

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES****INTRODUCTION**

In order to create a practical and effective Comprehensive Plan for Perry County, it is necessary to establish and articulate acceptable goals and objectives. The goals and objectives outlined and defined in this chapter need to interrelate, harmonize, and balance the economic, physical, natural, and social aspects of Perry County.

This chapter focuses on outlining these goals and objectives, and the strategies to achieve them. More detailed guidelines, techniques and rationales for land use, transportation, community facilities and services, housing, historic resources, and environmental resources are expanded in their individual plan element chapters.

The statements and directions indicated in this chapter will serve a major function directing future Planning Commission activities. The policies of this plan will be used in all of the various Planning Commission review activities, including subdivision and land development reviews, subdivision and land development ordinance amendment reviews, comprehensive plan revisions, zoning ordinance amendment reviews, sewer plan reviews, and other related activities. The policies of this Plan will be the basis for future functional plans developed or updated by the County. While it is recognized that these functional plans will address issues in more detail than in the County Comprehensive Plan, it is anticipated that they will be based on the goals and objectives set forth in this document. Finally, the policies and concepts set forth in this Plan will form the basis for the Planning Commission's interactions with other agencies and governmental bodies.

This chapter outlines and identifies the goals and objectives into eight (8) categories:

- **Future Land Use Plan**
- **Transportation Plan**
- **Community Facilities and Utilities Plan**
- **Housing Plan**
- **Historic, Cultural Resources Plan**
- **Natural Resources Plan**
- **Population/Socio-Economic Plan**
- **Overall Implementation Plan**

For the purpose of this Plan, the goals and objectives have been defined as follows:

**GOALS:** Are intended to function as direction-setters, not actions. They set ideal future conditions toward which objectives are directed. They are general expressions of planning values and therefore, are somewhat abstract in nature. They are often not quantifiable, time dependent or suggestive of specific actions or achievements.

**OBJECTIVES:** Are action-oriented statements, comprised of policies, standards and/or principles that establish a set of specific steps to which the governing body and planning commission commit, in an effort to achieve related goals.

**STRATEGIES:** Are the specific steps used to achieve the related goals and objectives.

The Goals and Objectives of the 2007 Perry County Comprehensive Plan were developed by the Perry County Planning Commission through a lengthy process of evaluating public input from the initiation of the 2003 Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's Tri-County Regional Growth Management Plan in 2003 to the present.

For any single aspect of the Plan to work, a significant amount of toil must be made to see the fulfillment of the Plan's Goals and Objectives. Maintaining a chartered direction will help the County stay on tract toward achieving its future.

### **INTERRELATIONSHIPS OF THE VARIOUS PLAN COMPONENTS**

This Plan as you will read provides a significant number of interrelationships between the various plan components. Suffice to say, the interconnectedness between two Plan components is very noticeable. This would include Future Land Use and Transportation. For instance, the connection between the Land Use Plan and the Transportation Plan is an obvious point that.

Another pair of components where interrelationships are observable involves the Future Land Use Plan and Community Facilities. Perhaps the most notable item with this connection is the recommendations for Future Land Use as it relates to the expansion infrastructure for community facilities and service.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

A number of stakeholders have also provided beneficial input into our County planning process. Their thoughts, and recommendations have helped to strengthen the Plan's integrity and value to all of the County's citizens. Some of those groups contributing to our planning process were the Foundation for Enhancing Communities, PA DCNR Forestry Bureau, District 3-0, the Dauphin County Planning Commission, the Cumberland County Planning Commission, the Juniata County Planning Commission, and the Northumberland County Planning Commission. There were also a small number of individual citizens also offering us written comments.

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247, as reenacted and amended, §302(a.1) the County has forwarded copies of the Draft Plan to all of the County's municipalities, school districts, surrounding counties, contiguous municipalities, and contiguous school districts. Notification has also been provided to all of the County offices/departments, each of the County's public libraries.

