



Regional and Local Perspectives

Transportation Engineering and Safety Conference
December 7, 2017

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Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization

DRIVEforward

www.driveforwardcc.com



CENTRE COUNTY
MPO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

We are here!

Metropolitan & Rural Planning Organizations

- ✓ Mandated by Federal Law
- ✓ Prepare **Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**
- ✓ Allocate Federal and State **Capital Funds To:**
 - Roads
 - Bridges
 - Transit
 - Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities
- ✓ Funds Allocated Through the **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**



Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations in Pennsylvania

MPO Voting Member Representation

All county municipalities are represented in the MPO either individually or regionally

-  Planning Regions
-  Municipal Boundary

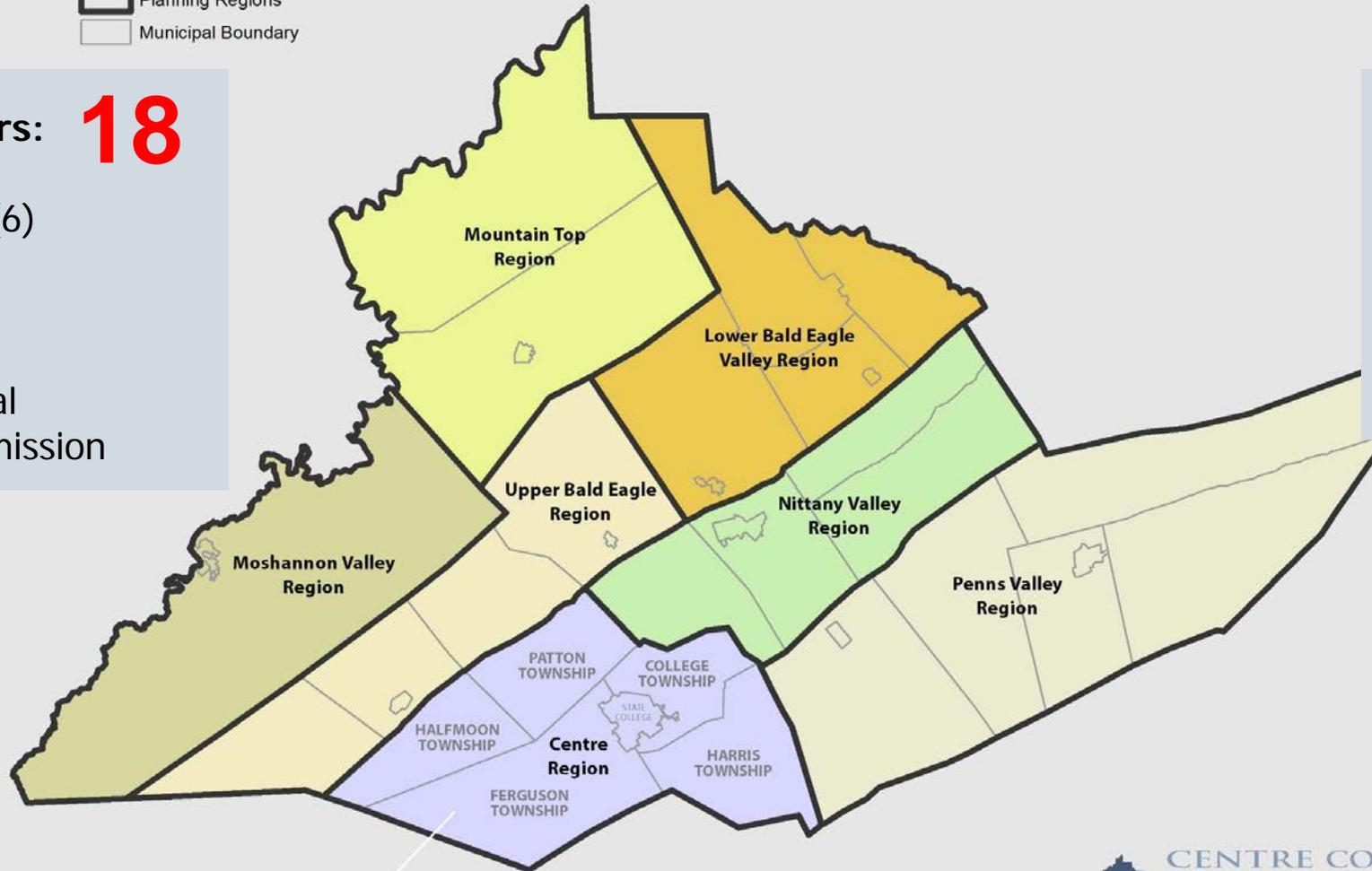
Voting Members:

