



PASSAGES

News About the PA Route 23 Environmental Impact Statement

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Look us up on the Web

www.paroute23.com

Public Meetings Announcement!

Tuesday, August 27, 2002

6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

**Calvary Church
1051 Landis Valley Road
Manheim Township**

and

Wednesday, August 28, 2002

6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

**Garden Spot High School Gym
669 East Main Street
New Holland**

please see the back cover of
this newsletter for additional
information regarding the
Public Meetings

First Land Use Visioning Conference Proves Successful

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) and the County of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, are pleased to announce the successful completion of a two-day land use visioning conference. PENNDOT and Lancaster County have agreed on the importance of developing a coordinated land use component of the environmental and engineering studies currently underway for the PA Route 23 improvement project.

Earl Township hosted the first conference at its municipal building near New Holland. Manheim, Upper Leacock, East Earl, West Earl, East Lampeter, and Earl Townships and New Holland Borough were invited to the first session (5/23/2002). The second session (5/28/2002) included the PA 23 EIS Community Advisory Committee membership and representatives from the federal and state regulatory agencies that are involved in the project.

Land use planner Norman Day presented the factors in the study area that either constrain development (wetlands or agricultural easements) or make an area more suitable for development (availability of public sewer and water).

Mr. Day described socio-economic and land development patterns in the study area. He noted that, "population growth in the corridor has been occurring steadily and will continue through the planning period, even without any transportation improvements."

Conference participants learned about Lancaster County population and employment projections for the 30-year period of 2000 - 2030 and considered projections of additional land that might be developed to house and provide employment locations for these new residents and employees.



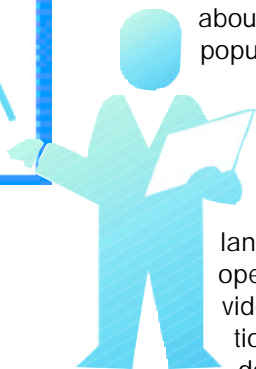
Members of the municipalities broke out into groups to discuss their thoughts and gain a better understanding of the growth in the surrounding townships.

The study area is presently a major employment center and a net importer of jobs. Many individuals employed locally live elsewhere and commute into the area. Major employment centers are along Route 23 in New Holland Borough and Upper Leacock Township, and in East Lampeter Township near Route 30. An important feature of this corridor is that these commercial and industrial employment centers, as well as residential developments, occur in a relatively narrow band of development along Route 23.

The most common use of land in the study area is agriculture. The band of urban development along Route 23 is flanked on both sides by farmland. In the study area, a source of pressure for development is coming from the farm itself. The trend toward farmstead businesses has meant additional uses in agricultural areas and more intensive development of individual farms. Single lot residential subdivisions of larger farm parcels also contribute to changing the character of the landscape.

Following the presentation, the participants formed smaller discussion groups and shared ideas about what challenges may need to be faced in managing the growth that will come to the corridor. Participants also shared their visions for the future of their communities and some strategies to help maintain the character of their communities.

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Do You Know Your Community Advisory Committee Representative?

The PA 23 EIS Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is an important part of the public outreach effort for this project. The purpose of the CAC is to provide for a comprehensive and orderly means of identifying and evaluating local community interests and concerns in a timely manner throughout the PA 23 EIS process. The primary goal of the CAC membership is to facilitate the timely exchange of ideas and project information between the project team and members of the community.

The CAC provides input that reflects many of the diverse interests represented throughout the project area directly to the project team. The project team is responsible for further evaluation of this input based on engineering, environmental and/or financial constraints of the project.

The first group of CAC members were initially nominated by each of the PA 23 EIS Study Groups; with each member selected to act as the Study Group delegate representing the interests of their specific Study Group. There were a total of seven individuals nominated by the Study Groups to serve as CAC members.

The municipalities within the project study area were also invited to nominate representatives, and they nominated seven members - representatives of East Lampeter, Upper Leacock, West Earl, Manheim, Earl, East Earl, and New Holland Borough.

These 14 CAC members formed what the project team refers to as the "charter" group. And finally, this past spring, volunteers were solicited for membership on the CAC. PENNDOT and the Lancaster County Planning Commission received a

great response with a total of 31 applications received to date.

The CAC charter membership was invited to the first meeting held in February, 2002 to participate in finalizing the committee membership. The remaining seven members were selected by the charter group, from the volunteer applications, and new nominees recruited by charter members. The CAC membership process was then complete and currently reflects a total of 21 representatives (see Community Advisory Committee Members Matrix).

A second CAC meeting was held in March to discuss the organization and operating principles of the CAC, provide a project update, and to discuss the upcoming visioning session. A third meeting is targeted for summer to get their input on various ongoing project development activities. Meeting summaries for all CAC meetings are available to the public on the PA 23 EIS project web site at www.paroute23.com.

A total of twenty-six CAC volunteer applications remain on file for future consideration on an as-needed basis. PENNDOT and the Lancaster County Planning Commission appreciate the interest and the spirit of volunteerism demonstrated by the applicants, and encourage everyone to continue to take part in all of the public participation forums provided as part of this critical project development process.

For additional information about the CAC or how to contact one of the members, please contact Lugene Keys at KCI Technologies, Inc., 5001 Louise Drive, Suite 201, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 or by phone at (717) 691-1340.

First Land Use Visioning Conference Proves Successful (cont. from front)

In Pennsylvania, decisions concerning land use are mostly made at the local level, not by the county and not by the state. The municipalities recognize the need to work together to manage land use issues in the study area. One conference participant noted that times have changed, "You used to be able to swing your arms freely around here and not hit anyone. Now you raise your elbows and you bump your neighbor. We need to work together to keep our communities the way we want them to be."

