Worker's Rental Assistance program provides immediate rental assistance to families facing eviction. The 2022 round of PHARE funds provided emergency assistance to 125 households in total.

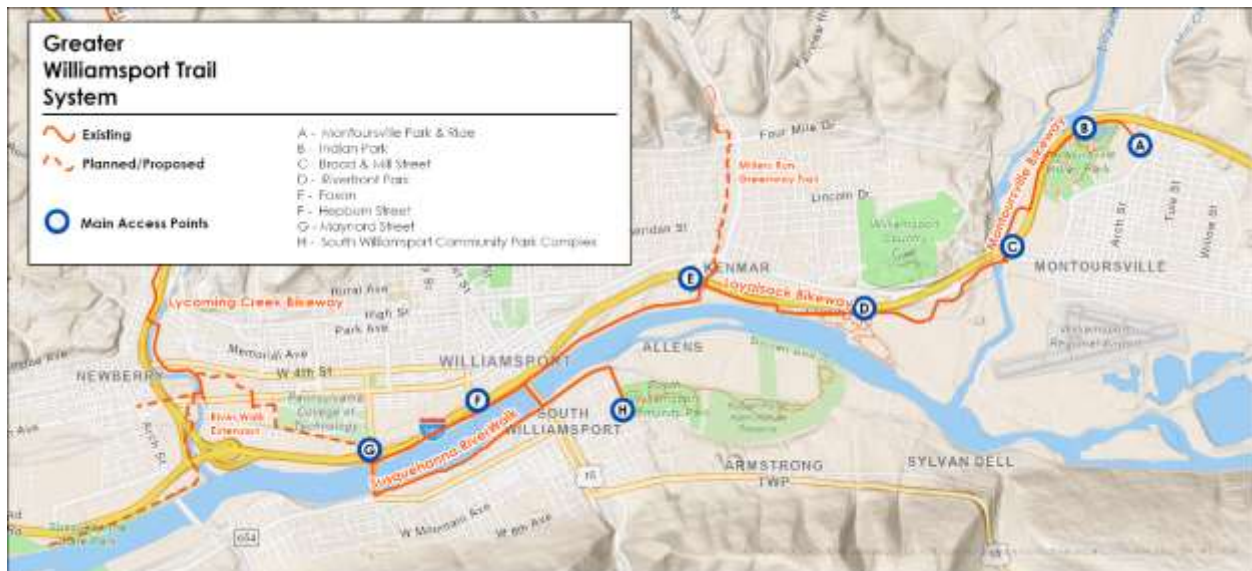
Habitat for Humanity continues to use PHARE funding to complete new housing projects as part of their mission to provide affordable homeownership to lower income families through their sweat equity model.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Greater Williamsport Area Trail System Wayfinding Project

After receiving public feedback through various efforts (Heart of Williamsport, and the Chamber lead Grow Williamsport campaign) with regard to lack of visual cues that help trail users identify access points, aid in navigation, and recognize destinations - Lycoming County Planning and Community Development (PCD) staff have combined efforts with the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) to seek grant funding and prepare a wayfinding plan. In 2021, the County received a \$50,000 grant through DCNR's C2P2 program, which will be matched by a combination of in-kind and cash contributions by both partner organizations.



In 2022, PCD and SGP staff conducted a request for proposal process that resulted in eight companies submitting proposals. After a thorough review and interview process, the selection team chose MERJE (a nationally recognized graphic design firm, with a specific expertise in working with Parks and Trails organizations) as our consultant for this project.

The Greater Williamsport Area Trail System Wayfinding Project will focus on the interconnected system of multimodal trails, contained within Montoursville Borough, Loyalsock Township, South Williamsport Borough, and the City of Williamsport. The goal of this project is threefold:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

1. To incorporate wayfinding best practices for both on and off-street transportation for the network.
2. Creating recognizable branding and signage to assign to the overall trail network enhancing the Susquehanna River Walk experience.
3. The plan will also include options for the surrounding region to incorporate their trail networks into a larger more unified system.



As our trail system expands and grows in popularity for both recreational uses and in a utilitarian sense, this effort will be a great benefit for each of the communities involved and the region as a whole.

