

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



REPORTS BY:
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
Dauphin County Planning Commission
Perry County Planning Commission
Harrisburg Area Transportation Study



CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS	3
INTRODUCTION	5
REGIONAL PROGRAM	7
DAUPHIN COUNTY	13
PERRY COUNTY	16
HARRISBURG AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY	19

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
320 MARKET STREET, SUITE 301E, HARRISBURG, PA 17101
(717) 234-2639 / WWW.TCRPC-PA.ORG



A view of the Tri-County Region via Flightradar24

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS

We are pleased to present this Annual Report on the activities of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) for 2024. It is provided as a service to the citizens of the region and to update the county commissioners and planning commission members about our activities and accomplishments for all of the programs we administer.



*TCRPC Chairman
Danny Kirk*



*DCPC Chairman
Robert A. Spandler*



*PCPC Chairman
James H. Turner*



*HATS Chairman
Jeffrey T. Haste*

TCRPC

It was a year of change as TCRPC moved to a new office for the first time in two decades, from the Dauphin County Veterans Memorial Building to Strawberry Square. Also, Steve Deck retired as executive director, having served in that capacity since 2018, and was succeeded by Andrew Bomberger. TCRPC's annual luncheon hosted over 120 people and included a roundtable discussion on road safety in the region with several stakeholders, including PennDOT and municipal officials. Finally, implementation of the Countywide Action Plans (CAP) continued, with over \$1 million in selected project funding provided to address water quality issues.

DAUPHIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION (DCPC)

At the county level, DCPC continued its watershed-based Water Resource Enhancement Program (WREP) to enable more cost-effective stormwater management. A priority study was completed to identify potential projects that will improve flood control and stormwater management in participating municipalities.

PERRY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION (PCPC)

Also at the county level, PCPC completed an update of its comprehensive plan, known as Picture Perry. Over 200 projects were identified to make Picture Perry an implementable, online resource for communities throughout the county. Additionally, the local planning assistance (LPA) program continues to grow and provide planning support to several municipalities.

In addition to providing regular reviews for subdivision plans and zoning ordinance work, TCRPC staff also provided over 500 hours in technical planning assistance to Dauphin and Perry county municipalities.

HARRISBURG AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (HATS)

HATS finalized and adopted the FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), totaling \$400 million in funding for road, bridge and trail projects throughout the three-county region. Development of the HATS 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) began with a 6-month outreach process to municipalities and the public. In September, HATS adopted a Regional Safety Action Plan that was funded by a federal discretionary grant through the Safe Streets and Roads For All program. Moving into its third year, SusqueCycle added two new stations, secured a new fleet of bicycles, and nearly doubled the previous year's ridership.

TCRPC's staff of 12 has worked hard to be a trusted resource for its municipalities. Through funding, planning tools, education and training, it worked to exceed the basic requirements of the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC).

The efforts noted above are just highlights from a very productive year. We encourage you to read through this report for additional details on each of the programs.

It is our goal to continue to grow as a vital partner in helping build a better future for our region. We look forward to maintaining these productive working relationships throughout 2025.



Linglestown streetscape, Lower Paxton Township

INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission is to foster the long-term livability and vitality of our communities, counties and region.

Since 1966, we've been a forum for information sharing, consensus building and coordination to tackle regional issues facing the diverse communities of Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties.

We believe the region is stronger when we work together.

OUR MAIN PROGRAMS —

- The **Regional Growth Management Plan**, which promotes economic growth and revitalization in our communities while protecting natural resources, optimizing transportation options and recognizing important quality-of-life issues;
- The **Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS)**, the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the three-county region;
- Staff support for the **Dauphin County Planning Commission**;
- Staff support for the **Perry County Planning Commission**.