18

- County (2)
- Municipalities (6)
- Regions (6)
- PennDOT (2)
- CATA
- Centre Regional Planning Commission

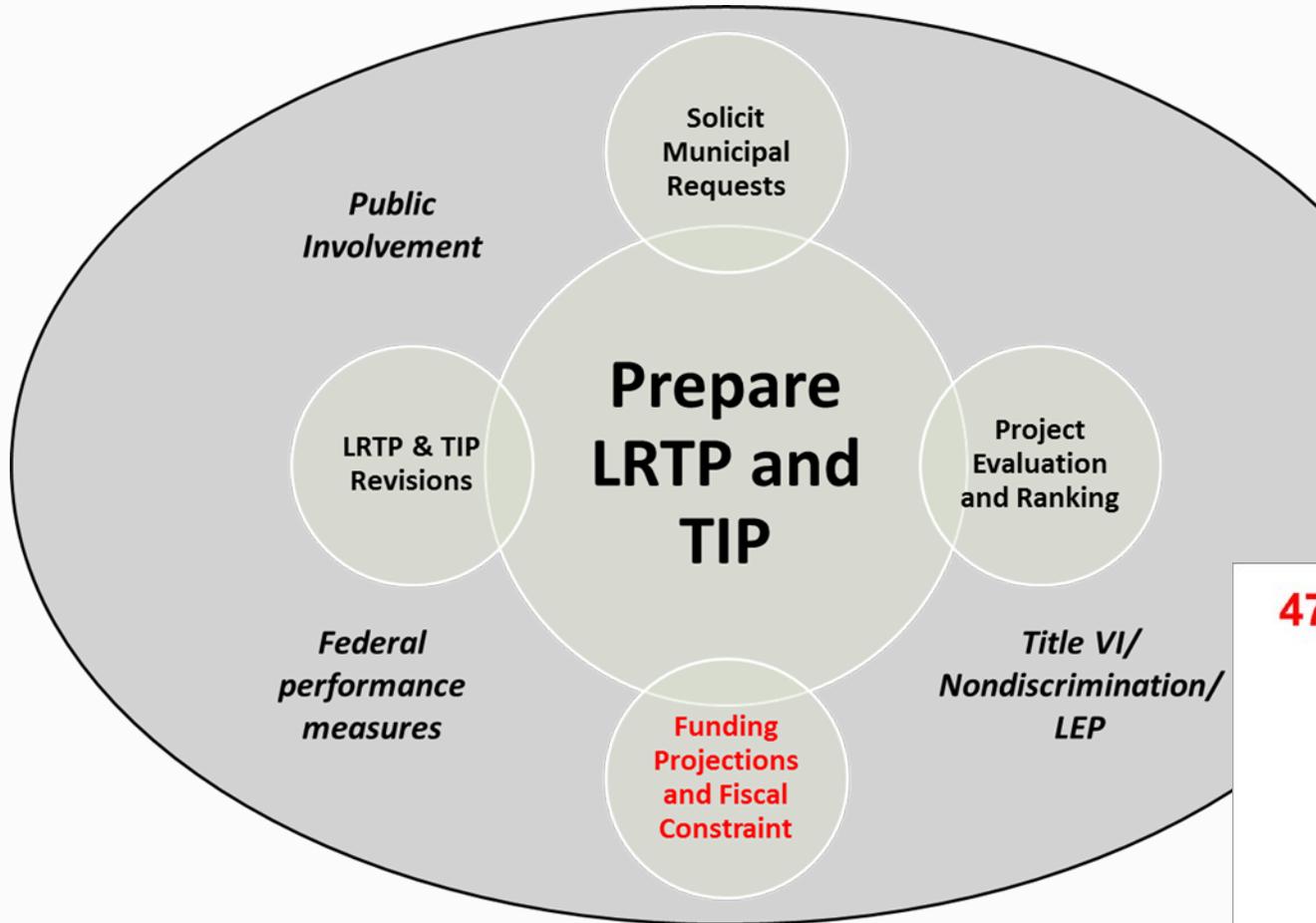
Non-voting Members:

- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration
- Penn State



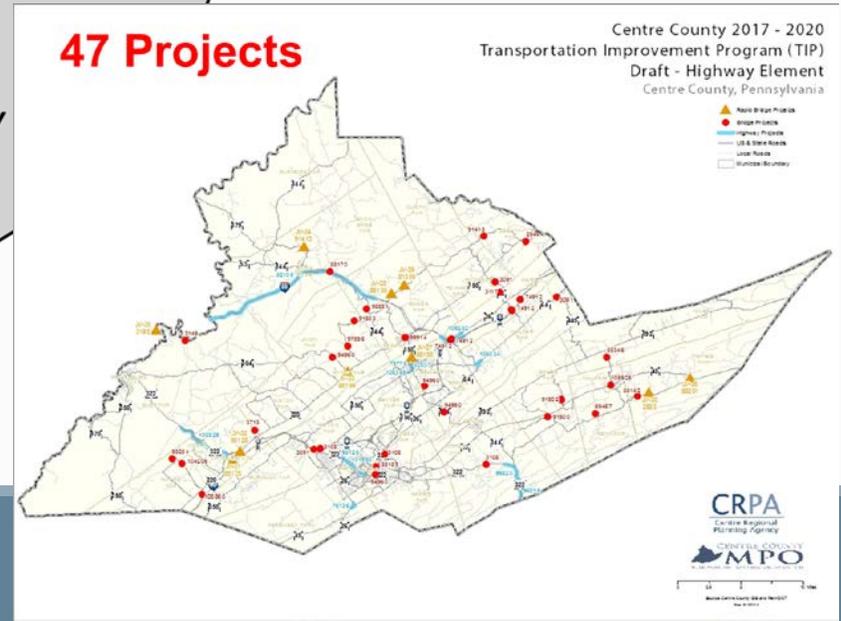
Each municipality in the Centre Region is represented by a voting member.

What does our MPO staff do?



MUST:

- ✓ Cover at least a 20-year period
- ✓ Be updated at least every 5 years
- ✓ Consider all modes of transportation
- ✓ **Be fiscally constrained**
- ✓ Provide for public participation
- ✓ Consider federal planning factors



What else do we do?

- Represent community in the project development process

SR 3018
Whitehall Road/
University Drive Extension Widening
(integration of bike/ped facilities)