In an effort to generate the greatest potential buy-in for this effort the project delivery team assembled a steering committee that includes the following entities:

- Project Committee
 - Susquehanna Greenway Partnership
 - Lycoming County Planning Staff
- Steering Committee (Municipal Stakeholders)
 - City of Williamsport
 - Loyalsock Township
 - Montoursville Borough
 - South Williamsport Borough
- Steering Committee (Subject Matter Experts)
 - PennDOT District 3
 - Lycoming County Visitors Bureau
 - Northcentral PA Conservancy
 - Lycoming County Planning Commission
 - Penn College
 - Lycoming College
- Invited Partners (Managers of Nearby Trail Networks)
 - Clinton County Planning
 - Tiadaghton State Forest

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Hazard Mitigation

Buyout

In 2022, PCD staff worked towards the completion of the final grading of six properties located in Old Lycoming Township and Muncy Borough. While there have been substantial delays, the planning department hopes to go out to bid in 2023 to complete this work.

PCD staff has also been able to rescope the CDBG-DR buyout grant this year to include four homes to be acquired and demolished in 2023 located in Loyalsock Township, Muncy Borough, and Old Lycoming Township.

Utility Elevation

2022 allowed for the engineering of the second home in the utility elevation program to be completed and the bid to be awarded for the construction work that will be completed in early 2023. This will complete the pilot program for utility elevation.

In the New Year, PCD staff will continue to work towards scaling this project to be completed in a bundle of five to eight homes.

The Great Muncy Area Resiliency Plan

This past year, PCD was able to bring together both the Muncy Resiliency Stakeholders group with the USACE to discuss the past studies that have been completed by the ASACE and the possibility of moving forward with an alternatives study for both stormwater and riverine flooding. After the decision to move forward was made, PCD began meeting with Muncy Borough, Muncy Bank & Trust, County Commissioners, and Muncy Creek Township to work on funding the alternatives study in 2023. This alternatives study will allow for feasible alternatives, with a Benefit Cost Ratio of more than one, to be explored by the local stakeholders and the planning department for funding opportunities.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

PCD staff was able to apply for BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant) funding from PEMA/FEMA to begin the 2026 Hazard Mitigation Update for the County. This funding source is predicted to be awarded in the fall of 2023 and will allow the PCD to begin the 2-year update process in early 2024.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Levee Update

The Greater Williamsport Area Levee Project saw continued efforts towards re-certification. The Williamsport Area Levee System received great news in 2022, Congressman Keller's request for an \$8 million Federal Earmark was awarded with the passage of the new Federal Budget and signing of the Appropriations Bill. This award will be used to help meet re-certification requirements for the Levee System.

The Relief Wells replacement and rehabilitation project saw continued difficulty in receiving qualified bidders. The project will be bid out again in 2023. The County has secured \$1.75 million from the State towards this project. Supply chain issues, US Steel requirements and extremely limited qualified contractors have led to delays in starting the replacements and rehabilitation.

The Memorial Avenue I-Wall and Williamsport Area North East Levee Crosspipes project, which received a \$5.6 M Federal EDA grant has also seen some delays. Currently the Memorial Avenue I-Wall portion of the project is on hold until the United States Army Corp of Engineers is able to complete a Risk Analysis Assessment to determine what criteria the Consultant will need to design the I-Wall to. This Analysis is using newer flood information in order to then be reflected in the design criteria. The Crosspipes portion of the project is moving forward. An RFP for construction oversight and an RFP for construction will be put out in late spring 2023.

All of the Levee Partners have been in discussion regarding future financing of capital improvements and operations and maintenance of the Levee System once recertification occurs. It is anticipated that this topic will be a key item for analysis in 2023.

Five County Solid Waste Plan Update

(Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Snyder & Union Counties)

PCD staff are working with partners from the 5-County Region to complete the mandatory Solid Waste Plan Update, as required by Pennsylvania Act 101 and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Originally this Plan Update was due in February of 2023, however with numerous staffing changes a request was made to DEP on October 31, 2022 to extend the deadline to March 1, 2024.

The Solid Waste Plan is a plan prepared by each county in Pennsylvania, and updated every ten years that provides documentation regarding the future availability for the disposal of a county's municipal waste. Act 101 requires that counties prove that they have at least ten

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

years of disposal capacity for their solid waste at various facilities. It is also required that counties report their progress in recycling of materials.

In 2012 Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Snyder and Union Counties agreed to complete a regional Solid Waste Plan. Lycoming County is leading the project and received grant funds from DEP to match local funds from the five counties to complete the Plan Update.

FFY 2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

In 2022, Lycoming County applied for **\$279,638** in CDBG funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to address infrastructure, housing, and community or public services needs throughout the county. The following projects were selected for funding:

YWCA North Central PA Building Renovation - This project rehabilitates kitchens, bathrooms, laundry room and flooring in the domestic violence shelter. (\$120,000)

Lycoming County Water & Sewer Authority State Route 44 Watermain Reconstruction - Replacement of water main and meter pits along Route 44 in Limestone Township. (\$112,138)

The following projects were selected by the “On Behalf Of” Municipalities for CDBG FFY 2021 Funds:

Municipality: Jersey Shore Borough (\$90,370)
Activity: Meadow Alley Road Reconstruction
Description: Meadow Alley Road Reconstruction

Municipality: Montoursville Borough (\$102,870)
Activity: Montoursville Curb Cuts Phase IV
Description: Improvements to curb cuts, handicap ramps and/or truncated domes throughout the Borough.