OUR 2024 COMMISSIONERS —

Officers

- **Chairman:** Danny Kirk
- **Vice Chairman:** John Kerschner
- **Secretary:** Tom Graupensperger
- **Treasurer:** Robert Spandler

Dauphin County

- **Board of Commissioners:** Mike Pries
- **Planning Commission:** Mary Gaiski, John Kerschner, Gary Lenker, Robert Spandler
- **Member-at-Large:** Fred Lighty / Dan Robinson (appointed in May)
- **Dauphin Southwest Regional Planning Area:** Frank Chlebnikow
- **Dauphin Southeast Regional Planning Area:** Robert Hess
- **Dauphin North Regional Planning Area:** Deb Everly

Perry County

- **Board of Commissioners:** Brenda Watson
- **Planning Commission:** Mike Hartley, Tom Graupensperger, Danny Kirk, Jim Turner
- **Member-at-Large:** Jay Bratton
- **Perry Northeast Regional Planning Area:** Nathan Lesh
- **Perry West Regional Planning Area:** Nina Fitchet
- **Perry Southeast Regional Planning Area:** John Schulze

City of Harrisburg

- **Harrisburg City Regional Planning Area:** Dan Snow / Joel Seiders (appointed in September)

OUR MISSION:
To foster the long-term livability and vitality of our communities, counties and region.



Wildwood Park wildflowers

REGIONAL PROGRAM

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE —

Coordinated administration of the planning programs provided by TCRPC on an ongoing basis generates considerable cost savings for Dauphin and Perry Counties, which would otherwise be required to foot the bill for independently administered planning programs.

This collective effort provides efficiencies in executing work tasks and prioritizes efforts in seizing opportunities for transformative and positive change.

Administration activities by staff includes development of the Commission's work program and budget to support its implementation, monitoring program progress, preparing and submitting required applications and contract documents, fulfilling designated regional agency functions, as well as the day-to-day functions of managing staff and office facilities.

TCRPC is committed to the proper and thoughtful use of public and private dollars entrusted to us for the betterment of the region. Funding of TCRPC during 2024 encompassed a total budget of \$5,150,893. “Pass-through” funding awarded directly to professional consultants for planning projects through a competitive selection process included a majority (63%) of the budget.

Complete details regarding TCRPC programs and expenditures are available in the annual audit report, which is completed by April 30 of each year and in monthly financial statements presented to the Commission.

REGIONAL GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN (RGMP) UPDATE —

An update to the Regional Growth Management Plan began with demographic projections from 2020 to 2050 by county and municipality. Projections for population, households and employment were distributed to each municipality for review and comment, with those comments received incorporated into the final projections for the plan. Additional GIS work was performed to analyze currently developed land and a land suitability approach generated to apply the projected demographics to currently undeveloped but developable land.

COUNTYWIDE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION (CAP) —

TCRPC entered a memorandum of understanding with Juniata and Mifflin Counties in 2022 to develop Countywide Action Plans (CAP) required as part of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) Phase 3, watershed implementation program. Each County has an individual plan prepared as a focused tool to implement on-the-ground projects to improve local creeks and streams, mitigate stormwater problems, lower flooding risks, and reach pollution reduction goals.

TCRPC continues to receive administration funding through PA DEP to assist in implementation of these storm water improvement projects. In 2024, \$1.5 million in funds were used for projects including cover crop programs and Sheldon Nolt Farm projects in Perry County; Spring Creek, Whisper Wood Phase 2, Hershey Trust and Serb Park buffer projects in Dauphin County; Lost Creek and Delaware Creek stream restoration projects in Juniata County, and Menno Township, Union Township and Dunlap stream restoration projects in Mifflin County.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS —

TCRPC staff continued to grow its online mapping efforts, including:

- Moved from ArcGIS Desktop to ArcGIS Pro;
- Updated in-house GIS layers;
- Updated the Regional Safety Crash Application;
- Wiki mapping and story mapping for the Active Transportation Plan;
- Amish outreach mapping;
- Updated Regional Transportation Plan (2050 RTP) mapping;
- Rolling updates to the TIP Amendments and Modifications Map Series application for HATS meetings;
- Added Dauphin and Perry County SALDO Points to the database.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEWS —

All applicants requesting federal and state grant funds are required to submit their application to a regional clearinghouse for review and comment. This review is to ensure the intended public investments are consistent with the regional goals, policies and direction of our Regional Growth Management Plan, share planning information, and to give opportunity for the public to comment.

Functioning as a designated clearinghouse agency, TCRPC reviewed 83 applications during 2024, totaling over \$71 million with most funding coming from state sources (\$47 million). The applicants for this funding were primarily local governments with projects including community facilities, transportation system improvements, and parks and recreation.