*Forerunner of
PennDOT Connects
in Centre County!*



Old vs. New Collaboration



Earlier community
input about design
elements of project

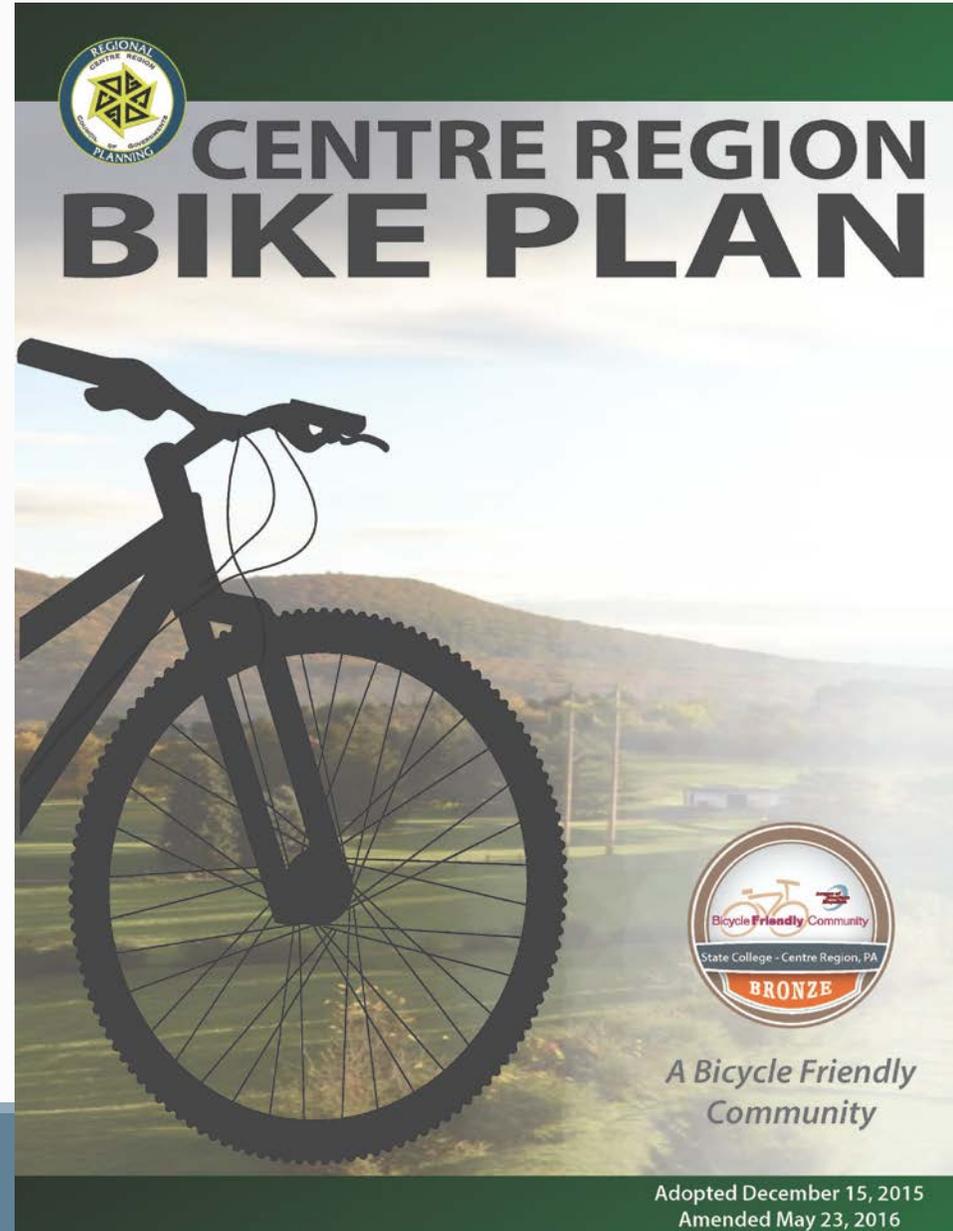
Why is Collaboration Important?

- **Consider community needs/issues**
 - ✓ **Bike/Ped accommodations**
 - ✓ **Transit access**
 - ✓ **Stormwater management**
 - ✓ **Green infrastructure**
 - ✓ **Planning studies**
 - ✓ **Contextual issues**