Municipality: South Williamsport Borough (\$119,688)
Activity: Habitat for Humanity Acquisition Phase III
Description: Acquire vacant lots on Clark Street for Habitat for Humanity construction.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Transportation Planning Achievements

WATS MPO Programs and Studies

WATS MPO 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program

In 2022 MPO staff finalized the approval of the [2023–2026 WATS MPO Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#). The TIP is a list of priority transportation projects that are proposed to be undertaken during the next four federal fiscal years using various federal, state, and local funding sources.

The TIP update process began in fall 2021 and the final 2023-26 WATS MPO TIP was approved by the WATS Coordinating Committee on June 13, 2022 with state and federal approval in August 2022.

Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation (CSVT) Impact Study Implementation Task Force (CSVT Implementation Task Force budget \$150,000)

Beginning in July 2022, the Williamsport Area Transportation Study (WATS) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) reactivated the CSVT Impact Study steering committee as the CSVT Impact Study Implementation Task Force. PennDOT awarded WATS MPO \$150,000 in PennDOT Connects funding, programmed as Task 5-B on the 2022-2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to begin the process of implementing the CSVT Impact Study recommendations.



The MPO retained Michael Baker International as the consulting engineer. The Task Force management team remained WATS MPO staff, Lycoming County Planning & Community Development (PCD) staff, SEDA-COG MPO staff, PennDOT and the Michael Baker, Int'l. CSVT team.

One of the components of the CSVT Impact Study was the creation of *Implementation Strategies & Recommendations* (visit the [CSVT Impact Study website](#) to view the final study). The study recommendations are separated into six (6) different categories:

- ❖ **Traffic Safety (TS)** to address hotspots with excess crashes based on Highway Safety Manual (HSM) analyses.
- ❖ **Traffic Operations (TO)** including vehicle navigation aids, signing, signal timings, etc.
- ❖ **Transportation Enhancements (TE)** including multimodal improvements, traffic calming, Complete Streets, etc.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (continued)

- ❖ **Land Use (LU)** to address updates to existing and creation of new county and local plans, policies, and ordinance.
- ❖ **Economic Development (ED)** including projects to improve infrastructure to facilitate job growth and community development.
- ❖ **Planning and Administration (PA)** to continue coordinating planning efforts across the CSVT study area.

The WATS MPO staff reviewed and prioritized the study recommendations for Lycoming County in July 2022. MPO staff and Michael Baker staff met with SEDA-COG MPO in August 2022 to review and combine their priority projects. Coming out of the review, the top priority projects for both MPO's focused on traffic safety, traffic enhancements, and traffic operations.

The MPO met with PennDOT District 3 staff in October 2022 to present the prioritized projects and determine which project(s) PennDOT is currently moving forward. From the District 3 coordination meeting, the MPO discovered that a number of the traffic recommendations are being moved forward. Currently, the MPO is working with Michael Baker to review the land use and economic development recommendation priorities

Also, the Task Force will continue tracking the impacts of the CSVT project as it opens to traffic, update data as needed, and track progress of the study's implementation plan.



Lycoming County Small Bridge Bundling Program (project budget \$6,892,000)

In April 2020, the Lycoming County Commissioners approved the application for a Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank (PIB) loan for \$7 million. The County will utilize the Act 89 Fee for Local Use (\$5 fee) funds to repay the PIB loan over the next 10 years.

Following up on the successful completion of four bridges in Bridge Bundle 1, the County set out to complete 10 bridges in 2022 via Bundle 2 and Bundle 3. This was the largest single-year infrastructure project taken on by the MPO and County. The five bridges replaced as part of Bundle 2 were located on Smith Road in Franklin Township, Sheridan Street in



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (continued)

Loyalsock Township, Valley Road in Susquehanna Township, Wilson Street in Jersey Shore Borough, and Bill Sones Road in Moreland Township. The five bridges replaced in Bundle 3 were located on Logue Hill Road in Penn Township, Winner Lane in Gamble Township, Montgomery Park Road in Montgomery Borough, Zinck Road in Mifflin Township, and Penn Drive in Wolf Township.