In addition, 50 PA DEP Chapter 102 forms requesting land use consistency determinations were processed. Nearly half provided incomplete information to adequately complete a review.

AFFILIATE DATA CENTER —

As an affiliate to the Pennsylvania State Data Center (SDC), TCRPC has free access to decennial and economic census data, American Community

Survey data, US Department of Agriculture publications and data and other specialized publications of the SDC. TCRPC is obligated to disseminate, promote and assist potential data users including government, business, non-profits and private citizens. As the US Census Bureau continues to publish data, TCRPC will also use it in comprehensive plan updates, assist municipalities in data research, grant applications, transportation planning, and regional planning programs.

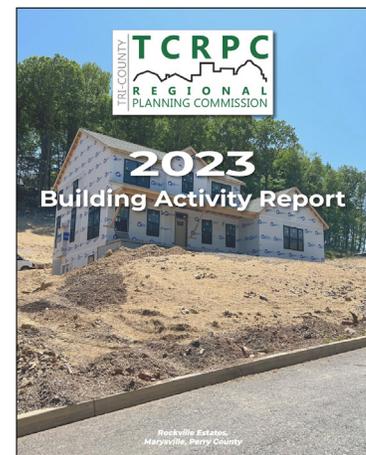


PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT —

TCRPC staff continues training throughout each year in order to stay current in the field of planning, advance the delivery of our work program, and improve skills to be a resource for the region. Half of the staff possess professional certification and advanced degrees in their respective fields.

BUILDING ACTIVITY REPORT —

Since 1981 Tri-County Regional Planning Commission has published yearly County and municipal building permit information. Consolidated into a single report, it focuses on building permit activity and construction costs for residential, commercial and industrial development in the region. The information is shown in easily comparable tables, graphs and text. Subdivision and land development plan data is also included for the purpose of identifying potential development activity in relationship to Planned Growth Areas (PGAs), as delineated in the Regional Growth Management Plan. The data is important as it gives an indication of the



growth patterns and trends occurring within the counties, is used in reports of countywide valuation, regional demographic/housing projections, and evaluating funding opportunities. It is a popular resource for developers as well.

The most recent published report showed a continued pattern of building the local tax-base and providing new job opportunities. Continued growth in residential inner-ring suburbs will be crucial to link the region’s transportation options with our RGMP land use recommendations to ensure the desired built environment is achieved and accessible to all.

PARTNERSHIPS —

The regional planning program builds upon the message of fiscal and environmental sustainability to underscore our connections both in and outside the region. Emphasis areas are defined by the RGMP, ongoing TCRPC representatives’ input, the regional transportation program, and long-term emerging regional trends and demographic indicators. To that end, TCRPC staff participates in many regional and statewide committees and task forces, and coordinates with other organizations. Among them are:

- Appalachian Trail Conservancy
- Capital Area Transit (CAT)/Rabbittransit/Susquehanna Regional Transit Authority
- Councils of Government
- Dauphin & Perry, Juniata & Mifflin County Conservation Districts
- Dauphin & Perry County Emergency Management Agencies
- Dauphin & Perry County Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC)
- Dauphin County Economic Development Corporation
- Federal Emergency Management Agency / PA Emergency Management Agency
- Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC
- Harrisburg University
- Homebuilders/Real Estate organizations
- Kittatinny Ridge Coalition
- Manada Conservancy
- PA Boroughs Association
- PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
- PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
- PA Dept. of Transportation
- PA Downtown Center
- PA Rural Water Association
- PA Township Supervisors Association
- Penn State Health
- Shippensburg University
- Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission
- Tri-County Community Action
- Tri-County Housing Development Corporation
- UPMC Pinnacle Health



OUTREACH —

Public outreach and education are key components to successful planning and decision making. Without meaningful public involvement, there is a risk of making poor decisions, or decisions that could have unintended negative consequences. While complete consensus is rare, public outreach and education may bring understanding and dialogue

to planning studies and complex issues. Residents, business people, and property owners need and deserve ongoing communication regarding projects and issues that affect their community. To this end, TCRPC continually seeks new ways to involve people in our planning process. TCRPC continues to use a hybrid/virtual approach to outreach, using the Zoom and Teams platforms, to provide safe communication opportunities.