To assist in disseminating the Draft Plan, staff utilized present day technology, by posting a copy of the Draft County Comprehensive Plan on the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's website with a direct link to the site from Perry County's website. This was a tremendously resourceful method for increasing public access to the draft document. Moreover, a comment block was included on the webpage to facilitate the process for the public to offer comments back to the Planning Commission. The Draft Plan was housed on the website since August of 2005, and it is the County Planning Commission's intent to have this Final Plan remain there. There were over 1,700 visitors to the website during the period of time the Draft Plan was posted with less than ten (10) email messages on the Plan.

Also, in accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247, as reenacted and amended, §302(a.1) the Perry County Planning Commission held three public meetings to gather additional input on the Plan. The meetings were held in December 2006 at the Penn Township Municipal Building, the PA DCNR, Forestry Bureau's District 3-0 Office in Toboyn Township, and the Newport High School. The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code only specifies one such meeting should take place.

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247, as reenacted and amended, §302(b) on February 26, 2007, the Perry County Commissioners held their Public Hearing on the Plan to satisfy this requirement. The meeting notice was publicly advertised in the Perry County Times, the Newport Sun, and the Duncannon Record for two consecutive weeks, complying with the prescribed notification process outlined in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

## **2007 PERRY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **FUTURE LAND USE PLAN**

#### **LU GOAL 1. Improve upon the existing land use planning efforts in Perry County.**

**LU Objective 1.A.** Encourage additional Perry County municipalities to plan for their future.

**LU Objective 1.B.** Focus growth in the direction of already developed Perry County areas where community facilities and services exist to support the added service needs.

**LU Objective 1.C.** Strengthen planning coordination throughout Perry County.

**LU GOAL 2. Preserve and protect the agricultural and forested character of Perry County.**

**LU Objective 2.A.** Sustain programs that preserve and protect the agricultural and forested character of the County.

**LU Objective 2.B.** Encourage the implementation of agriculturally focused zoning ordinances and open space and cluster design principles in Perry County municipalities where agricultural land or forests dominate the landscape.

**LU GOAL 3. Integrate land use and transportation in Perry County.**

**LU Objective 3.A.** Coordinate future land use with transportation-related issues.

**LU GOAL 4. Direct development away from environmentally-constrained areas.**

**LU Objective 4.A.** Encourage ordinance preparation which places limitations on development in or near environmentally constrained property.

**TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

**T GOAL 1. Provide for a safe and efficient highway system in Perry County.**

**T Objective 1.A.** Increase the understanding of the link between land use and transportation.

**T Objective 1.B.** Ensure that highway safety covers all levels of Perry County’s highway system.

**T Objective 1.C.** Promote inter-agency and inter-municipal coordination.

**T GOAL 2. Provide for a safe and efficient rail freight system in Perry County.**

**T Objective 2.A.** Increase understanding of the link between land use and rail freight transportation.

**T Objective 2.B.** Ensure that rail freight safety covers the entire rail system through Perry County.

**T GOAL 3. Provide for a safe and efficient bicycle/pedestrian system in Perry County.**

**T Objective 3.A.** Encourage improvements that provide for a safer means of bicycle and pedestrian travel.

**T Objective 3.B.** Increase understanding of the link between land use and pedestrian travel.

**T Objective 3.C.** Encourage improvements that provide for a safer means of Bicycle travel.

**T Objective 3.D.** Increase understanding of the link between land use and bicycle travel.

**T GOAL 4. Provide for a safe and efficient public transportation system in Perry County.**

**T Objective 4.A.** Increase public transportation options in Perry County, particularly along the US 11/15 and PA 34 corridors.

**T GOAL 5. Provide for a safe and efficient public aviation system in Perry County.**

**T Objective 5.A.** Strengthen the County’s aviation options and connections.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES, AND UTILITIES PLAN**

**CFU GOAL 1. Provide a complete and adequate system of community facilities and utilities in Perry County.**

**CFU Objective 1.A.** Maintain responsive educational programs and facilities for all Perry County Residents.

**CFU Objective 1.B.** Improve upon Perry County’s emergency response and protective services.

**CFU Objective 1.C.** Effectively plan for Perry County’s park and recreation needs.

**CFU Objective 1.D.** Pursue a coordinated and effective approach to water supply planning in Perry County.

**CFU Objective 1.E.** Pursue a coordinated and effective approach to solid waste management in Perry County.

**CFU Objective 1.F.** Pursue a coordinated and effective approach to sewerage facilities planning in Perry County.

**CFU Objective 1.G.** Pursue a coordinated and effective approach to storm water management in Perry County.

**HOUSING PLAN**

**H GOAL 1. Make preparations for increased housing demands as anticipated by population projections.**

**H Objective 1.A.** Encourage the maximization of existing community facilities to service the anticipated housing demand.