All bridges in Bundle 2 were replaced with concrete structures. The three rural structures were replaced with Concrete Arches while the two bridges in more urban settings were replaced with Concrete Box Culverts. All bridges in Bundle 3 were replaced with Geosynthetic Reinforced

Soil-Integrated Bridge System (GRS-IBS) structures. This innovative structure type alternates layers of soil and synthetic matting within the abutment. These structures are well suited for smaller bridges on low velocity streams such as those found in Bundle 3.



By the end of December 2022, all ten bridges in Bundle 2 and Bundle 3 were completed. Bassett Engineering, the County's design engineer for this program had completed all designs for Bundle 4, which are set to be completed in 2023. In total, 14 bridges have been completed as part of the program. The remaining three bridges in the program are located in Washington Township, Fairfield Township, and Lewis Township.

MPO staff is finalizing the proposal and bidding processes for Bridge Bundles #4 and anticipates having construction inspection and general construction firms under contract by the end of April 2023.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (continued)

Lycoming County Small Bridge Inspection Program (project budget \$288,029.89)

In January 2021, the Lycoming County Commissioners awarded Larson Design Group (LDG) the Small Bridge Inspection contract to inspect the one hundred and ten (110) locally owned small bridges with span lengths between 8 – 20 feet. In 2022, LDG continued the small bridge inspection program by inspecting the 2021 bridges as well as an additional seventy-two (72) locally owned bridges with span lengths between 8 – 20 feet. LDG will inspect the annual and 3-year cycle bridges in the program in 2023. In addition, LDG will begin preparations to create the Small Local Bridge Asset Management Plan.



PCD Staff Leadership Roles on State Transportation Committees

In 2022, Mark Murawski, PCD Assistant Transportation Planner, continued to be actively involved performing a leadership role representing the County on two significant state transportation committees as per his appointment by Governor Wolf. Mark is currently Vice Chairman of the [Pennsylvania Transportation Advisory Committee, \(TAC\)](#) and Secretary of the Pennsylvania Aviation Advisory Committee, (AAC).

Mark chaired a special TAC Task Force that evaluated the use of Transportation Impact Fees as originally authorized under Act 209 of 1990 and amended by Act 68 of 2000. Although imposition of impact fees is allowed to address transportation impacts created by a specific land development, many requirements must be met by local municipalities to institute the fees. The Transportation Impact Fees study delineates the structural problems that presently exist statewide in how land use planning and transportation planning are being administered.

In 2023 Mark will continue to work with local, regional, and state partners and elected officials to begin to implement the Study recommendations. To review the final report please click the report photo above.



(click picture to view study)

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (continued)

Throughout 2022, Mark continued work on the first ever Pennsylvania Aviation Strategic Plan that was approved for PennDOT funding by the TAC in 2021. The PA Aviation Strategic Investment Plan contains two major sections. Section 1 identifies specific measures to close the PA aviation funding gap currently estimated at approximately \$53 million annually. Section 2 identifies eight strategic areas to leverage the aviation investment, consisting of aviation workforce retention and recruitment, economic development, interface of airports and communities, air freight, etc. The Plan contains numerous recommendations formulated for action by the aviation industry working with its partners and stakeholders.



The study was completed in December 2022. In 2023 Mark will continue working with the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Aviation Task Force members, local, regional, and state partners to begin to implement the Plan recommendations. To review the final plan please click the plan photo above.

WATS MPO Annual Report

The WATS MPO State Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Report was approved by the WATS Technical Committee in September 2022 and the WATS Coordinating Committee in October 2022, and is available on the [WATS MPO Annual Report website](#). The report highlights the work and projects completed during the 2021-2022 fiscal year, breaking down the work activity by fiscal quarter. The Report also highlights the actual amount of work performed and the budgeted amount to show where MPO staff efforts are focused.

Also useful to both the MPO Committees and the general public is the section in the Annual Report highlighting MPO Major Accomplishments during that fiscal year. In the 2021-2022 fiscal year the MPO created and adopted the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), drafted and put out for public comment for the 2022 Public Participation Plan (PPP), the Title VI Program, and continued the work on the 2023 Long Range Transportation Improvement Program (LRTP) process with multiple updates to the WATS Technical Committee (LRTP Steering Committee) and Coordinating Committee.

Transportation Initiatives for the Remainder of 2023

WATS MPO Programs and Studies

The WATS MPO staff will be working on a number of projects for the remainder of 2023. The WATS Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is in the two-year update cycle. MPO staff will

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (continued)

begin work on the 2024-2026 WATS UPWP this spring with the goal of adopting the 2024-26 UPWP in spring/summer 2024.