The first conference laid the foundation for a collaborative process needed to make this project a success. PENNDOT and Lancaster County are committed to working closely with the community to make this project work. "We were very pleased with the level of interest and participation shown at these sessions," noted PENNDOT Project Manager Mark Malhenzie. "We don't need everyone to agree with each other at these sessions. We just need to keep the discussions moving forward so we get a clear picture of what is important to these communities. I think we made some real progress." Coordination with the local community will continue throughout this project. The information gathered at the first conference will be used to develop preliminary land use strate-

gies that can be used in conjunction with the transportation alternatives that are being studied. Future conferences will be used to review and revise the land use strategies. If you would like to discuss the land use issues related to this project, please visit the land use station at the upcoming public meeting or feel free to contact the project representatives listed in this newsletter.



Norman Day presented information to the attendees on what the future holds for PA 23 Corridor without improvements to PA 23.

Norman Day, who was an outstanding leader in land use planning and a member of the PA 23 EIS Project Team, passed away on July 16, 2002. His death is a tremendous loss. His vast experience, insights, and advice will be missed by all of us. We extend our condolences to his family on their loss as well as ours, and we pledge to continue to build upon the foundation he laid for the collaborative task we began together -- to translate the community's vision for their future into a transportation and land use strategy to meet the needs that are faced by the community today. *Mark Malhenzie, Project Manager*

PA 23 EIS
Community Advisory
Committee Matrix

Interests Represented by the CAC Members

	Agriculture	Business	Economic Vitality	Emergency Services	Environmental	Government/Municipal Rep.	Historic Preservation	Land Use	Residential	Transportation	Tourism
Eric Bachman Manheim Township				•							
Tom Baldrige Transportation Study Group Conestoga Township		•	•								
John Bare East Lampeter Township	•	•			•						
Henry Beiler Upper Leacock Township	•	•			•	•	•		•		
Herman Bontrager New Holland Borough	•	•						•	•		
William Brubaker Manheim Township	•				•				•	•	
Frank Christoffel Land Use Study Group Manheim Township								•			
George Clair East Lampeter Township		•		•		•					
Mary Clinton Upper Leacock Township						•					
William Ebel Transportation Study Group Manheim Township	•	•	•		•	•	•		•	•	
Sylvan Fisher West Earl Township						•			•		
Katie Glick Upper Leacock Township								•	•		
Lisa Greaves Manheim Township						•					
Randolph Harris Historic, Archaeological & Agricultural Study Group Mount Joy			•		•	•	•			•	
Neil Kinsey PA Dept. of Community and Economic Dev.						•		•			
Larry Knepper New Holland Borough				•		•					
Frank Ludwig Historic, Archaeological & Agricultural Study Group Earl Township	•							•			
Doug Maitland Land Use Study Group Caernarvon Township						•		•			
Joe Shriver Earl Township	•		•							•	
Fred Wissler Earl Township	•	•	•			•		•	•		
David Zimmerman East Earl Township	•				•	•		•			

Farm Resource Assessments Provide Good Harvest

Studies of farm resources within the Route 23 study area began this spring. After reviewing aerial photos to determine land use, the PA 23 EIS Team contacted farmers within the study area. Project team members spoke with farmers in order to accurately map farm resources, gathering information on crops grown, livestock raised, and access to fields.

This information has been used to assess potential impacts to farm resources for each alternative. Assessment of impacts will continue as alternatives are refined.



All alternatives under study at this time affect farmland. Mapping of farm resources will be on display at the public meetings on August 27th and 28th, 2002 (see back cover for meeting information). After a preferred alternative is identified, efforts will focus on minimizing impacts to farms, particularly with respect to access issues. Project team members will continue to work with local farmers to obtain additional details on individual farms and the farming community as a whole. If you have a question about farmland studies, please contact Kate Farrow at (610) 407-9700.

PA Route 23 EIS Project Schedule

Summer 2001

Notice to Proceed

Fall 2001 to Spring 2002

Detailed Environmental Investigations and Alternative Development, Land Use Visioning Conference

Summer 2002

PUBLIC MEETING

Fall/Winter 2002

Detailed Environmental Investigations and Alternative Refinement, Land Use Plan Development

PUBLIC MEETING

Spring/Summer 2003

Alternative Refinement

PUBLIC MEETING

Fall 2003

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

PUBLIC HEARING

Summer 2004

Final Environmental Impact Statement

Fall 2004

Record of Decision

PA 23 Project Team Announces Public Meetings

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) in conjunction with the Lancaster County Planning Commission (LCPC) will hold open house public meetings on Tuesday, August 27, 2002 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Calvary Church, located on 1051 Landis Valley Road in Manheim Township; and Wednesday, August 28, 2002 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Garden Spot High School Gymnasium, located at 669 East Main Street, New Holland, PA.

The purpose of the public meetings will be to review alternatives which were carried forward from the previously completed Preliminary Alternatives Analysis, to review detailed historic resource and environmental mapping, traffic studies, transportation and land use data and also to review public outreach activities that are underway. Representatives from PENNDOT, LCPC, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the consultant project team will be available to present the most up to date project information and answer questions. A survey will also be available for the public to provide input. The meeting location complies with the American Disabilities Act and is handicapped accessible. If you require assistance, please contact Stacey Hostetler at 717-691-1340.

Members of the PA 23 EIS project team will also be at the New Holland Sales Stables located on Jackson Street on Monday, August 12th and the Leola Produce Auction, located on Brethren Church Road on Tuesday, August 13th with information regarding the upcoming public meetings.



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