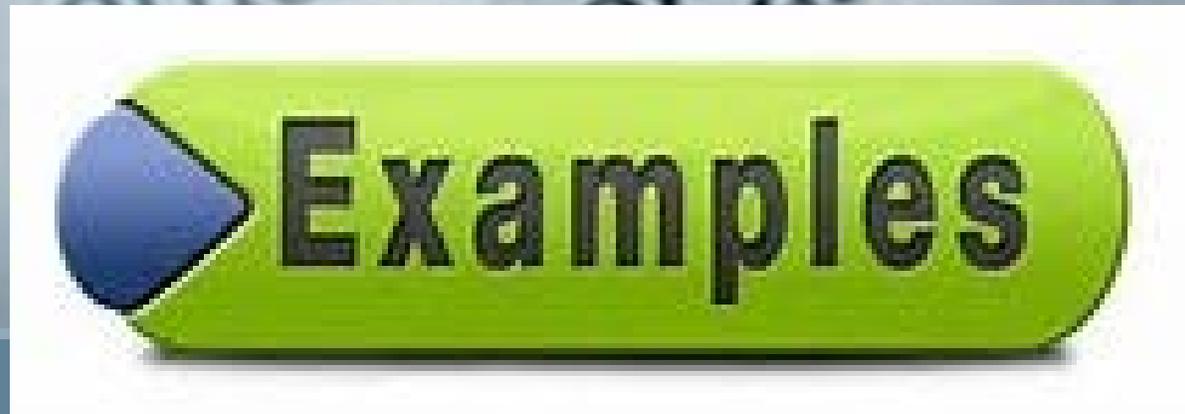


Documented Community Vision

- Comprehensive plans
- Planning studies
- Other local planning efforts



government that has
col-lab-o-ra-tion
between / with] the
other person or group
or art: in colla