WATS MPO staff will continue working on the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan: Connecting People and Places throughout 2023, with the goal of LRTP adoption in December 2023. There will be a number of opportunities for public comment/involvement on the draft 2045 LRTP at upcoming 2023 WATS MPO Technical and Coordinating Committee [public meetings](#), as well as, a LRTP public meeting (to be determined).

In 2023, WATS MPO will begin working on the 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). WATS will begin work on the 2025-2029 TIP update throughout early-mid 2023, with anticipated TIP adoption in June-July 2024.

The [2022 PA Aviation Strategic Investment Plan](#) was adopted by the PA Transportation Advisory Committee in December 2022. MPO staff will continue working with the TAC and Aviation Advisory Committee to move the Plan recommendations towards implementation.

Lycoming County Bridge Bundling Program

In 2023, the MPO staff will continue to work with the municipalities and Bassett Engineering on the design and construction of the bridges in the Lycoming County Bridge Bundling program.

Currently, Bassett Engineering and MPO staff is finalizing the proposal and bidding processes for Bridge Bundle #4 and anticipates having construction inspection and general construction firms under contract by the end of April 2023.

Lycoming County Small Bridge Inspection Program

In 2023, the MPO staff will continue to work with LDG and Lycoming County municipalities on the Small Bridge Inspection Program. LDG will continue bridge inspections and will update the MPO staff and municipalities of the inspection findings. In April 2023, MPO staff and LDG will begin working on the Small Bridge Asset Management Plan to assist municipalities in creating a maintenance/repair schedule for the locally owned bridges.

Support for other Planning and Community Development Projects/Initiatives

In addition to these transportation related projects, the MPO staff continued assisting with a multi-phased economic development project at the County owned Timber Run Industrial Park. In 2021 MPO staff assisted with acquiring a \$488,720.00 Transportation Infrastructure Investment Funding (TIIF) grant for Phase 1 of the project. Phase 1 was completed in July 2022.

In 2022 MPO staff assisted in acquiring grant funding for Phase 2 of the Timber Run development. In 2022 Lycoming County was awarded a \$1.5 million Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant to complete the internal road system for the Timber Run Industrial Park. Currently, MPO staff are assisting with a Request for Proposals (RFP) for design and engineering for the internal road system and anticipates construction to begin in 2024-2025.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

County Zoning Ordinance Administration

Departmental Emphasis 2022: The Zoning department continued to meet applicant's needs in 2022. We did slow down as the pandemic persisted into 2022. The receipt of applications waned some. The cost and availability of construction materials has continued to slow project completions. Our focus on working with our municipal partners and their constituents regarding floodplain management continues as changes to the NFIP in the form of RR2.0 continues to evolve, and FEMA updates practices. Community safety is essential countywide. The dedicated staff members continued expanding their knowledge base by taking advantage of educational opportunities through federal, state and municipal organizational training sessions. They are always available to provide assistance and direct support to all municipalities within the County, upon request. Outreach opportunities are always encouraged.

Member Municipalities

The twenty member municipalities listed, participated in the Lycoming County Zoning Partnership. PCD staff administered the County Zoning Ordinance for these municipalities in 2022:

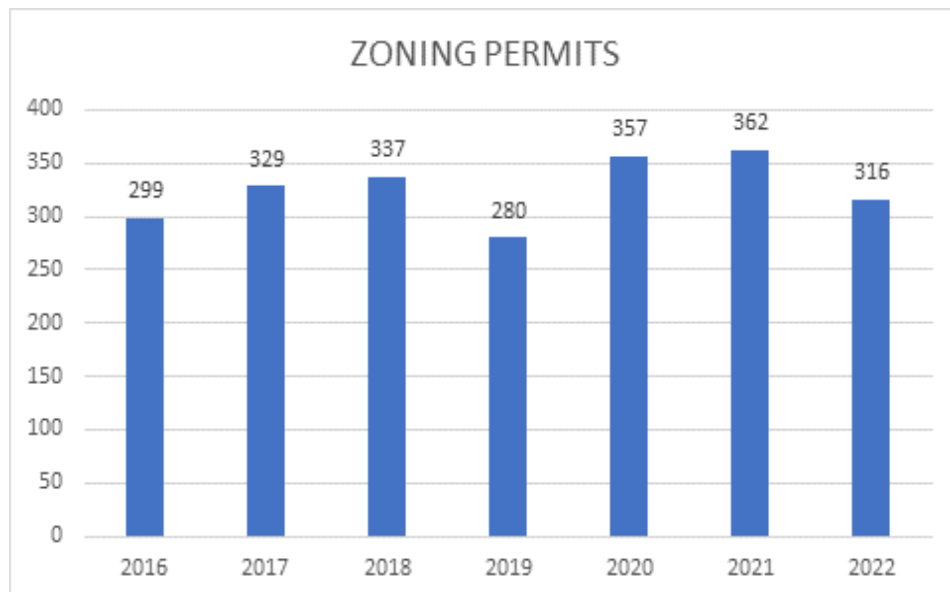
Bastress Township	Gamble Township	Limestone Township	Mifflin Township	Pine Township
Brown Township	Jackson Township	McHenry Township	Moreland Township	Plunketts Creek Township
Cascade Township	Jordan Township	McIntyre Township	*Muncy Township	Porter Township
Cogan House Township	Lewis Township	McNett Township	Penn Township	Salladasburg Borough