NEWSLETTER —

The TCRPC Newsletter is published every winter, spring, summer and fall. It's sent to over 2,000 contacts throughout the Tri-County region and South Central Pennsylvania, including municipal and county officials, planning commissions, engineers, architects, developers, consultants, public authorities, non-profits, and state agencies. Its content includes all the latest land use and transportation planning news for the region as well as education and training opportunities, events of interest to municipal planners and officials.



ANNUAL LUNCHEON —

Over 120 people attended our 2024 Annual Luncheon on Thursday, May 9 at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel in Swatara Township. It featured a panel discussion on traffic safety in the region with representatives from PennDOT, Carlisle Borough, Harrisburg and PA State Police, and an engineering firm.



ADDITIONAL OUTREACH —

TCRPC partnered with the Pennsylvania Association of Township Supervisors to conduct a free educational workshop on grid-scale solar and the implications for local municipalities. Thirty (30) in attendance learned about trends in solar technology and discussed ways to address solar development through land use regulations. The session was capped with an immersive 360-degree virtual tour of solar sites around the state.

Outreach activities were conducted in support of the regional and transportation programs as well as implementation of the Perry County Comprehensive Plan, including several community events, work group meetings, and promotion of the pilot Sober Ride Home program. Details are included within those respective sections of this report.

COMMUNICATIONS —

TCRPC is committed to keeping the community, commission members, elected leaders and partner organizations informed about its activities and programs.

In a spirit of transparency and collaboration, TCRPC continued its work of expanding its public presence and increasing its communications efforts in 2024.

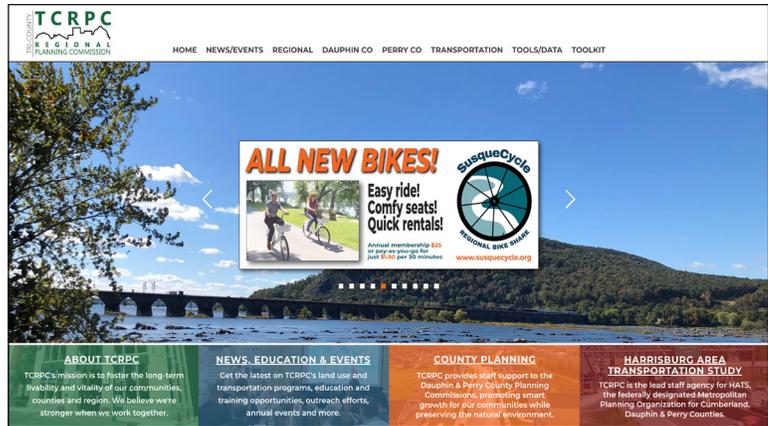
Website

In 2024, the TCRPC website (tcrpc-pa.org) generated the following analytics:

- **Unique Visitors:** 9,750 (813/mo), up 39% over 2023.
- **Site Sessions:** 16,473 (1,373/mo), up 23% over 2023.

Visitors to the site included the following:

- **Top 5 municipalities from the Tri-County region:** Harrisburg, Camp Hill, Mechanicsburg, Duncannon, Carlisle.
- **Top 5 PA municipalities outside the Tri-County region:** Philadelphia, Lancaster, Palmyra, Chambersburg, Mifflintown.
- **Top 5 U.S. cities outside PA:** Cedar Knolls, NJ; Riverdale Park, MD; Washington, DC; New York, NY; Four Oaks, NC.
- **Top 5 countries outside the U.S.:** India, China, Russia, Canada, Pakistan.



Media Coverage

TCRPC was mentioned in or contributed to 44 news stories in 2024. The stories appeared in a variety of media outlets, including: ABC27 News, *theBurg*, CBS21, the *Central Penn Business Journal*, the *Chambersburg Public Opinion*, *Cumberlink.com*, Fox43 News, the *Lewistown Sentinel*, *PennLive*, the *Perry County Times*, the *Sunbury Daily Item*, and WGAL8.

Social Media

TCRPC's social media reach on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn came to 385,995 total views in 2024, an increase of 19% over 2023.

Average monthly impressions were 32,166.