Centre MPO

- SR 3010 Boalsburg Road/Warner Boulevard



Centre MPO

- SR 3010 Boalsburg Road/Warner Boulevard



Before



After

Centre MPO

- **SR 3010 Boalsburg Road/Warner Boulevard**

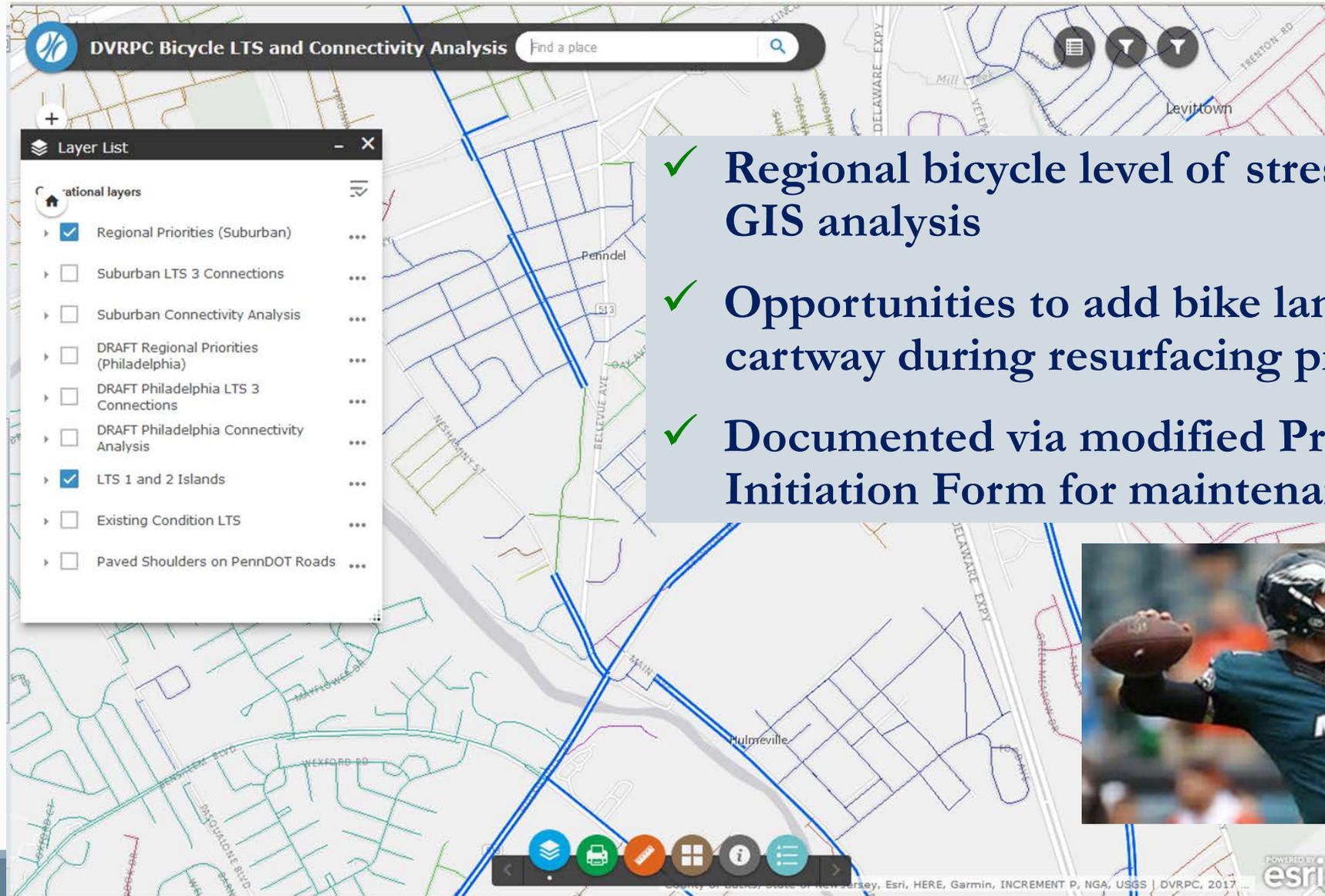


Warner Blvd.
looking east from Boal Ave.



Boalsburg Rd.
looking west from Linden Hall Rd.

DVRPC – Maintenance/Resurfacing Projects



- ✓ **Regional bicycle level of stress GIS analysis**
- ✓ **Opportunities to add bike lanes within cartway during resurfacing projects**
- ✓ **Documented via modified Project Initiation Form for maintenance projects**



DVRPC – SR 3021 Orange St., Media Borough

- ✓ Sharrows installed during resurfacing
- ✓ Route is on Media Borough Bicycle Plan



SPC – SR 68 Corridor, Butler County

- ✓ Congested commuter route, multiple municipalities
- ✓ Corridor study completed
- ✓ Results fostered discussion of multimodal elements
- ✓ PE phase now underway...discussions ongoing?

