



Blair Planning

Blair County Planning Commission
Altoona Metropolitan Planning Organization
Blair County Government Advisory Committee

REVISED

BLAIR PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA REGULAR MEETING on October 31, 2024

Altoona Water Authority, 900 Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA

CALL TO ORDER at 8:30 a.m.

1. Roll Call - to publicly determine which members are present and if a quorum is present.
2. Approval of Minutes - Meeting minutes of September 26, 2024 will be considered for approval.
3. Public Comment Period - Public comment will be received at this time on all matters not appearing elsewhere on the agenda. Public comments regarding specific development applications or agenda items will be taken when those items come up for consideration.

APPOINTMENT

4. 8:35 A.M. - Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAP & DC) -
 - Mr. Slusser will give a presentation of the newly proposed Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, which provides direction for economic development activities for the 2025 - 2029 time period. A public comment period is now open for comment on the plan.
 - Mr. Slusser will also give a presentation on regional planning efforts at Southern Alleghenies, including potential upcoming projects to include a new regional comprehensive plan and a new regional greenways plan.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

5. Sheetz Shwellness Center - Sheetz Altoona has submitted a low-impact land development plan located at 5800 6th Avenue in the City of Altoona. The proposed project is to perform a complete interior renovation of an existing building to create a wellness center for routine medical appointments, physical therapy and behavior consultations for their employees. The project also includes some exterior improvements as well.
6. Simington Plaza - Simington Enterprises LLC has submitted a land development plan located at 1301 Broadway in the City of Altoona. The plan proposes two parking lots with driveway entrances from North 14th Avenue and with exits on to North 13th Avenue with associated stormwater management along North 13th Street.
7. A. Duie Pyle Facility - A. Duie Pyle has submitted a land development plan located along Cotton Town Road in Greenfield Township. The plan proposes an office building with 42 dock doors and a maintenance building with associated truck/trailer and employee parking areas.

8. Staff Level Reviews – Planning staff has reviewed and responded to the following applications since the last meeting. Commission members were given an opportunity via email to review these applications prior to response letters being sent:
- City of Altoona: 400 East 25th Avenue -PC3-DG Altoona LLC Lot Consolidation
 - City of Altoona: Heaton No Impact Subdivision, 2000 – 2006 15th Avenue
 - Frankstown Township: Woomer Lot Merger, Scenic Knoll Drive
 - Huston Township: Piney Creek School Side Lot Addition, Piney Creek Road
 - Logan Township: Meling Subdivision – Lot Consolidation, N. 7th Street and N. 19th Ave
 - Logan Township: Castle Farms Phase 2B, C Subdivision & Replot, Queens Way & Avalon Rd
 - Logan Township: Holmberg Subdivision, Lot Consolidation, 1601 Princeton Road
 - North Woodbury Township: Kensinger Lot Line Change, 166 Orchard Lane
 - Woodbury Township: Simendinger Subdivision Side Lot Addition, Royer Mountain Road

REVIEW OF ACTIONS BY GOVERNING BODIES

9. Hollidaysburg Borough – for the proposed Rezoning Amendment Petition No. 911 for the area of Newry Street, Porter Alley and Hetherington Alley. The subject area is currently zoned Residential/Business (RB); the proposed amendment would rezone the area to Limited Industrial (LI).

METROPOLITAN CLEARINGHOUSE

10. Blair County FY2024 CDBG Application – Proposed projects for inclusion in Blair County’s 2024 CDBG Funding application:
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| • Neighborhood Facilities:
(17 non-entitlement = \$20,000; Antis Township \$98,569.00) | \$118,569.00 |
| • Demolition & Clearance (Spot Basis) for Hollidaysburg Borough
(Eliminate Spot Blight) | \$ 45,565.00 |
| • Owner-Occupied Single Unit Housing Rehabilitation
(17 non-entitlement, Frankstown Twp & Tyrone Boro) | \$378,859.00 |
| • Housing Rehabilitation – Sewer Laterals
(Reservoir Rd Sewer Ext Project, Blair Twp) | \$83,506.00 |
| • Economic Development: Micro-Enterprise Assistance, Hollidaysburg
(general support services to owners and developers of micro-enterprises) | \$ 45,565.00 |
11. Hollidaysburg Borough -Joe Krentzman & Son Inc, PennDOT 2024 Rail Freight Grant Program, Letter of Support
12. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – Review and comment on the proposed rulemaking affecting Class A Stream Re-designations.
13. Staff Level Reviews – Planning staff has reviewed and responded to the following requests since the last meeting. Commission members were given an opportunity via email to review these requests prior to response letters being sent:
- Frankstown Township -Levine Engineering LLC for Frankstown Township’s Sylvan Heights Drive Sewer Extension Project, NPDES Chapter 102 permit application
 - Huston Township -Gunneth Engineers LLC for Vernon Martin, 334 Sportsmen’s Road, Sewage Facilities Planning Module
 - Juniata Township -Geotech Engineering Inc for RES Coal LLC, Laurel Gap Operation, Proposed New Surface Mine, General Information Permit Application