Total followers across the three platforms decreased 41% to 1,682 due to a technical issue with Facebook.





Aberdeen Mills, Conewago Township

DAUPHIN COUNTY

The mission of the Dauphin County Planning Commission (DCPC) is to guide, coordinate and promote the wise and orderly use of land and resources in order to facilitate the growth of the local economy, enhance the quality of life, and preserve the natural environment by meeting the needs of the county's present population without compromising the needs of future generations.

The DCPC functions to fulfill the obligations under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC).

2024 MEMBERS —

- Robert Spandler, Chairman
- Taryn D. Morgan, Vice Chairwoman
- Gary E. Lenker, Treasurer
- Josh First, Secretary
- Jonathon Bowser
- Mary Gaiski
- John Kerschner, AICP
- Joseph Robinson Jr.
- Carter Wyckoff
- Commissioner Mike Pries (Liaison)

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS —

Water Resources Enhancement Program (WREP) & Countywide Action Plan (CAP)

The WREP advisory committee met monthly to complete a priority project study and formulate a work program for 2025. The study identified several potential projects in participating municipalities that, once completed, will have a positive impact on flood control and stormwater management. It was funded by a Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant from the Dauphin County Department of Public Safety.

WREP is currently comprised of 10 participating municipalities and two tabled municipalities. Participants include East Hanover, Londonderry, Lower Paxton, Lower Swatara, Swatara and West Hanover townships, and Hummelstown, Middletown and Steelton boroughs. Tabled members South Hanover Township and Penbrook Borough must render a decision by March 2025.

East Hanover and West Hanover townships have received funding through CAP to complete stream restoration and stream bank improvements. Moving forward, coordination and communication between the CAP administration and WREP will be a vital tool for establishing funding priority.

As a member of a collaborative MS4/stormwater group, WREP members have a vested interest in projects that reduce flooding, prevent pollution, enhance water quality and improve program efficiency.

In 2025, WREP will finalize its membership and pursue mapping and data collection to prepare a regional project model.

Local Planning Assistance Program

The Local Planning Assistance (LPA) program provided support to municipalities by offering a wide range of planning services, including attending night meetings, providing GIS mapping services, and conducting research on current planning topics or techniques.

All 40 of Dauphin County's municipalities are included in the program, which is made possible by the County Commissioners. In total, 460 hours of staff time were dedicated to these activities in 2024. (Daytime LPA: 219 hours; Nighttime LPA: 241 hours).

Plan Reviews & Development Trends

DCPC reviewed 124 subdivision and land development plans in the following categories:

-
- 54 residential;
 - 41 commercial and/or industrial;
 - 18 public/semi-public;
 - 6 agricultural;
 - 5 mixed use.

With regard to larger developments, 21 of the commercial/industrials plans were greater than 10,0000 square feet, and 17 of the residential plans contained more than four or more new units or lots.

In 2024, 57 (46%) of the subdivision and land development plans occurred inside the county's Community Service Area (CSA). In addition, 25 (46%) of the 54 major development plans occurred within the CSA. A goal of the county's Comprehensive Plan is to have most of the larger developments occur within the CSA. This was the first year this goal was not realized since the comprehensive plan's adoption in 2017.

DCPC also reviewed and approved four plans: JM Sales and Peace United Church in Berrysburg Borough; A&E Entertainment in Williamstown Borough; and Girl Scouts of Heartland of PA in Jefferson Township.

Other Accomplishments

- Reviewed 11 sewage facilities planning modules;
- Reviewed and commented on 29 municipal ordinances proposing zoning ordinance revisions and amendments;
- Reviewed and commented on two municipal ordinances for proposed subdivision and land development ordinance revisions and amendments;
- Provided consistency reviews for 43 projects confirming their consistency with county or other local plans;
- Reviewed and provided comments on three proposed street vacations;
- Coordinated ag easement database and mapping for the Conservation District;
- Facilitated Right to Farm ordinance reviews for East Hanover and Lykens townships with the Lancaster County Conservation District ombudsman;
- Updated the Agricultural Easements database for the Conservation District;
- Facilitated solar farm development workshops with presentations by the PA Association of Boroughs, including events with Perry County and the Upper Dauphin COG;
- Provided solar development information and assisted with ordinance research and reviews for Halifax, Lower Paxton, Lower Swatara, Lykens, Upper Paxton and Washington townships;
- Provided, with Manada Conservancy, an update to the county's Natural Resources Inventory;
- Aided newly appointed staffs at Penbrook, Steelton and Williamstown boroughs with general planning issues and the plan review process;
- Improved and updated several county GIS data layers;
- Participated in the annual review of the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan;
- Supported the county's participation in HATS Regional Transportation Plan implementation;
- Served as the county representative to the Local Emergency Planning Committee.