*Muncy Township withdrew from the partnership January 1, 2023

MUNICIPAL SERVICES (continued)

Partnership Activity

There were 316 Zoning Development Permits issued in 2022, as compared to 362 in 2021. In coordination with the Lycoming County Subdivision & Land Development Administrator we have completed several major development projects in Jackson Township, Jersey Mills and Muncy Township, to name a few. The Department Supervisor, with assistance of the zoning staff continue to look for ways to support our constituents. The County Zoning Department has begun work on a re-write of the County Zoning Ordinance, meant to clarify requirements and make ordinance administration more efficient. An Ordinance amendment concerning Industrial solar farms was approved in 2022, and a map change project completed in Limestone Township.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES (continued)

Zoning Hearing Board

The mission of the Lycoming County Zoning Hearing Board is “to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the present and future inhabitants of the County by providing for a rational and orderly pattern of land use, preserving and protecting the County’s natural resources, creating an environment that is reasonably safe from floods and other dangers, and stabilizing the property values of land and buildings.”

Zoning Hearing Board Members for 2022

William J. Klein	Chairman
Christopher A. Logue	Vice-Chairman
Dan Clark	Member
Leslie Whitehill	Member
Stephan Brady	Member
George Logue	Member
2 Vacancies	Alternate

In 2022, thirteen matters were brought before the County Zoning Hearing Board:

- 10 Variances
- 4 Special Exceptions
 - 1 Withdrawn



Among the 10 Variances, there were:

- Three accessory structure setbacks
- Five single family residence/additions, setbacks
- One sign (number of signs)
- One single family residence/animal shed, setback for a Subdivision

Three Special Exception cases consisted of:

- One agricultural (accessory horse barn) use in the Rural Center
- One institutional use (Amish schoolhouse) in the Agricultural District
- One multi-family dwelling in the CR Zoning District

MUNICIPAL SERVICES (continued)

Land Development

In 2022, staff handled 16 less subdivisions than in 2021. Land Developments increased from 7 in 2021 to 10 in 2022. Of these 10, 3 were Major Land Developments for the purpose of building calf barns. 2 of these 10 Major Land Developments submitted are still fulfilling the require

ements for final plan approval. Of the 50 Subdivisions we reviewed, 22 were simple Lot Addition's, 21 were single Lot Subdivisions, and 7 were Multi Lot Subdivisions.

In conjunction with the County Zoning Ordinance updates, staff will be working with a consultant to review and update the County Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance. The intent is to have consistent language between the Zoning Ordinance and SALDO Updates along with the inclusion of new language for easier understanding and to reflect newer types of subdivisions and land developments.

County Subdivisions & Land Developments

2022

Subdivisions	49
Land Developments	10

2021

Subdivisions	64
Land Developments	7

2020

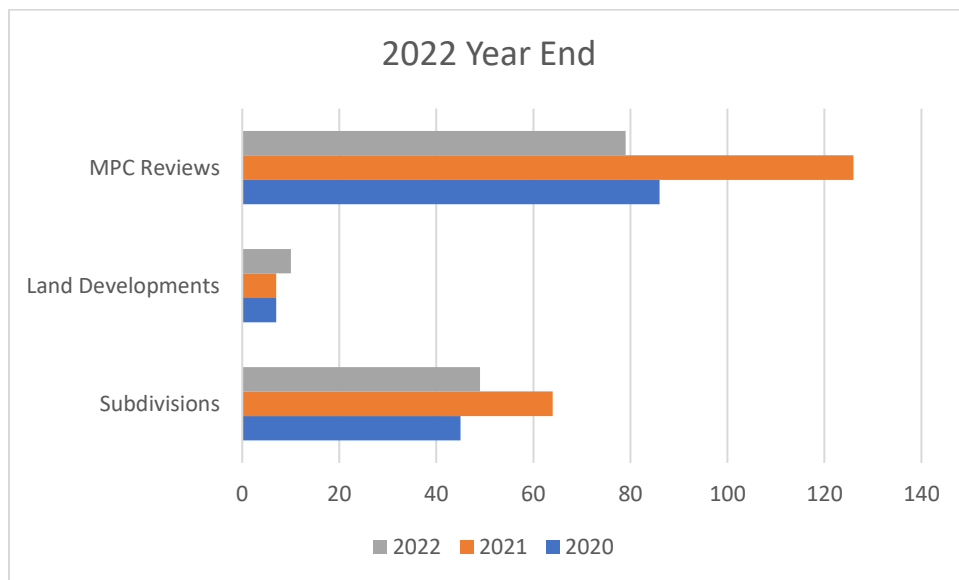
Subdivisions	45
Land Developments	7

MUNICIPAL SERVICES (continued)