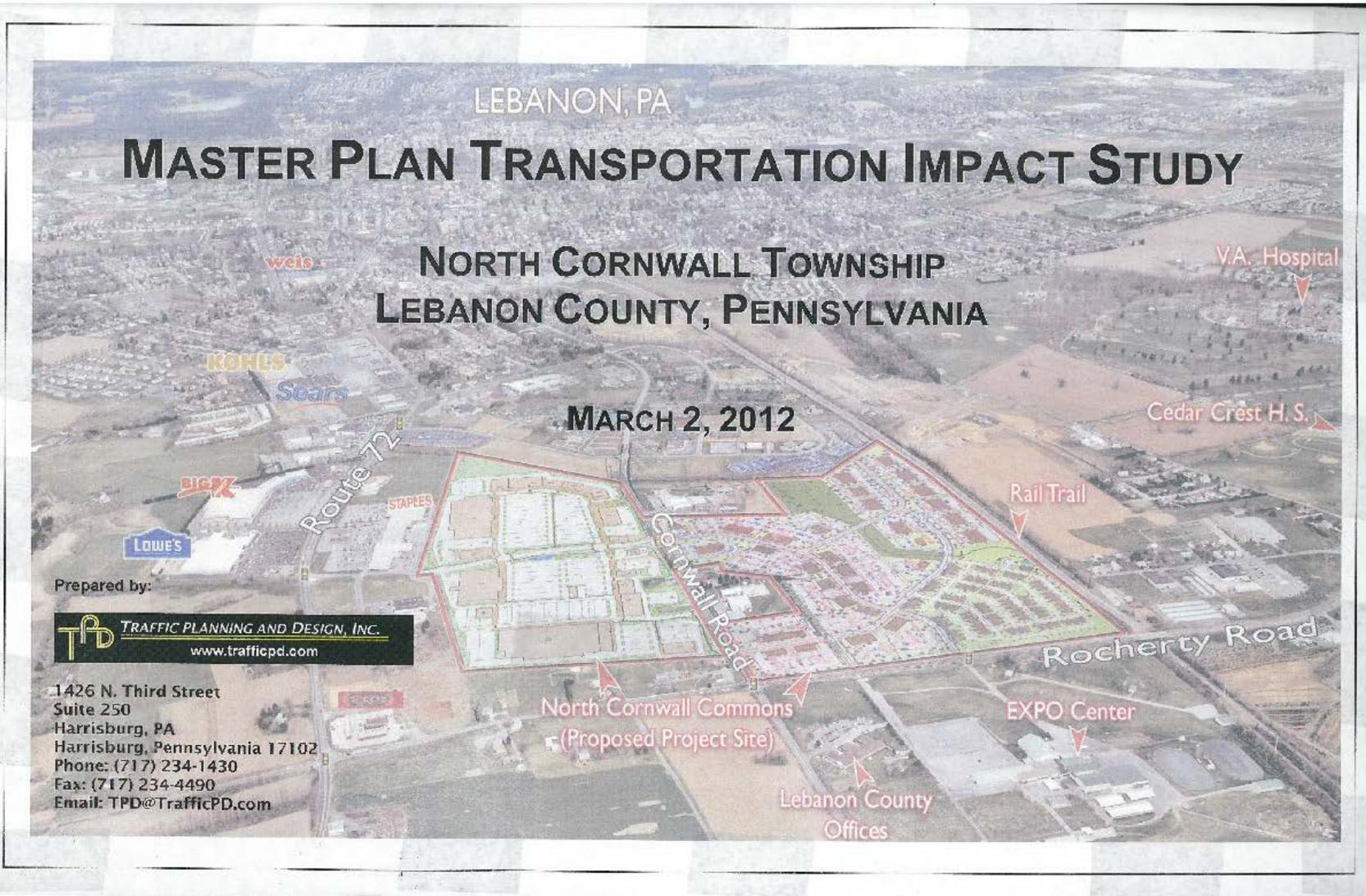


York MPO – SR 624 Long Level Rd.

✓ Rustic guiderail installation – Susquehanna Heritage area



Lebanon MPO – North Cornwall Commons



- ✓ 5 intersections need improved
- ✓ Lebanon Valley Rail Trail adjacent to site
- ✓ Bike/ped linkages previously identified
- ✓ One intersection involved:
 - 3 municipalities
 - School district
 - Lebanon County
 - DCNR
 - PennDOT

Lebanon MPO – North Cornwall Commons

Engineer buy-in!



Southern Alleghenies RPO – Fike Truss Bridge

- ✓ Somerset County-owned bridge
- ✓ Initially scoped for rehabilitation
- ✓ Replacement now considered because officials emphasized importance to agriculture industry



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Berks MPO – Fleetwood Borough

- ✓ Started as pavement restoration
- ✓ Now includes utility work, sidewalks, stormwater drainage, signal improvements



Berks MPO – Exeter Township

- ✓ County bridge on Township road, intersecting with state road
- ✓ Started as bridge superstructure replacement
- ✓ Now includes sidewalk relocation, bridge widening, intersection signalization



How's Connects Working?

Still in its infancy...



...how will it grow up?

Takeaways...So Far



- ✓ Local officials appreciate face-to-face contact
- ✓ Identifying local needs that could change scope...*early!*
- ✓ Fostering communication among non-traditional stakeholders who then contribute to process
- ✓ Raising interest in other funding programs like Transportation Alternatives and Multimodal Transportation Fund



*Lackawanna/Luzerne County MPO:
Recommendation for municipal
roadmasters/public works staff to
meet with PennDOT County
maintenance staff annually*

Takeaways...So Far



- ✓ Time/effort involved...*communication and coordination is hard work!*
- ✓ Do municipalities see value? What are the carrots for their involvement?
- ✓ Managing expectations of local officials/stakeholders...*can't have everything!*
- ✓ Extra elements take time and add cost



Connecting Local Officials and Engineers



- ✓ Listen for community needs
- ✓ “How can we?” vs. “We can’t!”
- ✓ Collaborate through all phases
- ✓ Work together to manage expectations

And celebrate the wins!



SR 3010
Boalsburg Road/Warner Boulevard

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