Reider Bridge, Route 34, Newport

PERRY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

This annual report fulfills the Perry County Planning Commission's obligation as outlined in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (PA MPC), Section 207; Conduct of Business.

The report's content highlights all relevant business undertaken by the PCPC and staff throughout 2024.

2024 MEMBERS —

- James H. Turner, Chairman
- Thomas A. Graupensperger, Vice Chair
- David F. Rice, Treasurer
- Danny Kirk, Secretary
- Donny Bartch
- Michael Hartley
- Ryan Hostetter

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS —

Picture Perry Comprehensive Plan

The first annual amendment process included resolutions by the 22 participating municipalities to reaffirm their planning partnerships with the county.

The plan's five workgroups -- Community Facilities & Utilities, Economic Development, Housing, Natural Resources & Recreation, and Transportation -- suggested the following projects for inclusion:

- Redesign the SR 74/274 intersection;
- Partner with the PA Area Agency on Aging;
- Realign the planned growth area in Penn Township;
- Redesign the 11/15 Market Street intersection near the Penn Township and Duncannon Borough boundary;
- Design a partial or full interchange in Penn Township on US Route 11/15 where SR 849 passes over;
- A road widening/rock slope project at the eastern end of Sugar Run Road (SR 4006) in Tuscarora Township;
- A cross-river feasibility study between upper Perry County and upper Dauphin County for a bridge in the vicinity of Liverpool and Millersburg to address economic development needs and interests as well as emergency detouring;
- A low income/emergency housing project coordinated by Join Hands Ministry.

Local Planning Assistance Program

In 2024, TCRPC staff attended 15 Local Planning Assistance (LPA) meetings and provided services to five Perry County municipalities: Bloomfield Borough, New Buffalo Borough, Newport Borough, Oliver Township and Spring Township.

Outreach

In 2024, PCPC staff:

- Attended 15 local planning commission meetings and 19 County Commissioners meetings;
- Provided updates on county and regional planning programs at the joint Perry County Council of Governments and Boroughs Association meetings;
- Provided monthly reports on subdivision and land development activity and

shared information on projects with the Economic Development Authority and Local Emergency Planning Committee;

- Presented a planning and zoning session for the Association of Township Officials convention;
- Assisted HATS with Amish-Mennonite outreach to provide information regarding upcoming transportation projects in the region, and to dialogue with community leaders regarding transportation safety concerns.

Other Accomplishments

- Reviewed 73 total Subdivision and Land Development plans;
- Reviewed 9 Subdivision and Land Development plans;
- Reviewed 5 sewage facility planning modules;
- Assisted New Buffalo Borough with the draft of its first zoning ordinance and zoning map;
- Reviewed and commented on 2 municipal ordinances proposing subdivision and land development ordinance amendments;
- Reviewed and commented on 6 municipal ordinances proposing zoning ordinance revisions and amendments;
- Reviewed and commented on Cumberland County's comprehensive plan;
- Updated the Perry County Community E-Data Booklet and the Subdividers/Developers Guide;
- Initiated work on the 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan;
- Supported county participation in the implementation of the Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP);
- Maintained the Picture Perry Comprehensive Plan website by documenting implementation through the Picture in Motion tab and conducting work to integrate new projects;
- Reviewed 8 intergovernmental/general consistency reviews under PA Acts 67, 68, and 127, providing letters of support for projects deemed generally consistent with the Perry County Comprehensive Plan;
- Logged the receipt of 28 Act 14 notifications for the county;
- Improved and updated several county GIS data layers;
- Attended 15 municipal planning commission meetings for the 4 participating LPA communities;
- Provided outreach at joint Perry COG and Borough Association meetings;
- Assisted HATS staff with RTP outreach at the Perry County Fair;
- Conducted outreach and technical support to the Perry County Economic Development Authority and the Local Emergency Planning Committee.
- Participated in the implementation of Perry County's Countywide Action Plan (CAP) and served as co-lead for Perry County's portion of the project that also includes Dauphin, Juniata and Mifflin counties;
- Attended to 7 Right-to-Know requests.