The Pa Municipal Planning Code, Act 247 requires us to review Subdivisions and Land Developments that occur in municipalities that have adopted their own Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Developments were down in 2022 at 79 compared to 2021 at 126 reviewed, as well as 2020 where we reviewed 86.

Subdivision & Land Developments Reviewed under MPC Act 247

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Subdivisions & Land Developments	79	126	86



MUNICIPAL SERVICES (continued)

Solar Ordinance

Recently, plans for commercial solar farms, some of them mammoth, have sprung up across the Commonwealth. Landowners and farmers are being offered significant sums to put these facilities on their properties. As such, municipalities are faced with the need to review and amend existing ordinances, or adopt new ordinances, to reasonably regulate this new use before it arrives. Unfortunately, most ordinances are enacted as a reaction to development rather than drafted proactively.



Rather than react to proposed development, we began to explore ordinances from around the Commonwealth for information we could use to draft an ordinance regulating the development of these large scale Solar Facilities. Montour County provided their Solar Ordinance as a model for municipalities drafting their own solar ordinance. The Lycoming County Planning Commission (LCPC) had numerous discussions during the drafting of our new ordinance. Tom Murphy, Director at Penn State Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research (MCOR), was consulted and provided a wealth of knowledge to assist us.



The first draft was brought before the LCPC in November of 2021. After numerous revisions based on comments provided from the LCPC, municipalities in our partnership, and public feedback, we drafted an ordinance that reflects the interests of Lycoming County Zoning Partnership. The ordinance was enacted by the Lycoming County Board of Commissioners on July 14, 2022. Tom Murphy has been referencing our ordinance in the many consultations he performs with municipalities spanning the Commonwealth. We are proud of the results that reflect the viewpoints of our municipalities and the public interest.

GIS & LAND RECORDS

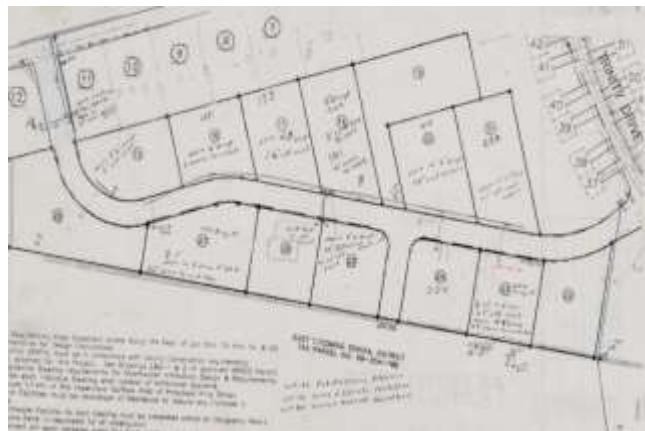
Geospatial Data Collection

Digital infrastructure mapping is utilized at the County level as a planning tool in Economic Development by the Planning and Community Development Department and the Commissioner's Office. Increasingly, State and Federal agencies are beginning to require infrastructure data be provided in digital format.

Most municipalities lack the ability to provide digital mapping of their infrastructure with any high degree of accuracy and often times may look to expensive third-party contractors. Recognizing the benefit that both municipalities, and/or their respective authorities, and the County would gain, GIS Analyst Ed Feigles began to reach out to the municipalities and authorities to offer assistance in digitization of water and sewer infrastructure.

In early spring of 2022, Ed, along with rotating PCD staff, began the process to map infrastructure in three municipalities (Montoursville Borough, and Hughesville Borough/ Wolf Township.) This substantive effort was to provide survey-grade digital mapping of Water, Sewer, Storm Sewer, Fire Hydrants, and miscellaneous utility features to the municipality.

The Municipalities, and their respective Authorities, provided paper maps which were digitized to provide a base to operate from. Many hours of fieldwork were conducted as every desired feature was captured employing the county's survey-grade GPS. The data was checked for quality control with municipal personnel to ensure correctness and appropriate formatting for data delivery.