**H Objective 1.B.** Provide for housing of persons of all ages, all income levels, all races, creed, national origin, gender, or disability.

**H Objective 1.C.** Ensure that all housing construction in Perry County is of durable and sound quality.

**HISTORIC AND CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN**

**HISTORIC AND CULTURAL (HCR)**

**HCR GOAL 1. Sustain Perry County’s historic resources.**

**HCR Objective 1.A.** Encourage historic designation of places within Perry County.

**HCR Objective 1.B.** Increase citizen awareness as it relates to Perry County history.

**HCR GOAL 2. Sustain Perry County’s cultural resources.**

**HCR Objective 2.A.** Protect Perry County’s cultural resources.

**HCR Objective 2.B.** Increase citizen awareness as it relates to Perry County’s cultural resources.

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

**NR GOAL 1. Sustain Perry County’s natural resources.**

**NR Objective 1.A.** Promote the protection of Perry County’s wetland areas.

**NR Objective 1.B.** Promote the protection of Perry County’s steep-sloped land areas.

**NR Objective 1.C.** Promote the protection of Perry County’s floodplains.

**NR Objective 1.D.** Promote the sustainability of woodland areas in Perry County through stewardship of the resource.

**NR Objective 1.E.** Promote the protection of Perry County’s prime agricultural soils.

**NR Objective 1.F.** Promote the protection of Perry County’s natural areas.

**POPULATION/SOCIO-ECONOMIC PLAN**

**PSE GOAL 1. Make preparations for continued growth as anticipated by population projections.**

**PSE Objective 1.A.** Focus growth in the direction of already developed Perry County areas where community facilities and services exist to support the added service needs.

**PSE Objective 1.B.** Focus efforts to address the growing social needs of Perry County’s citizens.

**PSE GOAL 2. Provide readily accessible up-to-date demographic data on Perry County.**

**PSE Objective 2.A.** Utilize the Perry County home page on the world-wide web.

**PSE Objective 2.B.** Provide demographic documentation on the County and each of the County's 30 municipalities.

**PSE GOAL 3. Increase Perry County's employment opportunities.**

**PSE Objective 3.A.** Continue to utilize the Perry County Economic Development Authority (PCEDA) and the Perry County Economic Development Corporation (PCEDC) to advance employment opportunities in Perry County.

**PSE Objective 3.B.** Retain and attract a high quality workforce for Perry County.

**PSE Objective 3.C.** Strengthen the economic viability of the agricultural and forest product industries in Perry County.

**OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

**OI GOAL 1. Implement the 2007 Perry County Comprehensive Plan.**

**OI Objective 1.A.** Endorse the value of the 2007 Perry County Comprehensive Plan as a useful tool for guidance and direction.

**OI Objective 1.B.** Increase planning knowledge among Perry County citizens through outreach, while providing services and performing work functions.

**OI Objective 1.C.** Promote public and private involvement throughout all planning processes.

**OI Objective 1.D.** Effectively utilize Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to support Perry County planning activities at all levels of government.

**OI GOAL 2. Complete all identified strategies prior to the next Perry County Comprehensive Plan update.**

**OI Objective 2.A.** Utilize the Perry County Comprehensive Plan, Plan Administration and Implementation component to aid in accomplishing this Goal.

**OI GOAL 3. Continually prepare for the next Perry County Comprehensive Plan update, ten years from the date this plan is formally adopted.**

**OI Objective 3.A.** Support ongoing planning efforts to obtain and compile meaningful data.

**OI GOAL 4.** Strengthen an already strong working agreement with the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC).

**OI Objective 4.A.** Continue to support the TCRCP.

**OI Objective 4.B.** Focus an increased level of attention toward municipal-level planning with education/outreach.