Third Street, Lemoyne

HARRISBURG AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

TCRPC serves as the lead staff agency for the Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS), a federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) serving 103 municipalities in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties. The MPO is represented by county officials, the City of Harrisburg, Capital Area Transit, and other federal, state and local agencies.

HATS develops a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) that documents the current status of transportation projects and programs, identifies long-term needs, and recommends projects to meet those needs. The long-range RTP sets a framework and priorities for the expenditure of federal transportation funds over a 25-year period.

HATS serves 103 municipalities in all, covering almost 1,700 square miles in South-Central Pennsylvania, including Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties.

2024 MEMBERS —

Technical Committee

- Steve Deck, Chair (retired August 30)
- Andrew Bomberger, Chair/Secretary
- Diane Myers-Krug, Vice Chair
- Doug Brown
- Rich Farr
- Ray Green
- Michael Hartley
- Geoffrey Knight
- Carey Mullins
- John Owen
- Kirk Stoner
- Dan Robinson
- Joel Seiders
- James Turner

Coordinating Committee

- Jeff Haste, Chair
- Commissioner Brenda Watson, Vice Chair
- Commissioner Jean Foschi, Secretary
- Jeff Bergsten
- Eric Bugaile
- Commissioner George Hartwick
- Kevin Keefe
- Joel Seiders
- James Turner
- Nate Walker
- Todd Webb

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS —

FFY 2025-2028 TIP Adoption

The FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was adopted by HATS at its Coordinating Committee meeting on June 26, 2024 and became effective October 1, 2024. The TIP guides the region's transportation spending over a four-year period and is updated bi-annually. Coordination and development of the TIP began in 2023 as HATS staff worked with PennDOT District 8-0 and other regional partners to balance carryover projects from the previous TIP, new asset management needs, and regional priorities identified on the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan Project Pipeline. The draft TIP was reviewed by HATS committees, regional stakeholders and the general public through Spring 2024, with an official public comment period in May and June, and included both in-person and virtual information meetings. More information on the TIP and a listing of the most recent projects is available on the TCRPC website.

2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Development of HATS 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) kicked off in early 2024. Public outreach was conducted via online survey and public events. Municipal outreach focused on collecting transportation needs to be evaluated and prioritized in the Project Pipeline. Work on the RTP will continue into 2025 with a public comment period in the summer and adoption likely in September. More information on the 2050 RTP is available on the TCRPC website.

SusqueCycle Regional Bike Share

Since October 2022, TCRPC has been operating the SusqueCycle Regional Bike Share system consisting of 60 bikes distributed among 11 locations throughout Harrisburg.

In 2024, the entire fleet of cycles was replaced and equipped with GPS-tracking technology, improving security and increasing data collection capabilities.

Two new stations -- at TransitPark and the State Office Complex -- were also added to the system.

These improvements lead to ridership increases of approximately 51% over 2023. More information is available at susquecycle.org.



HATS Regional Safety Action Plan

With planning funds awarded through the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All Program, TCRPC adopted the HATS Regional Safety Action Plan in September 2024.

The plan utilized a data approach to eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries, developed a High Injury Network, identified critical segments for Vulnerable Road Users, and found crash types such as roadway departures and DUI crashes that were over-represented in the HATS region.

Implementation of the plan will focus on procuring additional implementation funds anticipated to be available to program safety projects.

Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS): Traffic Counts & Sample Section Inventory

Traffic data is necessary to meet the reporting requirements of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) title 23, 420.105(b).

States are required to provide data to support FHWA's highway reporting responsibilities to Congress and to the public.

Traffic data reported under these regulations is submitted on June 15 of every year as part of the Annual Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) report and is used to help determine the federal transportation funding allocated to each state.