This coordinated effort continues into 2023, and will result in a robust repository of locational infrastructure data to benefit all levels of government and the community served.

GIS & LAND RECORDS (continued)

Geospatial Data Delivery

Late summer of 2022, GIS Supervisor Amy Fry created an interactive web mapping application for the Loyalsock Township to assist with their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit obligations.



Data layers representing the storm sewer system infrastructure were added to the map, as well as planned MS4 Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan BMP project sites. The digital data displayed was pulled from both paper mapping and GPS.

GIS staff will work with Loyalsock Township to correct and update this data throughout 2023. When all data has been checked for quality control, this will serve as a useful tool for the municipality, and will likely be expanded to include additional municipal infrastructure.

Storm sewer infrastructure has historically been maintained in paper map format, with intricate details of the system known to a select few municipal staff. A shared digital format of the locational data will make it easier for newer staff to maintain and plan for infrastructure repairs and improvements, as well as meet the evolving demands of MS4 reporting.

GIS & LAND RECORDS (continued)

Year End of 2022 Uniform Parcel Identifier

Request Type	Total Instruments (including O&G)	# of Oil & Gas Instr.	# of UPI's on O&G instr.	Total # of UPI's Pre- reviewed	Total # of UPI's Completed	2021 Compl UPIs	2020 Compl UPIs	2019 Compl UPIs	2018 Compl UPIs	2017 Total Instrs	2016 Total Instr
Agreement	196	62	809	974	973	2873	1178	850	1088	*	*
Article of Agreement	8	0	0	9	7	12	6	10	8	8	*
Assignment of Rents	398	0	0	555	550	547	439	546	654	421	428
Assignment of Rents – Termination	289	2	3	428	428	440	423	323	361	35	*
Clean & Green	226	0	0	256	256	188	171	147	246	31	*
Clean & Green - Breach	23	15	15	25	25	12	6	6	17	*	*
Clean & Green - Termination	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	2	3	*	*
Corrective Deed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	7
Deed	3155	163	248	3517	3389	3654	3051	3204	3280	2843	2755
Deed - Corrective	28	6	9	32	31	26	31	52	56	33	41
Deed - Dedication	4	1	1	22	22	0	1	2	3	5	2
Deed - Easement	102	1	1	109	105	87	107	182	180	129	170
Deed - Quit-Claim	58	4	4	61	61	80	66	135	75	94	72
Deed - Right Of Way	42	10	10	44	44	40	73	119	102	168	97
Deed - Sheriff	31	0	0	32	32	36	28	80	93	92	125
Deed - Tax Claim	54	1	1	54	54	26	0	39	21	21	18
Lease	329	316	422	439	439	130	184	445	444	199	7
Lease – Amendment	29	29	41	41	40	27	56	30	40	7	*
Lease - Assignment	87	73	313	332	320	430	1097	1298	319	31	*
Lease – Release/Surrender	53	44	47	63	63	174	321	53	768	30	*
Mortgage	4506	20	4258	9127	9117	7271	6911	5492	5462	4331	4422
Mortgage - Assignment	561	4	5	589	588	737	1053	1828	767	865	679
Mortgage – Modification	114	2	22	138	138	112	225	1745	86	21	*
Mortgage - Release	142	7	778	949	949	5194	259	2281	499	180	162
Mortgage - Satisfaction	4534	14	960	6166	6164	7793	5541	5622	4976	4576	4565
Other	161	56	790	1009	988	1038	1054	1686	2046	437	312
Power of Attorney	29	0	0	29	29	46	42	33	32	2	*
Subdivision – Land Development	36	1	2	41	41	47	35	34	56	9	*
Subdivision - Survey	3	1	3	5	5	17	10	10	10	*	*
Subdivision/Add Lot	117	4	6	144	144	176	129	140	147	33	*
Trust	96	1	2	115	104	76	70	61	117	*	*
UCC Financing Statement	102	8	2295	2395	2395	655	190	58	604	18	*
UCC Financing Statement – Amendment	88	20	6080	6764	6764	2057	1043	1918	680	7	*
Total	15602	865	17125	34465	34266	34002	23803	28433	23242	14628	13862
Total Instruments (including O&G)	All instruments for the month/year										
# of Oil & Gas Instruments	are the instrument we note as being Oil & Gas (included in Completed Total if brought in for the stamp)										
# of UPI's on O&G instruments	there can be more than 1 UPI on an instrument, so this # is higher										
Total # of UPI's Pre-review	Pre-review means they could have been emailed or faxed us the document ahead of time										
Total # of UPI's Completed	All the documents that were brought in for the UPI Stamp										
*	Was not tracking these documents										