- Logan Township – EADS Group for Plank Road Drainage Improvement Project, Chapter 105 Water, Obstruction and Encroachment permit application
- Tunnelhill Borough-Stiffler McGraw for Gallitzin Borough Sewer and Disposal Authority to discharge treated effluent to Bradley Run, NPDES permit renewal
- Tyrone Township – John Delacio for Jeannine Wonderling Property a single residence sewage treatment plant, NPDES General Information Authorization application

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

14. Advancing the Alleghenies -- Formal comment on the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.
15. Juniata Forward -- Formal review and comment on the new watershed plan developed by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. This plan provides analysis and policy guidance for the entire Juniata River watershed from the upcoming twenty years. Jennifer Farabaugh was here in 2023 to present the initial phases of the plan and solicit the Commission's input. The document is now substantively completed. The public comment period closes on October 31.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

16. All Together Altoona – Staff will provide an update on the ordinance rewrite currently underway to implement the City' comprehensive planning efforts.
17. Hollidaysburg Comprehensive Plan – Staff will provide an update on the Hollidaysburg comprehensive plan.
18. Bellwood-Antis Comprehensive Plan – A very brief update will be given on the DCED-MAP grant application status for a proposed joint comprehensive plan for Bellwood Borough and Antis Township.

COORDINATION

19. Emergency Services Study – The current update of the hazard mitigation plan will be calling for a study to be undertaken by DCED on sustainability of our emergency service throughout Blair County. This will likely be undertaken at no cost to Blair Planning or the local jurisdictions. A brief update on the status of this effort will be presented.

GRANTS

20. Local Share Account Grants – Announcement of 2024 awards and status on applications for the current open application period.

HAZARD MITIGATION

21. BRAVE 2025 – Update on the draft hazard mitigation plan for the period 2025 – 2029. Adoption of this plan will occur over the winter (2025) once approved by PEMA and FEMA.

PUBLIC HEALTH

22. WalkWorks – Revitalization of the WalkWorks program throughout the County through partnerships, re-establishment of groups, and events for 2025.

TRANSPORTATION

23. Trail Planning – Coordination with the Chamber's Transportation Committee on trail planning through the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan and subsequent Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

24. General Liability Insurance - Approval of a renewal contract in the amount of \$3,601.00 annually for General Liability Insurance from Cincinnati Insurance, brokered by Gingrich Insurance.
25. Worker's Compensation Insurance - Approval of a renewal contract in the amount of \$1,312.00 annually for Worker's Compensation Insurance from Cincinnati Insurance, brokered by Gingrich Insurance.
26. Memorandum of Understanding - Approval of an MOU agreement with the Blair County Commissioners to transition Sherry Socie from the Blair County Commissioners Office to the Blair Planning Commission and to cover our cost of benefits in the amount of \$2,710.22.
27. Planning Director's Report - The Director will offer a report on any miscellaneous items not otherwise covered on the agenda.
28. County Commissioner Liaison Forum - The liaison Commissioner may make any reports, comments, or findings to the Planning Commission.
29. Planning Commissioners' Forum - Planning Commission members may bring items of relevant interest to the attention of the body as a whole.
30. Questions from the Media - The Commission will address any questions asked by the media needed to clarify any points made or agenda items discussed during the meeting.
31. Announcements
 - November 7 - Chamber Policy Committee
 - November 7 - Local Emergency Planning Committee
 - November 11 - Veterans' Day (BCPC office closed)
 - November 13 - WPC Hollidaysburg Advisory Committee
 - November 20 - GIS Day
 - November 20 - Southern Alleghenies CAP monthly meeting
 - November 21 - SAP&DC Listen and Learn: PA Rural Population Revitalization Commission
 - November 21 & 22 - Chesapeake Bay Landscape Training, BCCD
 - November 25 - HBCC Steering Committee
 - November 28 and 29 - Thanksgiving Holiday (BCPC office closed)
 - December 5 - Chamber Policy Committee
 - December 5 - Local Emergency Planning Committee
 - December 12, 2024 - BCPC Meeting and Annual Holiday Social

ADJOURNMENT

The next board meeting will be the Annual Meeting and Holiday Social scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at White Oak Hall, 383 Fort Roberdeau Road, Altoona.