PennDOT assigned 90 traffic counts and 177 HPMS Sample Sections to the HATS region to help complete the Federal-required HPMS report.

HATS was reviewed this year by PennDOT for a Traffic Counting Safety and Assistance Program (TCSAP) Field Review for our traffic counting program.

Also completed in 2024 was an HPMS Quality Review in Dauphin County with HATS staff receiving an accuracy rate of 99.71%. The next HPMS Quality Review will occur in fall 2026.

Other Accomplishments

- Attended public outreach events, including Tour de Belt, BrewFest, Fort Hunter Day, New Cumberland Apple Fest, Perry County Fair, Gratz Fair, Pine Grove Fall Furnace Fest, Camp Hill StormFest, and Carlisle Farmer's Market;
- Continued development of the HATS Regional Active Transportation Plan with anticipated adoption in early 2025;
- Updated transportation needs identified on the Project Pipeline through research of planning documents and coordination with municipalities;
- Participated in development or coordinated implementation of transportation plans for Penn Township, Lemoyne Borough, Camp Hill Borough, Silver Spring Township, Good Hope Road, Downtown Harrisburg Circulation Study, Hummelstown Borough, and Duncannon Area Traffic Study;
- In cooperation with County Bridge Engineers, programmed improvements for 13 locally-owned federal-aid eligible bridges on the FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program;
- Coordinated with Norfolk Southern, local municipalities and other regional stakeholders on revisions for MOU regarding railroad improvements and potential impacts on the CAT Intermodal Bridge project;
- Participated in design review and development of the Lemoyne Bottleneck, Sporting Hill Road, Market Street Bridge, CAT Intermodal Bridge, and Center & 21st Street Intersection;
- Participated in statewide planning efforts, including the Freight Work Group, Air Quality Work Group, and PennDOT Connects Steering Committee;
- Updated the HATS Interactive Safety Application with 2023 crash data;
- Participated in the TCRPC Annual Luncheon Roundtable on Transportation Safety Planning;
- Conducted outreach with Mennonite and Amish community representatives to discuss transportation needs;
- Partnered with the SRTP and PennDOT to spearhead the creation of a regional Congestion Management Process (CMP) for partner MPOs in the region to better understand congestion beyond each jurisdiction's boundaries;
- Assisted multiple municipalities in receiving federal SS4A demonstration and implementation funding for a variety of projects across the region;
- Continued the partnership with Commute PA, which is currently partnered with 53 employers and 43 community organizations in the region to educate on available green transportation options. In 2024, Commute PA members tracked 1.8 million vehicle miles reduced, \$1.25 million saved, 3.3 million calories burned, 97,596 green trips and 781 tons of CO2 reduced in the region;
- Partnered with SRTP staff who presented at the Dauphin County Poverty Forum to address transportation services for low-income families;
- Developed the Sober Ride Home Program with SS4A demonstration funding to reduce DUI crashes by providing ride-share vouchers to individuals who have consumed alcohol at bars and restaurants and needed a safe ride home.

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

2024 TCRPC STAFF —

- **Steve Deck**, AICP, Executive Director (retired August 30)
- **Andrew Bomberger**, AICP, Executive Director (promoted September 1) / Transportation Planning Coordinator
- **Diane Myers-Krug**, AICP, Associate Director
- **Ana Avila-Tinoco**, Administrative Assistant
- **Karen Dixon**, Transportation Planner
- **Jerry Duke**, AICP, Dauphin County Planning Coordinator
- **Jason Finnerty**, Perry County Planning Coordinator
- **Timothy Jones**, HPMS Coordinator/GIS Technician
- **Alexa Korber**, Planner
- **Larry Portzline**, APR, Communications Coordinator
- **Tanner Stroup**, Transportation Planner
- **Benjamin Warner**, Regional Planner

CONTACT TCRPC:

320 Market Street, Suite 301E, Harrisburg, PA 17101-2015
(717) 234-2639 • www.tcrpc-pa.org



FRONT COVER: Capital Area Transit Bridge; downtown Hershey traffic;
Bloomfield farm cows; Hershey West End construction.

BACK COVER: Market & Walnut Street Bridges, the Susquehanna River and
City Island from roof of UPMC Harrisburg.